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Pyithu Hluttaw raises asterisk questions, hears report on bill, amending regulations on bylaws



The 11th-day meeting of 17th regular session of Second Pyithu Hluttaw is held at the Pyithu Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO:MNA**

Pyithu Hluttaw held its 11th-day meeting of 17th regular session yesterday.

MP U Maung Maung Oo from Insein constituency asked about installation of street lights in the whole Insein Township in 2020.

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Khin Maung Win replied that the installation of lights along the main roads in all the townships of Yangon Region is the top priority of the ministry, and budgets will be asked for the street lights in residential quarters in the following financial years, addition to K 0.7 billion from the Union budget and K 3.5 billion allocated for the regional budget in upcoming 2020-2021FY.

MP U Aung Soe Min from Ywangan constituency asked about the transformation of 1,400 acres of the protected public forest area in Myogyi into an official forest.

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Health and Sports
Order 96/2020
7th Waxing of Wagaung, 1382 ME
(25 August 2020)

THE Ministry of Health and Sports has issued this order in exercise of the rights contained in Section 21, sub-section (b) of the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Law.

1. As the Ministry of Health and Sports is carrying out preventive measures against (Coronavirus Disease 2019 – COVID-19) in real-time, people residing in some townships are required to "Stay-at-Home" in order to effectively control the spread of the disease.

2. It is hereby announced that people residing in the following townships in Rakhine State are included in the Stay-at-Home programme:
   (a) Kyaukpyu
   (b) An
   (c) Taungup
   (d) Thandwe

3. People from the said four townships who are included in the Stay-at-Home programme shall follow the following rules:
   a. To stay only at their homes (Those who need to perform their duties at government departments, organizations, companies, factories and places not included)

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PYITHU HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw raises asterisk questions, hears report on bill, amending regulations on bylaws

FROM PAGE-1

Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Ye Myint Swe replied that the forest will be legalized in line with the official processes under the Article 5 of Forest Law.

MP U Myat Lay Oo from Htilin constituency asked about construction of new buildings at the 8 schools in his constituency.

Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun replied that budget of 2020-2021FY has been approved, and that budgets for these new school buildings will be allocated in the following financial years in order of priority, except the one with 60x30 ft-one storey steel structure at a primary school in Nyaunghaung Village in the coming budget year.

MP Dr Khin Si Thu from Loikaw constituency asked about the transfer of building in the name of Kayah Mansion and its land plot to the Kayah State government, and Deputy Minister for Construction Dr Kyaw Linn replied it; MP Daw Ni Shwe Hlyan from Thantlang constituency asked about accomplishment of the 66 kV power line project installation in her constituency, and Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win answered it; MP U Saw Tha Lay Saw from Shwegyin constituency asked about the list of owners and their 418 acres of land confiscated for No (2) Mining Enterprise in Southern village-tracts in his constituency; MP Daw Zin Mar Aung from Yankin constituency about the transfer of a land plot in ward 6 of her constituency to the relevant ministry for construction of a community centre and a township hall, and it was replied by the Deputy Minister Dr Ye Myint Swe.

MP U Myint Wai from Gwa constituency asked about the disciplinary proceedings against the headmaster of high school in Taungpauk Village after he was investigated by the township and district-level educational officials for the complaints; MP U Myint Lwin from Twantay constituency about B.Sc Sports course and performance of the graduates on development of sports for Myanmar and their future; MP U Win Myint Oo (a) U Nay Myo from Nyaungshwe constituency about correction on page 5 and 6 of new school curriculum book for Grade 7 Myanmar language book not to tarnish the image of ethnic people and historical data among the new generations. The questions were answered by Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun.

U Tin Tun Naing, the Secretary of Banking and Financial Development Committee, put forward the Foreign Exchange Management Bill, before the parliament, and Secretary of Bill Committee U Kyaw Soe Lin read the report on it.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat invited the list of MPs who want to submit their motions for amendment of bill.

The Speaker then offered to submit the amendment proposals to the amending bylaws relating to the Conservation of Water Resources and River Law.

MP U Ohn Khin from Palaw constituency tabled a motion, urging the Union Government to conserve the water resources through short and long-term plans by the relevant ministries to reduce flood incidents.

The motion was supported by MP U Sai Oo Kham from Hsenwi constituency.

The Hluttaw also approved for discussing the motion.

MP U Thaung Aye from Pyawbwe constituency asked about the activities of Social Media Monitoring Team established by a special fund of the President and Facebook Team, which are being complained for their unfair actions on the individuals or organizations, causing the rise in hate speeches on social network and possible impacts on national reconciliation and holding free and fair elections. He then tabled a motion urging the government to push the SMMT and Facebook Team for taking effective measures on prevention of illegal actions resulted from the double community standard to ensure free and fair elections.

MP U Sai Ngaung Sai Hein from Maukmai constituency supported the motion, and the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker invited the list of MPs who want to discuss the motion.

MP U Min Thein from Taungdwingyi constituency put forward a motion on stronger awareness programme and legal actions due to the rising death toll in increasing traffic accidents across the country.

The motion was discussed by the three Hluttaw representatives.

Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo explained the activities of National Road Safety Council in states and regions, together with cooperation of local and foreign organizations.

He also requested the participation of Hluttaw representatives in the activities, and the Hluttaw also agreed to approve the motion.

The Pyithu Hluttaw will convene its 12th-day meeting of 17th regular session on 27 August.— Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Aung Khin)

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw raises questions to ministries; approves two committee reports

Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday held its 11th-day meeting, and with questions of MPs to the Ministry of Health and Sports, the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, and the Ministry of Office of the Union Government. The 11th-day meeting also approved the report on activities of Farmers' Affairs Committee and the report on activities of Committee on Immigration and Myanmar Internal and Migrant Workers.



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. **PHOTO: MNA**

MP U Lin Tin Htay from Mon State constituency 4 raised a question whether the government has a plan to build a staff housing for the Sub-Rural Health Centre in Salpala Village in Chaungzon Township, Mawlamyine District, Mon State in the 2020-2021 Financial Year. Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein replied that there was no budget for the project for 2020-2021FY, but a budget to build the staff housing will be requested to add to the 2021-2022FY.

MP U Ye Htut from Sagaing Region constituency 5 said that privately-owned print media have suffered financial losses, and made a question how the government will support privately-owned print media. The Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun replied that print media across the world also suffered a downturn because of popularity of online media.

The Deputy Minister said that there are 321 online news agencies in Myanmar and many people are getting news and information via online media. He said that to finance operations of print media, they rely on advertisement incomes and the revenues earned by selling newspapers. He pointed out that both the readers and the advertisers have switched to online media, and that's why print media have difficulty to survive. He said that the incomes of state-run newspapers published by the Ministry of Information have also sharply dropped amid popularity of online media.

He said that COVID-19 pandemic has also created enormous challenges for print media across the world because of COVID-19-related measures including social distancing. On the other hand, "online media" (a) "new media" have experienced a surge in popularity, said the Deputy Minister.

The Deputy Minister said that several media outlets across the world are now shifting online. Currently, Myanmar's state-run media under the Ministry of Information operate both print media and online media/new media, said the Deputy Minister.

In response to the question raised by MP U Ye Htut from Sagaing Region constituency 5, the Deputy Minister suggested that the only practical way to ensure survival and development of Myanmar media sector is that media outlets need to systematically transform into online media/new media rather than trying to survive as print media, which is experiencing a severe downturn.

The Deputy Minister also pointed out the differences between printing business and media business. He said that printing is just a platform for media business. But many news outlets have switched to a new platform: online media. The one experiencing a severe downturn is printing business, not media business, said the Deputy Minister.

SEE PAGE-4



The General Election will be held on 8 November 2020.

- Union Election Commission has announced the first edition of eligible voter lists at local offices of the commission in respective wards/village-tracts, in the villages from 25 July 2020 to 7 November 2020.
- If the name of any eligible voter is not included in the list, voter registration can be requested by filling in Form 3.
- Objection can be filed against any ineligible voter in the list by using Form 4.
- Correction for voter list can be requested by using Form 4 (c).
- Voters can cast their votes only if their names are included in the voters list.
- Cooperation is requested for at least one member of each family to check their names without fail to ensure a complete and correct voters list.
- Check the voters lists not to lose voting rights by filling up discrepancies, deleting and making corrections.



Former President family donates K3.6 mln to national COVID-19 prevention committee

FORMER President U Htin Kyaw and his wife Daw Su Su Lwin contributed K3.6 million to the National-Level Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19 yesterday.

Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe, Secretary 2 of the committee, received the donation and returned a certificate of honour.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Former President U Htin Kyaw (R) accepts the certificate of honour presented by Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe (L) in Nay Pyi Taw on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO:MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Health and Sports
Order 96/2020
7th Waxing of Wagaung, 1382 ME
(25 August 2020)

FROM PAGE-1

b. Only one person per one household to go out for necessary shopping

c. Only two persons per household to go to hospital or clinic if a need arises

d. To wear masks when going outside

e. To allow only authorized vehicles, and ferries providing transportation service to those who are to going to workplaces to perform their duties, to pass through the wards

f. The vehicle is to carry only a driver and a passenger for going shopping in the ward, and only a driver and two persons for going to hospital or clinic

4. Regarding matters relating to Clauses b, c and f of Paragraph 3, if more persons need to ride on the vehicle or to go for other emergencies, they are to seek approval from the respective Ward Administration Office to go outside, and the responsible persons of the respective Ward Administration Office shall not allow anyone to go out or come in to their wards except those who are going out and coming in to assume their charge of duties.

5. Action will be taken against those who fail to abide by this order under the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Law.

6. This order comes into effect from 6 am 26-8-2020.

Sd/
Dr Myint Htwe
Union Minister
Ministry of Health and Sports

"People are the key"

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.

UEC Chairman receives representatives of 9 local CSOs

UNION Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein received representatives of local civil society organizations at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The representatives discussed voter education, activities for effective election observation and a possible scheme to strengthen cooperation among the UEC, its local offices and CSOs.

The chairman and officials of UEC explained the preparations and possible facilitations of observations.

The representatives at the meeting were from the Generation Tree, Myanmar Independent Living Initiative, Myanmar Network for Free and Fair Election, Panna Institute, Kadu Youth Development Association, Rainmaker Organization, New Myanmar Foundation, Civic Development Institute and Bago Observer Group.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein speaks during the meeting with representatives of local civil society organizations at his office in Nay Pyi Taw on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw raises questions to ministries; approves two committee reports

FROM PAGE-2

In response to a statement made by an MP who insisted there should not be state-run media, the Deputy Minister said that Myanmar's newly-developed democracy is just 10 years old and news business is just seven years old. The Deputy Minister pointed out that the country is facing many challenges during democratic transition, so state-run media should exist to some extent.

The Deputy Minister said that private media should be nurtured, and state-run media will gradually reduce its role when private media sector becomes stronger. The Deputy Minister claimed that state-run media exist in every nation, including even major democratic nations, in some form or other.

The Deputy Minister explained about Public Service Media financed by the state, but the state does not interfere in the media policy. He stressed that state-run media are needed to some extent during democratic transition.

The Deputy Minister said that the Information Ministry, in cooperation with other stakeholders including relevant ministries, NGOs and experts, will take efforts to resolve challenges encountered during democratic transition.

MP U Mya Min Swe from Magway Region constituency 9 raised a question related to appointment of Staff Officers in township offices of Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) and appointment of Assistant Director in district offices of IPRD. The question was replied by the Deputy Minister for Information.

MP U Ye Htut from Sagaing Region constituency 5 asked a question how the government will support print media before they are transformed into digital media. The Deputy Minister replied that the Ministry is exerting efforts to help them in some ways, for example, by cooperation with relevant stakeholders to provide special loans as COVID-19 relief measures and to reduce taxes.

MP U Kyaw Kyaw Win from Rakhine State constituency 8 raised a question related to land compensations for confiscated lands in Bawdikone and Kanthaya villages in Maungtaw Township. The question was replied by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw.

MP U Hla Oo from Sagaing Region constituency 4 raised a question whether the government has a plan to build an ancient city cultural museum in Amyint Ancient City in Chaung-U Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Region. The MP also raised another related question whether the government has a plan to put up a statue of Minn Lak Wah in the ancient city. The question was replied by Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Kyi Min.

Deputy Minister for Office of the Union Government U Tin Myint replied two questions raised by MP U Maung Kyaw Zan from Rakhine State constituency 9.

MP U Tin Wai from Taninthayi Region constituency 6 raised questions related to fish meal factories in the industrial zone in Inlemyine Ward in Myeik Taung Village in Myeik in Taninthayi Region. Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw replied the questions.

During the parliamentary session, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced that Pyithu Hluttaw officially agrees the bill amending the 1959 Defence Services Act approved by and sent from Amyotha Hluttaw.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than also sought the assembly's opinion on the report on Amyotha Hluttaw Farmers' Affairs Committee's activities from 1 March 2018 to 30 August 2020, and then the assembly unanimously approved it.

Similarly, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than sought the assembly's opinion on the report on activities from 1 March 2018 to 13 August 2020 of Amyotha Hluttaw Committee on Immigration and Myanmar Internal and Migrant Workers, and then the assembly unanimously approved it.

Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertaking Vetting Committee Chairperson U Thein Swe, and Public Complaints Committee member U Htein Win submitted the reports of their respective committees.

The 12th-day meeting of 17th regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw will be convened on 27 August.

Aung Ye Thwin (Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

The citizens to use these 12 days in the best possible way

In the life of a person, if this person started voting at the age of 18, because elections are being held every five years, if this person lived to be 80, this person would only have the opportunity to vote 12 times. Therefore during the 80 years, the right of a person to vote for the future of the country and the progress of the country would be only 12 times during the lifespan. She said she wanted the citizens to use these 12 days in the best possible way.

(Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's discussions at videoconference preparations for conducting elections during COVID period on 6 August 2020)



MIFER Union Minister attends 52nd ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting, related Meetings

THE Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun participated in the 52nd ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting, the 34th AFTA Council Meeting and the 23rd AIA Council Meeting which held via videoconference yesterday.

The Meetings were chaired by Tran Tuan Anh, Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam and were attended by Economic Ministers, AFTA Council Ministers, AIA Council Ministers, Senior Economic Officials (SEOM), the ASEAN Secretary- General and representatives.

In the 52nd Economic Ministers' Meeting, the Ministers exchanged views on global and regional developments, including the economic impact of the Corona virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The Ministers also reviewed the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint 2025, the progress on the 13 Priority Economic Deliverables (PEDs) under Viet Nam's Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2020, as well as developments in ASEAN's external economic relations.





Union Minister U Thaung Tun (R) participates in the 52nd ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting, the 34th AFTA Council Meeting and the 23rd AIA Council Meeting on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Minister highlighted Myanmar's "Whole of Nation Approach" for prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 pandemic, the implementation of COVID-19 Comprehensive Economic Relief Plan (CERP) to mitigate the impact of the pandemic. He also addressed the issue of Myanmar's status in the implementation of ASEAN plus one Free Trade Areas.

In the 34th AFTA Council meeting, the Ministers discussed Tariff Liberalization, General Review of ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement, the elimination of Non-Tariff Measures, Trade Facilitation, Rules of Origin, Customs Integration, Standards and Conformance under the implementation of ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA). In the 23rd AIA Council Meeting, the Ministers discussed the implementation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA) particularly Investment Liberalization, Facilitation, Promotion and Protection.—MNA ■

Central Epidemiology Unit reviews implementation of measures against COVID-19 in Rakhine State

Medical doctors health assistants and public health supervisors from Central Epidemiology Unit held a review meeting on implementation of COVID-19 prevention and control measures in Rakhine State yesterday morning in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe said that the reason of increasing number of cases was that the patient tested positive on 16 August travelled and engaged with many people before she knew that she carried the virus; the infection is expected to be under control as Rakhine State government, NGOs, medical staff and the public are working together in this measure.

The central survey team needs to make the real-time analysis on disease, and the central unit will send supporting teams to the Rakhine State; medical tests will be conducted randomly among the communities with highly possible infections; preventive measures will be highlighted in IDP camps and the reception centres, he added.

Officials from Central Epidemiology Unit explained the review on the virus outbreak in Rakhine State, doing lab tests by two GeneXpert machines in Sittway Hospital and tracing the contacts of the COVID-19 patients.

The Directors from Central Epidemiology Unit, infectious pathologists, medical staff and public health supervisors suggested to revise "the definition of suspected patient" as per the symptoms found from the patients from 16 August to current day in accordance with the suggestions from WHO.

The Union Minister made suggestions on the discussions, saying that the officials will emphasize the suggestions of Central Epidemiological Unit which conducts sector-wise analysis regarding with control measures of COVID-19 in Rakhine State and the important facts will be delivered to the state head of Public Health and Medical Services Department and other officials.

He continued to say that the relevant region authorities should cooperate and make strong efforts to trace the contacts of COVID-19 patients, to ban people from going out Sittway and for lab tests.

He added that it needs to raise public health awareness by the use of loudspeakers at least five-time a day in the townships of Sittway and other places where reported new cases and the CEU should give suggestions depending on their findings and release a directive for prevention and control measures to state government, Social Affairs Minister and relevant officials.

