

PARLIAMENT

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 17th regular session to emphasize planning, budget, taxation bills

PAGE-3

NATIONAL

Government to organize Waso-robe offering ceremony on 29 July

PAGE-4

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar Announcement of National-Level Central Committee for Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19 9th Waning of First Waso 1382 ME 13 July 2020

It is announced that the statements to public, orders, notifications, and directives (excluding eased restrictions) of Union-level organizations and Union

ministries effective until 15 July 2020 for prevention, control and treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) will be extended to 31 July 2020 as it is

required to continue containment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) .



It is important that school children do not drift away from learning. Next week we will initiate steps to reopen schools: State Counsellor

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi wrote on her Facebook page yesterday that it was important that school children do not drift away from learning, and that next week they would initiate steps to reopen schools that had to close down due to COVID. This was what she wrote:

For health and education levels to be high are two basic requirements for citizens. Both are requirements for the whole life and it was necessary to nurture and develop with care.

Some may say, we understand the importance of health but what about education. Are we supposed to be educating ourselves our whole lives? In this instance, I want all of you to define "knowledge" in a broader sense. Isn't it the pursuit, study and contemplation



To bring our education system to a high level, there are so many things that need to be done. That is why we are putting education on the same level as health.

of worldly knowledge and knowledge of liberation for deeper understanding and advanced insight "the search for knowledge"? Actually, knowledge is something all of us have to seek on an individual basis. The main job of schools is to teach students how to seek

knowledge. That is why in assessing the success of an educational system we need to make a decision based on how many knowledge seekers this system has been able to give birth.

To bring our education system to a high level, there are so many things

that need to be done. That is why we are putting education on the same level as health.

It is important that school children do not drift away from learning. Next week we will initiate to reopen schools that had to close down due to COVID. As you all know we will begin by reopening the high schools. Based on the success of this plan, we will make plans to reopen the middle and primary schools.

During the period while we have to confront a disease for which we don't have preventive or curative vaccines, there are many factors to be considered before we take one step. That's why we have to make steady steps to reach our goal as quickly as possible.

(Translated by Kyaw Myaing)

INSIDE TODAY

PARLIAMENT

Pyithu Hluttaw raises the curtain on 17th regular session

PAGE-2



PARLIAMENT

Amyotha Hluttaw resumes with queries to ministries of commerce, education

PAGE-2



NATIONAL

ACC provides reference publications on 'integrity and ethics' in Shan State

PAGE-7



PYITHU HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw raises the curtain on 17th regular session

THE Second Pyithu Hluttaw commenced its 17th regular session yesterday. Before the welcoming speech of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, Tatmadaw representative Lt-Col Aye Shwe swore and signed on oath.

The Speaker said that the 17th regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw will have to finalize the processes of National Planning Bill for 2020-2021 Financial Year, Union Budget Bill and Union Taxation Bill, along with other bills and proposals in proper proportion. He also urged the parliamentarians for their coordination in successful completion of the session in line with COVID-19 preventive guidelines although the pandemic is under control to a certain degree in the country.

MP U Ba Shein from Kyaukpadaung constituency raised a query whether a member of political party needs to know about its rule for becoming a membership, resignation, dismissal and termination from the party.

He also asked about the breach of Article 21 of Political Parties Registration Law if a member of political party contested in any election for an opponent party.



U Thet Tun, the member of Union Election Commission.

PHOTO: MNA

U Thet Tun, the member of Union Election Commission, replied, quoting Article 9 that defines 'a person has the right to stand for election is eligible to contest in the election either individually or representing a political party'. He continued to say that a person who was not allowed for his resignation from a party would be tantamount to breach Article 21 of Political Parties Registration Law if he/she represents for another contesting party in the elections; however, he/she is eligible for contesting the election as an individual candidate not to lose the right to stand for election under an unfavourable condition for resignation.



MP U Nyunt Win.

MP U Nyunt Win from Kanpetlet constituency asked for issuing orders and directives not to allow vote counting before 4 pm on the election day and not to leak results of respective constituencies. UEC member U Thet Tun turned down the proposals and explained the Article 42 (a) and (b), Article 48(b), regarding voting hours and the responsibility of polling booth officer.

MP U Toe Thaung from Mong Hsat constituency asked about better connection of MPT mobile phone lines. Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Thar Oo replied that the existing Mogoke-Mong Hsat microwave-network has the technically highest bandwidth capacity in the



Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Thar Oo.

country; however, the poor connection is caused by linking with 20 mobile stations. The Deputy Minister confirmed that plans are underway to substitute the existing microwave-network with the fibre networks and the project is expected to finalize in March 2021. MP U Kyaw Shwe from Yan-bye constituency asked about construction of telecom tower on Tantalang Mountain between Katakawpyin and Tharsipyin villages.

The Deputy Minister refused the proposal; however, it will be implemented in line with budget allocations from both private and public sectors in respective financial years. MP U Aung Kyaw Zan from Pauktaw constituency asked



MP U Kyaw Shwe.

for better telecommunication networks in some coastal areas of his constituency. The Deputy Minister replied construction of more telecom stations based on the allocation of budgets.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker informed the acceptance of Myanmar Telecommunication Commission Bill sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw with recommendations, and Bill Committee member Dr Wai Phyo Aung read the report before the invitation of Speaker to submit the list of representatives who want to discuss the bill.

The second-day meeting of 17th regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw will convene on 14 July.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Aung Khin)

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw resumes with queries to ministries of commerce, education

THE 17th regular session of Second Amyotha Hluttaw began yesterday, and new representatives of Tatmadaw swore and signed on oath in front of Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than.

MP U Tun Tun Oo from Mandalay Region constituency 2 raised a query on the relief plan for local sugar producers and cane sugar growers who have been hit by increasing import of this commodity.

Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo explained the ministry's restriction on import permit of purified sugar for domestic businesses, free export permit for local sugar cane and its products, control over illegal sugar imports and adopting short and long-term plans for this business from cultivation to market for sugar canes.

MP U Lah Min Htan from Chin State constituency 10 asked for opening a border market in Sabaungtal Village of Matupi Township in Chin State.

Deputy Minister U Aung



Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo. **PHOTO: MNA**

Htoo replied that the plan is being implemented in coordination with India. In the first stage, a border market will be opened at Pansaung Town of Sagaing Region and more border markets will be established after making agreements between the two countries. MP U San Myint from Ayeyawady Region constituency 3 asked about construction of a new school building to replace the old facility at the high school in Kwin Thone Sint village of Yekyi Township in his



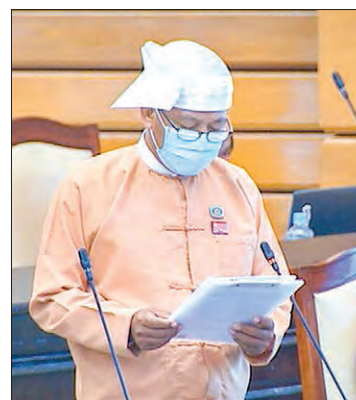
MP U Tun Tun Oo.

constituency.

Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun replied that the ministry has set the budget for this plan in 2020-2021FY to construct a two-storey 100ftx30ft RCC building.

MP U Myint Naing from Rakhine State constituency 5 asked about construction of each school building in his constituency in 2020-2021FY.

Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun answered that budgets will be allocated for construction of



MP U Kyaw Toke.

these school buildings.

MP U Naing Thiha from Mon State constituency 7 asked for construction of a new school building at the high school in Kawdwit Village of Ye Township in his constituency. The Deputy Minister replied that the plan is not included in the list of priority for this year, and budget will be allocated for the 2021-2022FY.

The Deputy Minister also answered to the question of MP U Kyaw Toke from Mandalay Region constituency 7 about appli-



Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun.

cation and scrutinizing method of education stipends in basic education, technical and vocational education and higher education sectors. The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker then informed about acceptance of Health Assistant Council Bill with the recommendations of Pyithu Hluttaw and invited the list of MPs who want to discuss the bill. The second day meeting of 17th regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw will be held on 14 July.—Aung Ye Thwin

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Only working in unison can benefit all

If you wish for the country to be developed and prosperous, all of the country's resources – financial, natural and human – have to be used together for the equal development of all races.

If the Bamar does what they want, if the Kachin does what they want, if the Shan, Kachin and Chin do not cooperate, there will be no benefits for anyone. Only when you try working in unison will you know its benefits.

(Excerpt from the speech made by Bogyoke Aung San at the Panglong Dinner on February 11, 1947)



PYIDAUNGSI HLUTTAW

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 17th regular session to emphasize planning, budget, taxation bills

THE 17th regular session of second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw began yesterday, and its Speaker U T Khun Myat said in his opening remark that the session is scheduled till the last week of August, and will prioritize approvals of bills about the National Planning, the Union Budget and Union Taxation during this period.

The Speaker requested for understanding of combined teams, joint bill committees and the Joint Public Accounts Committee in limiting the periods for scrutinizing the plans and budgets in the bills due to the prevailing situations.

