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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves Executive Order concerning Union Tax Law, its effective period

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw holds third-day meeting of 17th regular session on 17 July. **PHOTO: MNA**

PYIDAUNGSU Hluttaw convened its third-day meeting of 17th regular session yesterday, and unanimously approved the Executive Order 1/2020 concerning the Union Tax Law and its effective period.

Executive Order 1/2020 concerning Union Tax Law

Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win explained that the order is concerned with the Union Tax Law, and the four types of tax relief are granted under this law. The rights in this law are aimed for relief from the impacts of COVID-19.

The deputy minister added that his ministry has explained procedures, calculation, rules and principles in the order number 65/2020 to clarify tax relief plan in the Union Tax Law.

Public Debt Management Law

Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win submitted the second amending bill for Public Debt Management Law.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker decided to proceed the bill in line with the rules and regulations.

$483.8 mln loan for Bago-Kyaikhto highway project

Deputy Minister for Construction Dr Kyaw Linn and Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win explained the President's proposed loan US$483.8 million from the Asia Development Bank for implementation of Bago-Kyaikhto highway which will link with Greater Mekong Subregion countries, Bago-Thanlyin highway, of Yangon city bypass, Hantharwady International Airport project, Yangon-Mandalay highway and other regions of the country.

The project could create employment opportunities for local business firms and engineers as the local resources will be used in implementing the project as it is concerned with the Action Plan 2.3.3 under Goal 2 of COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan (CERP) for prioritizing public investment and with the Goal 3 of easing the impact on labour and workers.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee discusses Union Tax Bill 2020

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee is holding the meeting on 2020 Union Tax Bill at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw on 17 July 2020. **PHOTO : MNA**

PYIDAUNGSU Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee organized a meeting on 2020 Union Tax Bill sent by the Union Government yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Joint Bill Committee and Public Accounts Committee U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Ministers for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win and U Sett Aung, Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo, Deputy Minister for Construction Dr Kyaw Linn, the joint bill committee's deputy chairperson, secretary, joint secretary and members, Joint Public Accounts Committee's deputy chairperson and secretary, Pyithu Hluttaw Banking and Financial Development Committee's chairperson, officials from the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Construction and the Attorney-General's Office of the Union, the UMFCCI's Vice-Chair and central executive officers, officials from Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation, Myanmar Licenced Contractors Association, Myanmar Developers Associations, Myanmar Cheroot Producers and Distributors Association and Myanmar Liquour Association, and officials from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. —MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Myanmar nationals from ROK, Singapore brought back home

A relief flight of Myanmar National Airline bringing back 152 Myanmar nationals from Singapore, and a special flight from Korea Airlines bringing back 87 Myanmar seamen from South Korea landed at the Yangon International Airport yesterday.

Myanmar seamen from foreign countries needed crew-change after their contracts have expired, and the Myanmar Embassy in Soeul helped in their return to home after their shipping companies arranged to send them to Incheon International Airport.

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, Ministry of Health and Sports and local officials helped the returnees for health inspections and arranged for 21-day quarantine.

To bring back the Myanmar citizens who are stranded in foreign countries in relief flight and charter flight in accordance with the instructions from National-Level Central Committee for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs cooperated with the relevant ministries and Myanmar embassies from respective countries and brought back 1,762 Myanmar citizens through South Korea and 1,760 persons via Singapore to date.—MNA

(Translated by EPPA)

73rd Martyrs' Day ceremony 2020 to be broadcast live

THE 73rd Martyrs' Day Ceremony will be held at the Martyrs' Mausoleum, Bahan Township, Yangon at 8 am on 19 July 2020.

The event will be broadcast live starting from 7:40 am by Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV), MRTV Taingyintha (NRC Channel), MITV, Myawady (MWD), Skynet Up to Date, Channel 9, MNTV, One News, Myanma Radio and the MRTV Webportal Facebook page.—MNA

National land law working committee holds second meeting

THE Work Committee on Drafting the National Land Law and Harmonization of Laws Related to Land Management held its second meeting at the Union Attorney-General's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo said an action plan (draft) for drafting the National Land Law was created after organizing two workshops by the working committee. The process will be implemented step-by-step in accordance with the draft action plan. He also called for suggestions of the attendees to form working groups with appropriate participants to implement the tasks included in the draft action plan.

Members of the working committee including Hluttaw representatives and representatives from departments concerned, civil society organizations, and farmers discussed and approved the draft action plan at the meeting. They also detailed drawing up of the draft National Land Law in accordance with the draft action plan, and timely reporting that will be made by the working groups and supporting working groups to obtain the themes and contents of the bill.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

The second meeting of national land law working committee is in progress at the Union Attorney-General's Office in Nay Pyi Taw on 17 July 2020. **PHOTO : MNA**

COVID-19 figure in Myanmar remains at 339 as no new case reported on 17 July

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases remains at 339 as no new case was reported on 17 July according to Ministry of Health and Sports. Out of the **339** confirmed cases, **six** died, **271** have recovered, **257** have been discharged from hospitals and 17 were held under investigation.—MNA

Updated at 8 pm, 17 July 2020

Total Cases	New Case	Total Death Tally
339	0	6

Recovery Update on 17 July 2020 after two consecutive tests

Total Recovery	New Recovery	Discharged from Hospital
271	1	257

New Persons under Investigation from the past 24 hours to 12 noon of 17 July 2020

New PUIs
17

Ministry of Health and Sports

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 it wants, if the Kachin does what it wants, if the Shan, Kachin and Chin do not all 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)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves Executive Order concerning ...

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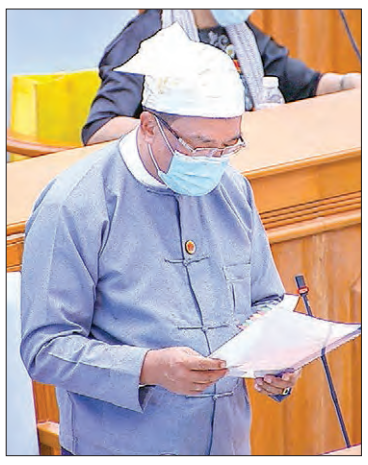
Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win also said that the loan is intended for infrastructural development of the country, and it is in line with the Union Budget Law, the Public Debt Management Law and the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker decided the proposal of loan to be discussed on 27 July.

Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win. **PHOTO : MNA**



Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Linn. **PHOTO : MNA**

Loan from JICA

Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Linn explained the President's proposed loan Japanese Yen 27.779 billion from the Japan International Cooperation Agency for implementation of Bago-Kyaikhto highway development project that includes construction of Sittaung River bridge and upgrade of central training school in Thuwunna. For training centre, vocational training centre and research laboratory for learning cutting machine for brick, bending machine for rebar, tying machine for rebar, total station and wind tunnel tests.

Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win discussed the loan plan in line with the Union Budget Law 2019-2020FY, the Public Debt Management Law, the Medium Term Debt Management Strategy 2018, development assistance policy and the action plan of Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (2018-2030).

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker invited the list of MPs who want to discuss the loan proposal and decided to discuss it on 27 July.

The Hluttaw also approved the recommendations of MPs on the Animal Health and Development Bill.

Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win submitted the Income Tax Bill to the Hluttaw.

The 10 MPs discussed the COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan.

The 4th-day meeting of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will convene on 22 July.—Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant

(Translated by Aung Khin)

UEC holds meeting with CSOs for 2020 General Election

THE Union Election Commission (UEC) held a meeting with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to successfully organize the 2020 General Election at the Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting was attended by UEC Chairman U Hla Thein and members, UEC Office's officials, and CSOs representatives.

Speaking at the meeting, the UEC Chairman said during Myanmar's democratic transition, UEC and CSOs are partners, adding that the commission and CSOs had successfully cooperated in the past elections. The 2020 General Election will be held on 8 November, and the designated constituencies for Hluttaw concerned were already announced, he added.

The commission has compiled voters list since 2019 so that all citizens who are aged 18 and above and who have voting rights can vote.

The voters list will be first announced for 14 days, from 25 July and 7 August.

Eligible voters can ask to add their names in the voters list with Form-3 if their names are not included in the list.

People can reject with Form-4 if the names of ineligible voters are included in the list.

They can also ask to amend the voters list with Form-4(c) if the facts in the list are wrong.

He urged the CSOs to conduct voters awareness campaigns so that voters can view the voters list whether their names are included.

After amending the first voters list, second voters list will be announced for 14 days during October. The second voters list can also be amended during the announcement.

The commission is working together with the Ministry of Information, INGOs and IGOs on the voters education programmes. Over 40,000 polling stations were designated for 2020 General Election.