The Union Minister also said the required medical aids will be provided to IDP camps and reception centres by opening a clinic systematically and it will also seek whether there would be suspected COVID-19 patients,

The public should inform to the officials if they find those who illegally enter the country and the illegal returnees from foreign countries into their places.—MNA ■

(Translated by Ei Pyhu Phyu Aung and Khine Thazin Han)



Central Epidemiology Unit discusses Rakhine State's current COVID-19 situation in Nay Pyi Taw on 25 August. **PHOTO: MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release 31/2020
6th Waxing of Wagaung, 1382 ME
(24 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 16 May 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 Zaw Oo, Ma Aye Kyi and Than Htay who lives in Khawe Village, Mawlaik Township, Sagaing Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 10 August 2020, police searched the house of Zaw Oo, 41, son of U Win Maung, who lives in Khawe Village, Mawlaik Township. Police did not find him at his house and arrested his wife Daw Aye Kyi (a) Aye Aye Kyi, 40, daughter of U Win Shwe, together with heroin. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Mawlaik) MaYa (pa) 66/2020 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Police continue search the house of Than Htay, 56, son of U Tun Pe, who lives in the same village, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Mawlaik) MaYa (pa) 67/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2.	Information received of Kyaw Naing who lives in Ya Taung Village, Kyun Su Township, Taninthayi Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 16 August 2020, police searched the house of Kyaw Naing, who lives in Ya Taung Village, Kyun Su Township. Police did not find him at his house and arrested his brother Min Aung, 41, son of U Tha Pein, together with stimulant tablets and percussion lock firearm. A case has been opened against them NaSaMa (Thazin) MaYa (pa) 5/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21(b) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3.	Information received of U Oh Kone who lives in Ywar Thit Village, Bokepyin Township, Taninthayi Region, growing marijuana in his garden, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 17 August 2020, police searched the house of U Oh Khone (a) Oh Tone, 42, son of U Maung Myint, who lives in Ywar Thit Village, Bokepyin Township. Police did not find him at his house and destroyed the marijuana in his garden. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Bokepyin) MaYa (Pa) 30/2020 under Section 16(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4.	Information received of Thura Zaw who lives in We Kyun Htein Le Ward, Dawei Township, Taninthayi Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 18 August 2020, police searched the house of Thura Zaw, 30, son of U Zaw Min, who lives in We Kyun Htein Le, Htein Thit Ward, Dawei Township and arrested him together with stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Dawei) MaYa (pa) 54/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5.	Information received of Yan Gyi Aung who lives in Kan Maw Village, Kyun Su Township, Taninthayi Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 19 August 2020, police searched the house of Yan Gyi Aung,52, son of U Mya Lwin, who lives in lives in Kan Maw Village of Kyun Su Township and arrested him together with stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Kanmaw) MaYa (pa) 44/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6.	Information received of many people who live in Abit-Khale Tagundine Village, Mudon Township of Mon State, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	It was announced that 19 cases were uncovered in previous weeks and two accused were taken action in accordance with the law. On 16 August 2020, police arrested Chan Nyein,23, son of U Aung Kyi, and Mya Oo, 23, son of U Saung Oo, who lives in Khale Tagundine Village, Kya-in-Seikkyi Township, Kayin State together with stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with NaMaSa (Kamawat) MaYa (pa) 47/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7.	Information received of youths who live in Shwe Lin Ban Myay Tine (26) Ward, Hlinethaya Township, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 21 August 2020, police conducted body search on Zin Ko Ko (a) Aung Myint Than, 21, son of U Maung Myint, who lives in (19) Ward on Kyansitthar Road, Shwe Lin Ban Myay Tine (26) Ward, Hlinethaya Township and arrested him together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him MaMaSa (Hlinethaya) MaYa (pa) 85/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8.	Information received of Kalar Lay who lives in No(8) Ward, Aye Tha Yar Township, Shan State (Southern), using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 17 August 2020, police searched the house of Kalar Lay (a) Ma Gyit (a) Kyaw Oo, 42, son of U Hla Myint, who lives in No(8) Ward, Aye Tha Yar Township, Taunggyi and arrested him and another person Chit Lwin Oo (a) Thar Gyi,23, son of U San Lin, who lives in No (7) ward together with stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them NaMaSa (Aye Thar Yar) MaYa (pa) 22/2020 under Section 19(a), 20(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9.	Information received of Daw Aye who lives in No (3) Ward, Kengtawng, Mongnai Township, Shan State (Southern), using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 20 August 2020, police searched the house of Daw Aye, 53, daughter of U Tar who lives in No (3) Ward, Kengtawng, Mongnai Township, and arrested her and her husband Aung Kyaw Nyein (a) Min Htet Soe, 34, son of U Aung Maung together with heroin. A case has been opened against them NaMaSa (Kengtawng) MaYa2/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department, so far a total of 1,298 cases have been opened files as of 22 August 2020. A total of 1,991 people, including 1,663 men and 328 women had been arrested with 10,052.2694 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, 51,097.32 g of speciosa, 2.5 litres of liquid speciosa, 666,078 stimulant tablets, 13,474.36 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, 27 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

Advertise with us/ Hot Line : 09974424848

Myanmar corn exports to Thailand exceed 1.49 mln tonnes as of July-end

MYANMAR'S corn exports to Thailand significantly soared to over 1.49 million tonnes through Tachilek and Myawady borders in the ten months of the current financial year 2019-2020, according to the data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

The figures reflect a sharp increase of 855,000 tonnes as against a year-ago period. The sharp rise in export volume is attributed to the growing demand from Thailand this year.

Earlier, China is the primary purchaser of Myanmar's corn. China has suspended the importation of some agro products through the borders including corns since 2017-2018FY. Besides, corn is not listed in China's legitimate goods for border trade.

Therefore, the ministry is making an effort to seek China's AQSIQ registration and to reach an agreement with China for legal trade. As a result of this, Myanmar traders turned to the Thailand border market. However, Thailand's feed processing factories cannot offer the competitive price against domestic buyers and maritime trade partner, corn traders stated.

Myanmar corn traders have asked the government officials to extend the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on corn export with Thailand to ensure smooth trade.

The MoU between Myanmar and Thailand on corn trade signed on 12 December 2017, and the three-year MoU is due to expire in August 2020.

Under the MoU, Myanmar, corn exports were exempted from tax between 1 February and 31 August. The trade is halted about five months of Thailand's corn production to protect the rights of their growers. Also, Thailand imposed 73 per cent of tax on corn import, said a corn exporter.

Myanmar is the second-largest exporter of corn among regional countries. There are over 1.9 million acres of corn plantations, primarily in Sagaing and Magway regions, and Chin, Kayin, Shan, and Kayah states.

Last year, corn traders faced losses due to the falling demand from China, said Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint at the Development Forum for Corn Crop Sector held on 6 June 2020 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Next, Myanmar exports corn to India, Viet Nam, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines through maritime trade. Yet, the volume of corn exports to those markets is quite small.

The corn crop is mostly demanded by feedstuff processing business. Therefore, it is the potential business for both domestic and external markets, said an official of the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar surpassed corn export target of over a million tonnes in the current fiscal. Myanmar shipped 1.5 million tons of corn, worth US$270 million, to foreign countries in the previous financial year 2018-2019. At that time, 200,000 tonnes of corn, worth over $40 million, was shipped through maritime trade. In comparison, 1.3 million tonnes of corn, with an estimated value of $230 million, was sent through the borders, indicated the Ministry of Commerce in its data release.

As per data from the Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar exported 1.4 million tonnes of corn, worth over $290 million, in the 2017-2018FY; 1.2 million tonnes of corn, worth $250 million, in the 2016-2017FY; and, 1.1 million tonnes of corn, worth $300 million, in the 2015-2016FY. — Myat Ko, Htet Myat

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Assets of 2 runaway garment factory owners to be auctioned

By Nyein Nyein

THE two garment factories whose owners fled without paying salaries to the workers will be put out to bid, according to a relevant tender committee of Yangon Region government.

Those two factories are Myanmar Royal Apollo factory from Shwepyitha Industrial Zone (2) and Su Xing Myanmar factory from Shwe Lin Ban Industrial Zone of Yangon Region. The two factories have about 1,000 workers.

In a bid to pay the salaries to the workers and ensure labour rights under the law, the committee called for a tender to cash out the assets owned by the factories on 21 August.

The pattern sewing machines, other machines and assets totalling 3,485 owned by Myanmar Royal Apollo, and 18,649 assets including furniture, machines, electronic appliances belonged to Su Xing Myanmar will be put up for auction.

Those interested to buy those machines can see at the factories between 24 and 28 August. The assets owned by Su Xing Myanmar will be bid on 31 August, and those owned by Myanmar Royal Apollo will be sold on 3 September at auction.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



Workers sew clothes at a sewing workshop in Yangon on 11 July 2020. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

Myanmar-China border trade drops by $147 mln as of 14 August

Myanmar's border trade with China has registered a decrease of US$147.27 million between 1 October and 14 August in the current financial year 2019-2020, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Data from the Ministry of Commerce show the value of Myanmar-China border trade in all five borders touched over $5.07 billion in the current financial year, which significantly plunged from over $5.2 billion recorded in the year-ago period.

This FY, border trade values totalled $4.19 billion through Muse border, $126.29 million via Lwejel, $471 million via Chinshwehaw, $279.25 million via Kampaiti, and over $4.84 million via Kengtung. The Commerce Ministry's data showed a drop in trade value through all those border areas between Myanmar and China.

