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Monday, 20 July 2020

President, State Counsellor attend 73rd Martyrs' Day ceremony in Yangon



President U Win Myint pays tribute to Bogoyoke Aung San and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of Bogoyoke Aung San, pays tribute to Bogoyoke Aung San and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

AT the 73rd Martyrs' Day ceremony held yesterday at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon, President U Win Myint and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi laid the wreaths at the monument of Bogoyoke Aung San.

President U Win Myint, Vice President U Myint Swe, Patron of the 73rd Anniversary Martyrs' Day Holding Central Committee, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy

Speaker U Aye Tha Aung and Union Ministers laid the wreaths at the tombs of Bogoyoke Aung San and martyrs, paid tribute and observed a two-minute silence.

At the moment, the flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was lowered to half-mast, the guard of honour presented arms and a military bugle sounded the Last Post.

Next, U Ye Aung Than, on behalf of U Aung San Oo, son of Bogoyoke Aung San, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of Bogoyoke Aung San, and families of the martyrs laid wreaths in front of the monuments.

Afterwards, U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon Region Chief Minister and Chairman

of the working committee for Holding the 73rd Anniversary Martyrs Day, regional ministers, Speaker, Deputy Speaker and MPs of Yangon Region Hluttaw and representatives from political parties, paid tribute to Bogoyoke Aung San and the martyrs.

The organizations and associations that laid wreaths and paid tributes include Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Fire Services Department, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayone, Myanmar Music Asiayone, Myanmar Thabin Asiayone, Myanmar Artists and Sculptures Asiayone (Central), Myanmar Printers & Publishers Association, Myanmar

Writers Asiayone, Myanmar Journalists Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association. Finally, the public paid their respect to the Martyrs.

Afterwards, heads and chargé d'affaires of embassies, representatives from the European Union and UN agencies laid the wreaths at the mausoleum.

The 73rd Anniversary Martyrs' Day ceremony was held in accordance with the COVID-19 preventive guidelines and directives issued by the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Containment and Treatment on Coronavirus

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09-441444491-93
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A/S Center 01 522 724
Yangon (MMM : Tarmwe)
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09-785145313, 09-42220552
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057 24480, 09 970 164 721
067 26416, 09 797939 277
09 7921 30 200, 09 2131 200
09 77777 1616, 09 77777 6161
09 521 2514
09 2531 51970, 09 4539 55560

All information and illustrations are based on data available at the time of publication and subject to change without notice.

“People are the key”

State Counsellor offers ‘soon’ to monks in memory of martyrs

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, in memory of her father Bogvoke Aung San and other martyred leaders, offered ‘soon’ (day meal) to Members of Sangha at her residence at No 54, University Avenue Road in Bahan Township, Yangon yesterday.

She received the Five Precepts from Taungzun Sayadaw Ashin Viriya (Dhamma Bheri), made offertories to the Members of Sangha and shared merits of the good deeds at the event.

She also accepted the letters of good wishes presented by Dep-

uty Chairman of Myanmar Council of Churches Rev. Saw Shwe Lin on behalf of religious organizations in Myanmar: Thanantana Dhamma Palaka (Hindu) Association, Islam Dhamma Beikman, Myanmar Jewish Community, National Baha’I Centre, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Yangon, Myanmar Christian Association (Inglican), and Myanmar Council of Churches sent the letters of good wishes to the State Counsellor for the 73rd Anniversary of Martyrs’ Day. — MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Alms food donated at Nay Pyi Taw Council Office to commemorate 73rd anniversary of Martyrs’ Day



Senior government officers pay homage to the Members of Sangha at the ‘soon’ offering ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw on 19 July 2020 to commenorate 73rd Anniversary of Martyrs’ Day. PHOTO: MNA

Alms food for day-meal were offered to Buddhist monks as a commemoration service to the martyrs of national independence at the Zabuthiri Hall of Nay Pyi Taw Council Office at 10 am yesterday.

Members of Sangha led by Lewe Town Pauk Myaing Monastery Padana Nayaka Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharahta Guru Bhaddanta Zanida graced the ceremony.

The commemoration ceremony was also attended by the Constitutional Tribunal chairperson U Myo Nyunt, the

Union Election Commission chairperson U Hla Thein, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice Senior General Soe Win, Union Ministers, the Attorney General of the Union, the Auditor General of the Union, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, the Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander, Nay Pyi Taw Council members and other officials.

During the ceremony, Lewe Town Pauk Myaing Monastery Padana Nayaka Sayadaw delivered sermon of the Five Precepts for the congregation.

After members of Sangha recited Paritta verses, the audience donated robes and offertories to the monks.

Afterwards, Pyinmana Mingalar Zeyone Pali Takkatho Monastery Padana Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadaza Bhaddanta Vimala Bhuddi preached Buddhist sermons and shared merits for the fallen leaders, followed by the donation of alms food for day-meal to the members of Sangha.—MNA ■

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Notification on overcoming anxiety during COVID-19 spread

PEOPLE can face anxiety during COVID-19 and remember not to resolve things with anger; not act out of impulse, avoid alcohol and drug abuse, search for solutions together with family members and close friends, perform physical activities according to weather and health situation, eat nutritional foods, get enough sleep to resolve mental pressure.

Everyone can put these suggestions into practice to prevent their mental health from become fatigued and boost willpower.

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

Alms food offered at Yangon City Hall to commemorate 73rd anniversary of Martyrs’ Day

ALMS food were donated to senior Buddhist monks as a commemoration service to the martyrs of national independence at the meeting room of the city hall of Yangon City Development



Union Ministers and Yangon Region Chief Minister offer ‘soon’ to the Members of Sangha at the City Hall of Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: MNA

Committee at 10:40 am yesterday.

The commemoration ceremony was attended by the Martyrs’ Day Organizing Central Committee chairman and Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, the Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint, the Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, the Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe, the Martyrs’ Day Organizing Central Committee Vice Chairman and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyto Min Thein, the Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker and Deputy Speaker, Regional ministers, Yangon City Development Committee chairman (the Mayor of Yangon City), the committee members and invited guests. First, Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka

Committee and the patron of Bhamo Monastery in Mandalay Abhidhaja Maharahta Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhamo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa delivered sermon of the Five Precepts for the congregation. After members of Sangha recited Metta (loving kindness) Sutta Paritta verses, the audience donated robes and offertories to the monks. Then, Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Thanlyin Minn Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Panditha Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadaza Bhaddanta Sandhima Bivamsa preached sermons and shared merits for the fallen leaders, followed by the donation of alms food for day-meal to the members of Sangha.—MNA ■ (Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

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)



President, State Counsellor attend 73rd Martyrs' Day ceremony in Yangon



President U Win Myint and party pay tribute to Bogyoke Aung San and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: MNA

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Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and Ministry of Health and Sports.