The commission will be cooperating with the Ministry of Health and Sports as the election will be held in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines. Negotiation committees will be formed to settle the disputes happened during the election process.

The commission will form election security management committees and has already coordinated with ministry concerned to appoint special police for the security of the polling stations.

He added that the UEC is working together with relevant organizations in preventing spread of fake news and hate speech on social media, and the commission office is releasing accurate information about election.

The UEC has invited application for international election observation, and the 2020 General Election will be organized in line with the five norms.

He also called for cooperation of civil society organizations in the electoral processes.

The Director-General of UEC presented the preparatory works of the elections, followed by the discussions of CSOs.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

UEC Chairman U Hla Thein delivers the speech during the meeting with CSOs at the Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 17 July 2020. **PHOTO : MNA**

MoLIP, ILO jointly organize coordination meeting of National Complaints Mechanism

Union Minister U Thein Swe (left photo) speaks during the meeting with International Labour Organization to eliminate forced labour under the National Complaints Mechanism in Nay Pyi Taw on 17 July 2020. **PHOTO : MNA**

THE Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population and the International Labour Organization jointly conducted the first coordination meeting on elimination of forced labour under the National Complaints Mechanism yesterday.

Union Minister U Thein Swe, Deputy Minister U Myint Kyaing, members of implementing committee for the mechanism, ILO's Liaison Officer Mr Donglin Li and representatives of ILO office in Yangon, employers, employees and relevant ministries attended the meeting.

At the meeting, Union Minister U Thein Swe said that Myanmar carried out elimination of forced labour with the help of ILO for nearly two decades from 2002 to 2018; the government, employers and employees signed Decent Work Country Programme -DWCP (2018-2021) with ILO in September 2018 and adopted three prioritized plans.

The current implementation is concerned with the second point.

According to the processes of DWCP, the ministry designed a project to eliminate the forced labour for the period from 2019 to 2021 after establishing the National Complaints Mechanism.

The national-level committee for eliminating forced labour was formed on 2 December 2019 with the members of relevant ministries and Myanmar Human Rights Commission.

During the 14th National Tripartite Dialogue Meeting on 21 and 22 October 2019, labour representatives proposed that the national committee should include representatives of employers and employees, and Deputy Director-General of ILO agreed the proposal as it will foster the image of mechanism.

The National Complaints Mechanism began its functions on February this year, and opened complaint channels through some channels, including ILO, the parliament, the President's Office and other state departments. It was announced on MRTV, Myanma Radio, FM radios and the newspapers.

The Orientation Session was held on 27 February in Nay Pyi Taw for the committee members with the help of ILO.

The MOLIP held three coordination meetings with the Ministry of Defence and ILO to close 378 cases concerning with the Ministry of Defence, out of 217 cases.

The government has strongly emphasized the eradication of forced labour in the country.

ILO's Liaison Officer Mr Donglin Li extended his greetings and government officials discussed Elimination of Forced Labour Project (2019-2021), and while the Director General of Labour Department discussed standardization of the NCM and explained the progress.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

Deputy Minister U Bharat Singh attends Mekong-Japan Industrial & Government Dialogue and AMEICC Working Group on West-East Corridor Development

DEPUTY Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Bharat Singh yesterday attended a Joint Session of the 13th Mekong-Japan Industry and Government Dialogue and the 1st Meeting of 2020 ASEAN Economic Ministers-METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee (AMEICC) Working Group on West-East Corridor Development (WEC-WG) via videoconference.

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr Saksayam Chidchob, Thailand's Minister for Transport, and Mr Shigehiro Tanaka, Japan's Vice Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). The meeting was attended by Deputy Ministers from Mekong countries, industry representatives, Development Partners and representatives from both the AMEICC Secretariat and ASEAN Secretariat office.

During the meeting, Japan emphasized the importance of Mekong Industrial Development Vision (MIDV) 2.0 in sustaining more resilient economic growth aligned with an active response to mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 and outlined a way forward including the further development of a dedicated work programme. Deputy Ministers from Mekong countries then presented updates regarding their MIDV 2.0. aligned prioritized sub-pillars and projects.

Myanmar's Deputy Minister presented Myanmar's three prioritized projects, including a proposed feasibility study for upgrading both railways and roads along the Myanmar-Thai border to enable greater trade and investment facilitation throughout the Greater Mekong Sub region (GMS). The Deputy Minister also proposed a standardization programme which would foster greater competitiveness of Myanmar's micro-small and medium-sized enterprises (MSME), currently facing a range of challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, via training, technical know-how transfer, capacity building and related workshops and seminars.

Foreign Economic Relations Department Director-General and other senior officials from Directorate of Industrial Collaboration, Myanma Railways, and Road Management Department, supported the Deputy Minister's participation in the meeting. —MNA

Deputy Minister U Bharat Singh (left photo) participates in the Joint Session of the 13th Mekong-Japan Industry and Government Dialogue and the 1st Meeting of 2020 AMEICC via videoconference on 17 July 2020. **PHOTO : MNA**

Announcement of Bar Council

(CONTINUED FROM 17-7-2020)

1. The Bar Council has announced the final lists of candidates in Form (8) on 16 July 2020 for its election as per section 14 of the Council's election procedures.
2. The following advocates will contest the Bar Council Election.

Sr	Name of Advocate	Advocate Licence Number
19.	U Aung Soe	2182
20.	Daw Tin Win	2194
21.	U Myint Htay	2212
22.	U Aung Kyaw Phyu	2264
23.	U Maung Maung Soe	2289
24.	Daw Maybel	2339
25.	U Sein Win Chen	2344
26.	U Robert San Aung	2469
27.	Daw Mya Mya Than	2495
28.	Daw Khin Nu Tha	2523

(TO BE CONTINUED)

We need to be creative and innovative and figure out how to make our existing resources to be more valuable for ourselves

In times like this the challenges are huge and there is much to consider; according to the saying "necessity is the mother of invention", our innovative brains become more active; we need to be creative and innovative and figure out how to make our existing resources to be more valuable for ourselves as well as for the whole world; our country does not exist in isolation; that was why if there is a need for a particular commodity in a certain country, as a rule we should sell this commodity if we are able to sell it; we should sell it as much as possible; we should assist others who are in need; this may be considered as humanitarian assistance apart from that it is also good for our relations among the human community; she believes that in the long term good results would come out of good intentions according to the law of karma.

(Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's discussions with senior health officials on 24 June 2020)

Access to Health Fund delivers medical supplies for fight against COVID-19

MEDICAL supplies and laboratory equipment worth US$ 6.2 million to be used for measures against the COVID-19 were handed over by Access to Health Fund to the Ministry of Health and Sports yesterday.

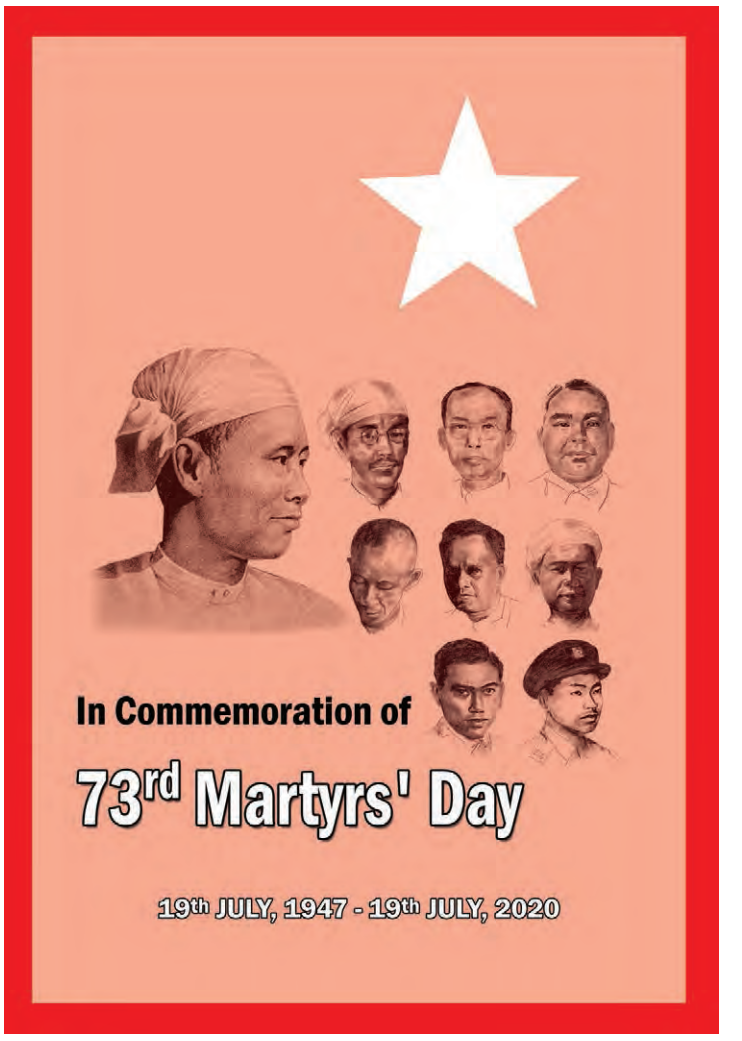
Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe expressed words of thanks to the Access to Health Fund and the main donor countries, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Sweden and Switzerland.