The decline in trade is attributed to the trade suspension and trade delay amid the tight security measures of coronavirus. China has been stepping up border control measures to contain the spread of the coronavirus infection.

Therefore, Chinese buyers do not come to Myanmar borders in light of pandemic fears, forcing Myanmar truck drivers to leave for Wanding area to sell the goods and causing long queue on border road.

The transport delays caused damage to the quality of the goods and doubled the truck fares. The growers and traders are suffering losses during the pandemic, said an official of Muse border depot.

"The border trade situation remains unchanged. Trading is cool during the monsoon season," the Muse border depot official added.

Next, the export of agricultural products is often halted, on account of China clamping down on illegal goods.

Myanmar merchants are facing difficulties in exporting goods to China through the legitimate channel as they find the tax levied by China is too high.

In a bid to lower trade barriers and offer relief to Myanmar traders through the border trade channel, the Ministry of Commerce, the relevant departments and Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry have been negotiating with China counterparts.

The two countries are making efforts to set up more border economic cooperation zones and promote border trade. Myanmar's MOC is trying to boost exports of rice, broken rice, agro-products, fruits and fisheries to China through diplomatic negotiations.

After a series of negotiation between Myanmar and China, 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.

Myanmar exports rice, sugar, pulses, sesame seeds, corn, dried tea leaves, fishery products, minerals, and animal products to China. At the same time, it imports agricultural machinery, electrical appliances, iron and steel-related materials, raw industrial goods, and consumer goods from the neighbouring country. — Htet Myat

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

26 AUGUST 2020
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

No one would be left behind in responding to COVID-19

WITH growing concern about the COVID-19 outbreak in Rakhine State's Sittway, the IDP camps with high population density and limited water and sanitation infrastructure is becoming a challenge for the Union Government in addressing the outbreak in the country.

COVID-19 could have even more dire consequences in IDP camps than in general populations.

The worst is: the number of positive coronavirus cases during 10 days from 16 to 25 August in Sittway reached over go, ringing an alarm bell that the strain of the virus in Sittway is spreading faster than previous infections in other regions and states.

While Myanmar's capacity to prevent and address a COVID-19 outbreak nationally remains a concern, rapid preparation and planning are critical, particularly where this virus may have the greatest impact.

The worst is: the number of positive coronavirus cases during 10 days from 16 to 25 August in Sittway reached over go, ringing an alarm bell that the strain of the virus in Sittway is spreading faster than previous infections in other regions and states.

To keep the virus from reaching IDP camps, the authorities of the camps are obliged to enforce the COVID-19 preventive rules and measures there.

As displaced people are staying in crowded conditions at the camps, if one of people is infected with the virus, an outbreak is very likely and can become uncontrollable.

Camp authorities are highly advised to play a recording of the Ministry of Health COVID-19 prevention guidelines daily over loudspeakers - guidelines to alarm the IDPs to follow the rules and guidelines.

Meanwhile, the authorities should understand that it not easy for the IDPs to follow the rules and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports for the disease unless they are provided with sufficient basic daily needs such as water, soap and food. Social distancing guidelines would be more inspirational than feasible at many of the camps where overcrowding is a fact of life.

Authorities are also urged to tighten the rules at the camps to ensure that they do not go to a neighbouring country of their own volition and the IDPs understand that they would face legal action if they do not abide by orders and do not comply with mandatory COVID-19 regulations.

Meanwhile, health authorities and workers who are on the frontline of fighting the COVID-19 infection are also obliged to explain clearly to the IDPs about the directives and guidelines issued by various ministries.

The Union Government left no stone unturned in fighting the disease, pledging that no one would be left behind during the prevention and treatment of the COVID-19 disease.

The cooperation of the people are the key in addressing the current challenges. This situation is not easy for anyone.

COVAX: WORKING FOR GLOBAL EQUITABLE ACCESS TO COVID-19 VACCINE

172 countries and multiple candidate vaccines engaged in COVID-19 vaccine Global Access Facility

- ***Nine CEPI-supported candidate vaccines are part of the COVAX initiative, with a further nine candidates under evaluation, and procurement conversations on-going with additional producers not currently receiving research and development (R&D) funding through COVAX – giving COVAX the largest and most diverse COVID-19 vaccine portfolio in the world***
- ***80 potentially self-financing countries have submitted non-binding expressions of interest to the Gavi-coordinated COVAX Facility, joining 92 low- and middle-income economies that are eligible to be supported by the COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC)***
- ***Goal of bringing the pandemic under control via equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines needs urgent, broadscale commitment and investment from countries***

172 economies are now engaged in discussions to potentially participate in COVAX, a global initiative aimed at working with vaccine manufacturers to provide countries worldwide equitable access to safe and effective vaccines, once they are licenced and approved. COVAX currently has the world's largest and most diverse COVID-19 vaccine portfolio - including nine candidate vaccines, with a further nine under evaluation and conversations underway with other mayor producers.

COVAX, the vaccines pillar of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, is co-led by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the World Health Organization (WHO) – working in partnership with developed and developing country vaccine manufacturers. It is the only global initiative that is working with governments and manufacturers to ensure COVID-19 vaccines are available worldwide to both higher-income and lower-income countries.

In order to be able to secure enough doses of vaccines to protect the most vulnerable populations, such as health workers and the elderly, the next step for the partnership is to confirm potential self-financing participants' intent to participate by 31 August and to turn these into binding commitments to join the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX Facility) by 18 September, with first upfront payments to follow thereafter, and no later than 9 October 2020.

"Equal access to a COVID-19 vaccine is the key to beating the virus and paving the way for recovery from the pandemic," said Stefan Löfven, Prime Minister of Sweden. "This cannot be a race with a few winners, and the COVAX Facility is an important part of the solution – making sure all countries can benefit from access to the world's largest portfolio of candidates and fair and equitable distribution of vaccine doses."



In biosafety level II laboratory setting, a medical scientist is working on RT-PCR method for the testing of the novel coronavirus at Department of Medical Sciences. **PHOTO: WHO/PLOY PHUTPHENG**

The COVAX Facility is a Gavi-coordinated pooled procurement mechanism for new COVID-19 vaccines, through which COVAX will ensure fair and equitable access to vaccines for each participating economy, using an allocation framework currently being formulated by WHO. The COVAX Facility will do this by pooling buying power from participating economies and providing volume guarantees across a range of promising vaccine candidates, allowing those vaccine manufacturers whose expertise is essential to large scale production of the new vaccines, to make early, at-risk investments in manufacturing capacity – providing participating countries and economies with the best chance at rapid access to doses of a successful COVID-19 vaccine.

The success of COVAX hinges not only on countries signing up to the COVAX Facility, but also filling key funding gaps for both COVAX R&D work and a mechanism to support participation of lower-income economies in the COVAX Facility.

"COVID-19 is an unprecedented global health challenge that can only be met with unprecedented cooperation between governments, researchers, manufacturers and multilateral partners," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO. "By pooling resources and acting in solidarity through the ACT Accelerator and the COVAX Facility, we can ensure that once a vaccine is available for COVID-19, it's available equitably to all countries."

CEPI is leading COVAX vaccine research and development work, which aims to develop three safe and effective vaccines which can be made available to countries participating in the COVAX Facility. Nine candidate vaccines are currently being supported by CEPI; seven of which are currently in clinical trials. Governments, vaccine manufacturers (in addition to their own R&D), organizations and individuals have committed US$ 1.4 billion towards vaccine R&D so far, but an additional US$1 billion is urgently needed to continue to move the portfolio forward.

A further nine candidates vaccines which complement the current CEPI portfolio are currently being evaluated for inclusion in COVAX. Furthermore, COVAX will consider procuring vaccines that complement the portfolio from any producer in the world; conversations are already underway with a number of additional manufacturers not receiving R&D support from CEPI to procure their vaccines if they are successful. Maximizing the portfolio of vaccines increases the probability of success as individual vaccines historically have a high failure rate.

"In the scramble for a vaccine, countries can act alone – creating a few winners, and many losers - or they can come together to participate in COVAX, an initiative which is built on enlightened self-interest but also equity, leaving no country behind," said Richard Hatchett, CEO of CEPI. "Only by taking a global view can we protect those most at risk around the world from the terrible effects of this disease. COVAX can deliver the vaccines that could end the pandemic, but it needs countries to step forward both to join the COVAX Facility, and also to address the serious funding shortfalls, including for R&D. The decisions that are taken now about COVID-19 vaccines have the power to change our future. We must be courageous and ambitious in striving for a multilateral solution."

A collaboration between Serum Institute of India (SII), Gavi and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced earlier this month will ensure up to 100 million doses of AstraZeneca or Novavax's candidate vaccines, if successful, will be available to low- and middle-income economies through the COVAX Facility at just US$ 3 per dose. The arrangement also provides an option to secure additional doses if COVAX sees a need for it. Separate agreements between Gavi, CEPI and AstraZeneca, announced in June, guarantee a further 300 million doses of their candidate vaccine, if successful, for the COVAX Facility.

