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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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State Counsellor holds meeting with chairpersons of self-administered division/zones, heads of state/region administrative bodies



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held a meeting with the chairpersons from leading bodies of the Self-Administered Division/Zones and heads of administrative bodies from Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, regions and states yesterday.

The meeting at the Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw was also attended by Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe and U Min Thu, Deputy Ministers U Khin Maung Tin, U Tin Myint and U Hla Maw Oo.

At the meeting the State Counsellor said that Myanmar was a country which was moving towards the goal of a Democratic Federal Union; to establish a genuine democratic union, basically, it was necessary to achieve unity based on diversity; the fires of internal conflicts have existed in Myanmar ever since she gained independence because she has not been able to establish unity based on diversity.

She said when she used the term diversity, she meant not only racial but also ideological diversity; that was why she hoped that everyone understood how important it was to achieve unity based on diversity; to get this kind of understanding it was necessary to study the situation of the world; the main thing that she wanted to say was the fact that it was possible for political systems to exist based on different characteristics among the people; it was necessary to balance these two things; it was natural for everyone to want to preserve their different characteristics.

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State Counsellor emphasizes 'rule of law' at the meeting with chairpersons of self-administered division/zones, heads of state/region administrative bodies on 11 August. **PHOTO:MNA**

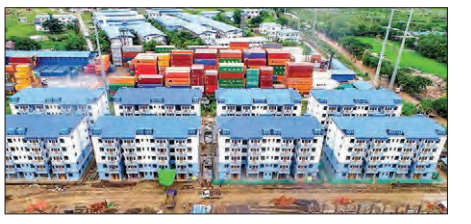
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"People are the key"

VP U Henry Van Thio chairs 5th meeting of National Land Use Council



Vice President U Henry Van Thio presides over the 5th meeting of National Land Use Council at the Forest Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

VICE President U Henry Van Thio presided over the 5th meeting of National Land Use Council, held at the Ingyin Hall of Forest Department of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, the Vice President said that the council was formed on 17 January 2018 by the Order number 15 of Union Government to implement the objectives and principles, and to enforce the laws relating to National Land Use Policy.

The council held regular bi-annual meetings, the National Land Use Policy Forum from 2 to 3 October in 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw; the forum resulted in strengthening structure of NLUC, drafting the National Land Law, harmonization of laws related to land administration, implementation of land use zones and establishment of information management systems.

The NLUC is now carrying out these results and the tasks of council.

The council has formed the relevant committees to effectively perform its tasks.

The Vice President advised the work committees to coordinate with these committees at region/state levels and the Union Territory (Nay Pyi Taw).

The NLUC also signed the Record of Discussion (RoD) with partner organizations the European Union and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) for cooperation in the works of council on 27 January 2020.

The working areas under the RoD include formation of committees, work committees, technical advisory committees, holding national-level forums for implementing prioritized plans, drawing draft plans for harmonization between the National Land Law and its related laws, and negotiation with public.

The EU has planned to support the project titled 'Promoting Integrated Land Use Planning and Management in Myanmar', with an estimated fund of 5 million euro through FAO for the four-year project.

The Vice President added that the council will continue working for implementation of its tasks for systematic land management.

Next, the Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Natural Resources U Ohn Win, in his capacity as the NLUC Secretary, explained implementation of the decisions made by the fourth meeting, and the plans for multi-purpose land use project.

Afterwards, the Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint, in his capacity as Vice-Chairperson of the work committee on drafting the National Land Law and harmonizing of the laws related to land management, explained the process of drafting the National Land Law and the works done by his work committee.

Then, Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Ye Myint Swe, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the work committee on drafting One Map Myanmar, explained the activities of the work committee and future plans.

Director-General of Forest Department Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw explained the activities of the coordination work committee on drafting land use project; the land use technical advisory board leader Director-General Dr Wah Wah Maung explained the works done by her board; and the Deputy Director-General of Department of Agriculture Land Management and Statistics U Hlwan Moe explained the works done by the coordination committee for implementing agriculture development strategy.

Afterwards, the NLUC members Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win, Union Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun (Myanmar Investment Commission Chairperson), Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu, Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing, and the Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw discussed various matters including preparations for land use for local and foreign investors, land use for establishing industrial zones and special economic zones, land administration in accordance with traditions of national ethnic people, construction of telecommunications towers, land use for construction of oil and natural gas pipelines as well as power grids, and land use for urban development projects and housing projects.

Then, via video conferencing, NLUC members the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairperson and the regional Chief Ministers explained the works done by the land use committees in their respective areas. Afterwards, the NLUC Chairperson Vice President U Henry Van Thio coordinated the discussions and delivered concluding remarks. —MNA *(Translated by Aung Khin, Maung Maung Swe)*



Myanmar citizens returned from foreign countries queue for immigration service at the Yangon International Airport on 11 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar citizens stranded abroad return home by relief flight

A relief flight of Myanmar National Airlines (MNA) brought back 150 Myanmar nationals stranded in Singapore, and it landed at Yangon International Airport yesterday evening.

Another relief flight of Myanmar Airways International (MAI) arrived in Yangon, carrying 97 Myanmar citizens stranded in foreign countries via Republic of Korea on the same day.

As they arrived in Yangon, officials from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Health and Sports, and the Yangon Region government helped for their 21-day quarantine period in line with the regulations of immigration and medical checks.

To bring back the Myanmar citizens who were stranded in foreign countries in relief flights and chartered flights 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 a total of 10,357 citizens to date.—MNA *(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)*



Advance voting process for local voters outside their constituencies in 2020 General Election

- Heads of trainings, schools, hospitals and jails are to contact the sub-election commissions to get documents of Form 15.
- They must return these documents to sub-commission of respective townships by 26 August 2020 after the documents are filled by the voters.
- Sub-election commission of respective townships must send ballot papers and envelopes for advance voting to the trainings, schools, hospitals and jails by 7 October 2020.
- Advance voting must be organized at trainings, schools, hospitals and jails on their appropriate day from 8 October 2020 to 21 October 2020.
- The envelopes containing ballot papers must be sent back to sub-election commission of respective townships by 4 pm on 8 November 2020.



Section 58 (d) in Hluttaw Election Law

IN accordance with section 58 (d) of the Hluttaw Election Law, no one is allowed to give speeches at meetings, instigation, writing, distribution of using posters or attempting by other means to disturb the voting or election. Anyone who is found guilty of or abet this act shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or with fine not exceeding K100,000 (one hundred thousand Kyats), or with both.

State Counsellor holds meeting with chairpersons of self-administered division / zones, heads of state / region administrative bodies

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In her opinion, she thought that the reason for the existence of diversity due to its preservation was the result of the basic belief that there was no security for these people; if a certain attitude develops which feels that there was no security for that individual if this person was different from others, this person would consider others who were different as enemies; this person would see others as people who would endanger his security; that was why it was necessary to strive to reach a stage when we could eliminate this kind of outlook and give security to the basic laws of the country and its basic values; in striving for this, the Union Government and various levels of the governmental departments also need to make efforts; in the same way every individual need to make an effort.

Today, she wanted all the self-administered division / zones to think how they could assist in the establishment of the Democratic Federal Union; people in every area and every group want to preserve their unique characteristics; it would be possible to say we are firmly on the path towards a Democratic Federal Union if we were able to nurture a spirit which believes such preservation has a better chance of success under the umbrella of a Union.



U Kay Sai from Naga Self-Administered Zone.



U Ar Kar Lin from Danu Self-Administered Zone.



U Khun San Lwin from Pa'O Self-Administered Zone.

The self-administered division / zones are not the same as the states; in the states there were all kinds of ethnic races; we could say that this was a challenge; we could also say this was a kind of strength; we need to turn diversity into strength; for example in a group, in solving a problem, this group would be able to solve many different types of problems if there were people with different skills.

That was why Self-administered zones should try to seek ways to turn diversity into strength with a firm determination; a country such as ours with so many diverse races was rare; we need to turn diversity into strength; not only to turn diversity into strength, we need to strive towards turning it into unity; we need to strive so that if one person lacks in strength, the other person would fill in the needed strength; we need to work for this kind of belief to develop.