He also said that the ministry will coordinate with the INGOs, UN agencies and donor organizations once every two months in order to ensure better cooperation with these organizations. British Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Dan Chugg, Deputy Head of Mission from USAID Ms Teresa McGhie and Fund Director from Access to Health Fund Mr Oren Ginzburg explained further contributions.

The Union Minister received the medical supplies and laboratory equipment for the response to COVID-19 from the Access to Health Fund and gave the certificate of honour in return.

The Access to Health Fund has contributed to Myanmar $13.8 million dollars to date as a pledge of support for the national response against COVID. —MNA ■ *(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)*

Access to Health Fund provides medical supplies to the Ministry of Health and Sports in Nay Pyi Taw on 17 July 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**



Myanmar human rights commission inspects jails, labour camps, correction centres

Officials from the Myanmar Human Rights Commission inspecting jails, labour camps and correction centres in Pyinmmana. **PHOTO: MNA**

An inspection team of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission visited jails and labour camps in Yamethin Township, Pyinmana Township and Nay Pyi Taw from 15 to 17 July.

They inspected conditions and COVID-19 measures at detention facilities.

The officials of MNHCR also made interviews with the prisoners at the jails, prisons, and people's hospital in Yamethin Township, and coordinated their needs. The inspection team will send its findings and conclusions to respective organizations and departments concerned for necessary actions. —MNA ■

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

MoI publishes 73rd anniversary Martyrs' Day memorial books

THE Ministry of Information has published memorial books for the 73rd anniversary Martyrs' Day.

A total of 50,000 copies are in Myanmar language and 5,000 copies in English.

The books include biographies of nine fallen martyrs, excerpts from the last speech of Bogyoke Aung San in parliamentary sessions, the poem of Martyrs' Mausoleum by Sayargyi Thakhin Ko Taw Hmine, the message from Bogyoke Aung San's wife Daw Khin Kyi, the commemorative speech from the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the prayer from the leader of India's independence Mahatma Gandhi, the broadcast speech of Thakhin Nu after the death of the martyrs, the literary works paying tribute to the martyrs by Sayar Zawgyi, Sayar Tin Moe, Dagon Tar Yar, and Sayar Min Thu Wun.

The memorial books published in commemoration of 73rd Anniversary Martyrs' Day are being distributed to the Hluttaw representatives, civil society organizations and the public since 17 July.—MNA ■

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

CHIEF EDITOR
Aungthu Ya
aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR
Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT
Kyaw Myaing

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Aung Khin

LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITORS
Ye Htut Tin
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Aung Htein
Tun Tun Naing
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR TRANSLATOR
Zaw Htet Oo

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

REPORTER
Nyein Nyein Ei,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

PHOTOGRAPHER
Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar
Kyaw Zeya

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

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

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

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

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

K6 bln earmarked to support fish species for 150,000 acres of fish ponds

Local fishermen catch fish in a fishing net in Ayeyawady Region. **PHOTO: THAN HTIKE**

THE fisheries department will spend K6 billion to support fish species for 150,000 acres of fish ponds as the entrepreneurs are adversely affected by the outbreak of coronavirus disease, according to an official from the Fisheries Department.

The fish species will be supplied within July, August and September. The fingerling species will be distributed through 27 hatching camps under the Fisheries Department. If it is not sufficient, we will invite tender from outside, he said.

"We are not ready yet. We are just formulating the plan. We need to check the need of the entrepreneurs. We are also coordinating for the tender process," he added.

Out of 150,000 acres of fish ponds, most fish ponds are located in Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady regions. The tender will be invited for those regions while the remaining regions and states will be supported by the fish species production camps, he further said.

The remedy process of the breeding sector impacted by coronavirus will contain a sustainable project such as animal and animal productions and constructing of a cold storage warehouse, said Director-General Dr Ye Tun Win of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

To be able to implement those businesses, the department has already got a loan amounting to US$4 million from the World Bank. These cold storage warehouses will be constructed in Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady regions. — Aye Maung

(Translated by Hay Mar)

CMP factories request MIC to manufacture more PPEs, facemasks

By Nyein Nyein

CMP garment factories have requested Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) to manufacture more PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) suits and facemasks, which are the basic health and safety requirements during the pandemic, said MIC Secretary U Thant Sin Lwin.

At present, five CMP companies have submitted a proposal to produce PEEs and masks for short term and long term, he added.

MIC permitted to manufacture more PPE suits and facemasks after one CMP garments factory requested at MIC meeting 9/2020 held on 10 July.

This permitted CMP garment factory is TV Apparel company in Shwepyitha township and it has increased its investment to manufacture PPEs and facemasks for a five-year short-term project.

"Regarding manufacturing of more masks, our MIC has replied to TV apparel garment company with their submitting of the proposal. The company will run for a short-term period, which will be only five years. This is the reason why we have granted permission rapidly. That company has created jobs for the local people. There are also five similar companies including four companies making short term and one long term investment. We expected that MIC will grant the permit to three or four companies in the next MIC meeting 10/2020. At present, they are doing businesses and they want to get approval from MIC because they will import the raw materials from abroad and they want the authorities to exempt their imported goods from taxation," he further said.

MIC asked the garment entrepreneurs to extensively manufacture PPEs and facemasks from the CMP garment factories as these are necessary for our country.

"Our MIC has requested the garment entrepreneurs and they contacted us to explain their plan and that they will import raw materials and machines. Then, we will run their businesses with their people. There is an increase in investment volume," he stressed. Although Myanmar economy is severely impacted by coronavirus pandemic, the volume of investment is growing in not only foreign investment but also domestic investment. The existing investment enterprises have also increased investment amount and labour, according to MIC.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

YPS card system to kick off on 21 July

THE Yangon Payment System (YPS) will be launched onboard the YBS buses on 21 July, it is learnt.

Currently, the YPS cards are being sold starting from 16 July in Yangon region. The bus lines numbers allowed to use the YPS cards are announced on the Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein's social media account on yesterday.

The YPS cards can be applied onboard the following YBS bus lines: 43, 62, 72, 89, 96, 12, 14, 25, 30 and 28. The YPS cards will start to be used on 21 July.

This is one of the significant developments after Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA) replaced the Yangon Region Supervisory Committee for Motor Vehicles (aka Ma Hta Tha) in 2016. Now, the passengers will use the YPS cards onboard YBS buses and it can solve the problem of lack of the change. YPS top-up cards will be available about ten days before the system becomes operational. It will be started with 40 bus lines, those which use a fixed bus fare.

Passengers will have to scan their cards twice while travelling on a bus. The cards will be available at a flat rate of K2,000 and can be refunded with an amount between K1,000 and K5,000. —Myint Maung

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Bogyoke Aung San Residence Museum in Natmauk

BOGYOKE Aung San Residence Museum in Natmauk was the home of his parents U Phar and Daw Suu in Magway Region.

He lived in this house from 1915 to 1929. His brother U Nay Aung and mother Daw Suu continued living at the residence after U Phar passed away. The house was donated to the State after U Nay Aung died in 1973. The Minister of Culture established the house into a museum which displays the photo documents of Bogyoke Aung San from his childhood, school age, political activities and funerals in a vast array.

Documentary photos for school age display front covers of mathematic book in five standard at U Sobita school and six standard at the National High school in Yenangyoung Township, certificate for completion of matriculation class, photos of early university days, the building of Student Union and the graduation certificate.

Documentary photos for family life include the wedding invitation card of Bogyoke Aung San and Daw Khin Kyi, photos of their early marriage life, photos of family members and the handwriting of Bogyoke Aung San to his wife that requested for eating boiled pea and matzo.

Photos of political activities and national leader display brief biography of Bogyoke Aung San and an array of photos, including Thirty Comrades, meeting between Bogyoke and British Prime Minister Attlee at No. 10 Downing Street in London, public speech at the eastern side of landmark Shwedagon Pagoda and documentary photos of foreigners at the Panglong Conference.

The category of funeral photos display carrying his body to the Martyrs' Mausoleum, military uniform on his body after death, his tomb at the Martyrs' Mausoleum, his last home in Yangon, brief history of Bogyoke Aung San Museum, family tree of their generation and excerpts of his speech.