He added that the remaining bills and other Hluttaw procedures will be discussed in the order of priority, and the Hluttaw session will take a break from 8 to 18 August for the candidate scrutinizing processes of political parties to contest the third parliamentary elections.

MP U Tin Soe from Phakant constituency in Kachin State tabled a motion of condolences for the loss of lives and injured persons in landslide accident in his constituency on 2 July, and the motion was approved by the Hluttaw.

The Speaker and MPs of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw stood up for one-minute silence in memory of victims who perished in the accident.

Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Set Aung explained the Executive Order 1/2020 of President's Office on the order concerning Union Tax Law in line with the authority conferred by section 212 of State Constitution and section 32 of Union Government Law as the order needs approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in 60 days after issuance.



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw convenes its first-day meeting of 17th regular session on 13 July.
PHOTO: KYAW ZIN HTIKE



Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Set Aung.



Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Win.



Joint Bill Committee Secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe.

The law includes 'right to enjoy 10 per cent of the additional wages and salaries during the 2019/20 income year as non-refundable tax credit', 'right to deduct 125 per cent of the additional wages and salaries paid during the 2019/20 income year as expenses', 'right to enjoy 10 per cent of the total value of the additional capital equipment that were increased by investment during the 2019/20 income year as non-refundable tax credit' and 'right to enjoy 125 per cent of the total depreciation of the

additional capital equipment as "one time depreciation".

The MoPFI has also announced rules and regulations to be exercised for tax relief as per this law.

The Deputy Minister sought approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to approve the order.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker invited the list of MPs who want to discuss the order on 16 July.

Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Set Aung explained the COV-

ID-19 Economic Relief Plan which is the detailed work plans to help private sectors, households, labours and farmers. He continued to say that the CERP needs to link with the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan, and the Economic Recovery Plan will also be designed to foster the link.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker invited the list of MPs who want to discuss the CERP on 17 July.

Deputy Minister U Set Aung also explained and submitted

the National Planning Bill for 2020-2021FY to the Hluttaw, and the Speaker decided to discuss the bill in line with Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law and bylaw.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee Secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe presented the findings and recommendations of his committee on the controversial National Library Bill, and the Speaker invited the list of MPs who want to discuss the bill.

Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win submitted the Union Budget Bill for 2020-2021 FY to the Hluttaw.

The Speaker replied that the Hluttaw has formed combined teams to scrutinize the projects and budgets of Union-level organizations in relation to the National Planning Bill and Union Budget Bill for 2020-2021FY.

He also advised the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee and the Joint Public Accounts Committee to submit their reports on the two bills by 7 August.

Joint Bill Committee Secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe also presented the findings and recommendations of his committee on the controversial Animal Health and Livestock Breeding Development Bill, and the Speaker invited the list of MPs who want to discuss the bill.

Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win sought approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on the Union Taxation Law 2020, and the Speaker decided to discuss it in line with existing laws.

The second day meeting of 17th regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will convene on 16 July.—Mawsi, Han Lin Naing

(Translated by Aung Khin)

“People are the key”

Govt to organize Waso-robe offering ceremony on 29 July



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko presides over a coordination meeting on 13 July to hold government’s annual Waso-robe offering ceremony. PHOTO: MNA

Government will hold an annual Waso-robe offering ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw on 29 July.

A coordination meeting for organizing this ceremony was held at the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture yesterday morning.

During the meeting, Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko, in his capacity

as chairman of the work committee, said that the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has permitted the Waso-robe Offering Ceremony in accordance with the guidelines for control of the COVID-19.

The event will take

place on 10th Waxing of Second Waso 1382 ME (29 July, Wednesday) at the Sasana Maha Beikman, Uppatasanti Pagoda in the capital city.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only senior monks have been invited to this year’s donation ceremony. A leading committee, the work committee and

10 sub-committees for the upcoming ceremony were formed on 9 July.

The Union Minister urged the sub-committees to exert efforts for the ceremony and to do a review of strengths and weaknesses of similar events in previous years. He also called on the sub-committees to adhere to the directives, guidelines and suggestions of the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and the Ministry of Health and Sports.

The Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture and the Permanent Secretary coordinated discussions of subcommittees, followed by additional advice of the Union Minister.—MNA ■

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Union Supreme Court sits on appeal cases

THE Union Supreme Court passed judgements on eight special civil appeal cases and heard four special criminal appeal cases and one special civil appeal case yesterday.

Chief Justice of the Union U Htun Htun Oo and Union Supreme Court Judges U Myo Tint and U Soe Naing led the judgement sat Union Supreme Court room number 1. —MNA
(Translated by TTN)

Notification on overcoming anxiety during COVID-19 spread

You are not the only one under pressure from COVID-19, but all of society is and that fact can help to build compassion among the public.

Compassion can reduce hatred between individuals and accept issues for resolving together.

Anxiety can be reduced by this method and everyone should try hard to face and overcome COVID-19 issues.

Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement & Myanmar Medical Association (Mental Health Group)

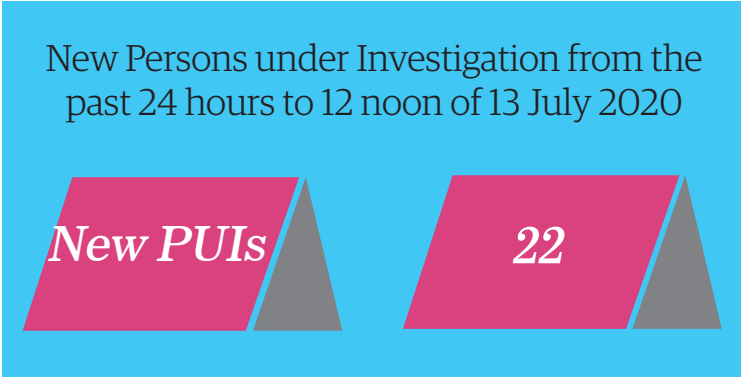
COVID-19 figure in Myanmar reaches 336 after five new cases reported on 13 July

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases reached 336 after 5 new imported cases, who returned from Thailand and Bangladesh, were reported on 13 July, according to Ministry of Health and Sports. Out of the 336 confirmed cases, six died, 261 have recovered, 249 have been discharged from hospitals and 22 have been under investigation.—MNA ■

Updated at 8 pm, 13 July 2020



Five new cases of COVID-19 on 13 July 2020: updated at 8 pm



Case No	Age	Gender	Address	Contact with positive patient	Oversea travel history	Hospital for medical treatment	Lab result	Remark
332	36	Female	Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region	No	Yes, Thailand	Waibargi Specialist Hospital	Positive	Held under quarantine (Kamayut Township)
333	20	Female	Yankin Township, Yangon Region	No	Yes, Thailand	Waibargi Specialist Hospital	Positive	Held under quarantine (Kamayut Township)
334	26	Male	Mingalar Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region	No	Yes, Bangladesh	Waibargi Specialist Hospital	Positive	Held under quarantine (Kamayut Township)
335	26	Male	Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region	No	Yes, Thailand	Waibargi Specialist Hospital	Positive	Held under quarantine (Kamayut Township)
336	37	Male	Ngathaingchaung Township, Ayeyawady Region	No	Yes, Thailand	Waibargi Specialist Hospital	Positive	Held under quarantine (Kamayut Township)

Pineapple exporters eye legitimate channel to China

By Nyein Nyein

CHINA has not yet responded to the Phytosanitary measures and inspection results sent by Myanmar to have legal export channel to China, according to Myanmar Pineapple Producers and Exporters Association (MPPEA).

Myanmar sent the Phytosanitary measures and inspection results in June-end.

“The plants have been tested for three types of pests and fungal disease. The results have been delivered to China, yet there is still no response. They will decide whether to inspect them on their owns or approve the results,” said association secretary Sai Kyaw Nyunt.

At present, the pineapple growers are expecting the exports to China presenting the Phytosanitary certificates.

China is the main buyer of Myanmar’s pineapples and it has banned importation since 16 June 2019. The Phytosanitary Certificate (PC) issued by Myanmar’s Agriculture Department is required for export to China.

This being so, the association asked the Agriculture Department to issue the PC at the soonest.

Earlier, 50 per cent of pineapple production is consumed locally, and the remaining goes to China.



Myanmar is awaiting response of China to the results from Phytosanitary measures and inspection.
PHOTO: SANDAR MYO

Therefore, Myanmar growers want legitimate trade channel to Yunnan Province.

At present, the Ministry of Commerce has received samples of Myanmar’s pineapples to penetrate other foreign markets through Singapore, in cooperation with Myanmar Fruits, Flowers and Vegetables Producers and Exporters Association.

“For now, only sample is sent to external market and there is no reply to it yet. The pineapple is

now relying only on local market,” he continued.

Additionally, Myanmar Pineapple Producers and Exporters Association and Myanmar Fruit, Flowers and Vegetables Producers and Exporters Association jointly sell the pineapples with mobile market trucks in the suburban townships of Yangon. The pineapples are also on eCommerce platform.

Myanmar yearly exports nearly 40,000 tonnes of pineapples

to China. Last year, pineapple grower groups from northern Shan State lost over K700 million worth 25,000 tonnes.

