 Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population
Notification 196/2020
8th Waxing of Tawthalin, 1382 ME
(24 September 2020)

1. In order to control the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) more effectively in Yangon Region, the Ministry of Health and Sports issued Order 107/2020 dated 20-9-2020 and Order 108/2020 dated 22-9-2020 respectively. The Stay-at-Home order has been issued for the people in townships of Yangon Region not to go to their workplaces, except for the essential businesses included in the orders.

2. According to these orders, the Social Security Board under the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, in exercising the rights in Article 100 of Social Security Law 2012 and in accordance with Article 31 (b-2) and its bylaw 136 (b), will pay 40 per cent of contribution for June 2020 to the insured persons, as a family assistance fund, who included in the Stay-at-Home order, worked at the private industries, factories, and departments until 23-9-2020 and paid their contribution for June 2020, although they have not pay their contributions for 36 months at least before June 2020.

3. Employers or their representatives of the private industries, factories and departments which are registered at the Social Security Board and entitled to the stipulations in the above paragraph 2 may apply for social security fund for their employees at the relevant social security office or through Webportal https://ssbmyanmar.org or Website-https://ssb.gov.mm since the day this notification has been released.

4. The above-mentioned stipulations also come into effect since the day this notification has been released.

Myanmar returnees from Malaysia line up for immigration service at the Yangon International Airport on 24 September 2020.

PHOTO : MNA

A relief flight of Air Asia landed at Yangon International Airport yesterday, with 88 Myanmar nationals who wanted to return home as they were facing difficulties in Malaysia.

The flight was organized by the Myanmar Embassy in Kuala Lumpur and the respective companies.

The returnees have to stay the 14-day quarantine at specific places or designated hotels after immigration processes and medical tests, followed by the 7-day home quarantine, under the arrangements of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Health and Sports and the Yangon Region government.

In accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Myanmar Embassy in Kuala Lumpur is also working together with the respective organizations to repatriate the citizens who have no valid documents and who were held at the detention centres after verifying their citizenship.—MNA

(Translated By Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)
Advice to people in Yangon Region

1. About 6,000 people have been quarantined in Yangon. Within two days, quarantine spaces were arranged for 1,000 people who came back from Rakhine State. Now, the number of people who had contacts with COVID-19 patients has increased, so seven new quarantine centres have been established for 1,000 more people. The civil society organizations and volunteers are invited to help the persons at the quarantine centres.

2. People in Yangon need to send the persons who had contacts with confirmed cases in the contact tracing to the quarantine centres without making them worried.

3. People should adhere to the required rules and regulations in the quarantine centres. When sending food to people in quarantine centres, alcohol and cigarettes should not be included in the delivery.

4. People in Yangon have lots of difficulties, challenges and burdens. Therefore, they need to strictly follow the rules by staying at home in two to three weeks during this period. In going outside for necessary reasons, they must wear masks. As Yangon City has a large number of population, people are also advised to abide by the rules of Ministry of Health and Sports amidst the increasing number of confirmed cases.

UEC passes advance ballot papers to MoFA for overseas citizen voters

THE Union Election Commission’s Director-General U Khin Maung Oo presented third batch of ballot papers and envelopes for 43,422 Myanmar eligible voters abroad for advance voting to Director-General of the Planning and Administrative Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Aung Soe Win yesterday.

The township sub-commissions of UEC scrutinized the copies of Form-15 sent by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the voters in foreign countries.

The UEC handed over first batch of the advance ballot papers and envelopes for 188 overseas eligible voters on 18 September and for 20,426 voters in the second time on 23 September. The third batch ballot papers and envelopes were for the eligible citizen voters who will cast ballots at the Myanmar embassies in Bangkok, Singapore, Seoul and Kuala Lumpur. Until now, the UEC has presented advance ballot papers and envelopes for a total of 64,036 voters to the MoFA.

1,052 more new cases of COVID-19 reported on 24 September, total figure rises to 8,344

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rise to 8,344 after 1,052 new cases were reported on 24 September according to Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these 8,344 confirmed cases, 150 died, 2,381 have been discharged from hospitals and 416 were held under investigation.

Online application for trademark registration to be introduced on 1 Oct

THE Ministry of Commerce will launch the soft opening of filing trademark applications online on 1 October.