The place where he read during his visit to the residence, his bedroom, his mother's bedroom, family bedroom, locker, fire resistant safe locker, kitchen, his mother's weaving loom and granary.

Bogyoke Aung San Residence Museum in Natmauk will be closed during the 73rd anniversary of Martyrs' Day as a control measure against COVID-19 this year.—Naing Lin Kyi

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Bogyoke Aung San is seen at the Dinner Reception in London. **PHOTO : MNA**

Bogyoke Aung San (right), his mother Daw Suu (centre), and his wife Daw Khin Kyi (left). **PHOTO : MNA**

Display of family photos at the Bogyoke Aung San Residence Museum in Natmauk. **PHOTO : MNA**

Bogyoke Aung San Residence Museum is seen in Natmauk in Magway Region. **PHOTO : MNA**

Bogyoke Aung San is seen with foreign observers at the Panlong Conference. **PHOTO : MNA**

Labour reforms make progress but still, need cooperation from all stakeholders

WITH Myanmar's recent achievement in labour sector reform including unlisting the Tatmadaw from the child soldiers rectuirment list, our labour reforms have paved the ways for ensuring peace, strengthening democracy, and helping our people prosper.

It is worth noting that the Tatmadaw has been unlisted from recruitment and use of children as soldiers in military services since June 9 this year by the United Nations.

The recent achievement is a milestone for the government's commitment to the elimination of forced labour and recruitment of child soldiers in our country.

> The significance of the National Complaints Mechanism is that the mechanism comprises necessary stakeholders, such as employers, employees, the military, and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The National Complaints Mechanism (NCM) launched in February 2020 is a step forward towards eradicating forced labour in the country.

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population briefed experts from the International Labour Organization (ILO) and representatives of employers and employees about the National Complaints Mechanism (NCM) and pledged to protect those who blow the whistle on forced labour. Besides, actions were taken against those who break the law.

While the National Complaints Mechanism had yet to be operated, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, Ministry of Defence and ILO held three meetings, resulting in their closing 398 forced labour cases related with Tatmadaw and, as a result, 217 cases have so far been closed by ILO. Hence, ILO is strongly requested to close the remaining 161 cases.

The government sent 277 cases to ILO, abiding by the Supplementary Understanding-SU mechanism agreed to by the ILO after the cases were settled by the governmental departments. There are some cases which have been closed by ILO, but still, some cases remain to be closed.

Meanwhile, the Defence Ministry is requested to settle the remaining cases and to submit them to the ILO.

The significance of the National Complaints Mechanism is that the mechanism comprises necessary stakeholders, such as employers, employees, the military, and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

We are confident that cooperation between the government and labour organizations, which represent and lead the labour force across the country, as a model of solidarity serving in the interests of employees, would become a milestone in efforts to eliminate forced labour in our country.

"Tackling the Inequality pandemic: A new social contract for a new era"

By António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General

FROM the exercise of global power to racism, gender discrimination and income disparities, inequality threatens our wellbeing and our future. We desperately need new thinking to halt and reverse it.

We often hear that a rising tide of economic growth lifts all boats. But in reality, a rising tide of inequality sinks allboats. High levels of inequality have helped to create the global fragility that is being exposed and exploited by COVID-19.

The virus is shining a spotlight on inequalities of all kinds. It poses the highest risk to the health of the most vulnerable, and its social and economic impact is concentrated on those who are least ableto cope. Unless we act now, 100 million more people could be pushed into extreme poverty and we could see famines of historic proportions.

Even before COVID-19, people everywhere were raising their voices against inequality. Between 1980 and 2016, the world's richest 1 per cent captured 27 per cent of the total cumulative growth in income. But income is not the only measure of inequality. People's chances in life depend on their gender, family and ethnic background, race, whether or not they have a disability, and other factors. Multiple inequalities intersect and reinforce each other across the generations, defining the lives and expectations of millions of people before they are even born.

Just one example: more than 50 per cent of 20-year-olds in countries with very high human development are in higher education. In low human development countries, that figure is 3 per cent. Even more shocking, some 17 per cent of the children born twenty years ago in those countries have already died.

The anger fueling recent social movements, from the anti-racism campaign that has spread around the world in the aftermath of George Floyd's killing to the chorus of brave women calling out the powerful men who have abused them, is yet another sign of utter disillusionment with the status quo. And the two seismic shifts of our age – the digital revolution and the climate crisis – threaten to entrench inequality and injustice even more deeply.

> Education and digital technology must be two great enablers and equalizers, by providing lifelong opportunities to learn how to learn, to adapt and take on new skills for the knowledge economy.

COVID-19 is a human tragedy. But it has also created a generational opportunity to build a more equal and sustainable world, based on two central ideas: a New Social Contract,and a New Global Deal.

A New Social Contract will join Governments, their people, civil society, business and others in common cause.

Education and digital technology must be two great enablers and equalizers, by providing lifelong opportunities to learn how to learn, to adapt and take on new skills for the knowledge economy.

We need fair taxation on income and wealth, and a new generation of social protection policies, with safety nets including Universal Health Coverage and the possibility of a Universal Basic Income extended to everyone.

To make the New Social Contract possible, we need a New Global Deal to ensure that power, wealth and opportunities are shared more broadly and fairly at the international level.

A New Global Deal must be based on a fair globalization, on the rights and dignity of every human being, on living in balance with nature, on respect for the rights of future generations, and on success measured in human rather than economic terms.

We need global governance that is based on full, inclusive and equal participation in global institutions. Developing countries must have a stronger voice, from the United Nations Security Council to the Boards of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and beyond.

We need a more inclusive and balanced multilateral trading system that enablesdeveloping countries to move up global value chains.

Reform of the debt architecture and access to affordable credit must create fiscal space to generate investment in the green, equitable economy.

The New Global Deal and the New Social Contract will put the world back on track to realize the promise of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals – our globally-agreed vision of peace and prosperity on a healthy planet by 2030.

Our world is at breaking point. But by tackling inequality, based on a New Social Contract and a New Global Deal, we can find our way to better days ahead.

UNIC Yangon

REFORMING TOWARD THE DIGITALIZATION OF SOCIETY

Japan OKs plan promoting digitalization, telework under "new normal"

THE Japanese Cabinet approved Friday its annual economic policy guideline to promote reforms toward the digitalization of society and further switching to teleworking, under the "new normal" era amid the new coronavirus pandemic.

Increasing the government's effort to build "national resilience" to protect people's lives and livelihoods from natural disasters and to minimize the damage was also included hastily in the government's annual economic policy blueprint, following torrential rain ripping through southwestern Japan earlier this month.

Meanwhile, the document failed to make any reference to specific goals regarding Japan's fiscal reconstruction, including the target of bringing its primary balance -- tax revenue minus expenses other than debt-servicing costs -- into the black by fiscal 2025 which was stipulated in the 2018 and 2019 guidelines.

Finance Minister Taro Aso has said there is no need to immediately review the positive turnaround target, even though economic fallout from the pandemic is highly likely to further worsen Japan's fiscal health, the worst among the world's major economies with public debt of over 1,100 trillion yen ($10.3 trillion).

Under a year of "the intensive reform period" toward the country's digitalization, the idea of linking the "My Number" personal identification system with residence cards for foreigners and driving licenses was specified in the plan, along with the goal of offering administrative procedures online in principle.

Launched in 2015 with issuance of a 12-digit number to each citizen and foreign resident, the My Number system was designed to enable people to access governmental services online.

But lack of a legal requirement to actually apply for the free plastic IC-chipped "Individual Number Card" with the 12-digit number on it has led to a low card possession rate, drawing criticism of slow delivery of the government's 100,000 yen cash handouts to ease the virus impact, which the card holders can apply for online aside from by mail.

As for teleworking, the government plans to set numerical targets so remote work takes root in Japan, especially among small and midsize companies. It will also draw up guidelines for business managers to push on with corporate digitalization by next March.

"By taking on changes and leveraging diversity, our country will enhance toughness and form a 'new normal,' making use of our unique strength and characteristics," the policy guideline said.

To strengthen local communities' capability of natural disaster prevention, risk management utilizing digital technology and reinforcement of infrastructure, such as putting utility wires and the power grid underground, will be promoted.

File photo shows a man teleworking from his home in Tokyo in June 2020. **PHOTO: KYODO**

The importance of disaster management has recently been reviewed as heavy rain for about a week since July 3 ripped through the southwestern region of Kyushu and other areas, killing over 70 people, along with other calamities such as heavy rain and flooding in western Japan in 2018 and Typhoon Hagibis last year.