This year, there are about 35,000 acres of pineapples across the country; with 55 per cent in Hsipaw Township, 17 in Lashio, nine in Tangyan, six in Hsihseng, and 13 in Namsang and other townships.

The pineapples are abundant during its harvest season (July and August). If the trade

channel is still suspended this year, growers

will suffer more losses, he added.

An acre can grow around 6,000-10,000 pineapple plants and up to 15,000 plants if advanced growing technique is used.

An acre costs approximately K1 million. Previously, an acre earned about K2.5 million, with the price ranging K350 to 750 per pineapple. Therefore, it is lucrative fruit for the growers.

Myanmar earlier shipped about 300-500 tonnes of pineapple per day.

Although pineapple is not listed on green channel list of General Administration of Customs China, the association requests the government to negotiate with Yunnan provincial government for official trade.

Furthermore, pineapple growers want this sector to be listed on priority sector of the Coronavirus Fund. Value-added market is not uncertain for now, yet the government’s long-term loan for pineapple paste, juice and vinegar businesses are required.

Additionally, the association stated that the traders need to link with exporters to send the pineapples to Singapore and other external markets in July and August.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Sino-Myanmar bilateral trade worth \$8.3 bln in Oct-May

THE value of Myanmar’s trade with China through maritime and sea trade channels totalled over US\$8.3 billion in October and May of 2019-2020, including \$3.7 billion worth of exports and \$4.58 billion for import, according to the data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar primarily exports agro-products to China through the border gates. However, trade of agricultural products frequently halted on account of China clamping down on illegal trade in borders. China has been stepping up border control measures to contain the spread of the coronavirus disease, causing traffic congestion in the border areas of two sides.

In a bid to lower trade barriers and offer relief to Myanmar traders through the border trade channel, the Ministry of Commerce, the related departments

and Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry have been negotiating with China counterparts.

The two countries are making efforts to set up more border economic cooperation zones and promote border trade.

The value of bilateral trade with China was \$11.36 billion in the 2018-2019FY, \$6 billion in the past mini-budget period, \$11.78 billion in the 2017-2018 FY and \$10.8 billion in the 2016-2017FY respectively.

Rice, various types of peas, sesame seeds, corn, fruits and vegetables, dried tea leaves, fishery products, rubber, minerals and animal products are exported to China while machinery, plastic raw materials, consumer products and electronic tools flow into Myanmar. — GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Over 390 Mandarinian businesses receive COVID-19 loan: MRCCI

MORE THAN 390 coronavirus-affected businesses from Mandalay Region have been approved so far to receive the emergency Coronavirus Fund, said an official of the Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MRCCI).

“The businesses approved for the loan includes food industry, weaving business, hotels and tourism enterprise, private schools and gems and jewellery business,” said an MRCCI official.

More than 3,400 enterprises across the country have been granted over K100 billion from the Fund between 9 April and 2 July, as per the committee’s data.

The applicants approved by the committee will be screened in line with banking rules and procedures, and they are not eli-

gible for the loan if they get sued by a bank. The remaining applications are being processed, the committee stated.

The priority sectors for the Fund of K100 billion are CMP garment business, hotels and tourism service and small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The committee has been granting the loan to the business stricken by the pandemic from the initial fund, with K50 billion allocated from the country’s revolving fund and another K50 billion from the social welfare fund.

On 3 July, the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry released a statement that the addition of K100 billion will be put into the fund to remedy the businesses hit hard by the pandemic.

Regarding the Coronavirus

Fund, 85 businesspersons were granted K5.696 billion in the first batch, while 113 enterprises were selected for K4.495 billion in the second batch, 111 enterprises in the third batch for K3.5466 billion, 417 in the fourth batch for K15.079 billion, 290 in the fifth batch for K8.7335 billion, 2,078 in the sixth batch for K49.116 billion and 307 in the sixth batch for K14.556 billion respectively.

Some businesses shut down during the early outbreak. The emergency coronavirus loan aims to ease the economic burden faced by the virus-stricken businesses and not to expand the business and put capital for businesses. Mainly, the government intends to help the business keep operations and the workers get the salary for at least three months. — GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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KOICA, MMKC donate COVID-19 test kits, surgical gowns to MoHS

KOREA International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and Myanmar KOICA Club (MMKC) officially donated COVID-19 test kits and surgical gowns to the Department of Medical Research under the Ministry of Health and Sports in Yangon

yesterday afternoon.

At the donation ceremony, Minister Counsellor of the Republic of Korea Embassy in Myanmar Mr Hahm Jeonghan and Director General of Department of Medical Research Dr Zaw Than Htun delivered speeches.

Myanmar KOICA Club (MMKC) chairperson U San Lwin and KOICA Myanmar's Chief Representative Ms Lee Youn Soo explained the purposes of the donation.

Dr Zaw Than Htun received the COVID-19 test kits

and surgical gowns, worth about US\$ 12,563, handed over by Mr. Hahm Jeonghan and officials from MMKC and KOICA, and returned certificates of honour to the donors.—Min Thit (MNA)

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Enrolment begins at high schools nationwide

AMID the coronavirus outbreak, the high school enrolment for Grade 10 and 11 of the 2020-2021 academic year has started on 13 July in the regions and states, in conformity with the precautionary measures of the pandemic issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports

"The admission to high schools across the country has started for Grade 10 and 11. Those students and parents who come to enrol in the schools must wear a facemask, wash hands and measure temperature at the school gate, stand six-feet apart for social distancing. The teachers are monitoring them not to have a crowd. We have arranged the chairs at six feet apart and increase the number of classrooms for social distancing," said U Toe, secretary of No. 2 BEHS Mingalardon Township, Yangon Region.

The school enrolments are available between 8 am and 1 pm from 13 to 17 July. Additionally, enrollments for Grade 10 and 11 are on different days. "Some parents are worried about the reopening of the schools due to coronavirus concerns. Some



Students and parents queuing to enrol in Grade 10 and 11 classes of 2020-2021 academic year on 13 July. PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG

are thinking about a one-year break from school. Yet, I do not want any barrier to education, so I decided for my child to return the school instead. Sure, we will strictly follow the school

guidelines and health instructions related to the viral disease," said Daw Khin Htwe, a parent. After the enrolment, the high schools are scheduled to reopen from 21 July. The schools are planned

to reopen under two separate shifts depending on the number of students. In a few weeks, the elementary and primary schools will be reopened. — Myint Maung (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

530 Myanmar nationals come back home via Myawady border bridge on 13 July

A total of 530 Myanmar nationals returned home from Thailand through No.2 border bridge in Myawady Town, Kayin State, on 13 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 46,867 until now.

The latest group of returnees included 288 males and 242 females from different regions and states. —Htein Lin Aung (IPRD)

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Myanmar nationals returned from Thailand queue for immigration process at the Myawady border checkpoint on 13 July 2020. PHOTO: HTEIN LINAUNG (IPRD)



Only you can create your own happiness

In the lifetime of a person, one cannot say that five or six months is a long time. The reason she had to keep reminding frequently was that Myanmar was not a rich country and therefore had to exist based on spiritual strength. Existing based on spiritual energy means to exist based on discipline. That is why duty needs to be respected and discipline should be maintained. Each person needs to know how to live happily with contentment. Only you can create your own happiness.

(Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's discussions with senior health officials on 30 June 2020)

ACC provides reference publications on ‘integrity and ethics’ in Shan State

THE Anti-Corruption Commission presented reference documents and publications on “integrity and ethics” to the Shan State Chief Minister and other top officials yesterday morning at the meeting hall of the Shan State government.

The reference publications are for the Shan State government, the Shan State Hluttaw, judicial officials, the officials in Self-Administered Zones in Shan State and libraries.

Shan State Chief Minister Dr Lin Htut, Shan State Chief Justice U Kywe Kywe, Shan State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Sao Aung Myat, ministers and top officials of the Shan State government, officials from Pa-O and Danu Self-Administered Zones, the Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi, and other relevant officials attended the ceremony.

During the ceremony, the Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi said that the commission organized workshops on integrity in regions and states as well as opened two “Youth Integrity” camps.

But, in 2020, the workshops

on integrity could not be held because of the COVID-19 crisis, that’s why the reference books on “integrity and ethics” are given to all the states and regions, according to the Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi.

“In 20th century, Democracy, Fascism and Communism competed for superiority. But in the 21st century, the majority of the people became to believe in democracy. In these days, people who have the power need to give high priority to working for the welfare of the general public rather than working only for the welfare of individual persons and own organizations. The world’s famous political scientists like Fukuyama talked about that idea, so the officials, by holding true belief and true value, need to have integrity and be ethical in working in their relevant areas or departments for the welfare of the general public. We provided the reference books so that the officials can bravely combat corruption,” said the Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi.

Afterwards, Professor Dr Aung Tun Thet’s video clip



Anti-Corruption Commission hands over documents and publications on “integrity and ethics” in Shan State on 13 July . **PHOTO: MNA**

“Corruption and Immorality” was shown.