> ... people in every area and every group want to preserve their unique characteristics; it would be possible to say we are firmly on the path towards a Democratic Federal Union if we were able to nurture a spirit which believes such preservation has a better chance of success under the umbrella of a Union.

The chairmen of leading bodies of self-administered division / zones need to strive for developing their division and zones in the best possible way; she believed that all of them understood how big and difficult the challenges they were facing were; the reason for this meeting was to overcome these challenges together; she said the ultimate goal was to establish a Democratic Federal Union and in order to do this to solve and eliminate matters which can obstruct and cause problems for establishing a federal union.

The two main challenges we are facing are in terms of health it was the COVID-19 matter and in terms of politics it was the general elections to be conducted in the near future; the participation of all the people was number one priority for us to be able to overcome these two matters; we have repeately said "People are the key"; all of you who are sitting in this room are included in "the people"; we are all citizens; please do not forget that each individual person is crucial; as persons holding state responsibilities in key positions as citizens, you have responsibilities; she believed that they have heavier responsibilities than others; that was why she wanted to urge everyone to overcome the two challenges currently being faced effectively and successfully; these challenges could be overcome; she said.

To be successful in doing something, first of all you need self-confidence; you need to believe that you have the requisite skills to be able to solve, face and solve a problem; it is also necessary to believe that there is not only individual skill but also a collective of skills; if there was a belief that you have collective strength and that there were people willing to provide support and assistance, you can assume that your path to success is assured.

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State Counsellor holds meeting with chairpersons of self-administered division / zones, heads of state / region administrative bodies

FROM PAGE-3

She wanted to say something about COVID-19; in our whole country government personnel have to work very hard and suffer great hardships; we can be proud of the fact that these efforts have resulted in meeting the challenge of this disease not only at the country level but also at the global level; she was grateful for all those who have participated in these efforts; the COVID-19 thing is not yet over; the duty to solve this problem is not only for our country; the main thing is that it is related to vaccines and doing research; we cannot say that we have overcome this problem until a vaccine has been developed; we should not feel disheartened for the fact that our country is not capable of producing a vaccine; everyone is working in cooperation to develop a vaccine for COVID-19; the fact that each and everyone is working hard is not only for our country but also for the whole world. That is why we need to keep our discipline and follow the rules and regulations until a vaccine has been developed.

The relevant departments and government personnel need to ensure that our people do not let down their guard and become careless; the general elections will be conducted on 8 November; for the general elections to be successful, the basic thing that is needed is for it to be free and fair; to have the freedom to vote, we need to ensure that all eligible citizen who have the right to vote are able to vote; in carrying this out there must be fairness.

The right to vote is the biggest right for a citizen, not only is it a very valuable right, but it is also a very important duty; it is the duty of the State to ensure that citizens are able to perform their duties and to exercise the right to vote; therefore it is the first duty of all government personnel to ensure that all eligible citizens who have the right to vote are able to vote and not to leave behind any eligible voter; the biggest challenge we are facing at this time is this matter; we need to create the right conditions so that all these citizens are able to vote in freedom and security.

She added that when she said security, what she meant to say mainly was health security; this was the responsibility of the State and also the responsibility of governmental personnel; the states/regions were performing their duties; now the self-administered division / zones need to perform their duties; the Self-administered division / zones need to show that they can really perform their duties effectively; in this way we can show that we have laid down the basic foundation of a democratic union; we can present the best image for our country by showing that our citizens can exercise their rights and are able to perform their duty; she wanted the responsible persons of the self-administered division / zones to try and make sure that the citizens have the right to vote and that the people perform their duties. Our country works with collective strength; that was why we always make it a point to mention "national reconciliation" in presenting our government policy; "national reconciliation" – means everyone working together to harmoniously merge different opinions and values.



U Win Kyaw (a) U Aik Mein from Pa Laung Self-Administered Zone.



U Kyauk Tal Chan from Kokang Self-Administered Zone.



U Yan Kyaw from Wa Self-Administered Division.

> Our country works with collective strength; that was why we always make it a point to mention "national reconciliation" in presenting our government policy; "national reconciliation" – means everyone working together to harmoniously merge different opinions and values.

All of us should realize how difficult it is to build unity based on this present matter; we would be able to build a genuine Democratic Federal Union only if we have mutual understanding, open-mindedness and mutual respect and mutual trust. In reality, it is not easy to build mutual respect and mutual trust; it is not easy to trust someone; there are persons one can trust but one must also strive to become a trustworthy person.

Governmental personnel who are interconnected with the people's development are also important; it is important for the people to trust governmental personnel; responsible officials should listen to the voices of the people; by listening to the voices of the local people, a better understanding could be achieved among each other; trust has to be build based on understanding.

For the self-administered division / zones, there can be requirements in the administrative sector. The Union Government is working for the whole country to the best of its ability to ensure harmony and equality; it can be assured that the Union Government would work to the best of its ability in accordance with the need of each region and area; as the responsible official of each region knows what is needed, the Union Government would make a suitable decision as to how and what kind of assistance need to be provided; therefore, based on the submissions made by the respective responsible officials, she would take immediate action on urgent matters and with respect to matters that would need more time, continuous efforts would be made to assist and provide support for these matters.

After the speech of State Counsellor, the Chairperson of Naga Self-Administered Zone, U Kay Sai, discussed the requirement of infrastructural development in their area, Chairperson U Ar Kar from Danu Self-Administered Zone about negotiation with leading bodies of self-administered division/zones before appointing civil service staff of the government ministries, the role of their administration in drawing laws and bylaws, the formation of planning and implementation committees and attending the events for peace-making processes.

U Khun San Lwin from Pa'O Self-Administered Zone discussed control and elimination of narcotic drugs, developing pilot projects, low-interest loan programmes for young entrepreneurs, the establishment of training schools for local ethnic people and land plot for construction of a court.

U Win Kyaw (a) U Aik Mein from Pa Laung Self-Administered Zone discussed upgrade of departmental offices, budget allocation for a combined office, legal actions against the illegal import of tea leaves; U Kyauk Tal Chan from Kokang Self-Administered Zone talked on the situation of their areas, organization and population, upgrade of the hospital, national registration for Kokang people and development of Chinshwehaw economic zone; U Yan Kyaw from Wa Self-Administered Division presented peace and local development issues.

In response to the discussions, the State Counsellor said that: the government will work for the development of self-administered areas; the rule of law is taken into serious consideration as it is necessary for the development and requires financial, human resources and material supports; approval for citizenship is required to meet the existing law; schools need to educate students to avoid narcotic drugs; peace is fundamental for national development; fair trade must be considered in the development of Chinshwehaw economic zone and it will be discussed with China; diversity must turn into a strength; the government will emphasize border area development.

She also made a wide range of discussions on the government's plans for these areas.

In her concluding remark, the State Counsellor said that it is expected that all the nationals have a common hope for the country although people have different backgrounds of political parties and areas; serving for the nation is a noble task for all civil service staff; the duty must be performed with the highest capacity in a proper way.

She added that the persons who were elected by the public must not betray the trust of people; all the common people expect peace and development and it is an undeniable truth; diverse interest must be negotiated for peace and development; peace should be developed by both brains and hearts; military powers should not be used in building peace; development must be encouraged through rule of law and justice; rule of law, national reconciliation and non-terrorism play crucial role for Myanmar and the establishment of a Democratic Federal Union, and the discussions at the meeting could support it.

The State Counsellor concluded her speech, saying that hidden problems cannot be solved and that they must be identified first; the government welcome the report on problems to be able to address them; it has been firmly believed that the collective strength could ensure a harmonious development of the country, and all the stakeholders are to share this determination.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Myaing, Aung Khin)

MoE discusses reopening of schools under COVID-19 measures

MINISTRY of Education held a coordination meeting via video conferencing yesterday to open basic education schools during COVID-19 crisis.

Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun, the Directors-General, the Deputy Directors-General and Education Officers from the States and Regions participated in the discussion.