The government's growth strategy was also approved by the Cabinet, with reexamination of long-fixed interbank transfer fees serving as a bottleneck for cashless transactions and improvement of the working environment for freelance and side-job workers referred to as challenges.

SOURCE: Kyodo

Yebaw Ko Htwe

(3 March 1929 - 19 July 1947)

YEBAW KO HTWE was born to U Ko Ko Lay, an officer of the Department of Agriculture, and his wife Daw Min Yi, in Mandalay on 3 March 1929.

His education ended at ninth standard. But, at the age of 18, he was appointed as a bodyguard of U Razak, Minister of Education and National Planning in pre-independence government.

He was assassinated at 10:37 am on 19 July 1947. He died at 2:15 pm at Yangon People's Hospital on 19 July 1947.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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

India coronavirus cases pass one million

More than 120 million people have been placed under lockdown in the Indian state of Bihar. **PHOTO:AFP**

CORONAVIRUS cases in India passed one million on Friday, official data showed as authorities struggle to check the spread of the deadly pandemic across the world's second-most populous nation. With over 600 Indians dying daily, lockdowns are being re-imposed across the country of 1.3 billion following an easing of restrictions in recent weeks on hopes the outbreak was under control.

Health ministry data released Friday put the total cases recorded at 1,003,382, a jump of almost 35,000, with 25,602 deaths after an increase of 687 -- both new daily records.

India, home to some of the planet's most densely packed cities, is the third nation to hit a million cases after the United States and Brazil, although the numbers of deaths in those two countries are far higher.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said Thursday that India, Pakistan and Bangladesh are together fast becoming the next epicentre of the virus.

"While the world's attention has been focused on the unfolding crisis in the United States and South America, a concurrent human tragedy is fast emerging in South Asia," the organisation said.

"COVID-19 is spreading at an alarming rate in South Asia, home to a quarter of humanity."

Rural spread

Until now India's main hotspots have been the megacities of Mumbai and New Delhi, but recently smaller cities and rural areas -- where 70 per cent of Indians live -- have begun to raise the alarm.

Goa on Thursday evening became the latest state to go under lockdown, imposing a three-day shutdown and a nightime curfew until August 10.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said too many people were "stepping out to meet people at parties" and there was a low level of "awareness and sensitivity". The coastal tourist region followed Bihar, one of India's most impoverished states and home to 125 million people, in reintroducing curbs after IT hub Bangalore did so earlier in the week.

SOURCE: AFP

New virus cases spark alarm in China's Xinjiang

THE capital of China's far-western Xinjiang region curtailed most flights into the city on Friday and has shut down subway and public bus services after several coronavirus infections were detected, government authorities and state-controlled media said.

So far, at least five cases linked to Urumqi have been discovered, including a man who was confirmed positive after he travelled from the city to the eastern province of Zhejiang, state media said.

The infections were detected beginning on Wednesday, and news of the cases prompted state media outlets in Urumqi to issue assurances on Friday that supermarkets had ample stocks of food -- an apparent attempt to discourage panic-buying.

Urumqi in China's Xinjiang province has curtailed most flights into the city and shut down subway and public bus services after several coronavirus infections were detected. **PHOTO: AFP**

The new cases illustrate the continuing difficulty China faces in stamping out the contagion, which emerged in the central Chinese city of Wuhan late last year before spreading throughout the country and globally.

Strict lockdowns across the country and widespread COVID-19 testing largely brought the outbreak under control within Chinese borders.

But a new cluster emerged in Beijing in June, infecting more than 330 people before also being contained.

Aviation authorities announced that 89 percent of flights servicing Urumqi had been cancelled, and the metro system said the city's single line had been shut down from late Thursday.

SOURCE: AFP

Japan, Germany vow to deepen cooperation on COVID-19 vaccine development

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and German Chancellor Angela Merkel held talks on Thursday, with both sides agreeing to cooperate on the development of an effective vaccine to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the Japanese government, during the 35-minute virtual meeting, Abe told Merkel that Japan will contribute to the development and distribution of vaccines via what is known as the ACT-Accelerator.

The ACT-Accelerator is a global collaborative framework led by the World Health Organization to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines.

Abe added that Tokyo is seeking to improve the health care system in developing countries, while Merkel responded that Germany hopes to work with Japan to that end, according to the Japanese government.

SOURCE: Xinhua

Virus vaccine hopes raised by fresh trials

Hopes of an effective COVID-19 vaccine being developed in the near future have been raised after two separate studies showed potential positive results, British media reported Thursday.

A University of Oxford trial showed its prototype vaccine generated an immune response against the virus, the reports said.

Blood samples taken from a group of some 1,000 volunteers who were given the vaccine stimulated antibodies and "killer T-cells", according to the Daily Telegraph newspaper.

Previous research has shown that T-cells can remain in the body for years and help fight viruses.

Results of the trial are expected to be published in The Lancet medical journal next week, Oxford said in a statement.

The potential development comes after US biotech firm Moderna said on Tuesday it would start the final stage of human trials for its vaccine candidate on July 27.

It said it had had promising results from earlier testing. Up to 30,000 Americans are expected to take part in the trials.

Moderna is considered to be in a leading position in the global race for a vaccine. Its study is set to run until October 2022 but preliminary results should be available before then.

The top US infectious diseases official, Anthony Fauci, has called the Moderna results "really quite good news".

The studies are the latest to inspire hopes of developing a vaccine after nearly 600,000 deaths and 13.4 millions cases worldwide since the outbreak began in China last year.

SOURCE: AFP

Hopes of an effective COVID-19 vaccine being developed in the near future have been raised after two separate studies showed potential positive results. **PHOTO: AFP**

Solar Orbiter gives scientists unprecedented look at Sun

This handout illustration image released by The European Space Agency, shows an artist's impression of The Solar Orbiter in Space. **EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY/AFP**

PARIS — Scientists said Thursday they had obtained the closest ever images taken of the Sun as part of a pan-European mission to study solar winds and flares that could have far-reaching impacts back on Earth.

The European Space Agency's Solar Orbiter blasted off from Florida's Cape Canaveral in February and completed its first fly by of our star last month, sending back unprecedented images of phenomena close to its surface.

"The first images are exceeding our expectations," said Daniel Muller, Solar Orbiter project scientist at ESA.

"We can already see hints of very interesting phenomena that we have not been able to observe in detail before.

"This makes us confident that Solar Orbiter will help us answer profound open questions about the Sun."

In particular, the team observed dozens of miniature solar flares, known as "campfires", which until now had never been captured on film.

David Berghmans, from Belgium's Royal Observatory, said the campfires were several million times smaller than solar flares, which can be observed from Earth.

Nevertheless, the smallest the team observed still measured around 400 kilometres across -- "about the size of a small European country," said Berghmans.

"The Sun seems relatively calm on first viewing but when you look at it in detail you can see miniature eruptions everywhere," he added.

Solar winds and flares emit billions of highly charged particles that impact planets, including Earth. But the phenomena remain poorly understood despite decades of research.

The largest solar storm on record hit North America in September 1859, knocking out much of the continent's telegraph network and bathing the skies in an aurora viewable as far away as the Caribbean.

Solar ejections can also disrupt radar systems, radio networks and can even render satellites useless, though such extremes are rare.

During its first orbit, the craft -- developed in conjunction with NASA -- travelled around 77 million kilometres (48 million miles) from the surface, about half the distance between the Sun and Earth.—AFP ■

James Webb Space Telescope launch pushed back to October 2021

WASHINGTON — NASA on Thursday postponed the launch of its $10 billion James Webb Space Telescope from March next year to October 31, 2021, blaming the pandemic and other technical challenges.

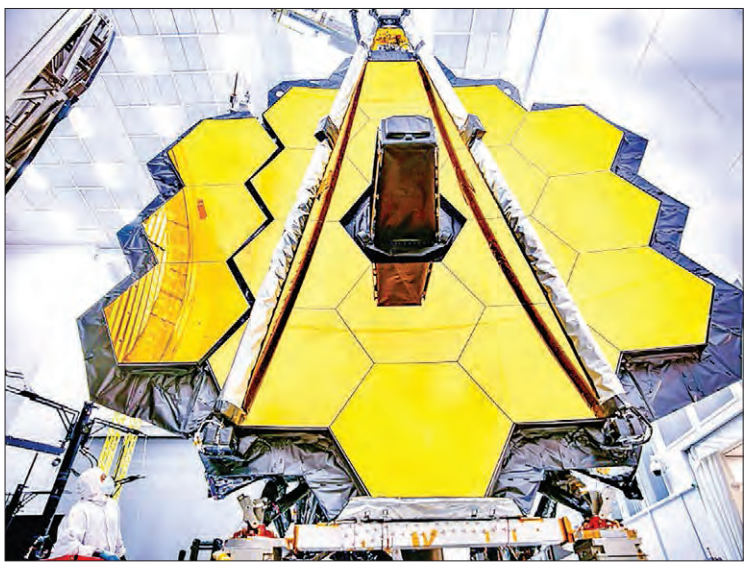
The telescope, first conceived in the 1990s, was initially to be launched in the 2000s, but its main maker Northrop Grumman has faced numerous development problems that have doubled its cost.