Next, the Anti-Corruption Commission chairman handed over 199 copies of the reference books to the Shan State Chief Minister Dr Lin Htut, Shan State Chief Justice U Kywe Kywe, Shan State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Sao Aung Myat and officials from the Pa-O and Danu Self-Administered Zones.

After that, the Shan State

Chief Minister delivered a speech by saying that the Union government is working for the development of the entire nation during this democratic transition period; the Union Government, in collaboration with civil servants and the citizens, is working to make Myanmar a corruption-free society.

The Shan State Chief Minister also highlighted the President’s remark made on 30 March, 2018, which said officials must

increase intensity in combatting the corruption, and legal actions must be taken against the offenders in accordance with the laws.

The Shan State Chief Minister pledged that the Shan State will cooperate with all stakeholders in tackling corruption, and then he expressed thanks to the Anti-Corruption Commission for providing the reference books.

— MNA (Translated by Maung Maung Swe) ■

Viet Nam govt, Mytel and BIDV donate cash, facemasks to MoHS



Vietnamese donations for COVID-19 measures are received at Department of Medical Research in Yangon on 13 July. **PHOTO: MIN THIT**

THE government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the Telecom International Myanmar Co., Ltd (Mytel) and the Bank of Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) donated cash funds and face masks to the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and the Department of Medical Research of the Ministry of Health and Sports at the meeting hall of the head office of the department on Ziwaka Road, Dagon

Township in Yangon at 10:30 am yesterday.

At the donation ceremony, Mr Ly Quoc Tuan, the Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, delivered a speech.

Director-General of Department of Medical Research Dr Zaw Than Htun spoke words of gratitude, received the cash funds and facemasks presented by Mr Ly Quoc Tuan, and officials from Mytel and the BIDV, and returned certificates of honour to the donors.

At the donation ceremony, the government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam donated US\$ 50,000 to the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), Mytel donated \$5,000 and 30,000 facemasks to the Department of Medical Research, and the BIDV donated K2 million to the department.

—Min Thit (MNA) ■

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Safety depends on us when reopening schools amidst COVID-19

WITH the beginning of the nationwide school enrolment, the Union Government has taken steps to open schools on 21 July, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Social distancing measures, along with parents, teachers and students wearing face masks, and providing hand washing facilities at schools on school enrolment days, have proven that schools are ready to safely welcome students.

Children need to get back into schools, one way or another, for their educational and mental well-being. They can't afford to wait in suspended animation for a vaccine that may not be available for years, if at all.

When it comes to reopening schools, primary, middle and high schools have been recommended to maintain COVID-19 guidelines. The return to school, as with other aspects of pre-pandemic normalcy, rests on our ability to control the spread of the coronavirus.

Screening temperature at the entrance, strict hygiene measures, scheduling students in split shifts and the limit for the number of students in a class are called key to preventing the coronavirus at schools. But, for safety of the students, teachers should set an example by wearing a mask, washing hands and maintaining one-metre social distancing.

We decided to reopen our schools while others are checking the spread of the virus and also preparing to reopen schools. Why? The number of COVID-19 cases in our country is not large, compared with other countries.

Thanks to the united efforts of the people and authorities, we have been able to contain the spread of the virus and save lives.

Deciding to reopen schools is not an easy job. However, we believe schools should reopen for in-person instruction, as long as the community infection rate remains low, and schools follow appropriate social distancing guidelines.

Education of a country should not be stopped because children might lose their enthusiasm for education when they are away from classrooms for a long time. Long-term closures of classrooms would have negative impacts on education and being too hasty with a shortcut in teaching could not generate well-educated persons.

The educational, social, physical and emotional costs of keeping children at home far outweigh the risks of sending them to school.

Is it safe to reopen schools in this situation? That may depend on us.

France - Myanmar: 72 years of fruitful relations at the service of future-oriented cooperations

By Mr Christian Lechervy, Ambassador of France to Myanmar

EVERY 14 July, the French gather together, celebrate freedoms, democratic and human rights values, assets that all the peoples of the world should share. All over the world, French embassies welcome their partners and friends and express their deep attachment to them. If this year many public events are upset by the rules imposed on us by the effective fight against the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, I cannot hide my pride in serving the development of relations between France and Myanmar and inscribing our actions in a long history of friendship.

We sometimes forget that France and Myanmar share a common geography. Our two States both border the Indian Ocean and are committed to the preservation of this environment, which is nourishing and sustaining a rich biodiversity. Moreover, our two nations have long-standing political, economic and cultural relations, which predate even the establishment of our diplomatic relations proclaimed in the first quarter of 1948.

History and culture have nourished our bilateral relations so much that this year we are celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the joint archaeological mission in Halin (Sagaing Division). Joint scientific research has also been conducted for more than thirty years by teams of paleontologists on the Eocene formation of Pondaung, from which many fossils and objects have been extracted and are now displayed in the collections of the Nay Pyi Taw



Ambassador Christian Lechervy presents his credentials to U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. PHOTO: EMBASSY OF FRANCE

National Museum.

In 2021, it will be the turn of the French Institute of Burma (IFB) to celebrate its 60th anniversary in Yangon. Without interruption, the French Institute has been a space for education, intellectual exchange and home to all forms of expression and, even more so, to Myanmar men and women, in all their social, age, idea and gender diversities. Its Mandalay branch also conducts this mission of dialogue of cultures and education. This year, more than ever, the French Cultural Institutes in Myanmar and the

Lycée Français International de Rangoun - Joseph Kessel were able to present innovative activities, using the digital technologies of tomorrow. Thus, distance learning courses and numerous cultural and recreational activities on the Internet and Facebook have been put online to reach a wide audience. In the garden of the Yangon Innovation Centre was inaugurated on 2 November 2019, in the presence of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, a mobile digital museum presenting the collections of twelve French national museums, including the

Louvre Museum. Open to the public, the "Micro-Folie Yangon" hosts numerous digital events to enable young people to discover the possibilities offered by digital creation and modelling of heritage sites in Myanmar such as Bagan.

Our cultural relations stimulate the creativity of artists. The first fashion show organized in Nay Pyi Taw in December 2019 showed the inventiveness of French fashion designers and accessories makers inspired by the richness of Myanmar's textiles. The *Gout de France* - Good France gastronomy week made gourmets discover how Myanmar's culinary specialties can combine with French wines and spirits, and how the products of Myanmar's farmers, fishermen and stockbreeders resonate remarkably with French cuisine. As a symbol of these happy crossbreeds, for the first time in its history the Paris International Chocolate Fair awarded this year's prize to cocoa beans grown by a French chocolate maker from Myanmar. Alongside cultural and artisanal cooperations, many economic projects promoted by French companies are developing. The companies are small, medium or world leaders. Gathered within the France - Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FMC-

CI) which now brings together nearly 200 companies, they are all concerned about the sustainable development of Myanmar, respecting the most demanding social and environmental standards in the development of their projects, and offering the best technologies and professional training.

French companies are committed to long-term investment, as demonstrated by their achievements and projects, particularly in the fields of urban planning, consumer goods, energy, services, telecommunications, transport, hotels and tourism. The visit to Paris of several members of the Myanmar government in recent months and a delegation from the Myanmar committee of the French business confederation (MEDEF international) to Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw at the beginning of this year demonstrated the extent to which the development of our economic exchanges is

development aid programmes in Myanmar. Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and its Yangon office are the driving force and key partner. In recent months, its actions have been particularly supportive of the government's Covid-19 prevention and control policy. Scientific exchanges, training of technicians, equipment deliveries and financial support have translated our solidarity into action. Those efforts will continue in the coming years as shown by the projects launched with the Reference National Health Laboratory (NHL) and those in the regions and States (e.g. Mandalay), the projects carried out in cooperation with neighbouring countries (e.g. Cambodia, Laos) or those implemented by civil society organizations.

The joint fight against the Covid-19 pandemic and its effects mobilizes all our bilateral cooperation instruments. It has also generated a real surge of sol-



The France-Myanmar cooperation in the health sector, with the National Health Laboratory (NHL). PHOTO: EMBASSY OF FRANCE

supported by the highest authorities of our two countries. On both sides, we are determined to implement the projects that have been agreed upon, but also to prepare, without delay, those of tomorrow.

Myanmar and France are building a close, long-term relationship based on mutual trust. The quality of our political dialogue enables us to address all the issues that are important to both sides without taboos and to work together in numerous international, regional, Euro-Asian and UN forums. The connectivity of people and territories is a common concern. It is also at the heart of French and European Union

solidarity among the French people living in Myanmar. Businesses, French nationals and their families have stepped up local initiatives to support prevention and care efforts in Yangon and in the country side. These spontaneous gestures underscore the attachment of the French to Myanmar and its people. As we have just celebrated the 72nd anniversary of our diplomatic relations, we can say that we are preparing for the future together, together and in all sincerity: "Long live the France - Myanmar cooperation!"

In Commemoration of 73rd Martyrs' Day

19th July, 1947-19th July, 2020

Mongpaw Chieftain
Sao San Tun

(31 May 1907 - 19 July 1947)



MONGPAW Chieftain Sao San Tun was appointed as the Minister of Hill Regions in the pre-independence government headed by General Aung San.