Present at the ceremony were Patron of the 73rd Anniversary of Martyrs' Day Convening Central Committee

Vice President U Myint Swe, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung

Hlaing, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Chairman of the 73rd Anniversary Martyrs' Day Convening Central Committee Union Minister for Religious

Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Union Ministers, Central Convening Committee Vice Chairman Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, senior Tatmadaw officers from Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence

Services, Yangon Command commander, Deputy Ministers, Hluttaw representatives, 73rd Anniversary Martyrs' Day Central Committee and Work Committee members, departmental officials, families of the martyrs and invited guests. — MNA ■

State Flag flies at half-staff at Secretariat for 73rd Martyrs' Day

THE 73rd Anniversary of Martyrs' Day was commemorated at the Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office) where the martyrs were assassinated with a ceremony in Yangon yesterday.

Present at the ceremony were Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor U Maung Maung Soe, committee members, department officials and the Guard of Honour. They saluted the martyrs and observed 2 minutes of silence. Due to COVID-19, this year's flag-raising ceremony was conducted with

only 67 people while about 780 people including students and members of humanitarian organizations participated in previous years.

YCDC Joint Secretary U Than said this year's Martyrs' Day ceremony is unlike previous years. It follows directives from the National-Level Central Committee for containing COVID-19 and also from the Ministry of Health and Sports. He said they had to maintain social distancing measures and keep people six feet apart, hence why there were only 67 people this year.

While people were allowed to visit the Secretariat from 19 to 21 July in previous years, the spread of COVID-19 has prevented a similar event from happening this year. Various vehicles honked their horns at 10:37 am across Yangon, about the same hour when Bogyoke Aung San and the martyrs were assassinated, in their honour and observed two minutes of silence. Yangon City Hall also organized an offering of meals in memory of the martyrs. — Nyunt Ko Ko ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



A flag-raising ceremony to mark 73rd Martyrs' Day is in progress at the Secretariat in Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG

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Nay Pyi Taw commemorates 73rd Martyrs' Day at Bogyoke Statue



The 73rd Anniversary of Martyrs' Day is commemorated at the Bogyoke Aung San Bronze Statue in Nay Pyi Taw on 19 July 2020.

PHOTO: CHAT GYI

PEOPLE commemorated 73rd Anniversary of Martyrs' Day laying flower wreaths at the Bogyoke Aung San Bronze Statue in Thabyaygon Ward on Pyinmana-Taungnyo Road in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung and officials, Hluttaw representatives, social organizations' officials, staff and ordinary people attended the martyrs' day celebration that began at 8am.

Upon the commemoration, Member of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Min Thu said: "This is the first ceremony paying tributes to martyrs by Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. The ceremony is organized in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines."

The purpose of the ceremony is to recollect the gratitude, attitude, and strength of the martyrs who gave their lives for Myanmar's Independence by the present and future youths and the public.

Other townships across the country also organized the martyrs' day ceremony at Bogyoke

oke parks and Bogyoke statues and offered 'soon' (day meal) to Members of Sangha in memory of Bogyoke Aung San and martyred leaders.

"This is not a crowded event, and it is celebrated in accordance with social distancing rules because of COVID-19," he added.

Zabuthiri Township's U Kyaw Swar Win said: "Only few people came to pay tributes to martyrs because of COVID-19. The spirit and power of the martyrs are an example to next generation." "I would like to urge people to try hard with goodwill for the country's development in accordance with Bogyoke's instructions," he added.

Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Member U Min Thu, Hluttaw representatives, social organizations' chairpersons and officials, staff and people observed a two-minute silence sounding sirens in memory of martyrs who gave their lives for Myanmar's Independence at 10:37am when Bogyoke Aung San and martyred leaders were assassinated.—Hein Min Soe

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

140 Myanmar citizens fly back home from Jordan on 19 July

A total of 140 Myanmar nationals who were working for Rich Pine, Century Miracle, and Camel and Vega companies in Jordan returned home yesterday.

Myanmar Airways International (MAI)'s relief flight had carried the first batch of Myanmar citizens from Jordan and landed at the Yangon International Airport at 4:45 am.

On arrival at the airport, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Health and Sports and the Yangon Region government provided them with proper medical checks and arranged 21-day quarantine for them.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been working with Myanmar embassies in foreign countries and local ministries concerned to bring back citizens stranded abroad due to the suspension of international commercial flights, in

accordance with the guidance of the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of

COVID-19.

The ministry is also planning to bring back Myanmar workers who are still stranded

in Jordan in the second batch of repatriation in the fourth week of July.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

A Myanmar woman returned from Jordan is seen at the Yangon International Airport on 19 July 2020. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

Trade Mark Ads

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I hope we would be able to push back the second COVID wave during the next one or two months



To prevent the spread of the COVID disease we have to review the situation every two weeks and make a decision on whether to keep into effect certain rules, whether certain rules need to be relaxed or if some rules need to be strengthened. During this month, we have been able to relax the “stay at home” arrangements in all townships.

Prohibition of mass gatherings of people is still in effect. If we can take effective measures to prevent the spread of the disease, I hope we would be able to push back the second COVID wave during the next one or two months. As there are lots of people who have become infected with COVID disease without showing any symptoms of infection, we need to be extra careful. It is very important to wear masks in places like markets where there is close contact with others for long periods of time. Don't forget to wash your hands frequently. Don't be careless.

(Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's Facebook post on 29 June 2020)

Special flight arrives in Yangon with WHO’s medical supplies, experts for fight against COVID-19

A special relief flight carrying laboratory equipment provided by the World Health Organization and experts for humanitarian work to provide support to the fight against the COVID-19 in Myanmar landed at the Yangon International Airport yesterday morning.

On board of the flight which departed from Malaysia were about 60 passengers including Myanmar nationals, coming from the United Nations agencies, from the International Red Cross, from the UK DIFD, from German GIZ, and experts from different organizations, according to the World Food Programme which arranged the relief flight.

“Today we are here at the Yangon International Airport and we receive the 11th WFP special flight bringing humanitarian car-



WHO’s medical experts and Myanmar’s officials pose for a group photo at the Yangon International Airport on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: PE ZAW

go and passengers,” said WFP Myanmar’s Country Director Mr Stephen Anderson.

“We are also very proud to facilitate cargo for the World Health Organization who is in the lead on the COVID-19 response on the UN side both here in Myanmar and globally,” he added.

Regarding the aid flight, Dr Stephen Paul Jost, WHO Myanmar’s Resident Representative, also pledged that WHO would continue its support to Myanmar as the country’s fight against the COVID-19 is at the best situation.

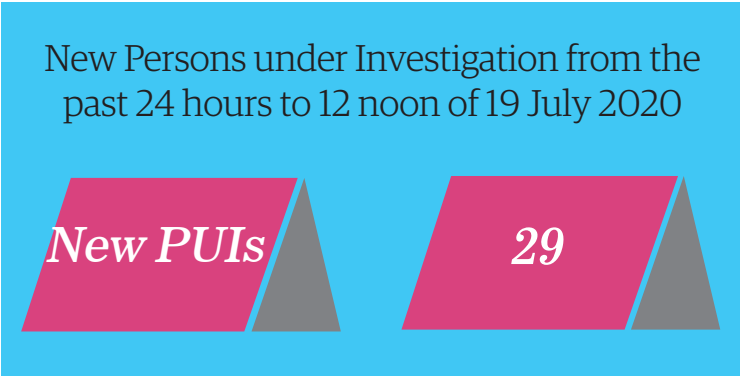
WFP’s 11th flight departed from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, landed yesterday under the WFP’s Global Logistics Service Provision Plan that aims at connecting logistics hubs around the world in order to provide an essential link with countries that needs to bring in cargo. The programme started on 10 May.