In addition, in June Gavi launched the COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC), a financing instrument aimed at supporting the participation of 92 lower and middle income economies in the COVAX Facility. The COVAX AMC has raised more than US$ 600 million against an initial target of securing US$ 2 billion seed funding from sovereign donors as well as philanthropy and the private sector, needed by the end of 2020. Funding the COVAX AMC will be critical to ensuring ability to pay is not a barrier to accessing COVID-19 vaccines, a situation which would leave the majority of the world unprotected, with the pandemic and its impact continuing unabated.

Eighty higher-income economies, which would finance the vaccines from their own public finance budgets, have so far submitted Expressions of Interest ahead of the deadline of 31 August for confirmation of intent to participate. They will partner with 92 low- and middle-income countries that will be supported by the AMC if it meets its funding targets. Together, this group of 172 countries represents more than 70% of the world's population. Among the group are representatives from every continent and more than half of the world's G20 economies.

"The momentum we are witnessing behind this unprecedented global effort means there could be light at the end of the tunnel: A vaccine is our best route to ending the acute phase of the pandemic and the COVAX effort is the best way to get there," said Dr Seth Berkley, CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. "For higher-income countries it represents a win-win: not only will you be guaranteed access to the world's largest portfolio of vaccines, you will also be negotiating as part of a global consortium, bringing down prices and ensuring truly global access. Signing up to the COVAX Facility gives each country its best chance at protecting the most vulnerable members of their populations – which in turn gives the world its best chance at mitigating the toll this pandemic has taken on individuals, communities and the global economy. To make this end-to-end vision a reality, we need countries to make end-to-end commitments: funding R&D, signing up to the Facility, and supporting the COVAX AMC."

SOURCE: WHO

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 25th August, 2020)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (18:30) hrs M.S.T today, the low pressure area over North Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is weak over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and strong elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 26th August, 2020: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing and Tanintharyi Regions, fairly widespread in Mandalay, Magway Regions and Northern Shan, Kayin, Mon States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavyfalls in Naypyitaw and Rakhine State and isolated heavyfalls in Magway Region. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40)m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar Waters. Wave height will be about (8 – 12) feet off and along Rakhine Coast and about (5 - 8) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26th August, 2020: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26th August, 2020: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26th August, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 11:00 hrs MST on 25-8-2020)

Flood condition of Ayeyawady River

According to the (10:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ayeyarwady River at Nyaung Oo has exceeded by about (½) foot above its danger level. It may continue to rise from the present water level by about (1) foot during the next (2) days and may remain above its danger level.

Flood condition of Chindwin River

According to the (10:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Monywa has exceeded by about (1) foot above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level during the next (2) days.

Flood condition of Thanlwin River

According to the (10:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpaan has exceeded by about (4) feet above its danger level. It may continue to rise from the present water level by about (1) foot during the next (2) days and may remain above its danger level.

Advisory

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas at Nyaung Oo and Hpaan Townships to take precaution measure.

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

MasterCard plans to open local branch office in Myanmar

MASTERCARD announced that they are planning to establish a local branch office in Myanmar and that they will appoint a country business development manager.

MasterCard aims to support the advancement of Myanmar's digital payments ecosystem and its efforts to build a futuristic and inclusive cashless society. The establishment of the local office also underscores MasterCard's long-term commitment to advancing Myanmar's national digital agenda and reflects the company's continued confidence in the market.

Myanmar's GDP growth is expected to rebound to six per cent in 2021, making it one of the fastest-growing economies in the Southeast Asian region. The market has successfully leapfrogged several of the usual transition steps on its way to becoming a digital economy. For example, despite less than a quarter of the country has a bank account, 80 per cent of its citizens own a mobile phone, with many using their devices to conduct transactions and remit funds digitally. The government of Myanmar has been actively leveraging these advances to lay the foundation for a new payments' infrastructure designed to allow entrepreneurs and businesses to capitalize on opportunities across consumer, commercial and government payment flows. "With its futuristic vision to enable sophisticated capabilities like real-time payments for its citizens and businesses, Myanmar is at a truly pivotal stage in its economic evolution. MasterCard has a long and established history in partnering with hundreds of nations around the world on growing and scaling their payments ecosystems.

"MasterCard's ambition for Myanmar is no different – the organization is focussed on bringing its global best practices, coupled with a deeply rooted local presence and understanding of the domestic environment, to bear, to help the country secure a digital future defined by efficiency, agility, and security," said Safdar Khan, Division President, Southeast Asia Emerging Markets, MasterCard.

"As Myanmar continues its digital transformation, it is also necessary to empower its people with the skill sets and knowledge they need to participate actively in the digital economy. MasterCard will bring to Myanmar decades of experience in technology skilling that will enable the country to accelerate human capital development. Furthermore, as part of the organization's commitment to growing the local talent pool, MasterCard is well on its way to assembling a local leadership team which will be integral for sustainable, domestically relevant, long-term success" he added. MasterCard is a global technology company in the payments industry. Our mission is to connect and power an inclusive, digital economy that benefits everyone, everywhere by making transactions safe, simple, smart and accessible. —GNLM

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Fines stipulated for breach of wearing facemasks in Bayintnaung depot

By Nyein Nyein

PEOPLE will be fined for failure to wear masks in Bayintnaung depot and cargo parking terminal to enable prevention of the outbreak of the possible second wave of the coronavirus pandemic, according to the Committee on Prevention and Control of the COVID in Bayintnaung depot and cargo parking terminal.

Although people were actively following the instructions for the prevention of COVID in March, April and May, they were found to be somewhat weak in compliance with the regulations starting from mid-June. Therefore, authorities have issued some rules and regulations to prevent the possible outbreak of the second wave of COVID pandemic.

Bayintnaung Depot Committee on Prevention and Control of the COVID urged the people to wear the masks whenever they leave their home to work in the business areas in the commodity depot, shops, cargo terminal and restaurants. Authorities also urged the shopkeepers to keep the hand basins and soaps.

A combined team comprising the terminal supervision office and Bayintnaung market team has been inspecting around the commodity depot starting from 25 August. If people fail to wear the masks, they will be fined K3,000 for the first time and K5,000 for the second time, according to the Committee on Prevention and Control of the COVID in Bayintnaung depot and cargo parking terminal.

According to WHO announcement on 8 August, a total of 21.5 million coronavirus cases have been seen around the world with over 0.76 million people deaths. The death rate with coronavirus cases has been increasing over time, according to the Ministry of Health and Sports.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Driver dies when vehicle plunges into Palace Moat

A driver died when the car he was driving fallen into the palace moat in Aung Myay Thar San township in Mandalay on 25 August.

A Mitsubishi Pajero en route to west from east driven by Maung Kanada Thurain, 23, plunged into the palace moat when he lost control of the vehicle between 19th and 66th streets.

A team comprising the officials and staff from the Fire Services Department and the people from charity associations rushed to the victim's rescue. They took him to the Mandalay General Hospital. However, the driver succumbed to the injury he got in the accident. He died soon after he arrived at the hospital. The vehicle could be pulled out from the moat at 7:55 am. The police have filed a case at the police station. —U Zaw Lin Oo (Township IPRD) *(Translated by Hay Mar)*



A crane truck lifts the car that had fallen into the Mandalay Palace Moat on 25 August. **PHOTO: U ZAW LIN OO (TOWNSHIP IPRD)**

Magway reports 57 rape cases in 2020

Magway region reported 57 rape cases with 38 cases of child rape and 19 cases of adult rape from 1 January to 21 August in 2020. The offenders were charged with the rape case, according to the Magway Region Police Force.

Out of 38 cases of child rape, one victim belongs to the age group between 2 and 5, seven victims between 11 and 13 while the remaining 30 between 14 and 16. Among them, five victims are from the city whereas 33 are from the villages. The child rape cases occurred to 28 victims in the day time while ten victims were raped in the late period. In some cases, the victims were raped by family members or relatives so people should not trust others easily, according to the official record of the Police Force. "Most of the child rape cases are committed by the paedophiles. And they are found to be not close to the victims' families. When we have a look at child rape cases, it is found that the victims are under 14 to 16. So, we charge the culprits with the child rape case," said Police Colonel Hlaing Tint from Magway Region Police Force.