Firstly, the Union Minister said that the high schools were assessed with the 80 assessments of the Ministry of Health and Sports in accordance with the guidelines of the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19, and 7,111 out of 7,173 high schools had been assessed, A-level 4,156 schools that met the criteria had been permitted to reopen.

The Union Minister said that the Ministry of Health and Sports was cooperating to open those permitted schools as quickly as possible; the Department of Basic Education had to fulfill immediately the requirements of the schools which had not yet been permitted to reopen.

The Union Minister continued to say that the school level supervision team must check those A-level schools everyday; not only the respective regional or state supervision teams but also the monitoring squads would conduct surprise check to report the situations of the respective schools to the Health and Education Department of the relevant townships; no school was permitted for boarding; after three weeks of reopening of high schools, the middle schools would be assessed.



Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi speaks at the online meeting on reopening of basic education schools on 11 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

Then, Deputy Minister U Win Maw Oo, Director-General U Ko Lay Win from the Department of Basic Education, Director-General Dr Zaw Win from the Department of Alternative Education and relevant officials discussed the processes related to education. Afterwards, Region and State Education Officers presented the preparation of the schools to reopen and the Union Minister discussed the difficulties and the requirements.—MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung

Govt discusses administrative affairs with self-administered leading bodies



Ministry of the State Counsellor Office holds a meeting with the leading bodies of Self-Administered Division/Zones in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor held a meeting with the leading bodies of Self-Administered Division/Zones at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin made discussions on formation and tasks of the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre, the Peace Commission, UPDJC and JICM, provisions of NCA, Union Accord, national-level political dialogues, previous sessions of Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong, NCA roadmap, JMC-U, its objectives and basic principles, frameworks in political dialogues, activities and progress in peace-making processes.

U Kay Sai from Naga Self-Administered Zone, U Ar Kar Lin from Danu Self-Administered Zone, U Khun San Lwin from Pa'O Self-Administered Zone, U Win Kyaw (a) U Aik Mein from Pa Laung Self-Administered Zone, U Kyauk Tal Chan from Kokang Self-Administered Zone, and U Yan Kyaw from Wa Self-Administered Division presented the needs for local developments, peace issues, employment opportunities, economy and health, financial requirements, national registration cards and administrivia sector.

The deputy minister offered to make their suggestions on peace issues to the NRPC, and the administrative and other issues to the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor.

Deputy Minister U Tin Myint from the Union Government Office discussed affairs of civil service staff, administration and development programmes; Deputy Minister U Hla Maw Oo from the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs about education programmes at colleges and vocational training schools for the students from ethnic areas after they passed matriculation examination.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Tatmadaw announces 'zero' COVID-19 case among its members

Tatmadaw recorded zero new coronavirus cases after its officers and personnel testing positive recovered from the virus yesterday, according to Tatmadaw True News Information Team.

A total of 16 Tatmadaw officers and personnel, after returning from training in India, tested positive for COVID-19 and received treatments with medical specialists and nurses in isolation at the Defence Services Liver Specialist Hospital, Mingaladon.

Their nasal and throat swabs were collected at designated date and then tested with Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) in accordance with the COVID-19 guidelines.

The Tatmadaw personnel were now confirmed as recovered persons after their results of negative for two consecutive times were sent to the Ministry of Health and Sports via National Health Laboratory, Yangon. They are held under investigation. —MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release 29/2020
7th Waning of Second Waso, 1382 ME
(10 August 2020)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offences up to 8 August 2020 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

Sr	Nature of report	Detail on seizure and legal action taken
1.	Information received of Thein Oo who lives in Paukkon Village, Phaungpyin Township, Sagaing Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 26 July 2020, police searched the house of Thein Oo, 33, son of U Tun Thein, who lives in Paukkon Village, Phaungpyin Township and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Phaungpyin)MaYa(pa)141/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2.	Information received of U Pyar Aung who lives in Htawthar Village, Mawleik Township, Sagaing Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 6 August 2020, police searched the house of Pyar Aung (a) Pyar Win, 36, son of U Kyaw Thein, who lives in Htawthar Village, Mawleik Township and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Mawleik) MaYa(pa)57/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3.	Information received of Kyaw Tun Thein who lives in Shwebontha Village, Bokpyin Township, Taninthayi Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 7 August 2020, police arrested Kyaw Tun Thein, 24, son of U Ye Win, who lives in Shwebontha Village, Bokpyin Township and Ma Tin Mar Cho, 42, daughter of U Khin Maung Myint, who lives in the Aleman Village, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets on the Bokpyin-Kawthoung road, near Kamar Chaung Village, Bokpyin Township. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Bokpyin)MaYa(pa)23/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4.	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in Kyauktan Ward, Mawlamyine Township, Mon State.	Police have opened six cases and arrested six men and two women together with stimulant tablets in the previous weeks. Police arrested Min Htoo San, 16, son of U Win Hlaing, who lives in Kyauktan Ward, Mawlamyine Township, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets in front of Bogyoke Market, Kyauktan Ward on 26 July 2020. A case has been opened against them with NaMaSa (Mupon) MaYa(pa)48/2020 under Section 16(c)of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5.	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs on the Abid-Khalaedaing village road in Mudon Township, Mon State.	Police have opened 16 cases and arrested 29 men together with speciosa and stimulant tablets in the previous weeks. Acting on a tip-off, police searched a motor cycle on the road of Abid-Khalaedaing Village near Abid Village, Mudon Township on 31 July. It was driven by Aung Nyein Chan, 25, son of U Ngwe Khaing who live in Yoego Village in Mawlamyine Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Kamarwet)MaYa(pa)41/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched a motor cycle on the road of Abid-Khalaedaing Village near Abid Village, Mudon Township on 5 August 2020. It was driven by Pyae Phyo Zaw, 20, son of U Zaw Moe who live in Myoma 4 Ward in Mudon Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Kamarwet)MaYa(pa)42/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Police searched another motor cycle on the same road. It was driven by Aung Thura Oo, 23, son of U Win Zaw who live in Kwaywan Village in Mudon Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets and speciosa. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Kamarwet)MaYa(pa)43/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6.	Information received of Lone Ti who lives in Yamonna 1 Ward, Dawbon Township, Yangon Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	Information were received of, police were waiting at the intersection of upper No 12 road and Myoma road of Yamonna 1 Ward, Dawbon Township on 27 July 2020. Lone Ti (a) Han Ko Naing riding a bicycle toward the police team left his bicycle and bag and run away. Police searched the bag and seized 'WY' stimulant tablets in the bag. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Dawbon)MaYa(pa)30/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7.	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in west Kannar Ward, Insein Township, Yangon Region.	Police have opened five cases and arrested nine men together with stimulant tablets, heroin, ICE and marijuana in the previous weeks. Acting on a tip-off, police arrested Aung Zaw Htoo (a) David, 27, son of U Thein Aung, Nay Myo Aung (a) Shwe Gyi, 16, son of U Hla Kyi, and Ye Naing Tun, 16, son of U Ye Tun, who live in west Kannar Ward, Insein Township, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets, marijuana and ICE on Badamyar road of the same ward in Insein Township on 29 July 2020. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Insein) MaYa(pa)135/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8.	Information received of Daw Myat Mon Lin who lives in Hmawset Ward, Dala Township, Yangon Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 31 July 2020, police searched the house of Daw Myat Mon Lin, 43, daughter of U Kyaw Win, who lives in Hmawset Ward, Dala Township and arrested her and her mother Daw Win (a) Khin Win Kyi, 70, daughter of U Kyi together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Dala) MaYa(pa)29/2020 under Section 19(a), 20(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9.	Information received of Aung Ko who lives in No 11 Ward, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 4 August 2020, police searched the house of Aung Ko Ko, 24, son of U Hline Myint, who lives in No 11 Ward, South Okkalapa Township and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets and marijuana. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (South Okkalapa)MaYa(pa)33/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
10.	Information received of Daw Shwe Sin and Ei Sein who live in Pharle Village, Hopon Township, southern Shan State, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 1 August 2020, police searched the house of Daw Shwe Sin, 31, daughter of U Hsar, who lives in Pharle Village, Hopon Township and arrested her together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Hopon) MaYa(pa)46/2020 under Section 19(a) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of U Ei Sein, 37, son of U Hsan Kyan, who lives in the same village, and arrested him together with opium. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Hopon) MaYa(pa)47/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department, so far a total of 1,279 cases have been opened files as of 8 August 2020. A total of 1,968 people, including 1,644 men and 324 women had been arrested with 10,034.4614 g of heroin, 1,435.42 g of ICE, 44,387.22886 g of opium, 1,367.96 g of low-quality opium, 53,363.76 g of speciosa powder, 19,097.32 g of speciosa, 2.5 litres of liquid speciosa, 659,359 stimulant tablets, 13,471.86 g of marijuana, 0.1 litres of opium tincture, 630.28 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 60.15 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 26 firearms, different kinds of 609 cartridges and one grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the department will report on further exposed cases.

4. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** of the Office of the President via following contact numbers:

Contacts

Landline No. — 067-590200
Fax Phone No. — 067-590233
Email Address — antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

It is very important to live with vigilance

It has been said that the way COVID-19 disease spread was different from country to country. It changed from one place to the other. In Myanmar, it has been said that most of the infection cases did not show any symptoms. It was very dangerous. If the symptoms were visible the disease could be avoided. If the COVID-19 disease did not show visible symptoms, it could not be avoided. That was why it was very important to live with vigilance.

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



Online panel discussion marks 'International Youth Day 2020'



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye and youths participate in online panel discussion on 11 August to mark the International Youth Day 2020 . **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, in his capacity as Chairperson of the Myanmar Youth Affairs Committee, yesterday presided a round-table discussion marking the International Youth Day, which falls on 12 August.

The Union Minister, Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, delegates from the Myanmar Youth Affairs Committee, and relevant government officials attended the discussion on "Youth Cooperation". Young people from across the country, officials from international organizations including the UN organizations, and delegates from Civil Society Organizations also participated in the discussion via video conferencing.

The theme of International Youth Day 2020 is "Youth Engagement for Global Action".

The Union Minister said that "Global Action" means responding to the world's problems including man-made disasters, natural disasters and widespread pandemic. "Youth Engagement" means active inclusion of young people in taking actions to resolve the world's problems.

The Union Minister also pointed out that 2020 is a year that has many serious problems including ongoing global pandemic of COVID-19, which highlights the weaknesses of political, economic, and social infrastructures of the world. The world is confronted with problems such as inequalities, and extremism, he said. About one billion of young people are estimated to live in the world today, which equals 18 per cent of the world population. So, young people have very crucial roles in creating great future and resolving the current world's problems.

The Union Minister continued that young people in Myanmar took part in drafting a youth policy of Myanmar, and currently a related strategy to implement the policy has been developed. There are youth networks in all states and regions. Moreover, there are many youth organizations and civil society organizations working for youth affairs, so Myanmar already has a foundation to create a better future, said the Union Minister.

He also urged the young people to work hard to enhance their capacities in order to make the world a better and peaceful place.

The Representative of UNFPA Myanmar extended greetings on videoconference to mark the event, followed by video clips on message of the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth.

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye led a panel discussion on the topic of 'Youth Engagement in National Action' which was taken part by Ko Htet Paing Soe from Yangon Region, Ma Bauk Mai from Kachin State, Ko Wai Yan Aung from Magway Region and Ko Saw Kalyar Tun from Rakhine State.

The topics in discussion included youth policy in Myanmar, COVID-19 response works, economic opportunities in post-COVID-19 period and the role of youth in peace-making process.

The Union Minister, the Director-General and youth representatives answered the questions of audience in the discussions.

Participants discussed encouragements to the youth to actively participate in respective role in implementing youth policy and strategic plans, budget allocation of relevant ministries, negotiation with respective region/state governments for youth centres, active role of volunteers in COVID-19 control measures, formation of township level groups to give helps, coordination of Disaster Management Department and the UN WFP in supplying foods to the quarantine centres, recovery for economic impacts, creation of suitable jobs amidst the pandemic, the works of ministries to create employment opportunities through relief plans for the returnees from abroad, relief supplies of Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to the vulnerable groups and IDPs, the crucial role of youth to address economic impacts from the pandemic, participation of youth in peace process and studying for building a peaceful and prosperous country. The ceremony was concluded with screening a documentary video that presents participation of youths in development tasks.—MNA

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Govt, NCA-S EAOs hold 2nd day-coordination meeting on JICM

THE second-day preliminary discussions of the Joint Implementing Coordination Meeting (JICM) was held at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Representatives of the Government at the meeting were the NRPC Vice-Chairman U Tun Tun Oo (Attorney-General of the Union), Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Lt-Gen Min Naung and Lt-Gen Tin Maung Win from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Peace Commission Secretary Retired Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Pyone Cho (a) U Htay Win Aung, Peace Commission advisory board members U Hla Maung Shwe and U Moe Zaw Oo, and Director-General U Zaw Htay of the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor. NCA Implementation Framework Coordination Group Leader Sao Sai Ngern (RCSS/SSA), NCA Implementation Coordinator U Myo Win (ABSDF), members Pado Saw Ta Doh Moo (KNU), U Hla Htay (ABSDF), Saw Mra Yazar Lin (ALP), Dr Lian Hmung Sakhong (CNF), Salai Htalaw Hei (CNF), Saw Sein Win (DKBA), Pado Saw L Kalusay(KNU), Saw Kyaw Nyunt (KNLA-PC), Kya Salmon (LDU), Nai Aung Ma Ngay (NMSP), Khun Myint Tun(PNU) and Dr Sai Oo (RCSS/SSA) represented the NCA-S EAOs.

During the meeting, they discussed the proposals submitted by both sides to be put forward to the 9th JICM meeting and matters related to the fourth session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong.



Second-day preliminary meeting of JICM in progress at the NRPC in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 August. **PHOTO: MNA**

The meeting will continue for the third day on 12 August. —MNA *(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)*

Supporting, promoting public health through physical activity amidst COVID-19 is a must

WHEN we are preparing to safely transition towards a "new normal" in which social and economic life can function amidst low, we must mobilize a whole-of-society approach to not only supporting one another to stay safe but also to creating activity for healthy.

No doubt. Regular physical activity remains an important strategy for staying healthy and is associated with lower levels of anxiety and perceived stress (which many of us are feeling in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic).

When it comes to promoting physical exercise as a mass campaign, it is required to take measures consistent with the new normal during and following the COVID-19 crisis.

The Ministry of Health and Sports adopted strategies for ensuring the good health and fitness of the people, under a programme entitled "Exercise is Medicine".

> we should conduct sports and physical exercise campaigns by occasionally designating suitable days throughout the year, in an effort to raise the public's awareness that "Exercise is Medicine."

The ministry is carrying out tasks which can turn the people's participation in weekly physical exercise activities in December, designated the People's Sports Month, into a habit and culture encompassing "Exercise is Medicine."

Mass walking and physical exercise activities have been held every Saturday in December nationwide. This does not mean we should exercise every Saturday in the winter, but it alerted all people not to ignore physical exercise in their daily lives.

In this regard, we should conduct sports and physical exercise campaigns by occasionally designating suitable days throughout the year, in an effort to raise the public's awareness that "Exercise is Medicine."

It is worth noting that the very best thing you can to boost your immune system and prepare your body to fight disease is exercising.

If exercise was a pill it would be regarded as a wonder drug, the best medicine, so powerful are its known effects to improve everything from general wellbeing to musculoskeletal disease to cardiovascular problems to diabetes, multiple sclerosis, mental health, anxiety and depression.

With a new policy giving priority to raising awareness about health, prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases, school health, safety of patients, and health research, our country is evolving into a people-based system, because people are the most effective resource in our system to benefit the country and the people.

Myanmar aspires to achieve, as part of its vision 2030, a healthier and productive population. However, for the aspiration to be fulfilled, there is much work that needs to be done, both in terms of Health System Strengthening (HSS) and in changing peoples' behaviors, such as regularly exercising, including walking.