He was born to Sao Khun Htee, a chieftain of Mongpaw town in Southern Shan State, and his wife Maha Devi Nang Sein U on 31 May 1907.

He passed matriculation examination at high school for children of the Shan chieftains in Taunggyi. He also attended police officer training school.

He became a chieftain in 1928 and married Sao Khin Thuang, a daughter of Momeik Chieftain in 1932.

He endeavoured to achieve cooperation between hilly regions and Central Myanmar and attempted to ensure national unity made by General Aung San. He served as a member of Union and States Subcommittee, Subcommittee for Minority Ethnic People and Committee for Drawing up Constitution in the Constituent Assembly.

He was assassinated at 10:37 am on 19 July 1947. He died at noon of the following day 20 July.

He was survived by two sons and two daughters.



President's Office continues announcement of illegal drug arrests, seizures action on tip-offs

THE Office of the President has issued Press Release No 27/2020 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs' arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 11 July.

The ministry made the arrests, acting on information, sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President as of 11 July.

The full text of the press release will be reported in the 15 July issue of *The Global New Light of Myanmar*. — GNLM



The France-Myanmar joint archaeological mission in Halin (Sagaing Division). PHOTO: EMBASSY OF FRANCE

How does COVID-19 affect global food security?

World hunger worsening as coronavirus weighs and obesity rises: UN

ROME (Italy) — Nearly one in nine people in the world are going hungry, with the coronavirus pandemic exacerbating already worsening trends this year, according to a United Nations report published Monday.

Economic slowdowns and climate-related shocks are pushing more people into hunger, while nutritious foods remain too expensive for many, contributing not only to undernourishment, but to growing rates of obesity in adults and children.

“After decades of long decline, the number of people suffering from hunger has been slowly increasing since 2014,” said the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World annual report.

Not only did people need enough food, but nutritious food, the study said, citing costly “health and environmental consequences” of sub-par diets.

Nearly 690 million people, or 8.9 per cent of people around the globe, are hungry, the UN found.

That number rose by 10 million people in just one year to 2019, and by 60 million in the past five years, found the study, which said eradicating hunger by 2030 - a goal set five years ago - will be impossible if trends continue.

By 2030, over 890 million people could be affected by hunger, or 9.8 percent of the world’s population, it estimated.

Five United Nations agencies co-authored the report: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Last year, the report estimated that over 820 million people were going hungry, but estimates were recalculated following revised data from China for prior years.

More undernourished people

When measuring both



A University student wearing a face mask and shield holds a sign reading “Gone with COVID, RIP Education, RIP State Coffers, RIP Healthcare System, RIP Constitutional Guarantees” during a protest against alleged corruption and hunger amid the new coronavirus pandemic outside the National Assembly in Panama City, on 1 July 2020. **PHOTO: AFP**

moderate and severe food insecurity in 2019, the number balloons from 690 million to 2 billion people without “regular access to safe, nutritious and

sufficient food”.

The COVID-19 pandemic, which has hit hard in nations with widespread poverty, could cause another 83 to 132 million

people to become undernourished this year, the report said.

Global trends had already been worsening before coronavirus, it said.— AFP ■

Recovered patients may lose their immunity to reinfections within months

Virus immunity may disappear within months: study

PARIS (France) — Patients who recover from coronavirus infections may lose their immunity to reinfection within months, according to research released on Monday that experts said could have a “significant” influence on how governments manage the pandemic.

In the first study of its kind, a team led by researchers from King’s College London examined the levels of antibodies in more than 90 confirmed virus patients and how they changed over time.

Blood tests showed even individuals with only mild COVID-19 symptoms mounted some immune response to the virus.

Of the study group, 60 per cent showed a “potent” viral response in the first few weeks after infection.

However, after three months only 16.7 percent had maintained high levels of COVID-19-neutralizing antibodies, and after 90 days several patients had no

detectable antibodies in their bloodstream.

When the body encounters an external danger such as a virus, it mobilises cells to track down and kill the culprit.

As it does so, it produces proteins known as antibodies that are programmed to target the specific antigen the body is fighting, like a key cut for a par-

ticular lock.

As long as someone has enough antibodies, they will be able to snub out new infections, giving them immunity.

But Monday’s research suggests immunity cannot be taken for granted and may not last more than a few months, as is true with other viruses such as influenza. — AFP ■



In this picture taken on 4 April 2020 shows Indonesians sunbathe in Bekasi, West Java, with the belief that the sun can boost their body immunity amid concern to the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak. **PHOTO: AFP**

Impacts of COVID-19 on environment

Coronavirus masks, gloves polluting Europe’s rivers

PARIS (France) — Europe’s major rivers are littered with surgical masks and medical gloves discarded by people protecting themselves against coronavirus, scientists have reported.

The rubbish adds to plastic pollution already clogging the continent’s major waterways, research organization Tara Ocean Foundation told France Inter radio on Sunday.

During the month of June, researchers “systematically found gloves and masks” along the banks and beaches of rivers across Europe said RomyHentinger, head of international cooperation at the foundation.

“This is worrying,” she said. “We can only assume that others (masks and gloves) have already made it to the ocean.”

The disposable protective gear is manufactured from polypropylene and will

thus disintegrate quickly in the ocean, making it almost impossible to recover, she added.

The Tara Foundation recently concluded a scientific survey of nine major rivers -- the Elbe, Rhine, Seine, Rhone, Garonne, Loire, Tiber, Thames and Ebro -- to measure concentrations of microplastics.

The expedition from May to November 2019 found them in 100 percent of the water samples they collected, showing that particles had already broken down before being carried out to the sea.

“We’re waiting for the final results from our scientists,” said Hentinger.

Contrary to what was once thought, bits of plastic in ocean water are not broken down by UV rays and salt.

Around eight million tonnes of plastic end up in the world’s oceans every year.—AFP ■

US presses again for full school reopening, despite risks

WASHINGTON (United States) — The Trump administration on Sunday again pressed for full school reopenings in the fall, even as resurgent COVID-19 infections and a record spike in cases in Florida raised mounting questions about the risk of a premature return to classes.

With the virus setting new records by the day in many parts of the country, a top health official warned that “everything should be on the table” and even US President Donald Trump wore a mask in public for the first time.

Florida has been especially hard hit. The southeastern state reported 15,299 new cases in a single day, the highest one-day total of any state to date -- and more than all the cases yet registered in South Korea.

But in two television interviews Sunday, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos insisted on the need for schools to reopen, even as several states were registering record num-

bers of coronavirus cases and hospitals in many cities were struggling to cope.

“Kids need to get back to school, they need to get back in the classroom,” DeVos said on CNN, while acknowledging that local conditions should be taken into account. “Families need for kids to get back in the classroom. And it can be done safely.”

Yet, another administration spokesman cautioned Sunday that some areas might need to return to lockdowns.

Admiral Brett Giroir, the assistant secretary of health, said that with COVID-19 deaths continuing to rise, “everything should be on the table.”

“We’re all very concerned,” Giroir added on ABC’s “This Week,” as he called for the re-closing of bars, greater spacing in restaurants and the near-universal wearing of masks in the areas most afflicted, largely in southern states that reopened aggressively. — AFP ■



In this file photo taken on 9 July 2020 instructor Chablis Torres (C) reads to children in a pre-school class, wearing masks and at desks spaced apart as per coronavirus guidelines during summer school sessions at Happy Day School in Monterey Park, California.

PHOTO: AFP



Students wearing facemasks observe social distancing as they pray in a yard in their school in the southern Thai province of Narathiwat on 1 July 2020, as schools reopened after being temporarily closed due to the threat of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus. PHOTO: AFP

Ten million kids ‘may never return to school’ after virus

LONDON (United Kingdom) — The coronavirus pandemic has caused an “unprecedented education emergency” with up to 9.7 million children affected by school closures at risk of never going back to class, Save the Children warned Monday.

The British charity cited UNESCO data showing that in April, 1.6 billion young people were shut out of school and university due to measures to contain COVID-19 -- about 90 per cent of the world’s entire student population.

“For the first time in human history, an entire generation of children globally have had their education disrupted,” it said in a new report, *Save our Education*.

It said the economic fall-out of the crisis could force an extra 90 to 117 million children into poverty, with a knock-on effect on school admissions.

With many young people required to work or girls forced into early marriage to support

their families, this could see between seven and 9.7 million children dropping out of school permanently.

At the same time, the charity warned the crisis could leave a shortfall of \$77 billion in education budgets in low and middle income countries by the end of 2021.

“Around 10 million children may never return to school -- this is an unprecedented education emergency and governments must urgently invest in learning,” Save the Children chief executive Inger Ashing said.

“Instead we are at risk of unparalleled budget cuts which will see existing inequality explode between the rich and the poor, and between boys and girls.”

The charity urged governments and donors to invest more funds behind a new global education plan to help children back into school when it is safe and until then support distance learning.