And most of the offenders are aged between 18 and 50. A total of eight offenders are involved in 38 cases of child rape. The child rape cases are committed by the strangers, according to the Police Force. Out of 19 adult rape cases, most of the offenders are found to have committed not only the rape cases. The victims filed lawsuits with the police stations not only for rape but also for other matters, said Police Colonel Hlaing Tint. —Zayyatu (Magway) *(Translated by Hay Mar)*



Japanese Foreign Minister concludes his official Myanmar visit

JAPANESE Foreign Minister Mr Motegi Toshimitsu and his entourage left Nay Pyi Taw for Japan by a flight at 10 am yesterday after their official visit to Myanmar. The Japanese Foreign Minister and his entourage were seen off at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary U Soe Han, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Ichiro Maruyama and other officials. — MNA

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

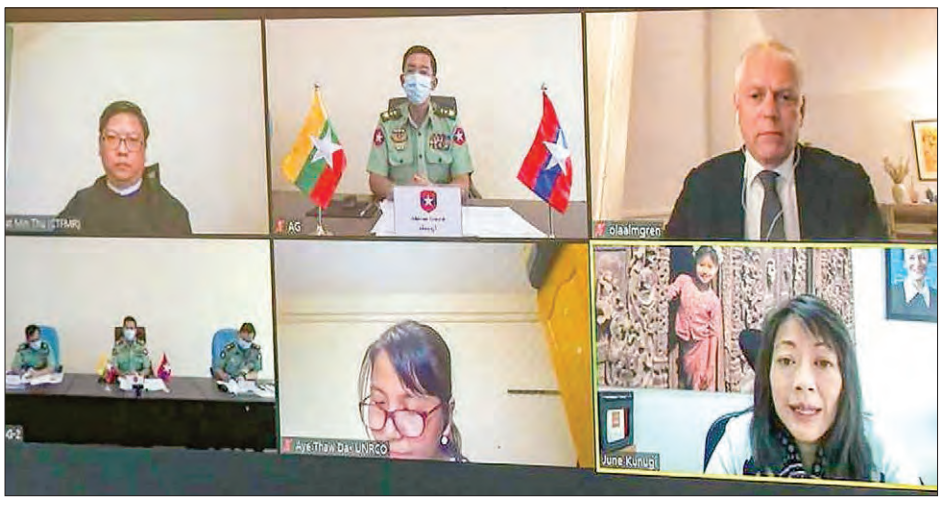
Japanese Foreign Minister Mr Motegi Toshimitsu leaves Nay Pyi Taw on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

Tatmadaw, CTFMR discuss prevention of child soldier recruitments

TATMADAW and Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) jointly organized the virtual conference on prevention of child recruitments on 24 August, according to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

The virtual meeting was attended by Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Let-Gen Myo Zaw Thein and Tatmadaw senior officers, CTFMR co-chairs UN Resident Coordinator for Myanmar Mr Ola Almgren and UNCEF Myanmar Representative Ms June Kunugi and officials.

During the meeting, they discussed cooperation and ongoing tasks between Myanmar Tatmadaw and the CTFMR after Myanmar Tatamdaw was delisted on 15 June 2020 from the United Nations Secretary General's annual report on Children in Armed Conflict as an entity that recruits child soldiers for combat roles.— MNA *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*



Tatmadaw and Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) discuss prevention of child recruitments via videoconference on 24 August. **PHOTO: MNA**

104 Myanmar citizens repatriated from foreign countries

A relief flight of MAI transported 104 Myanmar nationals stranded abroad from Incheon International Airport, the Republic of Korea, to Yangon International Airport yesterday evening.

The returnees included one Myanmar national from Brazil while 2 each from Switzerland, UK and Germany, 3 each from Indonesia, Canada, Italy and Egypt, 4 from Japan, 5 from Belgium, 24 from the US, 31 from Republic of Korea, and 21 seamen. The Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Health and Sports, and local officials helped the returnees for health inspections and arranged for 21-day quarantine. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs cooperated with the relevant ministries to bring back the Myanmar citizens who are stranded in foreign countries by relief flights and chartered flights in accordance with the instructions of National-Level Central Committee on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).—MNA*(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)*



Myanmar nationals returned from foreign countries line up for immigration service at the Yangon International Airport on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

30 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 25 August, total figure reaches 504

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases reached **504** after **30** new cases were reported on 25 August according to Ministry of Health and Sports. Case-476 returned from USA. Case 495 had contact with case 445. Others had no contact with positive case and no travel history. Out of the **504** confirmed cases, **six** died, **341** have recovered, **339** have been discharged from hospitals and **32** were held under investigation.—MNA ■

Updated at 8 pm, 25 August 2020

Total Cases	New Cases	Total Death Tally
504	30	6

Recovery Update on 25 August 2020 after two consecutive tests

Total Recovery	New Recovery	Discharged from Hospital
341	0	339

New Persons under Investigation from the past 24 hours to 12 noon of 25 August 2020

New PUIs
32

Ministry of Health and Sports

Volunteer medics to enforce COVID-19 fight in Rakhine State

THE second group of medical doctors and nurses volunteered to combat COVID-19 disease in Rakhine State arrived in Sittway Township by a special flight of Myanmar National Airlines yesterday morning.

They were welcomed by Rakhine State Social Affairs Minister Dr Chan Thar, Head of State Public Health and Medical Services Department Dr Sai Win Zaw Hlaing, Sittway General Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr Zaw Lin and officials at the airport.

The health workers group included 3 assistant doctors, one dentist, one senior nurse for public health, 5 senior nurses and 12 nurses.

The ministry will also arrange transportations for more medical volunteers who want to join the control measures against the pandemic.

The special flight also carried COVID-19 medicines and medical supplies.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Medical doctors and nurses who will volunteer for Rakhine State's COVID-19 fight arrive in Sittway on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu accepts the rice bags donated by Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar Rice Federation donates rice bags for Rakhine State

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) donated 3,000 six-pyi rice bags to the Rakhine State Government's Chief Minister and officials for the fight against COVID-19 yesterday (1pyi= about 2.13kg).

The donation was collectively made by Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), Myanmar Rice & Paddy Traders Association (MRPTA), Myanmar Rice Millers Association (MRMA), member companies and individual donors. —Aung Thura

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BOX ENDEAVOUR VOY. NO. (034W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BOX ENDEAVOUR VOY. NO. (034W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **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 CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (099N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (099N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-8-2020** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V EVER CHANT VOY. NO. (0214-011N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V EVER CHANT VOY. NO. (0214-011N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-8-2020** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (S'PORE) PTE., LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SINAR SOLO VOY. NO. (913N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR SOLO VOY. NO. (913N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (098N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (098N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V TAN BINH 135

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TAN BINH 135 VOY. NO. (2007)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT-2** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S ELDER TRIUMPHANT SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD

Germany pushes for international digital tax plan in coming months

VIENNA — German Finance Minister Olaf Scholz said today he was "quite confident" that a blueprint for taxing digital giants could be agreed on an international level later this year.

In January, 137 countries agreed to negotiate a deal on how to tax tech multinationals by the end of 2020 under the auspices of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

However, talks to come up with a new global tax system at the OECD have faced opposition by the US.

Scholz said Germany, which currently holds the EU's rotating presidency, was pushing for an agreement on the digital tax, as well as a minimum tax in the next few months.— AFP ■

Chile's exports drop 2.4 pct in Q2

SANTIAGO — Chilean exports fell 2.4 per cent in the second quarter of 2020 year on year, totalling 16.76 billion U.S. dollars, due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, Chile's Central Bank reported on Monday.

The sectors that saw the biggest drop in exports were agriculture, fruits, livestock, forestry products, and fish and seafood, which fell 18.3 per cent.

The industrial sector saw a decline of 11.8 per cent compared to the same period in 2019.

One exception was mining exports in general, which grew 6.8 per cent.

Imports in the second quarter amounted to 12.81 billion U.S. dollars, a 25.9 per cent decrease year on year. —Xinhua ■

China, US hold trade talks, agree to 'push forward' phase one deal

BEIJING — Top Chinese and US negotiators spoke on the phone Tuesday and agreed to "push forward" their phase one economic deal, amid soaring tensions between the two sides on several fronts.

The US and China signed the accord in January, bringing a partial truce in their lingering trade war and obliging Beijing to import an additional $200 billion in American products over two years, ranging from cars and machinery to oil and farm products.

But the COVID-19 pandemic has put pressure on the agreement and China's purchases of those goods have been lagging.

The two countries confirmed the talks in separate statements.

Washington said the parties "addressed steps that China has taken to effectuate structural changes called for by the agreement".

Those changes, it said, would "ensure greater protection for intellectual property rights, remove impediments to American companies in the areas of financial services and agriculture, and eliminate forced technology transfer".

It added that both sides "see progress and are committed to taking the steps necessary to ensure the success of the agreement".

Beijing's statement said a "constructive dialogue" between the two sides had "agreed to create conditions and atmosphere to continue to push forward the implementation of phase one of the China-US economic and trade agreement".

The phase one deal called for officials to hold a "check-in" every six months.



Tensions between China and the US have risen over a host of issues including trade, blame for the pandemic and China's policies in Xinjiang and Hong Kong. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Mounting tensions -

But US President Donald Trump in recent weeks has stepped up his rhetoric against China ahead of what is expected to be a tough re-election fight, raising questions about the deal's fate as well as the possibility of a phase two agreement.