■ ■ ■

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY 12 AUGUST 2020

Youth leading the way in COVID-19 solutions

By UNFPA Executive Director Dr Natalia Kanem

As the world seeks to build back better, we must ensure that young people are prioritized in order to have access to the education, tools, and services necessary for them to reach their full potential.

AS we mark International Youth Day in the midst of a global pandemic, we witness how young people are taking action to solve problems in their communities.

Young people have been frontline responders to the COVID-19 pandemic, mobilizing across the world. They are health workers, activists, innovators, and social and community workers.

To reach and engage young people during this pandemic, we must share information, clarify misinformation, and we must equip them to take action to contain the spread of the virus. We must validate the leadership of young people and uphold their human rights.

UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency, listens to the voices of young people and supports their meaningful participation in decisions that affect them.

Last week, UNFPA spearheaded a global #YouthAgainstCOVID19 conversation. Young people everywhere are encouraged to upload videos that highlight their actions to combat the pandemic and to share lessons about how they are charting new paths forward for their communities.

Among the devastating effects of the pandemic, the loss of opportunities for employment, education and access to essential services, including sexual and reproductive health services, means that many young people are facing infringement of their rights and choices. Young women and girls are particularly vulnerable.



Schoolchildren carry a blackboard and teacher's chair to home after classes at open classroom in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. **PHOTO: AFP**

As the world seeks to build back better, we must ensure that young people are prioritized in order to have access to the education, tools, and services necessary for them to reach their full potential.

Today, let's join hands across generations. Let's come together and rise to the challenges before us, working with youth to build a more inclusive, sustainable future for all.

■ ■ ■

NEVER TOO LATE FOR ACTION TO SUPPRESS THE COVID-19 CRISIS

WHO sees hope despite looming 750,000 virus death toll

WHO health emergencies programme director Michael Ryan said that finding a vaccine would not automatically spell the end for COV-

THE World Health Organization insisted Monday there was still hope of conquering the coronavirus pandemic despite the suffering behind the looming landmarks of 750,000 deaths and 20 million cases.

With both figures expected to be reached within days, the WHO stressed it was never too late to take action to suppress the COVID-19 crisis that has gripped the planet.

Registered cases

"This week we'll reach 20 million registered cases of COVID-19 and 750,000 deaths," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a virtual press conference.

"Behind these statistics is a great deal of pain and suffering. Every life lost matters. I know many of you are grieving and that this is a difficult moment for the world.

"But I want to be clear: there are green shoots of hope and... it's never too late to turn the outbreak around."

Tedros gave examples of countries that had successfully clamped down on the spread of COVID-19, citing New Zealand and Rwanda, and praised nations that had suffered major national outbreaks and were now responding quickly to local spikes.

"My message is crystal clear: suppress, suppress, suppress the virus," he said.

"If we suppress the virus effectively, we can safely open up societies."

The novel coronavirus has killed at least 731,500 people and infected nearly 19.9 million worldwide since the outbreak emerged in China last December, according to a tally from official sources compiled by AFP at 1100 GMT on Monday.

Vaccine rush

The race to produce a safe and effective vaccine is well under way at unprecedented speed.

A total of 165 candidate vaccines are being worked on around the world, according to a WHO overview.

Of those, 139 are still in pre-clinical evaluation, while the other 26 are in the various phases of being tested on humans, of which six are the furthest ahead, having reached Phase 3 of clinical evaluation.

However, WHO health emergencies programme director Michael Ryan said that finding a vaccine would not automatically spell the end for COVID-19.



Russia is pushing ahead with several vaccine prototypes and one prepared at the Gamaleya institute in Moscow has reached advanced stages of development. **(FILE/AFP)**

"We have perfectly effective polio and measles vaccines, and we still struggle to eradicate or eliminate those diseases," the Irish epidemiologist said.

"Having an effective vaccine is only part of the answer. You've got to be able to deliver that vaccine to a population that want and demand to have that vaccine."

Maria Van Kerkhove, the WHO's COVID-19 technical lead, said experts did not yet have an answer as to whether people infected with one of the four globally-circulating common cold coronaviruses had some level of protection against the new coronavirus.

Outsmarting the enemy

Scientists think COVID-19 originated in bats and could have been transmitted to humans via another mammal.

Ryan said that adding billions to the global population, living in densely-packed conditions and exploiting the environment was fostering the conditions needed for diseases to jump species from animals to humans.

"We are actively creating the pressures that are driving the breaches of those barriers. We need to do better at managing the risks associated with that," he said.

Ryan said the virus it was "brutal in its simplicity and its cruelty but it doesn't have a brain".

He said humanity could therefore outsmart it "but we're not doing such a great job right now".

Van Kerkhove said the goal of the new coronavirus was to "make more virus" and find individuals to pass between without killing too many of its hosts and thereby ending its chances of transmission.

The US expert said it could be beaten with the "very unsophisticated" measures available now, such as physical distancing, regular handwashing, wearing facemasks and respiratory etiquette.

"Everybody on the planet needs to understand they have a role to play," she said.

SOURCE: AFP

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Heads of Service Organizations appointed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name, Designation, Department	Appointment
1.U Soe Naing Deputy Director-General (Tech) of Department of Marine Administration, Ministry of Transport and Communications	Director-General of Department of Marine Administration, Ministry of Transport and Communications
2.U Aye Zaw General Manager of No.2 Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation	Managing Director of No.2 Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Appointment of Permanent Secretary

THE Union Government has appointed U Than Zaw, Director-General of the Union Minister's Office of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy, as Permanent Secretary of the same ministry.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 11 August 2020)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 12 August 2020: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay and Magway regions, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing Region, Northern Shan and Kayah states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady regions, Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35)mph. Wave height will be about (6 – 9) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Moderate to strong monsoon.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 August 2020: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 August, 2020: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 August, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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Work committees discuss seating arrangements for Union Peace Conference

THE Ministry of Border Affairs hosted a coordination meeting of work committees for welcoming, accommodating and seating arrangements for the Union Peace Conference- 21st Century Panglong yesterday.

At the meeting, Deputy Minister Major-General Phone Myat, in his capacity as the chairperson of work committee, said that the committee has experiences of managing the conference hall for previous conferences, and urged the committee members to work cooperatively for the task.

The upcoming Union Peace Conference will have a smaller number of participants because of the COVID-19 crisis. The Deputy Minister urged the committee members to discuss the measures set by the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19, and the Ministry of Health and Sports, and to help the delegates follow the measures.

Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Vice-Chairman Deputy Mayor U Ye Min Oo, in his capacity as Vice-Chairperson of the conference hall organizing committee, explained preparations in the Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC-I and MICC-II). Then, the committee members made additional discussions on relevant matters including the matter related to prevention of COVID-19.

After the meeting, the conference hall organizing committee Chairperson and other officials inspected the preparations in the MICC-I and MICC-II. Then, they visited the hotels to inspect preparations of the welcoming and accommodation working committee. —MNA

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)



Deputy Minister Major-General Phone Myat chairs coordination meeting to prepare for seating arrangements at the Union Peace Conference. **PHOTO: MNA**

Permanent Secretary U Soe Han co-chairs 17th ASEAN-Canada Dialogue held via video conference



Permanent Secretary U Soe Han participates in 17th ASEAN-Canada Dialogue via videoconference from Nay Pyi Taw on 11 August. **PHOTO: MNA**

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Soe Han participated in the 17th ASEAN-Canada Dialogue which was held via videoconference at 7:30 am yesterday from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting was co-chaired by U Soe Han, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, Country Coordinator for the ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Relations and Mr Paul Thoppil, Assistant Deputy Minister for Asia-Pacific of Global Affairs of Canada. The Meeting was attended by Senior Officials from ASEAN Member States and Canada, and the Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Political-Security Community of the ASEAN Secretariat.