"Webb is the world's most complex space observatory, and our top science priority, and we've worked hard to keep progress moving during the pandemic," said Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator for NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

After it is launched from French Guiana, Webb will journey a million miles from Earth, away from the Sun, before assuming its orbit.

It will then unfold a five-layered sunshield until it reaches the size of a tennis court, and deploy a 6.5-meter (21-foot) mirror designed to detect the faint light of far-away stars and galaxies.

Its mission is to help resolve fundamental questions about the origins of the cosmos.—AFP ■



The primary mirror of the James Webb Space Telescope. **PHOTO: NASA/AFP/FILE**

Spain to cull nearly 100,000 mink with coronavirus

MADRID — Spain has ordered the culling of nearly 100,000 mink on a farm in the northeast after confirming many were carrying coronavirus, a regional minister said on Thursday.

Speaking to reporters, Joaquin Olona, agriculture minister for the Aragon region, said the cull would involve the slaughter of some 92,700 mink who are prized for their pelt. —AFP ■

Yangtze floods force millions from their homes in central China

XINING — Vast swathes of China have been inundated by the worst flooding in decades along the mighty Yangtze River, with residents piling into boats and makeshift rafts to escape a deluge that has collapsed flood defences and turned their homes into waterways.

Heavy rains since June have left at least 141 people dead and missing, forced nearly 15 million people to be evacuated from their homes in July alone, and caused billions of dollars in economic losses, according to the government. An AFP photographer travelled through central Jiangxi, floating past partly submerged villages and towns as rescue workers battled to repair levees and dykes as forecasters warned of yet more rain.

Waters in more than 400 rivers have exceeded warning levels, while some have reached historic highs over a period that officials say has caused the highest average rainfall levels across the Yangtze basin since 1961.

Summer rains and seasonal glacial melt in the river's Tibetan plateau headwaters cause routine annual flooding.

Authorities are particularly concerned with Poyang Lake -- China's largest freshwater lake -- in hard-hit Jiangxi province.

Water levels there have hit historic highs, prompting an effort by more than 100,000 soldiers and other personnel to rescue residents and shore up dykes and levees to prevent worse flooding.—AFP ■

Heavy rains have forced nearly 15 million people to be evacuated from their homes. **PHOTO: AFP**

India's richest man takes on Amazon, Walmart in e-commerce gamble

MUMBAI — Backed by multi-billion-dollar investments from global tech giants, India's richest man is ready to rumble with Amazon and Walmart for the country's huge e-commerce market through his conglomerate Reliance.

But it is far from certain that Mukesh Ambani's latest gamble will pay off in a crowded market where many suppliers are not well-versed in digital business.

The mogul has long trumpeted his ambition to revolutionize retail in the country of 1.3 billion by convincing farmers and shopkeepers to sell their goods on his new JioMart platform launched this year.

But modernizing India's creaky, inefficient supply chains will not be easy, even for Reliance, the nation's largest retailer by revenue with a portfolio including supermarkets, electronics stores and fast-fashion outlets.

Google on Wednesday became the latest Silicon Valley player to invest in the digital unit of the Indian oil-to-telecoms juggernaut, following in the footsteps of Facebook and Intel. —AFP ■

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES– FIRMS SELECTION)

Project Name : Myanmar Power System Efficiency and Resilience Project
Country : The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
IDA Credit No : IDA 6631-MM
Assignment Title : Owner's Engineer of New 300 MW CCGT power plant at Ywama, Yangon Region, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Reference No. : EPGE-OE-2020

The Ministry of Electric Electricity and Energy has applied for financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Myanmar Power System Energy Efficiency and Resilience Project, intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.
The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment are attached to this request for expressions of interest.
The consulting services ("the Services") include on the following scopes:

1. ***Project Management***
2. ***Design Audit and Construction Supervision***
3. ***Testing and Commissioning***
4. ***Training and Capacity Development***
5. ***Environment and Social Management***
6. ***Contract Administrative***

The Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.
The **shortlisting criteria** are**:**

- General experience in power plant engineering and construction management, testing and commissioning for at least twenty (20) years;
- Consulting services as an Owner's Engineer (OE) involving design audit and construction supervision and testing and commissioning for at least two CCGT projects with each minimum capacity of 200MW (net) that the firm has successfully completed in the last ten (10) years; and
- Working in at least one CCGT project in the Client's similar country environment with minimum capacity of 200MW (net).

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.
The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.
A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost-based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.
Further information and **Terms of Reference (TOR)** can be obtained by sending the official request via email at the address below during office hours 09:30 to 16:30 hours. The TOR will be sent by email.
Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below by e-mail **by the close of business of Monday August 17, 2020**.
Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE)
Attn: Managing Director
Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE)
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Building No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Telephone: +95 9 2225181, +95 9 5133 511
Email: ywamaproject@gmail.com

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Australia hopes to lure Hollywood studios with virus success

SYDNEY — Australia is hoping its success in dealing with the coronavirus will lure more big budget Hollywood productions Down Under, with the government announcing incentives worth hundreds of millions of dollars Friday.

Promising "lights, camera, jobs," Prime Minister Scott Morrison unveiled a Aus$400 million (US$280 million) boost in cash grants for film productions, a move he said had already piqued the interest of major studios.

"Jerry Bruckheimer's outfit and Ron Howard's outfit have already reached out to Australia on the basis of the announcement we have made today," Morrison said.

Australia has long chased Hollywood productions by offering tax breaks and in recent years hosted a number of blockbusters including several Marvel movies, a Pirates of the Caribbean film and currently Baz Lurhmann's Elvis biopic. **PHOTO: AFP**

The plan aims to generate 8,000 jobs a year over seven years after Australia recorded its highest unemployment rate in two decades last month.

But Morrison pointed instead to the return of more than 200,000 jobs as a sign Australia was charting a path through the pandemic.

The announcement mirrors a similar push in New Zealand where the crew filming the "Avatar" sequel was granted special exemptions from virus rules to enter the country.

Australia has long chased Hollywood productions by offering tax breaks and in recent years hosted several blockbusters including several Marvel movies, a Pirates of the Caribbean film and currently Baz Lurhmann's Elvis biopic.

Back in March, Lurhmann's production highlighted dangers of the virus when Tom Hanks became the first major Hollywood star to contract COVID-19 while working on Australia's Gold Coast.

But the plan, made on Morrison's first visit to Queensland since the beginning of travel restrictions in the country, is the latest sign of a nation now emerging from virus shutdowns.—AFP ■

Notice for Change of Pesticides Trade Name

The foreign manufacture Agrinova Cropcare Pte., Ltd will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board Changing trading name.

No.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	A.I	Reg: Type	Reg: No.
1	All Right 70WP	YAKUZA 70WP	Fenoxaprop-P-ethyl 13%+ Pyrazosulfuron ethyl 7%+Quinclorac 50% WP	Full	F2018 - 1695

It is therefore announced to come and reject within 14 days to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of insecticide.
Address- **Wi Sar Ra International Co., Ltd**
No. (33), Shwe Padauk Yeik Mon, Bayint Naung Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon Region, The Republic of Union of Myanmar.

Trump niece's memoir sells nearly 1 mn copies on first day

Mary Trump's new book on her uncle is a bestseller. **PHOTO: AFP**

WASHINGTON — A new book on Donald Trump written by his niece sold nearly a million copies on the first day it went on sale in the United States, its publisher said Thursday.

Mary Trump's "Too Much and Never Enough: How My Family Created the World's Most Dangerous Man" is billed as the first unflattering portrayal of the US president by a family insider.

Mary, a psychologist whose father was Trump's oldest brother Fred, accuses the president of hubris and ignorance, and says he fits the clinical criteria for being a narcissist.

The 950,000 copies sold Tuesday, including pre-orders as well as audio and digital versions, "is a company record" for the Simon & Schuster publishing house, it said in a statement.

The White House has dismissed the memoir as a "book of falsehoods".

The president's younger brother Robert Trump went to court to try to block publication, arguing that Mary was violating a non-disclosure agreement signed in 2001 after the settlement of her grandfather's estate, but to no avail.