Similarly, India, China, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Japan provided Myanmar with the medical supplies in support of fighting against the COVID-19. —Zaw Gyi
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

COVID-19 figure in Myanmar reaches 341 after one new case reported on 19 July

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases reached 341 after one new case was reported on 19 July according to Ministry of Health and Sports. Case No. 341 returned from India. Out of the 341 confirmed cases, six died, 276 have recovered, 262 have been discharged from hospitals and 29 were held under investigation.—MNA

Updated at 8 pm, 19 July 2020



One new case of COVID-19 on 19 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
341	54	Female	Tonzang Township, Chin State	No	Yes, India	Tiddim People's Hospital	Positive	Held under quarantine (Tiddim Township)



Families of Martyrs pay tribute to fallen leaders



U Ye Aung Than, nephew of Bogyoke Aung San's son U Aung San Oo, pays tribute to Bogyoke Aung San and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of Bogyoke Aung San, lays the wreaths paying tribute to Bogyoke Aung San and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**



Family members of Thakhin Mya pay tribute to Thakhin Mya and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**



Family members of Deedok U Ba Cho pay tribute at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020 to pay tribute to Deedok U Ba Cho and martyrs. **PHOTO: MNA**



Family members of Mahn Ba Khaing pay tribute to Mahn Ba Khaing and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. **PHOTO:MNA**



Family members of Mahn Ba Khaing pay tribute to Mahn Ba Khaing and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. **PHOTO:MNA**



Family members of U Ba Win pay tribute to U Ba Win and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: MNA



Families of Martyrs pay tribute to fallen leaders



Family members of Mongpon Sawbwa Sao San Tun pay tribute to Mongpon Sawbwa Sao San Tun and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: MNA



Family members of U Razak lay the wreaths paying tribute to U Razak and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: MNA



Family members of U Ohn Maung pay tribute to U Ohn Maung and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: MNA



Family members of Yebaw Ko Htwe pay tribute to Yebaw Ko Htwe and martyrs at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: MNA



Diplomats lay the wreaths paying tribute to fallen leaders at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Yangon on 19 July 2020. PHOTO: MNA

Robust policy actions needed to help fishery sector survive

DUE to the decrease in the demand of freshwater fisheries sector as there is no export amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the aquaculture sector hit hard those who depending on the sector for their livelihood.

With zero exports without no new orders from buyer countries, fish exports have collapsed. The drop in demand has affected from daily-waged workers to cold storage facilities in the seafood supply chain.

In this situation, national-level plans and projects need to be implemented to ensure future success in the sector. Or, the aquaculture sector could face longer disruption if farmers are unable to restock in this COVID-19 crisis.

When it comes to responding the COVID-19 and businesses, we also need to consider how to minimize the impact of COVID on the fisheries and prawn breeding and how to make these enterprises grow in the long term.

In a country, laws and rules are not created in a fixed and rigid manner, but should be changed to meet the needs of the country. If we seek to make changes, all points of view need to be considered.

The fishery sector occupies an important place in our country's economy and culture.

The EU and North America account for about 45 percent of Myanmar's aquaculture and fisheries exports – which were forecast to be worth \$750 million in 2020 -

while China and Thailand account for the remaining 55 percent.

Myanmar earned US\$728 million from the export of aquatic product in 2019-2020 fiscal year, and the figure has increased by \$100 million in the first nine months of this FY, compared to the corresponding period of the previous term, and that the country has a lot of potentials to earn billions of dollar from fisheries export.

To put our fishery sector on the right path to recovery in a short period, we need to attract foreign investment which can also offer modern technology. For foreign investments to come in, we need to show first that we have the potential to develop from all sides.

Everyone are obliged to cooperate to gain business confidence and to create a good environment for business.

■ ■ ■

Work from Home Culture

By Lokethar

ONE significant outcome of the Corona Virus Pandemic is the “Work from Home Culture” that has evolved with the “Stay at Home” advice to the public to help stop the spread of the disease. It is not a “novel” idea that is entirely due to the Pandemic, as many persons with mobile phones have been using the device to exchange information about work even while staying at home. It nevertheless has created a new “Work from Home Culture” which has been given recognition by the “Establishment”. Now the use of e-mail in the work process will probably be more and more accepted as “legal” communication by Government offices and Public and Private Institutions, if the concerned staff are equipped with the needed authorization and the equipment.

Of course “Working from Home” is no stranger to writers and columnists. They have long been using the internet to send

written materials to the publishers, including sending manuscripts of books to be printed and published. Now a days hopefully, we need not physically go to the “Office” concerned, to complete “Forms” relating to registration and other purposes where the physical presence of the applicant can be dispensed with.

Another good thing emanating from the extension to the “Work from Home Culture” is the introduction by Private Hospitals and the Emergency Services of Online consultation by Doctors and Specialists. After an initial examination of the patient by the Specialist and the needed laboratory tests; the concerned Specialist starts the treatment. During the treatment period, further “Online” consulting from time to time about problems encountered by the patient can be made through the Hospital/ Emergency Service MO concerned. However if this service does not require the patient or the car-

egiver to be physically present at the health facility concerned, it would be very convenient for aged patients with mobility problems. The payment of the

up the e-commerce significantly. It's possible now to order food of one's choice “Online”. It's also becoming more and more possible to order “Medi-

Now the use of e-mail in the work process will probably be more and more accepted as “legal” communication by Government offices and Public and Private Institutions, if the concerned staff are equipped with the needed authorization and the equipment.

Specialist's consultation fee and the health facility service charges could be made online to the account of the concerned health facility.

Besides, the “Stay at Home” guideline has speeded

cines” Online, though the speed of delivery need to be increased. Purchasing goods “On Line” is also catching on fast as is “Online Banking”.

As to the “Work from Home Culture” it seems that many

business matters and official matters are being conducted “Online”. The office/business employee sits at home in front of the computer/laptop provided by the Department/ Business Enterprise and responds to communication related to the employee's area of responsibility. The employee may even be required to e-mail responses to their superiors or to the Departments/ Businesses and “Clients” “concerned whether in country or abroad.

There is however a hitch with “Working from Home”. It is that there seems to be no legal stipulations as yet about “Online Work Hours”. Considering that the employee may not need to be engaged in “Online Working” all the time they are at home, poses issues of break time for coffee or lunch etc. and the time to “knock off” particularly when communicating with clients/officials in countries in different time zones. Another thing is that like in the case of “flexi-time” which we are more

or less familiar with, there perhaps need to be some fixed time when all the concerned persons in the different locations would need to be present in front of their computers/laptops for a video conferencing session to address issues which require an all inclusive approach.