Tensions between the two countries have risen over a host of issues including blame for the coronavirus pandemic and China's policies in Xinjiang and Hong Kong.—AFP ■

Registration-based IPOs debut accelerates China's capital market reform

SHENZHEN — The first batch of registration-based initial public offerings (IPOs) of 18 enterprises debuted on Monday on the ChiNext board, China's NASDAQ-style board of growth enterprises, marking a milestone for the country's capital market reforms.

Stock prices of all 18 firms rose on Monday, with that of 10 firms more than doubling from the initial offer price. Contec Medical Systems Co., Ltd. saw its share price soar by 1,061.42 per cent to 118 yuan (about 17.05 U.S. dollars) per share.

Boosted by the debut, the ChiNext Index led the gains among other major indices by closing at 1.98 per cent higher to 2,684.63 points.

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, who described the move as an important junction in China's capital market construction, said the ChiNext reform and the pilot registration-based IPO system will pave the way for the future rollout of the system on the main board and the SME board.

With the reform and opening-up measures gradually being phased in and progress being made in institutional improvement, China's capital market is undergoing profound structural changes, said the vice premier at a ceremony celebrating the debut.—Xinhua ■


Photo taken on Aug. 24, 2020 shows the bell-ringing ceremony during the listing ceremony of the first batch of registration-based initial public offerings (IPOs) of enterprises debuted on the ChiNext board at Shenzhen Stock Exchange in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, Aug. 24, 2020. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Myanma Port Authority
"Notice of High Tide"

Exceptionally high spring from 20.15 feet to 20.24 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of September 2nd to September 4th, 2020. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
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The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry
No. (3) Heavy Industrial Enterprise
Invitation for Expression of Interest (EoI)

The High Grade Paper Mill (Thabaung) and Newsprint Paper Mill (Thabaung) are located near Hlaygyitet Village, Thabaung Township, in the Ayeyarwady Region of Myanmar. The Government of Myanmar through the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry is willing to invite EoI Proposal from interested local and International companies for recommissioning and operation of the two Mills as implementing Plup and Paper Industrial estate.

The interested companies can get these EoI form during office hours at Technology Development Department, No. (3) Heavy Industrial Enterprise, Ministry of Planning, Finance & Industry, Office No 37, Naypyitaw:

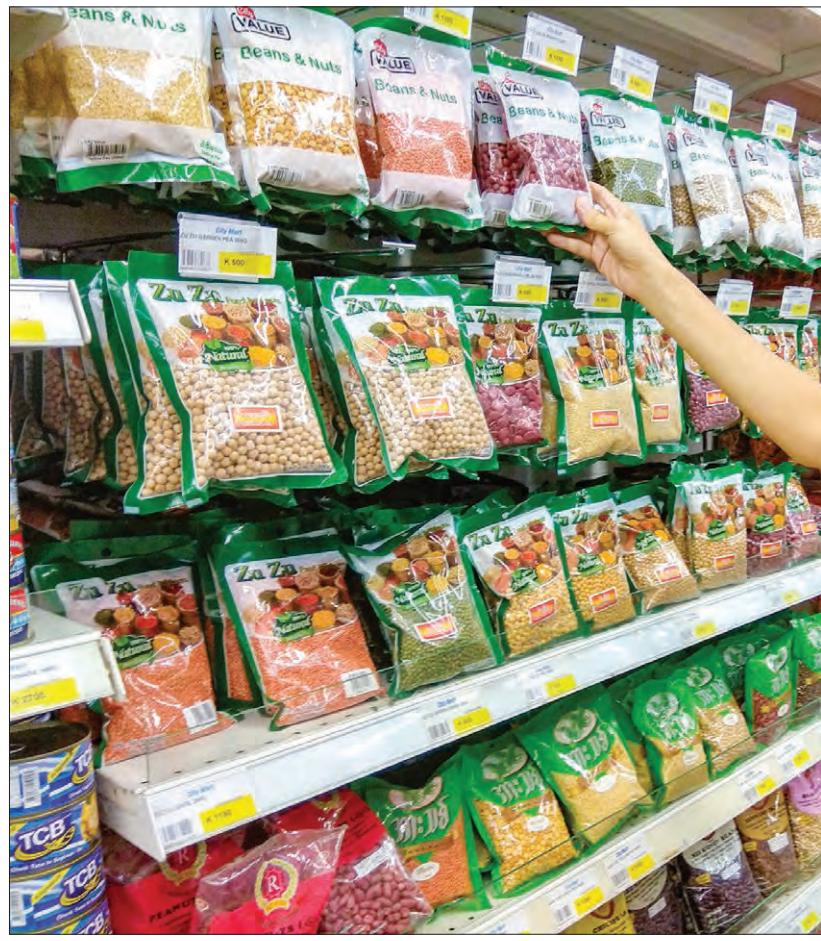
(a) Available date for EoI Form - (4.9.2020) to (2.10.2020)
(b) Deadline for submission of EoI - (5.10.2020), (16:00) pm, Myanmar Standard Time

For further detail information, please make an inquiry on phone number 95-67-3408293, 95-67-3408193, 95-67-3408129 and email: mpcipl@gmail.com during office hours.

No. (3) Heavy Industrial Enterprise
Ministry of Planning, Finance & Industry

Products required to display Myanmar language or jointly with more languages

By Naing Oo (DOCA)



A customer buying bean in a Supermarket. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

MYANMAR of today is keeping abreast with the world nations having started gaining a good development velocity. Alongside trade relations with the countries from the international community, Myanmar is importing different types of products and the consumers are extensively using foreign personal and household goods in this day and age. Today is age of information and different kinds of news are available in a short time. Some are satisfactory and some tragedy. Some give a laugh rather than a cry. Some news stated that a child of having sore eyes mistakenly used superglue instead of eye-drops and so he had to go to hospital for medical treatment. Soap water was wrongly used in the plantations in place of pesticides. Some vomited after unknowingly eating tube food with the pictures of pig and chicken, food supplement for pig and chicken, thinking it the snack. Some saw deaths as they took same size medicines instead of taking cardiac medicine. Some lost beauty as they applied itch medicament thinking it as facial cream. Some were dead because they mistakenly drank methyl alcohol instead of alcohol. Some saw untimely deaths because they took medicines with misleading advertisements, claiming that they can completely cure cancer and AIDS.

The incidents mentioned above are common among more than 51 million consumers. The main cause of these incidents is that personal and household goods locally manufactured and imported from other countries do not display Myanmar language expression most of the consumers can well understand. These are of course tragedy incidents. The consumers will be able to face danger of something unpleasant unless necessary measures as to both domestic and imported goods are taken in time. Just like the idea like 'Prevention is better than cure' prompt actions are required to be taken before the occurrence of the unpleasant incidents.

The consumers may happen to losses as personal and household goods do not show clear Myanmar language expressions. The entrepreneurs must display the expressions of Myanmar language or jointly with other ones on the label of the products. Such expression is a proof that it is claimed goods and services can be used as they are protected from danger or harm.

If the entrepreneurs manufacture and distribute the goods, it is necessary for them to display information about the usage of the goods and required instructions by Myanmar language or Myanmar jointly with other languages. In so doing, the consumers come to know usage, storage, allergic reaction and side effects as to the product.

With the purpose of ensuring more protection for more than 51 million consumers in Myanmar, the entrepreneurs must manufacture personal and household goods meeting the international norms to penetrate into the international market upholding business ethics. In cooperation with the relevant departments and the consumers, the entrepreneurs have to conduct negotiations how to overcome the challenges and the difficulties. The products must be in conformity with international rules and regulations and they mustn't harm the consumers. The consumers must enjoy full consumers' rights. The entrepreneurs must have the habit of observing ethics. Local and foreign goods and services must display in Myanmar language or Myanmar jointly with other language so that the products and the services can win the trust of the consumers and the consumers can use them in a safe way without suspicion.

Consumer protection is to protect the rights of the consumers, but it isn't aimed at harming the interest of the entrepreneurs. It is a useful mission to help develop businesses running in line with ethics. On the other hand, the work of consumer protection is to pledge that the consumers must fully enjoy the rights. Moreover, it is also responsible for the consumers' access to safe and secure goods and services. According to the provisions prescribed in the consumer protection law, it has to remedy losses and damages in conformity with the international norms of the consumers. On the other hand, it has to arrange with the entrepreneurs about the holding of the meetings and discussions in order to produce goods and services in accord with the international norms during which suggestions have to be given and information has to be shared. It also helps the entrepreneurs expand the goods and services into both the domestic and international markets.