Simon & Schuster has ordered more copies printed, which will bring the number to 1.15 million for the American market alone. The book also tops Amazon's sales charts in Canada and Australia. — AFP ■

Vietnam opens press museum

HANOI — Vietnam has launched a museum dedicated to the open press.

From Pulitzer Prize-winning photos from the Vietnam War to the story of the struggle over press freedom during the French colonial era, the carefully curated exhibits offer a highly selective history of journalism in the communist nation.

For museum director Tran Thi Kim Hoa, the exhibition is a proud example of the apparent liberties enjoyed by the country's press corps. "With the press freedom law that the French brought to Vietnam, we have always been highly aware of what freedom of the press was," she told AFP Thursday, referencing an 1881 law that applied to France and its colonial territory, but was patchily used in Vietnam.

Visitors walks past historic press articles and newspaper prints displayed at the Vietnam Press Museum in Hanoi on July 16. **PHOTO: AFP**

"The fact we were able to build this museum shows that we have press freedom." The museum, which cost about $1 million to build, eschews exploring the careful dance reporters engage in when tackling the country's issues. Instead, it focuses on their tools and some select work — displaying old cameras, typewriters, reporters' teapots and mugs and old articles. A replica of a loudspeaker used for transmitting propaganda messages during the Vietnam War is also on display. One visitor, Nguyen Thu Hang, a local radio and TV reporter, said she felt "very moved" by the exhibition, which captured "the spirit of journalists" in Vietnam.— AFP ■

Germany's top court reins in state access to online data

FRANKFURT AM MAIN — Germany's highest court on Friday said security services had too much unfettered access to people's online data and ordered legislation to be revised to set higher hurdles.

German intelligence services and police agencies currently have the right to ask telecom and internet companies for user info ranging from names and birth dates to passwords and IP addresses, to help their investigations in areas like counterterrorism and cyber crime.

But the Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe agreed with complaints brought by privacy activists that the access to data was excessive and an unconstitutional violation of citizens' right to telecoms privacy.

In their ruling, judges said the current powers to retrieve data were "disproportionate".

"It cannot be permissible to indiscriminately request information on data," they said.

Judges said they agreed that intelligence bodies sometimes needed to pull personal data from smartphones or other devices to maintain public security. — AFP

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NEGAR VOY. NO. (SCY1081)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NEGAR VOY. NO. (SCY1081)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-7-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
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Agent For:
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INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project (NCDDP). The IDA N° of the financing agreement is N° 56870. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in its role as implementing agency of the NCDDP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/Contract for the following packages. DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Reference No.	Lot	Description	Unit	Estimated Quantity
G-145	1	Printing of Operation Manual Version 2020	Books	35,000
G-152	1	Furniture for 13 new Townships and Union	Nos	1,225
G-153	1	(2HP) Air-Conditioners	Nos	30
	2	Water Cooler (hot and cool)	Nos	15
	3	Refrigerator	Nos	1
G-156	1	Colour Printer	Nos	17
	2	Black and White Printer	Nos	12
	3	All-In-One Printer	Nos	13
G-157	1	High-Speed Scanner	Nos	15
	2	Hard Disk Drive	Nos	30
G-159	1	Video Camera	Nos	13
	2	Still Camera	Nos	15
G-158	1	Phone Handsets	Nos	30

Expressions of Interest must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the full coordinates of the interested supplier and one or more of the reference number(s) here above.

Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive an INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ) including all useful information to prepare the Quotation(s). Only electronic copies of the ITQ will be send to the e-mail address(es) indicated in the Expressions of Interest.

Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address below at the latest at the deadline date and time indicated in each of the ITQ listed above, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

For the ITQ comprising different Lots, Quotations will be evaluated on a Lot by Lot basis and the contracts awarded to the quotation with the lowest evaluated price per Lot.

Suppliers will be selected following the Shopping Method as per the "Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits& Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to: Project Director Daw Nyo Nyo Win, NCDD Project Secretariat, Department of Rural Development, Office N° 36, Nay Pyi Taw. Telephone (95-67) 418604. For detailed information please contact U Kyaw Swa Aung Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Mobile phone 0943434333 or office phone 067418637, Email: procurement@ncddpmyanmar.org.

For more information on the NCDD Project please also visit Website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org.

Mural paintings in Amarapura's Kyauktawgyi Temple

By Maung Tha (Archaeology)

Amarapura Kyauktawgyi Temple.

AMONG mural paintings illustrated at ancient stupas and temples in various areas of Myanmar, paintings in late-Konbaung era decorated in the cave of Kyauktawgyi Temple in Amarapura are famous among researchers.

Amarapura Kyauktawgyi Temple called Taungthaman Kyauktawgyi with the title of Maha Thakyaranthi takes a position, east of Taungthaman Lake and between Taungthaman and Htantaw villages. Its map reference is between north latitude 21°53' and east longitude 96°03'.

Maha Thakyaranthi

Kyauktawgyi Buddha image was donated by King Sagaing and Gandakuti Chamber by King Bagan. King Sagaing cast a bronze Buddha image on 15 March 1827 to be kept at the four-storey monastery in west of Maha Muni Buddha Image. A marble rock conveyed by King Sagaing from Sagyin Hill arrived in Inwa on 17 May 1830.

Under the supervision of Naymyo Sithu and Shwetaung Zeya Nawrahta, the marble rock was carved into Buddha image under the title of Maha Thakyaranthi kept at the prayer hall in front of Bonkyaw Monastery.

King Thayawady who took the throne of brother King Sagaing moved the royal palace from Inwa to Amarapura. He was succeeded by son King Bagan on 17 November 1846. King Bagan laid cornerstones for construction of the walls and tier-roofed brick building at the edge of Taungthaman diplomatic hall to be able to convey the Kyauktawgyi Buddha Image from Inwa to Amarapura.

On 18 August 1849, the image was conveyed to Amarapura and kept in Gandakura Chamber. The temple for Kyauktawgyi Buddha Image had been filled with bricks on 29 October 1850 and the umbrella was hoisted atop the pagoda.

Kyauktawgyi Temple

Kyauktawgyi Temple was based on the chamber together with pyramical spire. A pagoda each and three Kalasa pots were built at the corners of the terrace. Bhumi Phassa Mudra marble Buddha image was kept at the pivot of the chamber.

The temple was formed with 89 elbow-diameter circumfrance and 77 elbows and six mikes high, the prayer cave 20 elbows wide, ladder 10 elbows long and concrete floor and 20 elbows wide.

Kyauktawgyi Buddha image was 11 elbows, two mikes and four finger-breadth high, the rug eight elbows and four finger-breadth wide, its width between two knees was four elbows, one mike and four finger-breadth, throne 21 elbows, one mike and four finger-breadth in diameter and arm three elbows, two mikes and two finger-breadth in diameter. A total of 12 gold Buddha images and 358 silver images were enshrined in the temple, according to the Myanmar Encyclopaedia.

The brick chamber for Taungthaman Kyauktawgyi Buddha image was built in design of Ananda Temple in Bagan. Four main arches were flanked by a small arche on either side.

The roof of the temple was supported by brick posts in a row shaping a partition in the circular tunnel. Eighty-eight Arhat imag-

Mural painting .

Mural painting .

Mural painting in Kyauktawgyi Temple .

Buddha image.

es were kept in the inner circular tunnel. The Buddha image on the throne was kept in centre of east and west arches.

The upper part of the entances were decorated with masonry crafts and flyingman statues. The backdrops were also shaped with pagodas, celestial beings, lions, crocodile and crayfish. Significantly, the Manusiha statue was supported by a crayfish at the top of ladder to the terrace.

The bridge of the brick tunnels was decorated with mural paintings. The pictures of meritoruious deeds performed by King Bagan were illustrated at four arches in addition to captions. These pictures bore monasteries, lakes, ordination halls and tunnels donated by the king in Amarapura, Inwa, Okkalapa, Shwetaung, Kukhan, Sagaing and Bagan. These paintings are under preservation.

Mural paintings at Kyauktawgyi

The mural paintings at four arches of the temple were in three dimensions with red sketch. The paintings were created with white, black, yellow and red colours. Sketched pictures were drawn by red line at the northern arch.

The southern and northern ceilings of eastern arch were illustrated with various kinds of mural paintings such as celestial beings, toddy plantation, mountain ranges, five pagodas in the walls and a part of damaged pagoda, gray lotus flowers, flyingmen, flowers, Buddha images, monasteries and Padethabins from the walls.