Another thing is that there should be protection against unauthorised persons standing in for the authorized employee. This is of course a security issue which must be taken up by the “Centre” using the appropriate software.

The “online” working/ learning practice set off by the Corona Virus Pandemic will probably help to move forward the e-Government agenda which the Government has been consistently seeking to implement.

With Charity to all and Malice to none.

■ ■ ■

EMERGENCY LEGISLATION AND MEASURES

Japan gov't eyes amendment of special law against coronavirus

As prefectural governors have been calling for more power to be given to local governments in their fight against the pandemic.

JAPAN plans to revise the existing special law for combating the spread of the novel coronavirus to give greater authority to local governments across the country, officials said Sunday.

“A new law is necessary,” Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on a TV program, as the number of infections has been spiking since the government fully lifted a nationwide state of emergency in May and eased restrictions on business and social activities thereafter.

As prefectural governors have been calling for more power to be given to local governments in their fight against the pandemic, it is the first time that Suga has touched on the need to amend the special measures law against new types of infectious diseases.

During the Fuji TV program, he said a program to compensate businesses that comply with closure requests based on the law



A shopping street in Fukuoka, southwestern Japan, is deserted as most stores are closed on May 4, 2020. PHOTO: KYODO/FILE

should be prepared, while showing reluctance to declare a state

of emergency in limited regions. The governors want to see

the special law toughened and noncompliance with requests

for business closures to entail penalties.

As the country continues to see a rising number of people infected with the pneumonia-causing virus, particularly at nightlife establishments such as hostess and host bars, Suga said more on-site inspections will be conducted there based on the law regulating adult entertainment, without waiting for the planned amendment.

“We will tighten up by having more police officers step in,” he said.

The Tokyo metropolitan government on Sunday confirmed another 188 cases of the coronavirus, slipping below the 200 mark for the first time in four days.

The single-day figures until Saturday stood close to 300 for the third straight day, amid rising public concern over a resurgence of the pandemic in Tokyo and elsewhere.

The daily figures announced by the metropolitan government

reflect the most recent totals reported by health authorities and medical institutions in the capital.

Tokyo's cumulative total stood at 9,411. About 510 new cases brought the nationwide tally to nearly 25,400, excluding 712 from the Diamond Princess, the cruise ship that was quarantined in Yokohama in February.

On Wednesday, the metropolitan government raised its alert for the pandemic to the highest of the four levels, meaning “infections are spreading.”

Since the state of emergency was lifted, the number of infections has been rising, with the capital seeing triple-digit increases on most days in this month.

On Sunday, the western prefecture of Osaka confirmed 89 new cases of the virus, the most since the lifting.

SOURCE: Kyodo

■ ■ ■



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

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

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is weak over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 20th July, 2020: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Yangon and Taninthayi Regions and Mon State, fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyarwady Regions, Kayah and Kayin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Naypyitaw, Upper Sagaing and Magway Regions and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-7) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of decrease of rain in Deltaic areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th July, 2020: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th July, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th July, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Mango export via Muse drops by 832.5 tonnes as of July 7

ONLY 449 tonnes of mango with 78 trucks were exported to the neighbouring country of China through Muse border between 1 and 7 July, according to news released online by the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar's mango exports to China were registered 832.5 tonnes lower in the week ended 7 July compared to the previous week. Myanmar sent 1,281.5 tonnes of mango to China with 213 trucks between 24 and 30 June.

Mango price has been dropping since 22 June. It fetched 3,000 Yuan per tonne on 7 June, whereas it drastically plunged to around 1,000 Yuan in the first week of July, the Commerce Ministry stated. During that week, about 30 tonnes of watermelon were also exported to China.

China has been stepping up border control measures to contain the spread of the coronavirus pandemic. Therefore, Chinese buyers do not come to Myanmar land borders in light of the pandemic fears, forcing Myanmar truck drivers to have left for Wanding area to sell the



A woman chooses mangoes at a supermarket in Yangon on 16 May 2020. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

goods since 20 April. As a result of this, the traffic congestions occur both in two sides; Muse and Ky-algaung borders, causing a long queue on road, said Police Deputy Superintendent Chit Sein of No 123 Traffic Police Force (Muse).

China's fruit demand falls by around 30 per cent amid the coronavirus infection and so, Myanmar fruit market is experiencing hurdles and losses, said a trader

from Khwar Nyo fruit depot.

The prices of mango are on the decline. The low demand keeps market weak, he continued. This year, the coronavirus risks lead to losses in fruit market due to transportation difficulties and trade disruption, said a grower from Kyaukpadaung Township.

Concerning exports of watermelon, muskmelon and mango, it is important not to rely on the

Chinese market alone, traders from Muse pointed out.

The mango growers are urged to supply the quality mango to maintain the market reputation. Additionally, the mango farm-owners need to follow the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). They also need to obtain GAP certification. The Agriculture Department has been instituting criteria for long-term

organic farming. In the 2017-2018 financial year, Myanmar exported 50,000 tonnes of Seintalone mangoes. The country aims to raise the export volume of Seintalone to 100,000 tonnes in 2020, according to the online news released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Of about 200 mango varieties originated in Myanmar, Seintalone, Shwehintha, Padamyar Ngamauk, Yinkwe, Machitsu varieties are primarily grown. The foreign market prefers Seintalone variety. Myanmar's mangoes are primarily shipped to China, and also, the small volume goes to India, Bangladesh, Thailand, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Japan markets. Ayeyawady Region possesses the largest mango plantation acres, having about 46,000 acres. Bago Region is the second-largest producer with 43,000 acres and Mandalay has 29,000 acres of mango. There are over 24,000 acres in Kayin State, over 20,400 acres in Shan State and over 20,000 acres in Sagaing Region, according to the association.—Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Over 270 companies get one-year licence suspension for non-compliance with law

A total of 272 export/import companies have been temporarily suspended their licences for one year (from 3 July 2020 to 2 July 2021) as they failed to deposit the foreign currency earned from exports in the local bank accounts, the Commerce Ministry notified on 16 July 2020.

According to the Foreign Exchange Management Law, all the export earnings in foreign

currency must be deposited back into local account within six months after the goods are loaded.

The Ministry of Commerce identified 453 companies which failed to deposit all the export earnings or some portion back into accounts in 2017. So, the companies were asked to deposit back into accounts within 60 days after notification was issued and they

will get their licence revoked if they fail to comply with the existing law, the MOC warned.

Only some companies have deposited the export earnings, and 272 companies have been identified by name for non-compliance with the law.

The MOC found 110 trading companies which failed to deposit export incomes in 2016. —GNLM (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

MoHT conducting tourism relief plans for post-coronavirus era

MYANMAR'S tourism industry is implementing relief plans for recovery of the sector during the post-coronavirus era — new normal, said U Myint Sein, head of Magway Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

"The State allowed the hotel and motel businesses to apply for the loan in order to remedy those businesses hardly stricken by the pandemic impacts. Of 50 hotels and motels in the region, 17 applied for it and 11 were granted loans", he stated.