“We know the poorest, most

marginalized children who were already the furthest behind have suffered the greatest loss, with no access to distance learning -- or any kind of education -- for half an academic year,” Ashing said.

Save the Children also urged commercial creditors to suspend debt repayments for low-income countries -- a move it said could free up \$14 billion for education programmes.

“If we allow this education crisis to unfold, the impact on children’s futures will be long lasting,” Ashing said.

“The promise the world has made to ensure all children have access to a quality education by 2030, will be set back by years,” she said, citing the United Nations goal. The report listed 12 countries where children are most at risk of falling behind: Niger, Mali, Chad, Liberia, Afghanistan, Guinea, Mauritania, Yemen, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal and Ivory Coast. — AFP ■

Sri Lanka shuts schools again as virus cases surge

COLOMBO (Sri Lanka) — Sri Lanka ordered government schools across the nation to shut Monday, just a week after they re-opened, following a surge in new coronavirus cases.

The country has reported just 2,617 cases with 11 deaths, but army chief Shavendra Silva said nearly half the 1,100 residents and staff at a drug rehab facility near the capital had tested positive in the past week, and some visitors may also have been infected.

At least 16 cases had emerged in villages elsewhere across the nation, officials said, most in the central-northern region.

“Based on the direction of health authorities, it is decided to close schools this week,” the education ministry said in a statement, adding that private colleges were also encouraged to shut their doors.

“We will review the situation next week.”

Postal voting for next



Students wearing facemasks wash their hands inside their school in Sri Lanka on 6 July 2020. PHOTO: AFP

month’s parliamentary elections would be delayed in villages affected by the virus, the independent election commission said.

Sri Lanka’s ruling party on Sunday called off its rallies ahead of the upcoming poll and postponed the re-opening of the international airport, which was planned for early August.

A repatriation programme that has brought home some 12,000 Sri Lankans from overseas has also been suspended. — AFP ■

Global stocks rise as US earnings season carries hope



(Files) People walk near the The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on Wall Street on 29 June 2020 in New York City. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON (United Kingdom) — World stock markets advanced Monday, helped by investor confidence in upcoming US third-quarter earnings and hopes for progress towards a coronavirus vaccine, dealers said.

A spike in COVID-19 infections across the globe kept a lid on gains, they said.

“The mood remains upbeat as the new week kicks off and US earning season moves into focus,” said City Index analyst Fio-

na Cincotta.

Results from JP Morgan, Citigroup, Wells Fargo, Goldman Sachs, Netflix and Johnson & Johnson would help give further insights into corporate America’s performance following the full coronavirus lockdown, she said.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones index gained 250 points at the opening, while key European stock markets were one percent or more up.

Earlier, Asia had led the way with solid gains across the region.

Oil prices fell on festering fears over demand-destr

Sense of virus optimism

Investors welcomed comments on Friday from the head of German biotech firm BioNTech who said a vaccine candidate would be ready for regulatory review by the end of the year, while Gilead Sciences said its drug remdesivir had been relatively effective in clinical trials.

“There was a sense of optimism circulating on the back of hopes for a treatment for coronavirus,” said CMC Markets analyst David Madden. Trillions of dollars in government support is keeping global equities well supported, but confidence is being strangled by the spread of the disease, with an explosion of cases forcing some countries to reimpose containment measures just weeks after easing lockdowns.

In Paris, Ubisoft shares dived after the gaming company revealed over the weekend that its second most powerful executive was among senior staff to have left the firm as it pursues an internal investigation into sexual harassment allegations. Last month the French company, one of the world’s largest video game publishers whose portfolio includes Assassin’s Creed and Far Cry, launched a probe after allegations of sexual misconduct were shared online.

Serge Hascoet, chief creative officer and the company’s second-in-command, has now resigned along with human resources director Cecile Cornet, Ubisoft said.—AFP ■

Google to invest \$10 billion in India

NEW DELHI (India) — Google said Monday it will invest \$10 billion in India over the next five to seven years as it battles rivals like Facebook and Amazon in the vast market of 1.3 billion consumers.

Chief executive Sundar Pichai told a virtual Google in India event that its fund would help “accelerate India’s digital economy” and will include investing in local firms and infrastructure in areas like digital payments, education and health.

“There’s no question we are facing a difficult moment today, in India and around the world. The dual challenges to our health and to our economies have forced us to rethink how we work and how we live,” Pichai said.

“But times of challenge can lead to incredible moments of innovation,” Indian-born Pichai said according to a transcript of his remarks released by the US search engine giant.

Foreign firms have spent tens of billions of dollars in India in recent years as they fight for a piece of the Asian giant’s burgeoning digital economy.

This has included only this year around \$16 billion in investments from Facebook, Intel and others in stakes in the digital services unit of Jio, controlled by Asia’s richest man Mukesh Ambani.

Pichai on Monday briefed Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his plans, but a government statement suggested that Modi also expressed concerns about data security and privacy. Modi “said that tech companies need to put in efforts to bridge the trust deficit,” the statement said.

Earlier this month the Indian government banned 59 Chinese cellphone apps including the hugely popular TikTok over concerns



In this file photo taken on 23 March 2018, the Google logo is pictured on the side of the Google India office building in Hyderabad. **PHOTO: AFP**

the firms were passing user data to the Chinese government.

The move came amid a dramatic worsening in relations with China following a brawl on their disputed Himalayan border on June 15 that left 20 Indian soldiers dead.—AFP ■

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (028W/029E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (028W/029E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-7-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V INFINITY K

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V INFINITY K VOY. NO. (25-20L)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-7-2020** 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.

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Japanese car sales in the Philippines fall 68% in 2nd quarter

MANILA — Sales of Japanese carmakers in the Philippines fell at least 68 per cent during the second quarter of the year due to disruptions caused by the coronavirus pandemic, with some signs of recovery seen on a monthly basis, according to industry association figures released Monday.

Data from the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines and the Truck Manufacturers Association showed major Japanese companies in the country sold 18,046 units. During the three-month period, Toyota Motor Philippines Corp. sold the most vehicles at 9,952 units, followed by Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. at 2,898 units, and Suzuki Philippines Inc. 1,793 units. Sales of Nissan Philippines, Inc. were at 1,191 units, Isuzu Philippines Corp. at 1,141 units, Honda Cars Philippines Inc. at 993 units, and Sojitz Fuso Philippines Corp. at 78 units.—AFP ■

Fireball that lit up Tokyo sky confirmed as meteor after pieces found

TOKYO — A fireball that brightened the Tokyo sky earlier this month has been identified as a meteor after fragments were found in a neighboring prefecture, a Japanese national science museum said Monday.

The meteorite, which landed on a condominium in Narashino, Chiba Prefecture, is believed to have originally had a diameter of a few centimetres but likely broke into two pieces, according to the National Museum of Nature and

Science.

The pieces weigh 63 grams and 70 grams, respectively, it said. A female resident of the condominium, who was awakened by a loud noise in the early hours of July 2, discovered a rock fragment in the common corridor just outside her room later that morning.

Upon learning news of the fireball, the woman kept the fragment thinking it might be a meteorite.

An impact mark on

the handrail in the corridor led to the discovery of a second piece of rock in the courtyard two days later. Metal in the second piece had rusted due to exposure to rain, turning it brown.

The museum, which was asked to analyze the chunks, detected isotopes of aluminum, sodium and manganese produced by the bombardment of cosmic rays.

As some isotopes have a half-life of only a few days, it was able to confirm the rocks were

from a meteorite that fell recently.

The last meteorite to hit Japan landed on private property in Komaki, Aichi Prefecture some two years ago.

The museum plans to submit the latest meteorite, which it has named “Narashino,” for registration with the Meteoritical Society. If accepted, it will be the 53rd meteorite to be recorded from Japan.

The shooting star was observed on July 2 moving from south-



Supplied photo shows fragments of a meteorite, which landed on a condominium in Narashino, Chiba Prefecture. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

west to northeast in the sky above the Japanese capital while emitting a blaze of light comparable to the brightness of a full moon.

Social media came

alive after the 2:30 am incident, with many people saying they heard a loud bang, and some mistakenly attributing the sound to their upstairs neighbors.—Kyodo ■

Race to rescue turtles entangled in plastic on Bangladesh beach

COX’S BAZAR (Bangladesh) — At least 20 turtles were dead and dozens more were rescued Sunday after being entangled in plastic waste washed ashore on one of the world’s longest beaches in Bangladesh, officials and conservationists said.

Locals said waves of waste – mostly plastic bottles, fishing nets and buoys – floated ashore late Saturday. They spotted turtle carcasses among the sand dunes early Sunday.

Bangladesh’s forestry department said it was the first time such a large vol-

ume of plastic had washed onto the 120-kilometre (75-mile) beach along the Bay of Bengal.

“Hundreds of locals rushed to the beach since early morning to rescue the wounded turtles,” forestry spokesman Sohail-Hossain told AFP.—AFP ■

Mandela’s daughter Zindzi dies in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (South Africa) — Zindzi Mandela, the youngest daughter of South Africa’s first black president and anti-apar-

theid icon Nelson Mandela has died aged 59, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced Monday.