The southern and northern walls of the western arch depicted stars, mountain ranges and fensed pagoda, Shwephonemyint and Shwephonepwint pagodas from Pyay, Ananda Temple in Bagan, public rest-house, wooden monastery, boats in river, well and cooking rice for alms, toddy plants, stairway of Kuthodaw Pagoda, The-inn Village Kuthodaw Pagoda in Kukhan, pagodas in the walls from Lawka Tharaphu Pagoda in Inwa, lion and tiger, hillside and camping of hunters.

The eastern and western walls of the southern arch bore pictures of asterisms, celestial beings, flyingmen, mountains, Maha Wizayaranthi Waso Monastery, Shwezigon Stupa from Bagan, Inwa's Lawka Tharaphu brick tier-roofed building, moves of elephants taking a bath, boat race, the monastery with eight brick ladders, Eindawya Pagoda in Okkalapa, Kuthodaw ordination hall and lake, playing of children, novitation ceremony, ships carrying cannons, two older persons and ships in rivers.

The eastern and western walls of the northern arch featured pictures such as celestial beings, flyingmen, offering of flowers, stupa, offering of alms, boat race, building of royal palace, cattle, asterisms, mountins, pagoda, fensed pagoda, 30-tunnel Pagoda in Sagaing, a fensed temple, meditation of hermits, hunting, boats, elephant, tiger and buffalo.

The western tunnel wall of the northern arch was decorated with black sketched paintings, buildings of royal palace, orchestra and audiences, and people form the royal palace.

Footprint, stupa, temple and stars

The footprints of the Lord Buddha were seen on the ceiling of eastern arch and northern arch at Kyauktawgyi Temple.

Pictures of stupas and temples at Kyauktawgyi Temple depicted meritorious deeds of King Bagan according to the captions. Actual structures of the mural paintings donated by King Bagan took positions in Amarapura, Inwa, Okkalapa, Shwedaung, Pyay, Kukhan, Sagaing and Bagan.

Moreover, the mural paintings portrayed Maha Thakyaranthi, Lawka Tharaphu in Inwa, Shwephonemyint and Shwephonepwint in Pyay, Ananda and Shwezigon in Bagan, Kuthodaw Pagoda in The-inn Village of Kukhan (Myanaung), 30-tunnel pagoda in Sagaing, Maha Waiyanbontha Monastery, Waso Monastery in precinct of Maha Wizayaranthi Temple, Waso Monastery in Shwekugyi Monastery and Eindawya Monastery in Okkalapa (Yangon).

The western arch's ceiling at Kyauktawgyi Temple bore moves of stars in the sky and the southern and northern ceilings, zodiac circle and locations of stars such as 27 asterisms together with captions, 28 inner stars and 28 outer stars.

Other mural paintings were illustrated with celestial beings, people going to monastery and lakes, taking Sabbaths, offering rice alms, holding novitiation ceremony, monks' procession of going alms round and meditation of hermits.

Furthermore, illustration of the mural paintings bore daily lifestyle of the people such as taking a bath in river and creek, catching fish, hunting, travelling by boat and cart, walking, climbing toddy plant, sell of goods, and playing of children. These pictures were inserted into the meritorious buildings of King Bagan.

Mural paintings found at ancient temples and stupas across Myanmar were significant in Bagan era. Hence, these kinds of mural paintings can be seen at ancient religious edifices in Bagan till today. The paintings in early Bagan era were mixed with Indian style and later ones, with Myanmar own style.

A large number of mural paintings were illustrated in Nyaungyan era. Researchers reviewed that the paintings in Konbaung era consisted of western painting techniques. Moreover, not only episodes of Buddhology but also social lifestyle of the people were impressed in the paintings at Kyauktawgyi Temple.

Mural paintings in late Konbaung era at Amarapura Kyauktawgyi Temple were maintained and preserved to have original works till today. New generation people can find historical evidences from the mural paintings and study painting art. Preservation of mural paintings at Amarapura Kyauktawgyi Temple can uplift cultural integrity of Myanmar.

Translated by Than Tun Aung

Reference:

Myanmar Dated History, Konbaung Dynesty (U Tikkhadhammalankara and Dr. Than Tun)
Historical sites around Taungthaman (Ko Pyinnya, Amarapura)
Myanmar paintings in successive eras (Minbu Aung Kyaing)

MFF Technical Committee holds second meeting

THE Technical Committee of the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) held its meeting (2/2020) at the MFF's meeting hall in Yangon yesterday.

The meeting was attended by the technical committee's patrons U Tin Aung (goal) and U Bunny Tin Aung, chairman U Than Toe Aung, deputy chairman U Tin Myint Aung and members, and MFF general secretary U Ko Ko Thein.

The committee's chairman U Than Toe Aung made opening remark at the meeting.

The meeting discussed appointment of MFF technical director and preparedness for the matches of the Myanmar national football team.

MFF general secretary U Ko Ko Thein explained the implementation of the decisions made in its meeting (1/2020).

He also detailed the preparations of Myanmar national football team, U-22 men's team, U-18 men's team, U-16 men's team, women national team, U-20 women's team, U-17 women's team, and futsal teams, and about budgets of the teams. The meeting concluded following the speech of the technical committee chairman. — Kyaw Khin

The meeting of the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) Technical Committee is in progress at the MFF's meeting hall in Yangon on 17 July 2020. **PHOTO: MFF**

Beijing 2022 Games 'pressing ahead' despite coronavirus threat

BEIJING—Beijing 2022 organizers were "pressing ahead" with preparations for the Winter Olympics Friday after a senior IOC official warned the coronavirus could force the Games to be postponed.

Beijing 2022 organizers say venues should be completed by the end of this year. **PHOTO: AFP**

Dick Pound, a former International Olympic Committee vice-president, told AFP that all options would have to be considered if the Beijing Games cannot be held in 2022.

Beijing is due to host the Winter Olympics just six months after the Tokyo 2020 Summer Games, which have been put back a year to July-August 2021 because of the coronavirus.

However, with the pandemic showing no signs of receding, Japanese and IOC officials have both raised fears that the Tokyo Olympics may have to be cancelled altogether.

"To get to that point, where you decide you can't do it (Beijing) in 2022, you explore whatever options you can do," Pound said in an interview.

"If we're in Tokyo, things all may be ready for Beijing. On the other hand, they may not be," he added. In a statement to AFP, Beijing 2022 said the IOC is ploughing on with both Games as planned, despite the coronavirus still claiming lives in much of the world.

"As far as we know, the position of the IOC is very clear and remains unchanged," Beijing organizers said.

"They are fully concentrated and committed to the successful delivery" of both the Tokyo and Beijing Games, they added.

China, where the coronavirus emerged late last year before spreading worldwide, has largely brought the contagion under control despite periodic localised new clusters. —AFP ■

Bayern star Thiago Alcantara set to join Liverpool: report

BERLIN—Spain midfielder Thiago Alcantara is on the verge of joining Premier League champions Liverpool after stalling over signing a contract extension at Bayern Munich, according to a report in Bild on Friday.

The paper claims Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp wants to sign the playmaker who helped Munich win the Bundesliga title and German Cup double last season, but the clubs have yet to agree a transfer fee.

According to Bild, Liverpool are not willing to pay more than 25 million euros ($28.5 million), while Bayern want around 40 million euros for the 29-year-old.

Earlier this week, there were widespread reports that Alcantara's house in Munich is already up for sale.

With a year left on his contract, Alcantara has stalled on signing an extension, but Bayern clearly want to keep him.

"We negotiated with him and granted his wishes, but it looks like he wants to do something new at the end of his career," Bayern chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge said in early July.

Alcantara joined Bayern in 2013, when newly-arrived head coach Pep Guardiola started three years in charge by declaring "Thiago or nothing" in terms of new signings.He won the Champions League under Guardiola in 2010/11 with Barcelona and since joining Bayern, Alcantara has won the Bundesliga title in each of his seven seasons, lifting the German Cup four times.

He has made 231 appearances for Bayern, scoring 31 goals and creating 37 more.—AFP ■

Serena Williams set to play inaugural Kentucky tournament

Serena Williams is scheduled to compete at the new WTA tournament in Kentucky in August, returning to action for the first time since playing in the Fed Cup in February. **PHOTO: AFP**

LOS ANGELES—Serena Williams will make her return to the WTA tour at a new hardcourt tournament in Kentucky in August, organizers said Thursday.

The Top Seed Open said 23-time Grand Slam champion Williams and 2017 US Open winner Sloane Stephens will be in the field when play begins on August 10. Williams hasn't played since representing the United States in the Fed Cup in February, before the WTA tour along with most of global sport shut down amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Both the WTA tour and the men's ATP tour are scheduled to resume in August. Williams has already said she plans to enter the next scheduled Grand Slam tournament, the US Open, which is slated to begin in New York on August 31. —AFP ■