The regional directorate submitted reports of the frequency of

hotels, capitals and tax payment conditions and business operation plans during the coronavirus period. The Union of Myanmar Federations of Chamber of Commerce and Industry granted K35 to 60 million loans depending on the situations.

"In addition to this, plans for training courses for those employees related to the tourism industry, paying an allowance of K4,800 per day, have been undertaken. The plans are slated to start in July-end or August", he continued.

"The move is aimed to sup-

port those stakeholders including three-wheel riders, horse-cart riders, motorboat operators and vendors and to share the basic tourism awareness," he explained.

The hotels and tourism industry braced a 40-per cent drop in March, 70 per cent in April, and a complete halt in May and June. Some hotels and motels were allowed for reopening in June-end. The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has been conducting tourism relief plans to restart the industry, the directorate stated.—Zayatu (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

GACC grants rice export licences to 43 Myanmar companies

THE authorized companies for rice export to China have increased from 11 to 43 this year, after inspecting 43 Myanmar rice companies and 79 rice mills in line with SPS Protocol (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Protocol).

The General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) granted licences to 43 Myanmar companies on 10 July 2020 to export the rice to China through a legitimate trade channel.

In order to have legal rice export channel to China, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation of Myanmar (MoALI) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) signed an agreement on 24 September 2014 regarding SPS protocol. Only 11 companies were given green light for rice export then.

According to Article 3 of the SPS Protocol (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Protocol), an inspection of rice exporters and rice mills is mandatory, which is in keeping with the criteria set by the GACC.

After a series of negotiations between Myanmar and China, MoALI and GACC officials signed an agreement on broken rice export on 17 January 2020 during Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to Myanmar.

Following the agreement, Ministry of Commerce, the MoALI, Myanmar Rice Federation and Myanmar's embassy to China in Beijing made concerted efforts for 43 Myanmar rice export companies and 79 mills to meet SPS protocol requirements.

The volume of rice and broken rice exported between 1 October and 7 July in the current fiscal year 2019-2020 crossed over 2.16 million metric tons to the external markets. The export volume of rice is down by 40,000 tonnes, whereas the broken rice export volume is up by 400,000 tonnes compared to a year ago period, the Ministry of Commerce stated.

Myanmar's MoC is trying to boost exports of rice, broken rice, agro-products, fruits and fisheries to China through diplomatic negotiations.—Ko Khant (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Syrians vote for new assembly amid war, economic turmoil

DAMASCUS — Syrians voted Sunday for a new parliament as the Damascus government grapples with international sanctions and a crumbling economy after retaking large parts of the war-torn country.

More than 7,000 polling stations opened across government-held parts of Syria, including for the first time in former opposition strongholds, in the third such polls since the war started nine years ago.

Several lists were allowed to run across the country but, without any real opposition, President Bashar al-Assad's Baath party and its allies were expected to take most of parliament's 250 seats.

Assad and his wife Asma cast their votes in the capital, the presidency said, posting photos of the couple wearing white face masks as part of measures to stem the spread of the novel coronavirus.

Volunteers stood outside



The election is taking place as President Bashar al-Assad, seen here casting his vote alongside his wife Asma, marks a second decade in power this month. **PHOTO: SYRIAN PRESIDENCY FACEBOOK PAGE/AFP**

polling stations holding flyers promoting their favourite candidates, and tried to woo passers-

by to come in and vote.

Among the first to cast his ballot in Damascus was

50-year-old government employee Khaled al-Shaleh. —AFP ■

World Bank chief urges G20 to extend debt suspension through 2021



World Bank President David Malpass is calling on rich countries to hold off on debt repayments from poor countries. **(AFP PHOTO/NICHOLAS KAMM) /FILE**

WASHINGTON — World Bank Group President David Malpass on Saturday urged the Group of 20 (G20) countries to extend the time frame of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative through the end of 2021, calling it one of the key factors in strengthening global recovery.

"I urge you to extend the time frame of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) through end 2021 and commit to give the initiative as broad a scope as possible," Malpass made the remarks at the virtual G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting,

according to a statement.

"We've made a great deal of progress with DSSI in a short period of time, but more needs to be done," said the World Bank chief.

Malpass said that the pandemic has triggered the "deepest global recession in decades," and what may turn out to be "one of the most unequal" in terms of impact. "For the poorest countries, poverty is rising rapidly, median incomes are falling, and growth is deeply negative," he said. "Debt burdens -- already unsustainable for many countries -- are rising to crisis levels." —Xinhua ■

UK 'confident' Moscow helped hackers target virus vaccine

LONDON — British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said on Sunday he was "absolutely confident" in allegations by the UK and its allies that Russia targeted labs conducting coronavirus research, branding the behaviour "outrageous and reprehensible".

Britain, the United States

and Canada on Thursday accused a hacking group called APT29 of spearheading the online attacks on various organisations involved in COVID-19 vaccine development. They said the collective is "almost certainly" linked to Russian intelligence, and intended to steal information and intellectual property.

Moscow quickly rejected the accusations as "groundless", and its ambassador to London said in a British television interview Sunday the claims made "no sense". However, Raab reiterated that the trio's conclusions were based on assessments by Britain's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) and its counter-

parts in the US and Canada.

"We're absolutely confident that the Russian intelligence agencies were engaged in a cyber attack on research and development efforts in organisations in this country and internationally with a view either to sabotage or to profit," he told Sky News.—AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dozens detained as German 'corona party' escalates

FRANKFURT — Thirty-nine people were detained after police were attacked with "a hail of bottles" at an open-air party in central Frankfurt attended by thousands of youngsters, police in the German city said Sunday.

Five officers were injured in the riot that began at around 3:00 am (0100 GMT) when police intervened to stop a brawl involving around 30 people in Frankfurt's historic Opera square.

The square has become a popular gathering place for what local media have dubbed "corona parties" as Germany's bars and clubs remain closed to contain the spread of the virus.

Some 3,000 mainly young people filled the square again on Saturday evening but only around 500 to 800 were still there when the unrest started, Frankfurt police chief Gerhard Bereswill told a press conference.

A small group of officers moved in to help a bleeding man and end the brawl, but the crowd turned on them.

"What I find especially abhorrent is that bystanders cheered and clapped when bottles hit my colleagues," Bereswill said.—AFP ■

700 Jordanians to enter Israel to work in hotels: official

JERUSALEM — Hundreds of Jordanian workers entered Israel on Sunday to work in the hotel industry in the country's southern resort city of Eilat, the Israeli Population and Immigration Authority said.

A statement issued by the Immigration Authority said that about 300 Jordanian nationals entered on Sunday and 400 more would arrive by Tuesday.

The move followed a government decision, the Immigration Authority said.