At the meeting, the Senior Officials discussed and exchanged views on developments in ASEAN and Canada including its responses to COVID-19, possible areas of cooperation to strengthen the ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Relations and regional and international developments. Under agenda on the review and future direction of ASEAN-Canada Cooperation, Permanent Secretary U Soe Han led the discussion on the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI). He apprised the Meeting of the developments in the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration Work Plan III (2016-2020) and encouraged continued cooperation in the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration Work Plan IV (2021-2025)

Present at the meeting were senior officials from the ASEAN Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA

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Wave Money supports Maternal and Child Cash Transfer Programme in Rakhine State

Wave Money, a leading provider of mobile financial services in Myanmar, renders assistance to the Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement which is implementing the Maternal and Child Cash Transfer Programme.

The MCCT is a cash transfer programme that provides financial aid to the pregnant women and their children up to 2 years of age. The goal is to improve nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life and reduce childhood stunting. The MCCT programme has been launched in 2017-2018 Financial Year, has been supporting the pregnant women and their children up to 2 years of age where nutritional status is low, areas of Myanmar.

As part of its commitment to social and digital financial inclusion, Wave Money is waiving fees for MCCT cash transfers using its over-the-counter service, Wave Money and the mobile wallet application, Wave Pay in Sittway State, Rakhine State. The initiative will benefit around 120,000 people.

"Wave Money is committed to serve the people of Myanmar in every meaningful way possible. With our secure and reliable digital payment platform and extensive agent network, we are pleased to be able to help ensure the impact of programmes such as the MCCT reaches far and wide, improving the lives of those who are most in need," said Brad Jones, CEO of Wave Money.

Nutrition services and education, feeding programmes and interventions such as the MCCT are instrumental in improving maternal and child nutrition particularly in vulnerable communities.

The Department of Social Welfare together with General Administration Department will cooperate to support the eligible people to receive this cash transfer.—GNLM



Wave Money supports Maternal and Child Cash Transfer Programme (MCCT) in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Hteekhee border trade falls by $494 mln in ten months

BILATERAL trade between Thailand and Myanmar through the Hteekhee border in the past ten months reflected a decrease of $494 million as against a year-ago period.

Between 1 October and 31 July in the 2019-2020 financial year, the figures sharply fell to US$1.65 billion from $2.145 billion registered in the year-ago period, according to the data from the Commerce Ministry.

During the past ten months of the current budget year, exports through the Hteekhee border stood at $1.61 billion, while imports fell short of $39.89 million.

Exports of natural gas from Taninthayi Region have contributed to the enormous increase in trade through the Hteekhee border since the previous financial year, said an official from the ministry.

Earlier, the Myawady border sees the largest trade among the Myanmar-Thailand checkpoints.



Workers processing fish for export at a marine product factory. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

The rise in exports through the Hteekhee border had boosted the value of the Myanmar-Thailand border trade in the 2018-2019FY. In the current financial year, trade values via Hteekhee also surpassed those registered at Myawady gate.

However, Myanmar's exports of natural gas to Thailand over the past eight months of the current financial year 2019-2020 showed a decrease of about $400 million compared with the corresponding period of 2018-2019FY, according to the Commerce Ministry

Of the seven borders between Myanmar and Thailand, Myeik, Mawtaung and Hteekhee have witnessed a decrease in trade in the current financial year, while the remaining borders (Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung and Maese) have reported an increase.

Myanmar primarily exports natural gas, fishery products, coal, tin concentrate (SN 71.58 per cent), coconut (fresh and dry), beans, corns and bamboo shoots to Thailand. This year, corn exports to Thailand rose significantly compared with the previous years, yet natural gas export drastically plunged. It imports capital goods such as machinery, raw industrial goods such as cement and fertilizers, and consumer goods such as cosmetics and food products from the neighbouring country.

— Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Dollar against Kyat slightly rises in local market as global gold price drops

By Nyein Nyein

THE US dollar has recently gained a bit against the Kyat in the local currency market, according to the local forex market.

On 7 August, the gold price touched a high of US$2,062 per ounce in the global market. The price plummeted to $2,019 per ounce on 11 August, showing a drop of 40 dollars within 4 days.

Tracking the global fall, the domestic gold price slides from K1,332,500 per tical (0.578 ounces, or 0.016 kilograms) on 7 August to K1,331,000 on 11 August.

The kyat exchange rate against the dollar increased from K1,371 on 7 August to K1,382. The local forex market sees a high of K10 in the four consecutive days.

The Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) is reported to purchase about 26 million dollars in the auction market in July, to govern the market.

The domestic forex market witnessed the rate at below K1,400 in early July dollar, whereas the rate stood at around K1,400 on 21 July and K1,410 on 22 July in the domestic market on the back of the CBM's dollar purchase. Thereafter, it fell again below K1,400. The CBM's move is aimed at to govern the market volatility and support the state's foreign exchange reserves, the CBM stated on 24 July.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)





FILE PHOTO

About 300 SMEs apply for COVID loans for second time

ABOUT 300 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Yangon Region applied for the COVID emergency loans for the second time, according to an announcement of the Directorate of Industrial Supervision and Inspection on 6 August.

"We have started the inspection of each sector this week. More than a hundred SMEs have applied for coronavirus emergency loans. Some don't meet the criteria," said an official from the Directorate of Industrial Supervision and Inspection in Yangon Region.

The Committee for Remedial Works on Economic Impacts of COVID announced that they will provide the fund for three times — K35 billion for the first time, K35 billion for the second time and K30 billion for the third time.

The second time loans will be provided to agricultural, livestock and aquaculture sector, export manufacturing sector, import substitutes manufacturing sector, manufacturing sector involved in the supply chain from the domestic production to export sector, food production sector, oversea recruitment service sector and livelihood training school.

The applications are being accepted starting from 29 July and the last date of the application is 10 August.

—Zin Yaw Aye

(Translated by Hay Mar)

COVID-19 Call Centre opens daily

In efforts to speed up the prevention, containment and treatment of the COVID-19 disease, the call centre (phone number 2019) is established by four communications operators and the Blue Ocean Company with the coordination of the Medical Research Department of the Health and Sports Ministry and Post and Telecommunications Department from 9 am to 5 pm daily at the Medical Research Department in Yangon.

Over 43 staff from the Medical Research Department and 17 volunteers from the Myanmar Medical Association totally 60 workers have been working at the centre since 8th April.—**MNA**

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Rental housing project in Dagon Seikkan to be completed by 2020-end



The Rental Housing Project for civil personnel in Dagon Seikkan Township is targeted to complete in the end of this year. **PHOTO: NYEIN NYEIN**

By Nyein Nyein

THE Rental Housing Project for civil personnel in Dagon Seikkan Township will be finished at the end of this year.

The project is developed by Yangon Metropolitan Development Public under the guidance of Yangon Region government and supervision of the regional Urban and Housing Development Department. It is situated on Myanandar Street, Ward 73 of Dagon Seikkan Township. The first phase of the project, including five-storey eight buildings, has been completed.

The second phase will include five-storey six buildings and the construction is slated to be finished by November, according to the statement of the Urban and Housing Development Department.

The rental housing project includes 448 rooms for accommodation and 28 rooms for shops, totalling 476 rooms.

Upon the completion of the projects, the civil personnel will be eligible to apply for this under the regional government's plan.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar reports 72 human trafficking cases in 7 months

By Nyein Nyein

SEVENTY-TWO cases of human trafficking were reported in Myanmar within the first seven months of 2020, according to the anti-trafficking police.

From January to July, 72 reported trafficking-in-person cases to involve over 110 trafficked victims including 21 young women.

Among 72 cases, a total of 15 cases were reported in January, seven in February, nine in March, six each in April and May, 15 in June and 14 in July. A total of 111 victims were involved while 188 suspected traffickers were charged during the first seven months of this year.

Forced marriage was blamed for the main cause of trafficking in person in Myanmar, followed by forced prostitution, labour exploitation or forced labour and illegal adoption. The victims were trafficked mostly to neighbouring countries such as China and Malaysia as well as domestically, according to the anti-trafficking police force.

Amongst 72 cases in five months, about 52 cases involved forced marriages in China, one case of forced marriages in the country, nine cases of forced prostitution in the country, six cases of forced labour in the country, two cases of forced labour in Malaysia and one case each of forced labour in Thailand and China.