Daughter to Mande-

la and Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, she was South Africa’s ambassador to Denmark at the time of her death.

“Ambassador Mandela passed away in the early hours of today, 13 July 2020, in a Johannesburg hospital,” Ramaphosa said in a statement.

The cause of her death was not immediately revealed.

She had been designated to become South Africa’s envoy to Liberia after her stint in Copenhagen, which started in 2015.

She was born and raised in Soweto and was educated both at home and in neighbouring Swaziland.

Zindzi grew up while her father was incarcerated by the apartheid regime for 27 years.—AFP ■



Zindzi Mandela talks about the film ‘Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom’ in Johannesburg on 2 November 2013 after a press conference. **PHOTO: AFP**



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MANDALAY REGION GOVERNMENT
MANDALAY CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MANDALAY URBAN SERVICES
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Invitation for Bids

Request for Expression of Interest No: MYWS 52.0
Contract No: MYWS 52.0
Contract Title: Design Supervision and Construction Supervision as FIDIC Engineer of the New Water Treatment Plant and Associated Pipe Line Works (MUSIP)

- Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC), as part of Mandalay Urban Services Improvement Project, intends to recruit the Design and Construction Supervision Consultant for the New Water Treatment Plant and Associated Pipe Line Works Contract under financing from Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD).
- Mandalay City Development Committee now invites applicants to submit Expressions of Interest documents for Design Supervision and Construction Supervision as FIDIC Engineer of the New Water Treatment Plant and Associated Pipe Line Works to be performed in Mandalay.
- Bidding will be conducted through International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures as specified in the AFD Procurement Guidelines. The bidding documents shall be addressed only to the short-listed eligible firms following the evaluation result of the Expressions of Interest.
- Interested firms may obtain the Request for Expressions of Interest documents from Project Manager, at the address given in Item (6) below, during office hours 9:30 to 16:30 hr, starting from 13th July 2020, they also may obtain the said documents from AFD tender publication website <https://tenders-afd.dgmarket.com>.
- Application for Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below on or before local time 15:00hr, 10th August 2020. Electronic applications of Expressions of Interest are acceptable. Late application may be rejected.
- The address referred to above paragraph 4 and 5 is:

Attention:

Project Manager
MUSIP Project Management Office,
1st floor, 3 storey building
Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC)
26th Street, Between 71st and 72nd Streets
Chan Aye Tharzan Township
Mandalay

Country:

Republic of The Union of Myanmar

Telephone:

+95-2-4061631

Email address:

pmomusip.ext3@gmail.com

EU ministers aim to ease Turkey tensions



European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell reads a statement as he arrives for a meeting of EU foreign ministers at the European Council building in Brussels, on 13 July 2020. **PHOTO: AFP**

BRUSSELS (Belgium) — EU foreign ministers met on Monday to seek a way to calm tensions with Turkey, particularly over claims of illegal oil drilling in the Mediterranean and Ankara's human rights record.

Several ministers voiced concern at the direction Turkey — still nominally a candidate to join the EU — has taken under

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, with the decision to turn Istanbul's iconic Hagia Sophia back into a mosque the latest source of contention.

The 27 ministers were to discuss the whole gamut of EU-Turkey relations as they met in Brussels in person for the first time since the coronavirus pandemic erupted.

The situation in Hong Kong is also on the agenda, with Europe increasingly worried about the new security law imposed by Beijing.

The EU is unhappy at what it says is Turkey's illegal drilling for oil and gas off the coast of Cyprus, as well as Ankara's actions in support of the UN-recognised government in Libya and accu-

sations Erdogan's government is eroding rights and democracy at home.

France is particularly incensed about fellow NATO member Turkey's military support of the Tripoli government, suspecting Ankara of breaching a UN arms embargo on the oil-rich but restive north African country.

Sanctions or dialogue?

There are calls from some quarters to punish Turkey over some or all of these disputes, but EU diplomatic chief Josep Borrell, who travelled to Ankara for talks with Turkish ministers last week, has stressed the need to defuse tensions through dialogue.

And since 2016 the EU has relied on Turkey to stem the flow of migrants trying to reach Europe from the Middle East, Asia and Africa — a fact Ankara has not shied away from leveraging.

"The dynamics of retaliation do not make the Mediterranean a more secure and stable zone — this will only be achieved through dialogue and negotiations where discrepancies exist," Borrell told the European Parliament's foreign affairs committee last week.

A senior EU official said Bor-

rell was hoping for a clear signal from ministers that he should "urgently talk to Turkey on how we can de-escalate the situation".

But anger is running high among some EU countries, with Luxembourg's veteran Foreign Minister Jean Asselborn slamming the Hagia Sophia move as a "strike against civilization" and warning Ankara's actions against rights defenders suggested it "despises democracy and despises its own people".

Alexander Schallenberg, the foreign minister of Austria — which frequently takes a tough line on Turkey — called the Hagia Sophia change "the latest link in a chain of provocations" and said Ankara was "simply not a reliable partner for Europe".

On Hong Kong, Borrell said as he arrived for the talks that the final version of the law was "more draconian than expected" and ministers will discuss how the EU might respond.

Officials say that if they get a clear signal from ministers, they can prepare options for a response within days — but with the EU deeply divided over how to handle China, finding the necessary unanimity to take action is extremely difficult.—AFP ■

Four dead as fighting resumes on Azerbaijan-Armenia border

YEREVAN (Armenia) — Four soldiers were killed as troops from Azerbaijan and Armenia clashed on their border for a second day Monday in a new escalation of their decades-long territorial dispute.

Four Azerbaijani soldiers have been killed in the artillery fire that erupted on Sunday near Tavush region, Azerbaijan's defence ministry said, with three deaths on Sunday and one on Monday.

Armenia's defence ministry said Azerbaijan resumed shelling its positions on Monday morning after a night of clashes.

The countries have traded accusations over which side started the fighting.

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan told a cabinet meeting that Azerbaijani "provocations will not be unanswered".

His defence minister David

Tonoyan warned that Yerevan "will be reacting to Azerbaijani actions, including by taking advantageous positions" in their territory.

He said Armenian forces "do not shell civilian targets in Azerbaijan and only target the engineering infrastructure and technical facilities of the Azerbaijani armed forces."

Armenia's foreign minister Zohrab Mnatsakanyan discussed the crisis over the phone with the head of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), a Moscow-led military bloc.

Referring to the military alliance, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev's office said on Sunday that Armenia's "military adventure" was aimed at drawing CSTO into the fighting. Turkey's foreign ministry issued a statement, backing its Turkic-speaking ally Baku.—AFP ■

Iran says misaligned radar led to Ukrainian jet downing

TEHRAN (Iran) — Iran said that the misalignment of an air defence unit's radar system was the key "human error" that led to the accidental downing of a Ukrainian passenger plane in January.

"A failure occurred due to a human error in following the procedure" for aligning the radar, causing a "107-degree error" in the system, the Iranian Civil Aviation Organisation (CAO) said in a report late Saturday.

This error "initiated a hazard chain" that saw further mistakes committed in the minutes before the plane was shot down, said the CAO document, presented as a "factual report" and not as the final report on the accident investigation. A high ranking Ukrainian official, who asked to remain anonymous, told AFP the latest announcement "is not particularly credible" because Iran had given many different versions of the story

and changed them too often.

Flight 752, a Ukraine International Airlines jetliner, was struck by two missiles and crashed shortly after taking off from Tehran's main airport on January 8, at a time of heightened US-Iranian tensions.

The Islamic republic admit-

ted several days later that its forces accidentally shot down the Kiev-bound plane, killing all 176 people on board.

The majority of the passengers on the Boeing 737 were Iranians, with Canadians, Ukrainians, Afghans, Britons and Swedes also aboard.—AFP ■



In this file photo taken on 8 January 2020, rescue teams work amidst debris after a Ukrainian plane carrying 176 passengers crashed near Imam Khomeini airport in the Iranian capital Tehran early in the morning, killing everyone on board. **PHOTO: AFP**

Malaysian PM narrowly wins crucial support test in Parliament

KUALA LUMPUR— Malaysian Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin won a slim majority vote Monday to remove the speaker of the House of Representatives that is seen as a test of his support level after facing months of questioning over the legitimacy of his rule.

Muhyiddin succeeded in his motion to oust Mohamad Ariff Md Yusof as speaker of House after winning 111 votes versus 109 who opposed, as the 222-seat lower house of the Parliament held its first day of sitting for the second time this year.

Ariff was appointed during the previous Alliance of Hope administration that unexpectedly won the May 2018 election, ending the National Front coalition's over 60 years of unbroken rule.

The reformist Alliance with Mahathir Mohamad at the helm, however, collapsed after barely two years in power when Mahathir quit on Feb. 24 following defections led by Muhyiddin who, with his supporters, joined forces with then opposition to form a new government.

Mahathir, 95, who is waging



File photo shows Malaysian Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin. **PHOTO: AFP**

a campaign to unseat Muhyiddin and his “illegitimate” government, has submitted a motion of no-confidence against his successor but the motion is listed nearly at the bottom of the agenda and may not see the light of day as

government bills and motions are given priorities during the 25-day meeting that is to last through Aug. 27.