To meet the requirements of the "Purple Badge," a standard set by the Israeli government for businesses that wish to stay open during the coronavirus outbreak, the workers would enter a two-week self-quarantine.—Xinhua ■

China's cargo transport back to normal growth



The subindex for cargo transport jumped 5 percent year on year to 185.2 points last month, with the growth faster when compared with the 0.8-percent rise in May and keeping almost the same level as that of last year.
(Xinhua/Tang Yi) /File

BEIJING — China's cargo transport industry reported faster growth in June with business activities recovering to nor-

mal levels, industry data showed.

The China Transportation Services Index (CTSI) stood at 153.9

points last month, down 11.5 per cent year on year, according to the China Academy of Transportation Sciences (CATS).

The decrease narrowed from the 16.5-per cent drop recorded in May.

The subindex for cargo transport jumped 5 per cent year on year to 185.2 points last month, with the growth faster when compared with the 0.8-per cent rise in May and keeping almost the same level as that of last year.

Meanwhile, shrinkage in passenger transport further narrowed, with the subindex of passenger transport down 43.1 per cent, narrowing by 6.1 per centage points from May.

With production and living orders restored amid waning COVID-19 impact, China's cargo transport growth is basically back on track, said the CATS report.
— Xinhua ■

Japan brewery sells craft beer made with “koji” mold, not malt

WAKAYAMA — A brewery in the western Japan prefecture of Wakayama has launched the sale of what is believed to be the first-ever craft beer made with “koji” mold, used to produce traditional Japanese soy sauce, miso and sake.

Beer is usually made with malt, but Oryzae Brewing & ferment works has replaced it with koji, following its representative Nobuyuki Kinoshita's desire to venture into creating new types of the drink.

The brewery seems to be doing well, with Oryzae Pale Ale winning the bronze prize in the 2019 International Beer

Cup competing against breweries from 24 countries and regions. It features fruity and mellow tastes.

Oryzae Pale Ale, which was put on sale in July last year, is made by first mixing self-made wheat koji, steamed wheat, and hot water, resulting in sweet sake.

The liquid is then filtered and hops are added. After cooling and adding yeast, the beer is fermented for about a week, then matured for two or three more weeks.

The flagship product is shipped to Wakayama Prefecture and the Tokyo area, with restaurants saying it matches well

with traditional Japanese dishes.

Kinoshita, 41, decided to use his knowledge of the mold having worked at a soy sauce firm in Wakayama after graduat-

ing from university, then at a miso warehouse in Kumamoto Prefecture and a sake brewery in Fukuoka Prefecture, both in southwestern Japan.
—Kyodo ■



Beer is usually made with malt, but Oryzae Brewing & ferment works has replaced it with koji. PHOTO: KYODO

In Sweden, a ‘second-hand’ mall draws big crowds

ESKILSTUNA — Not content with the average neighbourhood thrift store, a city in Sweden has opened a whole shopping mall dedicated to giving pre-owned items new life.

The mall, located an hour's train ride west of Stockholm in the city of Eskilstuna, consists of 13 stores and covers 5,000 square metres (54,000 square feet), employing between 50 and 65 people.

It has been named ReTuna, a play on Eskilstuna, which began an effort to reinvent itself as an ecological city in the 1990s.

“We are traditionally an industrial town, we have had our difficulties and we thought we have to find some things that can build confidence and where we can take responsibility,” the city's mayor Jimmy Jansson told AFP, adding that city leaders were now trying to develop it “into a modern industrial town”.
ReTuna, inaugurat-

ed in 2015, was named “the world's first shopping mall designated for repaired, recycled and restored items” by the Guinness Book of World Records in 2020.

Some way from the giant shopping malls of major cities, the complex still attracts some 250,000 to 300,000 visitors a year, according to Anna Bergstrom, who was in charge of ReTuna until early 2020.

Spread across two floors the boutiques sell used tech gadgets, books, children's toys and home goods, as well as a slew of other products.

“You can basically do all kinds of shopping here that you do in regular stores: furniture, clothes, flowers, sports articles, building materials, almost everything,” Bergstrom said.

The mall, where a slight hint of the signature smell of second-hand clothing reigns, also offers a one-year course in the design of recycled products.
—AFP ■

Over 7,000 income tax cases disposed of through faceless assessment system

NEW DELHI — The Income Tax department has disposed of as many as 7,000 cases under the first phase of the faceless assessment system, a highly placed source in the Finance Ministry said on Sunday.

“The faceless assessment system of Income Tax Department has been a game-changer in the arena of direct taxation. It has empowered the taxpayers and has, as a foremost mechanism, altered the facets and perception of overall tax administration in India. Over 7,000 income tax cases disposed of through faceless assessment system”, the source said.

Since its launch on October 7 last year and implementation of the

first phase, the system has provided for assessment of income-tax in electronic mode, where “taxpayers now need not see face-to-face any tax officer or visit an I-T office and need not run pillar-to-post on receiving income tax scrutiny assessment notice or rush to a tax professional or accountant; and yet, s/he can e-file assessment's reply on the income tax portal from the comforts of her/his home without the hassle of visiting any tax officer. Yes, time is changing for direct tax administration in India with automated and random allocation of income tax assessment cases without human interface at any stage”, added the source.—ANI ■

Myanmar's First Ever

Myanmar Postage Stamps Yearbook 2019

- A book to be proud of by interested researchers, stamp enthusiasts and every Myanmar citizen
- Interesting facts and printing details of stamps issued in 2019 including stamps highlighting Myanmar traditional festivals of the twelve lunar months and Myanmar nationals, 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and 145th anniversary of the founding of the Universal Postal Union
- An English - Myanmar bilingual book set to meet international standards
- Published and distributed by Myanmar Post and available at Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw post offices.

The book will be on sale from 24 July onwards.

Price – 50,000/Kyats

G-20 warns of sharp global growth contraction due to pandemic



Supplied photo taken in Tokyo on July 18, 2020, shows Japanese Finance Minister Taro Aso and Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda attend a videoconference of finance chiefs from the Group of 20 major economies. **PHOTO: KYODO**

TOKYO — Finance chiefs from the Group of 20 major economies said Sunday that the global economy is expected to “contract sharply” this year due to the new coronavirus pandemic and pledged to do whatever they can to minimize downside risks.

“We are determined to continue to use all available policy tools to safeguard people’s lives, jobs and incomes, sup-

port global economic recovery, and enhance the resilience of the financial system,” although the economic outlook “remains highly uncertain,” they said in a statement issued after a videoconference.

As for the G-20’s debt relief program to help curb the spread of the virus, the finance ministers and central bank governors said an estimated total of \$5.3 billion

has been requested to be deferred as of Saturday by 42 developing countries.

While welcoming the “progress achieved” under the program, the G-20 countries said, “All official bilateral creditors should implement this initiative fully and in a transparent manner.”

To support developing countries to take steps to stem the spread of the virus, the G-20 na-

tions said at the previous virtual meeting in April that they and “Paris Club” countries -- traditional lenders to developing countries such as the G-7 nations -- had agreed to suspend debt payments by “the poorest countries” from May 1 through the end of this year.