In the past seven months, Yangon Region and Shan State topped the list with 22 human-trafficking cases each, followed by Mandalay Region with eight cases, Kachin State with five cases, Ayeyawady Region with six cases, Bago with three cases, Taninthayi and Magway regions with two cases each and Sagaing Region and Nay Pyi Taw with one case each.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

One dead, 18 injured in 10 YBS road accidents in July

ONE was killed and 18 injured in 10 YBS road accidents reported in July, said Joint Secretary U Hla Aung of Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

"A total of 10 cases of YBS road accidents were reported in July. Ten traffic accidents killed one and injured 18 others, he said.

To be able to reduce the YBS road accidents, the traffic police are patrolling around the city by vehicles and accepting the complaints at the complaint centre. Also, the traffic police are conducting the regular patrol and they are investigating and taking action against the YBS drivers.

"The traffic police have investigated a total of 569 cases. Additionally, they have received a total of 150 cases. Until now, more than 720 cases had legal action taken. These cases were received from the complaint centre," he added.

In the first seven months of 2020, a total of 77 YBS accidents were reported, resulting in 27 deaths.

A total of 15 cases were reported in January, 25 in February, 12 in March, eight in April, four in May and 13 cases in June.
—Aye Maung

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Elections are the foundation of democracy.

Connected, competent and critical: Youth in the digital age

(An exclusive International Youth Day 2020)

By Hans Martin Høegh Henrichsen

Today's youth have more opportunities than any generation before but are also facing some of humankind's biggest challenges. It is in all of our interest that they succeed.

ON International Youth Day 12 August, we celebrate young people, youth-led organizations and all those who work to empower and uplift young people everywhere. The theme of International Youth Day 2020 is "Youth Engagement for Global Action". It is our youth who are inheriting massive challenges like climate change, increasing polarization and widening inequality. Their active engagement is crucial to help address all of them. More than at any point in history, youth need to be connected, competent and retain a healthy sense of critical thinking.



Telenor Youth Forum delegates

The rise of the digital natives

Understanding young people's relationship to technology can seem overwhelming. It may look like youths' lives revolve around their phones – living through the lens of social media, using apps for everything and anything, and hardly interacting with anyone IRL ("in real life"). Most young people today are digital natives who have known no other reality than constant connectivity.

More similar than different

According to Statista, more than 4.5 billion people worldwide were active internet users as of April 2020. In Myanmar, there were 22 million internet users in January 2020. That means 41% of the population in Myanmar are online. Young people adapt early and jump on international trends faster than ever – just observe how new 'born global' mobile apps are taken up almost simultaneously whether you're in Boston, Bangkok or Bago. The youth segment transcends borders and care about global issues, and that is why someone like Greta Thunberg can become a world celebrity with her 'school strike for climate'.

The democratization of entrepreneurship

Youth are essential to tackle global, social challenges like the UN Sustainable Development Goals. That's also why Telenor for several years ran a global platform called Telenor Youth Forum with young leaders from all its markets in the Nordics and Asia. The programme, run in collaboration with the Nobel Peace Centre, saw massive interest and engagement from candidates across Telenor's footprint and gave rise to new ventures that continue to this day. Most importantly, it demonstrated that this global crowd of youth could productively come together in short time, due to them already being connected. Youth also use connectivity to create inventions that are purely commercial, much earlier than what we've seen before: Robert Nay, who invented the Bubble Ball game that was downloaded more than 2 million times within 2 weeks, was only 14 when it launched.

Connecting responsibly

Constant connectivity is not without challenges. Being connected does not mean you know how to use it productively and properly. And connectivity is not equally accessible for all. While one benefits from technology, another might be threatened by it. According to recent statistics, about 37% of young people between the ages of 12 and 17 have been bullied online. It is on us adults and professionals like telecom operators to make sure that youths are getting the best and safest experience from technology.

Be kind!

To support youth in becoming better digital citizens, and to properly and responsibly use the internet, Telenor Myanmar launched the "Be Kind Online!" campaign joining hands with Plan International in June. The campaign addresses issues of cyberbullying, hate speech, cyber grooming, sexting, fake news, and more through targeted digital resilience trainings. Aiming to help stop cyberbullying and increase digital resilience, the campaign concludes on August 12, the International Youth Day.

Lifelong learning

Transformative technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Virtual Reality (VR) are making it increasingly important for youth to be familiar with advanced concepts at an early stage. Being a digital native is not sufficient; you need to understand why and how these technologies impact you and your community. The continued learning that working adults need to adapt to, starts already now for young people. Lifelong learning is required as digitalization increases and infuses all parts of our lives, like transportation, manufacturing, education, healthcare and more.

Reducing inequalities

It is up to all of us – governments, organizations, schools and telecoms operators – to make our youth technology ready. And it is up to the youth themselves to seek those skills and that knowledge. This can start with something as simple as taking part in simple digital literacy trainings and teaching youth to take responsibility for their online behavior. Telenor Myanmar is committed to creating a safer digital space for Myanmar's youth, promoting positive online behaviors, and providing youth with the resources to address and cope with negative online experiences. Our goal is to make sure no one is left behind.

Striking the right balance

Saying connected can seem to be all about fun and games. As all good things, both youth and adults need it in moderation. As adults we need to help promote balance: physical exercise, offline learning, and other activities, to make sure they leave enough time in their week for face-to-face interaction with people. IRL ("in real life") is not overrated, and sometimes it is necessary to disconnect. Teens are never too old to go for a screen-free walk or dinner with their family!

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AISOPOS II VOY. NO. (031S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AISOPOS II VOY. NO. (031S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **12-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CHERRY VOY. NO. (002N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CHERRY VOY. NO. (002N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **12-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **HPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S INTER ASIA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ANAHITA

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ANAHITA VOY. NO. (920101.063)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **12-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

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

Myanmar earns US$ 3.6 bln from CMP garment exports in 10 months

By Kyaw Htike Soe



MYANMAR fetched US$3.6 billion from the garment exports in the current financial year, a decrease of some US$60 million compared to the same period a year earlier, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce. Myanmar's textile sector generated US$3.675 billion in export revenue in the same period last year, the ministry's figures said.

At present, some garment factories shut down due to lack of raw material and thousands of workers became unemployed. Some garment factories in Myanmar have reduced working hours and cut jobs and some factories have not received orders from abroad amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, U Myint Soe, Chairman of Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) said. Myanmar's CMP (cut, make and pack) garment factories are facing financial hardships and struggling to survive due to the lack of orders from European Union market, he added. The European Union in April this year launched a €5 million (K7.9 billion) Myan Ku emergency cash fund to provide garment workers who have lost their jobs as a result of coronavirus pandemic.

Myanmar's garment export saw a five-fold increase in the number of workers in the past five years, according to the ministry. The country's garment production value has soared tenfold over the past four years, and it is expected to reach US$5 billion this year. The promising garment industry in Myanmar has grown significantly in the past five years. The country's export income from the garment and textile industry has increased almost threefold over the past two year. The CMP garment sector contributes to over 20 per cent to the country's exports. The total export earnings from Myanmar's garment and textile industry are expected to



Myanmar's CMP garment sector earns about US$ 300 million annually. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR (GNLM)**



Workers seen on a production line at a garment factory in Hlinethaya on the outskirts of Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR (GNLM)**

reach US$10 billion by 2024, according to the MGMA.

Myanmar's CMP garment sector earns about US$ 300 million annually and the country will get US$3 billion if it can manage to shift from the CMP system to the free-on-board (FOB) system. Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely dependent on the CMP garment and textile exports. The MGMA estimates that over 500 factories in the country offer job opportunities for nearly 500,000 workers. Myanmar is considered one of the fastest-growing garment and footwear suppliers in the world, with apparel exports alone climbing from US$2.7 billion to US$3.86 billion last year. About 80 per cent of the new investments in the cut-make-pack (CMP) businesses in Myanmar came from China. Myanmar's garment and textile sector is said to be the right track to meet a target of US$10 billion in exports revenue set under a 10-year plan.