Thus Muhyiddin's motion for Ariff to vacate his post “because there is another candidate” as

he told the House, was seen as a proxy confidence vote and he scraped through by a razor-thin margin after a noisy debate.

The slim majority however has raised concern among members of the ruling National Alliance coalition or PN, according to its Malay acronym. Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki, head of the United Malays National Organization youth wing, questioned if the present government is sustainable. UMNO is the largest party in PN.

“The motion to replace the speaker was approved with a thin majority. Can the PN government last?,” he asked in a Twitter post.

He had on Sunday posted that the speaker vote was a “first test” of Muhyiddin's fragile government. If the motion failed, he said, the prime minister would have no choice but to seek the king's consent to dissolve Parliament and call for poll.

The motion itself was unprecedented. It is the first time a speaker was replaced before the dissolution of Parliament or expiration of its five-year term. —Kyodo News ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

102 dead from natural disasters in Nepal in a month

KATHMANDU —Over 100 people have succumbed to monsoon-led natural disasters like landslide, thunderbolt and flood in a month period in Nepal.

According to the data compiled by the Nepal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), after monsoon activated on June 12, there has been several landslide, flood and thunderbolt incidents across the country, claiming 102 lives, injuring 120 people and 44 unaccounted for as of Monday.

There were 13 landslide incidents, 10 places witnessed heavy rainfall, flooding hampered three locations across the country in the last 24 hours only. —Xinhua ■

Four Pakistani soldiers killed in clash with militants: military

ISLAMABAD — Four Pakistani soldiers were killed in a clash with militants in the northwestern tribal region near the Afghan border, the military said on Sunday.

The incident took place in the turbulent town of Miran-shah, the capital of North Waziristan District, where several military operations have been launched in recent years against homegrown and foreign militants.

The latest clash occurred when security forces were conducting an operation against the hideouts of suspected militants in the area. — AFP ■

Seoul mayor's funeral held despite #MeToo objections

SEOUL — The funeral service for Seoul mayor Park Won-soon, who took his own life after being accused of sexual harassment, was held Monday despite a petition against the city-run ceremony signed by half a million people.

Former human rights lawyer Park was a heavyweight figure in the ruling Democratic party and ran South Korea's sprawling capital — home to almost a fifth of the country's population — for nearly a decade. — AFP ■

Japan PM pledges billions for flood-hit region

TOKYO (Japan) — Japan will allocate \$3.7 billion for the recovery of regions hit by devastating flooding and landslides that killed at least 72 people, the country's prime minister pledged Monday.

The torrential rain started early this month in southwestern Kyushu and later hit central Japan. It prompted evacuation orders for hundreds of thousands of people.

On a visit to the hardest-hit Kumamoto region, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the government will “make use of a budget surpassing 400 billion yen (\$3.7 billion)” for recovery efforts.

“We'll do everything we

can,” he said, offering a silent prayer at a nursing home where 14 people died in floodwaters.

The toll in the rains now stands at 72, but the search continues for more than a dozen people still officially listed as missing.

The rain front started in the southwest on July 4 and cut a swathe of destruction.

It came in the middle of the country's annual rainy season, and the national meteorological agency warned Monday that more heavy downpours were possible.

In 2018, more than 200 people died in devastating floods in western Japan. — AFP ■



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) speaks with residents as he visits a flood-hit area in the village of Kuma in Kumamoto prefecture on July 13, 2020, after last week's heavy rains and flooding that devastated the region. **PHOTO: AFP**

China warns citizens of ‘arbitrary’ searches in Australia

BEIJING (China) — China stepped up a travel warning to Australia on Monday, telling its citizens of a risk of being searched “arbitrarily” by law enforcement authorities, as tensions between both countries grow.

The foreign ministry's latest notice comes a month after Beijing warned of “discrimination” against Chinese people in

Australia, telling its citizens not to travel there.

It also came days after Australia offered some 10,000 people from Hong Kong pathways to permanent residency in response to China's crackdown on dissent in the city, encouraging entrepreneurs or skilled workers to relocate as well.

The moves drew ire from Beijing.

“Australia's relevant law enforcement authorities arbitrarily search Chinese citizens and seize their items, and these circumstances could cause harm to Chinese citizens in Australia, as well as the safety of their assets,” said the Chinese foreign ministry.

The notice posted on the WeChat social media app also reminded Chinese citizens to “pay

close attention” to local safety risks and “travel with caution to Australia in the near-term”.

Tensions between Australia and China have been escalating on various fronts after Beijing reacted with fury to calls for an independent investigation into the origins and spread of the coronavirus pandemic -- which first surfaced in central China last year. —AFP ■

MoHS inspects football stadiums, academy to abide by COVID guidelines

Officials from the Ministry of Health and Sports yesterday inspected the sports stadiums and football academy in Yangon that are preparing to reopen by abiding by the coronavirus prevention guidelines.

After receiving the reports from the Myanmar Football Federation and the Myanmar

National League to restart their football matches, the health officials checked two football stadiums and one football academy in Yangon.

They first inspected Yangon United Sports Stadium, and then Thuwunna Stadium and Yangon Football Academy.

The health officials were

accompanied by officials concerned at the football stadiums and academy.

The ministry will permit the reopening of the football stadiums and academy depending on the data they collected from the buildings.

— Kyaw Khin



Officials from the Ministry of Health and Sports, accompanied by sports officials concerned, inspect the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 13 July 2020. **PHOTO: MFF**

Manchester City's European ban quashed on appeal



(FILES) In this file photo taken on May 12, 2019 Manchester City's Spanish manager Pep Guardiola (C) lifts the Premier League trophy with staff members after their 4-1 victory in the English Premier League football match between Brighton and Hove Albion and Manchester City at the American Express Community Stadium in Brighton, southern England on 12 May 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

LAUSANNE (Switzerland) — Manchester City are free to play Champions League football next season after the Court of Arbitration for Sport on Monday lifted a two-season ban from European competitions imposed by UEFA.

An initial fine of 30 million euros (\$34 million, £27 million) was also reduced to 10 million euros on appeal. City were accused of deliberately inflating the value of income from sponsors with links to the Abu Dhabi United Group, also owned by City owner Sheikh Mansour, to avoid falling foul of financial fair play (FFP) regulations between 2012 and 2016.

UEFA launched an investigation after German magazine Der Spiegel published a series of leaked emails in 2018.

However, CAS found that “most of the alleged breaches reported by the Adjudicatory Chamber of the CFCB (UEFA Club Financial Control Body)

were either not established or time-barred”. UEFA recognized in a statement that many of the allegations fell outside the five-year time limit in its own regulations.

“UEFA notes that the CAS panel found that there was insufficient conclusive evidence to uphold all of the CFCB’s conclusions in this specific case and that many of the alleged breaches were time-barred due to the five-year time period foreseen in the UEFA regulations,” European football’s governing body said in a statement.

‘Validation’

City welcomed the decision, which will have huge ramifications for the club’s finances and potentially the future of manager Pep Guardiola and star players such as Kevin De Bruyne and Raheem Sterling. The club made 93 million euros from UEFA prize money and TV

rights alone from last season’s Champions League, with gate receipts and extra sponsorship revenue from Europe’s premier club competition added to that tally.

“Whilst Manchester City and its legal advisors are yet to review the full ruling by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), the club welcomes the implications of today’s ruling as a validation of the club’s position and the body of evidence that it was able to present,” City said in a statement.

“The club wishes to thank the panel members for their diligence and the due process that they administered.” Since Sheikh Mansour’s takeover 12 years ago, City’s fortunes have been transformed from perennially living in the shadow of local rivals Manchester United to winning four Premier League titles in the past eight years among 11 major trophies. — AFP ■

Hamilton calls for better anti-racism focus and unity in F1

SPIELBERG BEI KNITTEL-FELD (Austria) — Lewis Hamilton has called on Formula One and his fellow drivers to stay focused on the sport’s anti-racism stance and present a less chaotic image before next Sunday’s Hungarian Grand Prix.

The six-time world champion said after winning Sunday’s Styrian Grand Prix that a number of drivers wanted to stop the pre-race anti-racism gestures and that he feels some teams are not doing enough to show solidarity with the movement.

“The drivers spoke after the drivers’ briefing this week-end about what we intended to do and some were asking ‘Why

do we have to continue to do this?’,” he said. “Some felt like once was enough last week.

“I just had to encourage them that racism is here, going to be here and probably be here longer than our time here — and people of colour, who are subject to racism, don’t have time to take a moment to protest and that be it.

“We’ve really got to think, as a sport, what we can do because those are nice signs, but passion is needed.”

Despite Hamilton’s efforts, at least four drivers remained standing while others took a knee and several appeared to be absent when they appeared together at the front of the grid before Sunday’s race.— AFP ■



Winner Mercedes’ British driver Lewis Hamilton celebrates on the podium after the Formula One Styrian Grand Prix race on 12 July 2020 in Spielberg, Austria. **PHOTO: AFP**