Amid mounting concern about capital outflows from emerging economies, the G-20 nations said in the latest statement that a “possible extension” of the debt relief program will be considered in the second half of this year, taking account of developments of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The total of the 59 lowest-income countries’ outstanding obligations to China, against the sum of their gross domestic product, was 11.6 per cent in 2016, about four times as much as that owed to Paris Club nations, according to an International Monetary Fund report in 2018.—Kyodo ■

EU recovery summit could end with no deal, says Merkel

BRUSSELS — Germany’s Chancellor Angela Merkel warned that EU leaders may fail to reach an agreement on Sunday on a huge post-virus recovery plan for the shattered European economy.

Arriving for the third and what she said was probably the “decisive” day of an extraordinary European summit, Merkel said the 27 leaders had “many positions” on the size of the fund, on rules for accessing it and on tying it to respect for the rule of law.

“I still can’t say whether a solution will be found,” she said. “There is a lot of good will... but it may also be that no result will be achieved today.”

Merkel was due to join

French President Emmanuel Macron and the president of the European Council, summit host Charles Michel, to prepare a new offer to break the logjam after Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte and his “Frugal Five” allies blocked a deal.

Michel had proposed a 750-billion-euro package of EU loans and grants to help member states recover from an historic coronavirus recession, but Austria sees the package as too big and the Netherlands wants member states to be able to veto national spending plans. The rest of the 27 EU leaders were due to meet again in the full summit format from noon (1000 GMT) and talks could yet go late into the night.—AFP ■



Germany’s Chancellor Angela Merkel said the 27 leaders had ‘many positions’ on the size of the fund, on rules for accessing it and on tying it to respect for the rule of law. **PHOTO: POOL/AFP/FILE**

Pakistani PM performs groundbreaking of business park to boost industrialization

ISLAMABAD — Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan on Saturday evening performed the groundbreaking of the Quaid-e-Azam Business Park as the government’s plans to boost industrialization and create jobs, a statement said.

According to the statement from the government of the country’s eastern Punjab province, the prime minister broke the ground on the business park as a smart, special economic zone during a ceremony held in Lahore, the provincial capital of Punjab.

The business park with a total planned area of 1,536 acres is being established near the

express highway M-2 in Sheikhupura, a neighboring district of Lahore. Initially, the economic zone was planned only for garments factories, but now it will host industries of multiple sectors.

On the occasion, Khan said the park would play a crucial role in Pakistan’s development by generating revenue, enhancing business activities in the country and creating over 500,000 direct and indirect jobs.

The prime minister said several Chinese companies have already contacted the government and expressed keen interest in investing in diverse sectors across Pakistan, and the government is

simplifying official procedures to help them start businesses.

“I hope that Quaid-e-Azam Business Park will emerge as an epicenter of new economic avenues

and prospects for the Chinese companies,” said the prime minister, vowing to make Pakistan a business-friendly country with maximum ease of doing business.—Xinhua ■



Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan accompanied by Punjab Chief Minister Usman Buzdar performed the ground-breaking ceremony of Quaid-e-Azam Business Park on July 18. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1. The Government of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of “Regional Development Project for Poverty Reduction Phase 2 MY-P17”. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the Contracts for the construction of the project listed below.

2. The Department of Highways, Ministry of Construction now invites sealed Bids from eligible bidders for the construction and completion of the work below.

IFB No	Project ID	Works
DOH-09A	Gangaw - Aika Road (Chin State) (Mile 13/2 to Mile 21/1.24) (Sta. 0+000 – Sta. 12+600)	12.6 km x 5.5 m Penetration Macadam Pavement Road, RC Box Culvert, Drainage structures and other miscellaneous structures
DOH-09B	Gangaw - Aika Road (Chin State) (Mile 21/1.24 to Mile 29/0) (Sta. 12+600 – Sta. 24+860)	12.26 km x 5.5 m Penetration Macadam Pavement Road, RC Box Culvert, Drainage structures and other miscellaneous structures

3. Selling of Bid Documents : (21.7.2020) to (29.7.2020)
4. Deadline for submission of Bids : (12:00) noon on (3.9.2020)
5. Opening of Preliminary Examination check for Bids : (13:30) pm on (3.9.2020)
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidder at the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ; Fifty Thousands Myanmar Kyat (ks. 50000/-)
7. Interested eligible Bidder (The eligible country of the bidder is the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, only (i.e. Bidders (Local Contractor) shall be civil engineering firms registered in Myanmar)) may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of Project Inspection and Quality Control Department (Construction), Department of Highways, Ministry of Construction, Building No. (11), Nay Pyi Taw.
Contact Person: Daw Khin San Nyunt Oo
Phone No.: +95 9-5084576 / +95 9-257728844 / +95 445892175
E-mail: dohhjica.sector@gmail.com

Towards the town Kalay which means market town (1)

By Thiha, the Traveller

WHEN I was on duty to pay a visit to this town, I underestimated it would be an area with least travel sites. But I regretted for my thoughts every town was famous based on their histories as well as travel sites. I experienced second trips to Kalay where everybody might visit Kalay by car but aviation transport would be the best. I visited Kalay in my childhood when I was in the fourth standard. On the second trip, all the scenes I had seen were very different from that of my childhood.

Tarhan Ward in Kalay was native land of my grandfather, grandmother and relatives. My grandmother and my mother were natives of Tarhan. But I am mixed blood with Mizo.

From Karlay to Kalay

Kalay is in Shan language, called marketable town or market town. It was called Karlay in the past. The town was established by King Kyay Taungnyo, 56th king of Nwepat dynasty, on 2 February 967. The existing Kalay was built by Counsellor Seik Thint Yan of King Bayintnaung in 1581. It was ruled by Saophas. Now, the town is over 1,000 years old. Brick walls and brick layers can be seen in local residences till today. Some people remarked it was an old city of Yazagyo. It was located at crossing road junction where the Chin public relations office of Chin Rifle Battalion was opened in BIA era. So, the area was called Kang Lei in Chin language. Then, the town became developed due to visits of travellers.

Various national races especially Chin ethnics reside

in Kalay. Many kinds of Chin ethnics including Mizo Chin ethnics are residing in Tarhan Ward. Chin ethnics from hilly regions wishing to move their residences to plains firstly think to reside in Kalay. So, various kinds of Chin ethnics can be seen there. But, Kalay is home not only to Chin ethnics but also to Shan, Yaw and Bamar ethnics.

I have heard Kalay is the third prosperous town in Sagaing Region. Rain trees planted on both sides of the roads in British era are significant beauties of Kalay.

Climate

Climatic conditions are severe as the town is located in the large pit. Even in monsoon, temperature is high. But, December and January are very cold for all.



First Yayhsankyun Pagoda.

How to pay visit

2+1 VIP express buses are running to Kalay from Yangon taking many hours. Aviation transport is better by taking about two hours to Kalay. Air tickets would be set at various prices ranging from K80,000 to K120,000.

Travel sites in Kalay

Actually, Kalay is full of interesting things. Taking a position at Chin and Sagaing border,

the town can be seen with various cultures in addition to Chin traditional costumes and sari of India. Travellers can easily hire tuk-tuk on their trips, motorcycles and private cars.