In line with the 2019 Consumer Protection Law issued by the Department of Consumer Affairs under the Ministry of Commerce, hoping the interest of the consumers, notifications are issued in accord with the international criteria, saying that locally-manufactured personal and household goods must display in Myanmar language or Myanmar jointly with other language. There has been an enormous achievement because the consumers pay attention and the entrepreneurs follow



Officials looking into foodstuffs in a shop in Kywun Hla Township, Sagaing Region. **PHOTO: MYO WIN NYO (KYWUN HLA)**



the provisions prescribed in the law as well. It is a proof claiming personal and household goods in Myanmar market can be used undoubtedly because they display logo and necessary information in Myanmar language or Myanmar jointly with other language. I thank the consumers and the entrepreneurs for their participation and observance of the rules.

In the past, the cement of Horse Head Logo manufactured by the Ministry of Industry displayed the direction of use in Myanmar language and it gained popularity because of good quality. A variety of cement logos have been now seen in Myanmar at a time when Myanmar is building a new nation with all-round development. A great amount of cement is being manufactured and distributed locally and internationally. However, most of cement brands are weak in expressing directions for use, positive and negative effects, preventable ways as well as information. Most of the cement brands display only English language expression. Out of these cement brands, SCG Poland Cement manufactured by Mawlamyine Cement Limited from Mon State is being enormously distributed to local and foreign markets. The SCG Poland Cement brand shows respect to local and foreign consumers and places emphasis on laws, orders and directives released from the respective countries. For example, when cement bags are distributed to Myanmar, every cement bag displays direction for use, concrete standard specification and mixture ratio in Myanmar language. The ratio of the mixture can be changed according to the instructions of the engineer.

Regarding the recommendations, when the mixture is already used, water must be sprinkled to prevent the appearance of the crack within one to three days. After the cement bag is opened, it should be used up within day. The cement bags should be kept in the places where there is no moisture, especially in the shady places. Cement powder can harm the eyes severely. The exposure to the wet mixture with the cement and the water can cause inflammation because of alkali reaction. Chromium might cause allergic reaction. Gloves and safety shoes should be worn when handling the cement by shielding the eyes. It is important not to breathe the cement powder in. If the exposure to the cement or if the cement powder is breathed in, basic medical treatment should be given to the victim immediately. The victim should breathe in and out in the places where there is fresh air and undergo medical treatment. If cement powder is swallowed, the victim must immediately drink much water without vomiting. Don't carry the cement bag by bending down. The cement bags should be kept in the place out of the reach of the children. The said-above information is clearly written in Myanmar language. The consumers can use a product undoubtedly by following information each cement bag displays. Similarly, other same businesses running in Myanmar should give information in Myanmar language by showing respect to the consumers if they distribute their products in Myanmar.

The business following commercial ethics respect laws, by-laws, orders and directives issued from the relevant departments. Special attention is paid to the needs and satisfaction of the consumers. Products are sold at a reasonable price without taking profit too much. Good attitude must be shown to the consumers, and accountability and responsibility must have toward the consumers. The first priority is to ensure safety for the consumers. Emphasis is very much on producing goods and providing services that is beneficial to the consumers. Great care is not to have negative effects on the environment and the consumers. The rights of the consumers should be respected and valued so that the business will be able to last longer.

Recognizing and accepting the rights of the consumers, the entrepreneurs have to produce and distribute goods and services in an honest manner. From the production processes to the mouths of the consumers, the entrepreneurs are responsible for the production of the goods and services in order to meet the satisfaction of the consumers in every process of manufacturing, transporting and distributing by taking full responsibility and accountability.

The consumers are the masters who help develop the businesses of the entrepreneurs. The consumers of the 21st century pay attention to product label requirement on such as effectiveness, durability and safety once they use personal and household goods and services. Satisfaction can vary according to the different peer groups. Only if the entrepreneurs take into account of weather, time and situation as well as satisfaction of peer groups can they establish their businesses capable of lasting longer and can they achieve success.

The measures to protect the rights of consumers are very delicate. Instead of taking severe actions and giving punishment in line with the orders and directives, the consumers and the entrepreneurs are required to perform the tasks of their own volition as they are citizens. Under the provisions described in the Consumer Protection Law (2019), the consumers can use safe and secure goods and services in accordance with consumer rights. On the other hand, regarding the goods and services, the entrepreneurs have to conduct education and negotiation and distribute information in order to produce goods and provide services to ensure conformity with the international norms for the purpose of ensuring the businesses can stand longer.

The Department of Consumer Affairs under the Ministry of Commerce is giving a hand with the announcement of necessary laws and directives so as to protect consumer rights, remedy the losses and impacts, manufacture and distribute the products by the entrepreneurs in line with the international norms and expand the domestic and international markets. It is aimed at protecting the rights of consumers and strengthening long term interests of the entrepreneurs. The orders are issued by seeking approvals step by step and finding out the solution after negotiating with the related departments, association and experts for several times. The DCA is taking preventive measures intended to try to stop the losses before the occurrence to contribute toward the interest of 51 million consumers and entrepreneurs, longevity of the people in the prosperous community, the development of the country and resemblance to international norms.

Success will be within the limit when measures to protect consumer rights are taken by a single department only. But, if the consumers, the entrepreneurs and the relevant associations join hands each other, success will be achieved in a short time with an expectation of serving the interests of the State and the people.

Translated by
Htut Htut (Twantay)

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Packs of bean on display on shelf in a Supermarket. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**



A woman buying goods in a Supermarket. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**



Officials from Myanmar Football Ferderation and its Infrastructure Committee pose for a picture during the meeting at the Ferderation's meeting hall in Yangon on 25 August 2020. **PHOTO: MFF**

MFF Infrastructure Committee discusses football ground conditions

THE Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) Infrastructure Committee organized a meeting at the Federation meeting hall in Yangon yesterday.

The committee chairman U Kyaw San spoke on the occasion that football grounds and infrastructures are fundamental, and they need to be regularly checked and maintained in good condition. He also expressed thanks to those attending for coming to the meeting.

MFF general secretary U Ko Ko Thein also discussed the matters relating to the tasks of infrastructure committee, construction of MFF Futsal Indoor Stadium under FIFA Forward Development Programme, completion of new training grounds, and floodlights upgrade projects at Thuwunna Stadium.

He further detailed on the renovation of Bahan Artificial Turf and Thuwunna Stadium gymnasium, press conference hall and team dressing room with assistances from AFC. The proposed projects will be implemented in 2019-2020 to improve football grounds and training pits that are being used.

The meeting came into conclusion following the remarks of the committee chairman U Kyaw San, members U Ko Ko Htay, U Htaung Htar Htan and Dr Ye Mon Htut, MFF general secretary U Ko Ko Thein.

The committee chairman U Kyaw San and members, MFF general secretary U Ko Ko Thein and officials attended the meeting among others. – Kyaw Khin

Ronaldinho released from Paraguay detention after five months

ASUNCION—Former Brazil football star Ronaldinho was released on Monday (Aug 24) by a Paraguayan judge after spending five months in detention over a forged passport.

Judge Gustavo Amarilla also released Ronaldinho's brother Roberto de Assis Moreira, who likewise had been held for a month in jail and another four months under house arrest in a hotel in Paraguay's capital, Asuncion, for the same charge. The 40-year-old former World Cup winner "is free to travel to whatever country in the world he wants but he must inform us if he changes his permanent residence" for a period of one year, the judge said.

"He has no restrictions except for the fulfilment of reparations for damage to society." Dressed in jeans, a black beret and black shirt, Ronaldinho accepted the terms of his release, which include payment of US$90,000 in damages. His brother, who is also Ronaldinho's business manager, must pay US$110,000. The judge stressed that he was not issuing a "definitive dismissal" of the case but rather that Ronaldinho was benefitting from a "conditional suspension of the procedure". His brother, on the other hand, was given a two-year suspended sentence.—AFP ■



Brazilian retired football player Ronaldinho (C) arrives at Asuncion's Justice Palace to testify about his irregular entry to the country, in Asuncion, on March 6, 2020. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Korea's top golf event moved to Vegas as virus hits 'Asian swing'

LAS VEGAS—South Korea's biggest golf tournament was moved to Las Vegas because of coronavirus restrictions on Tuesday, as the rest of the US PGA Tour's $30 million 'Asian swing' also looked in doubt. The CJ Cup, originally due to take place on Jeju island from October 15-18, will now be played at Las Vegas's Shadow Creek course on the same dates, the PGA Tour and sponsors CJ Group said in a joint statement. South Korea -- which had brought its outbreak largely under control, but is now tackling several clusters of infections -- has imposed strict limits on travel, with all arrivals required to spend two weeks in quarantine.

Separately, the PGA Tour said it was in talks over the fate of Japan's Zozo Championship and the WGC-HSBC Champions in Shanghai, which are scheduled to be held in consecutive weeks after the CJ Cup. With combined purses of $29.75 million, the PGA Tour's three-stop swing has been the highlight of Asia's golf calendar in recent seasons. "We are currently engaged in discussions with the stakeholders of both the Zozo Championship and World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions and will make an announcement shortly on the status of both events," the PGA said in a statement sent to AFP.—AFP ■



Justin Thomas won the CJ Cup for the second time last year. **PHOTO: AFP**