The export target and an aim to create one million job prospects in the sector had been designed under the Myanmar Garment Industry Strategic Plan 2014-2024 by the MGMA. The growth of Myanmar's garment and textile industry has materialized at a time when wages in other regional production hubs such as China, Vietnam and Cambodia have been hiked. Myanmar's CMP garments are mainly shipped to Japan and Europe, along with the Republic of Korea, China, and the US. The European Union (EU) is its biggest market, accounting for more than half of the country's ready-made garment exports. Myanmar's garment exports have been increasing yearly, especially since 2013, when the EU granted goods from the Southeast Asian country preferential access to its market.

Around 1.1 million Myanmar people are currently employed in garment, textile, footwear and accessories factories throughout the country. Additional tens of thousands indirectly work in the industry through logistics and transport services. Myanmar fetched some US$850 million from CMP garment exports in the fiscal year 2015-2016, US$2 billion in FY 2016-2017, US$2.5 billion in FY 2017-2018, and US$4.6 billion in FY 2018-2019.

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Chrysanthemum growers earn good living from rising market

CHRYSANTHEMUM farmers in Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region, earned good incomes due to its high demand this year.

The market of Chrysanthemum, locally known as Gandamar flower, declined in November and December last year.

Currently, the wholesale price of a 15-flowers bunch of Shwe Wah Win Gandamar flower fetched K500, and Kyway Phyu Gandamar flower K600.

Ko Lin Thu, a flower grower, said an acre of Gandamar flower with 50,000 gandamar plants can earn up to K5million.

The plant of this flower needs to be watered since the first day of growing: three times a day in hot season and twice a day in cold weather.

They are fertilized every 15 days and can be sold at the market after three or four months old.

There are many species of Gandamar flowers, and the flower growers near Mandalay are mostly cultivating the species of San Bar, Kyway Phyu and Lucky, and each plant blooms 9 to 10 flowers.—Nwe Nadi (Myitnge)

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)



A woman waters Chrysanthemum flowers at a plantation in Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region on 8 February 2020. **PHOTO: NWE NADI (MYITNGE)**

OPPO to launch Reno4 in Myanmar, equipped with innovative imaging features, trendsetting design and smooth user experience



OPPO announced that the all-new Reno4 will launch in Myanmar.

Following the successful launch of Reno4 Series in China last month, OPPO will deliver Reno4 to other markets, with some adjustments tailored to local consumer needs and new features to deliver a trendsetting experience to global users. The new international Reno4 will support 4G to fit the local market context and will come with innovative technology as the result of OPPO's consistent investment in a user-centric experience.

Reno4 makes it easy to capture creative portraits or film at any moment that'll show off "Clearly the Best You" in front of the camera. And you'll be able to level up your video-capturing skills to participate in the latest short video trends. In addition, a whole new suite of facial recognition and touch-free interactions will be available on Reno4 that will give you the sense that you're holding the future in your hands. Reno4 will come in two colors namely Galactic Blue and Space Black.

Reno4 comes with a suite of creative camera features that will take your portrait photography and filming to the next level. Reno4 gives you the tool to empower anyone to effortlessly express your unique style, show off "Clearly the Best You" and make your portrait shine clearly in every shot. Even if it's to film your travel vlog for YouTube, a short video for TikTok or simply capture exclusive memories with friends and family, Reno4 raises the bar with imaging features that makes it fun to spice up your footage or photos.

This includes the all-new AI Colour Portrait Mode, both support on photo and video function, which mutes the background into black and white while keeping the person in real colour. AI Colour Portrait Mode can be used for both Selfie and Rear Camera.—GNLM

MFF Medical Affairs Committee holds meeting (1/2020)

MEDICAL Affairs Committee of Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) held a meeting (1/2020) at the federation's meeting hall in Yangon yesterday.

The meeting was attended by the committee Chairman Dr Than Naing Soe, Deputy Chairman Prof. Dr Maw Oo and members Prof. Dr Khin Saw Oo, Dr Htet Wai, and Dr Chit Phyo Wai, MFF general secretary U Ko Ko Thein, and MFF medical director U Aung Kyaw Oo.

The committee chairman made an opening remark at the meeting, discussing the matters related to the committee's works.

MFF general secretary U Ko Ko Thein and medical director U Aung Kyaw Oo also delivered speeches at the meeting.

The meeting discussed matters relating to insurances for footballers, medical covers that will be required for coming football matches, and cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Sports, government hospitals and private hospitals for emergency and medical affairs.

They also discussed the promotion of footballers' nutrition sector after forming a nutrition team and conducting nutrition workshops, and monitor the players' psychological conditions after making a round of discussions with sport psychologists. – Kyaw Khin ■



The meeting of Myanmar Football Federation (MFF)'s Medical Affairs Committee is in progress on 11 August 2020. **PHOTO: MFF**

Europa League: Bruno Fernandes Penalty Lifts Manchester United Past Dogged Copenhagen

COLOGNE, Germany—Bruno Fernandes scored a penalty in extra time as Manchester United scraped past FC Copenhagen 1-0 on Monday in the quarter-finals of the Europa League, reshaped into an eight-team straight knockout tournament in Germany due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Portugal international notched his competition-best seventh goal of the season as United set up a semi-final clash against Sevilla or Wolves, joining Inter Milan in the last four following the Italian side's 2-1 victory over Bayer Leverkusen in Dusseldorf. "Third time this season we've been to the semis, every competition we've been in. Delighted we've gone through, we deserved to win tonight," United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer told BT Sport.

"Their keeper was fantastic, unbelievable. We hit the post a few times, there were a couple of VAR decisions against us. It could have been one of those nights that you end up with penalty shoot outs. They made it hard for us."

All games from the quarter-finals onwards in this season's Europa League are being played behind closed doors as one-off ties across four venues -- Cologne, Duisburg, Dusseldorf and Gelsenkirchen -- in a unique format following a five-month interruption.—AFP ■



A healthcare worker takes a nasal swab sample from a footballer of a Myanmar National League club in Yangon on 11 August 2020. **PHOTO:MNL**

MoHS tests MNL football clubs for COVID-19

OFFICIALS from the Ministry of Health and Sports continued the inspections of camp quarantine centres of Myanmar National League (MNL) and preparations for 2020 MPT MNL in Yangon yesterday.

They tested Shan United, Rakhine United, Yadanarbon FC, Magwe FC, and South Myanmar FC for COVID-19 on 10 August, and Hantharwady United, Ayeyawady United, Sagaing United, and ISPE FC yesterday.

The referees who will take part in the MNL matches were also tested for COVID-19.

Myanmar Football Federation and Myanmar National League have borne the costs of the testing.

The MNL football matches that postponed from 24 March is scheduled to restart on 22 August if all the players and coaches are free from COVID-19. — Kyaw Khin

Is this Neymar's time in the Champions League? Injury-hit PSG hope so

LISBON—Paris Saint-Germain have once again been hit by a flood of injuries going into a crunch Champions League knockout tie, but this time Neymar is fit and seemingly ready to live up to his status as the world's most expensive player.

PSG face Atalanta in Lisbon on Wednesday (Aug 12) in the first quarter-final of the "Final Eight", after UEFA turned the latter stages of Europe's elite club competition into something akin to a World Cup after the long COVID-19 shutdown.

There will be no fans in the Estadio da Luz, but the French champions coped just fine behind closed doors when they beat Borussia Dortmund in their last 16, second leg in March.

That night Neymar scored the opener in a 2-0 win as they overturned a first-leg deficit.

After the game, the Brazilian sat on a step high up in the stands at the Parc des Princes and cried tears of joy.

After all, his first two seasons in Paris following his €222 million (US$264 million) transfer from Barcelona were marred by injuries at the worst possible moments. First there was the broken metatarsal that saw him miss the last 16, second leg against Real Madrid in 2018 as PSG were knocked out by the reigning champions.—AFP ■



Neymar scored the opening goal in the win over Borussia Dortmund in the last 16 back in March, **(PHOTO: AFP/ ALEXANDRE SIMOES)/FILE**