King Solomon Pond

Travellers can walk to the pond by taking 40 minutes, near Kyar-in Village, as a recreation area for youths. Entrance fee is K200 per visitor. It is surround-



Bawdiyadana Pagoda.



Archway at entrance to Kalay.



Shwebontha Pagoda.

ed by paddy fields with mountain ranges in background. It is a significant site among local youths for taking photos and relaxation and for fishing.

Lamp market

It is one of the famous markets in Kalay. Lamp market, hustle and bustle with people starting from 4 am daily, takes a position in the east of Kalay junction. Travellers pay visits

to the market in early morning.

Shwebontha Pagoda

Travellers can see the pagoda together with Asoka Lake on Phayagyi Road. They were built by King Asoka. Buddha Pujaniya festival is celebrated yearly. A well sunk by King Asoka can be seen in the precinct of Mahasi meditation centre in the southern part of the pagoda.

Myochet Aungmye Pagoda

Taxi driver took me to the victory land. On my way, I saw the archway of Myochet Aungmye Monastery. I grasped the opportunity to pay homage to Myochet Aungmye Pagoda but missed chance to walk on the victory land due to lack of spare time.

City hall and archway of Kalay

The archway of Kalay is very beautiful. I fearfully heard the archway in Kalay was inundated at that time when Kalay was flooded. The city hall is located on the way to archway. Bandoola Statue at the junction has been moved to the front wing of city hall.

First Yayhsankyun Pagoda A large teak log went upstream in the river near Kalay. The first log which went against

the current was carved into the Buddha image. The first Yayhsankyun Pagoda is located in the compound of Hindu temple near Myoma market in Kalay. Small Buddha images were carved on the trunk of teak log. Gods of Hinduism can be seen interior. The First Yayhsankyun Pagoda is older than that near Myittha River.

Translated by
Than Tun Aung



Rain trees on both sides of road, planted in British era, become significant beauties in Kalay.



King Solomon Pond.

AFF lists 3 Myanmar women top goal scorers



Myanmar's women football star Win Theingi Tun (No 7) seen in a match against Indonesia at the 2019 AFF Women's Championship at Chonburi on 16 August, 2019. **PHOTO: MWL**

THREE Myanmar women footballers – Khin Moe Wai, Win Theingi Tun and Yee Yee Oo -- were listed in the top goal scorers of ASEAN Football Federation Women Championship in a decade (2010-2020), according to the official statement with the ASEAN Football Federation.

Myanmar veteran player Khin Moe Wai is currently standing in the fourth place with 22 goals scored while another veteran star Win Theingi Tun is in the fifth place with the same goals scored.

Likewise, another Myanmar women football star Yee Yee Oo is standing in sixth place with the same 22 goals scored.

Above Myanmar players, Vietnamese Tuyet Dung is standing in the first place with 25 goals scored while another Viet Nam star Huynh Nhu is in the second place with 24 goals scored.

Thai player Nisa Romyen took the third place with the same goals scored with the second-placed player.

In the meantime, Kanjana Sungneon of Thailand is standing in the seventh place with 17 goals scored and Vietnamese Nguyen Thi Muon, Nguyen Thi Minh Nguyet and Thai Rattikan Thongsombut correspondingly standing in the eighth, ninth and tenth place with 15 goals scored each.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

All to play for as Premier League enters final week of the season

LONDON — As the Premier League enters the final week of the season, there is still plenty to play for at both ends of the table.

With two games remaining for all the clubs preparing to settle the campaign's remaining issues, AFP Sport takes a closer look at the race to qualify for the Champions League and Europa League, as well as the fight to avoid relegation:

Top four fight

Chelsea and Leicester City are in possession of the coveted top four berths alongside champions Liverpool and Manchester City, who are guaranteed to finish second. But both side's grip

on those spots in next season's Champions League could easily be broken by in-form Manchester United in a nerve-jangling finale. Third-placed Chelsea are one point ahead of both Leicester and United, who sit fifth and are behind the Foxes on goal difference. On Sunday, Leicester face a tricky trip to Tottenham, while on Wednesday United host West Ham and Chelsea travel to Liverpool. After those games, the top four may have been shaken up significantly before the final round of matches on July 26.

Chelsea need four points from their last two games to guarantee qualification and play

Wolverhampton Wanderers at Stamford Bridge on the last day.

Leicester and United meet in a decisive showdown at the King Power Stadium, which means if either of those teams win those last two games they are guaranteed to return to Europe's elite club competition.

United are the form team after winning five of their seven league games since the restart, while Chelsea and Leicester have both shown recent signs of vulnerability.

Europa League race

The teams who finish fifth and sixth will qualify for next season's Europa League, unless



Chelsea and Leicester hope to hold onto their top four places.

PHOTO: AFP

either of the sides in those positions win the Champions League or the Europa League – United

and Wolves are contenders in the latter competition — when they restart next month.—AFP ■

Cazorla bids farewell to Villarreal

MADRID — Santi Cazorla will leave Villarreal at the end of the season, the midfielder confirmed on Saturday (Jul 18).

Cazorla bid farewell ahead of the team's final game of La Liga against Eibar on Sunday. He is expected to join Qatari side Al-Sadd, coached by Xavi Hernandez.

The 35-year-old has enjoyed a brilliant third spell at Villarreal after two years of horrendous injuries.

Cazorla previously made 180 appearances over six years for Arsenal and has 81 caps for Spain. He has also

played for Malaga and Recreativo Huelva after first joining Villarreal as a teenager.

"Villarreal has given me everything," Cazorla said in a video posted by the club on social media. "At 18 they took a punt on a boy from Oviedo who knew nobody."

Cazorla added: "Hopefully, as it was when I left before, it will be more of a see you later."

Cazorla's career looked to be over when an achilles tendon injury threatened to prevent him from walking again, let alone returning to football. — AFP ■

Tiger battles to 71 in third round at Memorial

WASHINGTON — Tiger Woods overcame nagging back issues to fire a one-under-par 71 in Saturday's (Jul 18) third round of the US PGA Memorial tournament, feeling better after barely making the cut. The 44-year-old reigning Masters champion, playing his first tournament since finishing 68th last February at Riviera, stood on two-over 218 after 54 holes at Muirfield Village in Dublin, Ohio. "Overall I felt I played well, controlled the ball well," Woods said. "I hit one really bad shot at three, but overall it was a good solid day."

World number 14 Woods, a five-time Memorial champion, plunked his approach at the par-4 third into the water and made bogey, but answered with

eight-foot birdie putts at the fifth and sixth.

He fell back with a bogey at the par-4 ninth but rallied again with back-to-back birdies at 14 and 15, the latter on a 17-foot birdie putt, only to bogey the

par-3 16th after missing a five-foot par putt.

Woods, level with Sam Snead on a record 82 US PGA titles, said the back that bothered him in shooting 76 on Friday was "a lot better" Saturday.—AFP ■



Tiger Woods wipes his forehead on the fourth green during the second round of The Memorial Tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio. **PHOTO: AFP**