According to the ministry’s notification 63/2020 issued on 28 August 2020, the first stage of filing trademark applications will be accepted with WIPO File System starting from 1 October via trademark registration service businesses, companies and law firms. The date for the second stage of the registration process will then be announced.

IP Myanmar Facebook Page will broadcast live the soft opening of the trademark registration.

COVID-19 Call Centre opens daily

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

Over 43 staff from the Medical Research Department and 17 volunteers from the Myanmar Medical Association totally 60 workers have been working at the centre since 8th April.
Who is eligible to vote?
- irrespective of sex or religion
- those who are 18 years of age on the date of the election
- citizens, associate citizens, and those who have permission to become naturalized citizens, who do not contravene the provisions of the Hluttaw Election Law
- a person whose name has been included in the voting list of the respective constituency

Who is ineligible to vote?
- a member of a religious order
- person serving a prison sentence
- person adjudged to be of unsound mind as provided for in the relevant law
- person who has not yet been discharged as an insolvent
- person prohibited by the Election Law
- foreigner or person who has assumed foreign citizenship

Advice to people in Nay Pyi Taw
1. People should not illegally come to Nay Pyi Taw. If a person comes back from other places to Nay Pyi Taw, he/she needs to inform and receive medical examination. The charge for COVID-19 tests has been considerably reduced.
2. It has been learnt that some people get out of the cars on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway and some old roads, and then they entered into Nay Pyi Taw via motorcycle roads and inter-village roads. So, authorities are cooperating with the Myanmar Police Force to take strict measures to control these illegal entries.
3. The ward/village administrators have been instructed to report, manage and send individuals who entered or came back to the ward/village to the quarantine centres.
4. To make the flow of goods smooth, truck drivers will be given the slip at the entrance gate. From the entrance gate, the drivers must drive their trucks directly to the exit gate, where the slip must be returned. The truck drivers are not allowed to go to other places between the entrance gate and the exit gate.
5. Face mask rule has been imposed in Nay Pyi Taw townships and COVID-19 awareness has been raised via loudspeakers. A dusk-to-dawn curfew has been in force, and surprise checks have been carried out on restaurants.

MoC organizes meeting on trademark registration

UNION MINISTER for Commerce Dr Than Myint presided over a virtual meeting yesterday morning with businesspersons, representatives from law firms and relevant organizations to explain the process of trademark registration in line with the ministry’s Order 63/2020 dated 28 August 2020.

The Union Minister discussed the need to comply with international standards in practising copyright system and to match with the existing politics, economy and education of the country.

He remarked that the implementation of four copyrights laws should be carried out one after another to lessen possible difficulties, to ensure sufficient human resource and to overcome technical problems.

The Union Minister added that the Trademark Law will be implemented first, followed by the Industrial Design Law, and the Copyrights Law on Literary and Artistic Works and the Patent Law, as well as the Geographical Indications.

In implementing the Trademark Law, the existing First to Use System will be changed into the First to File System that favours the applicants. The ministry has issued the Order 63/2020, informing that registration can be started from 1st October 2020, with the objective of implementing a smooth transition.

Deputy Minister U Aung Htoo that Myanmar has adopted the copyright laws in line with international copyright laws and procedures of the World Intellectual Property Organization, however, these legal documents have not come into force until now.

The trademark registration could be done in line with the Trademark Law although it was carried out under the Registration Act.

Under the new registration system, the WIPO file system could be used in filing applications for trademark registration, supporting the Ease of Doing Business, and the registration fee could be paid from mobile banking.

Adopting copyright laws in Myanmar was supported by WIPO, JICA, JPO, USAID, and USPTO.

The Union Minister also expressed thanks to these partner organizations and confirmed to coordination with them.

Filing application for registration of Trademark could be done through the law firms or by individuals; the MSMEs and the copyright department will work together for the business firms in MSMEs sector.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)
Strenuous struggle

The outbreak of COVID has been for over six months or half a year. Our people have become tired during this period. But we would be satisfied with our tiredness in the future when we have gained success after our strenuous struggle. Our understanding that victory was achieved through our collaborative efforts would turn into a great strength for us.

(Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's update on government measures against COVID-19 pandemic, on 22 September 2020)

Education, TVET coordination group hold 15th meeting online

THE Education and TVET Sector Coordination Group organized their 15th meeting on 23 September. The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun, permanent secretaries and representatives from the related ministries, representatives from development partner organizations, the directors-general and the deputy directors-general from the departments under the ministry.

At the meeting, the Union Minister stressed the improvement of Human Development Index Value in Myanmar from 0.566 in 2015 to 0.584 in 2018; meanwhile, the Human Capital Index has also reached 0.48 in 2020 from 0.47 in 2018. He also said the decline of dropout rate at the primary level to less than 4 per cent and the significant increase in school enrolment rates compared between the 2014 Census and the 2019 Interim Census.

Opportunities for learning technical and vocational education training have increased in the country, while the global ranking of Yangon University, Mandalay University and some other universities has risen.

The Union Minister also explained home-based learning TV programmes from the Education Channel, online lessons from the Myanmar Digital Education Platform and through DBE boxes for the students in far-flung areas as with no internet access, with providing ICT equipment to the schools.

The ministry is drawing the Comprehensive Education Development Plan suggested by the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State headed by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

Plans are underway to draft the National Education Strategic Plan (2021-2030) based on the fruitful results of its previous version in 2016-2021 period, the advice from the relevant ministries, local/international experts, partner organizations and stakeholders.

Ms Min Jeong Kim, the head of UNESCO Myanmar and the Coordinator of ETVSCG, talked about future assistance of partner organizations for education development. The directors-general from the respective education departments presented their sectors, followed by the discussion of the ETVSCG Co-Facilitator and Finland’s Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Riikka Laatu before the concluding remark of the Union Minister.

SELECTED Myanmar students took written tests and interview session at the national level quiz yesterday in preparation for entering the regional level 9th ASEAN Quiz which will be held in Singapore.

A team of judges led by Dr Daw Khin Kyi Pyar, Rector of National University of Arts and Culture (Mandalay) under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, interviewed the 10 students who had passed writing tests via videoconference. The Myanmar Radio and Television, in-charge department of SCI-Myanmar, organized the personal interview session.

Ministry of Education’s Department of Higher Education primarily selected a total of 34 students nationwide for 9th ASEAN Quiz-National Level.

Out of them, 30 students sat for the written tests held online on 20 August, and 10 of them qualified for the personal interview.

Five of the students who pass the personal interview will represent Myanmar at the 9th ASEAN Quiz-Regional Level. ASEAN Quiz-Regional Level that allowed participation of students aged between 15 and 18 years old of ASEAN member countries aims to enhance the ASEAN knowledge, to foster ASEAN spirit and to promote cooperation among ASEAN youths.

ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information (COCI) launched the quiz project in 2002, and ASEAN member countries, in turn, hosted the quiz competition that takes place every two years.


Students participate in online interview session of 9th ASEAN Quiz-National Level on 24 September 2020.

ASEAN Quiz-Regional Level this year, and its 10th edition event will be organized by Myanmar in 2022. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)
Dollar exchange rate continues slumping despite CBM purchase of $12.7 mln within 4 days

By Nyein Nyein

THE US dollar exchange rate keeps falling in the local forex market. However, the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) purchased US$12.7 million in the auction market within four days, forex market data showed.

In a bid to keep the exchange rate stable, the CBM purchased 1.8 million dollars on 21 September; 3.3 million dollars on 22 September; 3.8 million dollars each on 23 and 24 September at an auction market rate.

The CBM has purchased $30.9 million in the auction market rate.

That is why the stable exchange rate is vital of importance for the businesses, the businesspeople said.

At present, the local forex market sees the weak sentiment amid the coronavirus outbreak and the trade disputes between the US and China, the business experts shared their opinions.

This year, the exchange rate moved in the range of K1,496-1,493 in January, K1,436-1,465 in February, K1,320-1,445 in March, K1,395-1,440 in April, K1,406-1,426 in May, K1,385-1,412 in June, K1,367-1,410 in July and K1,335-1,390 in August. Last year, the rates are pegged at K1,508-1,517 in July, K1,519-1,526 in August, K1,327-1,565 in September, K1,528-1,537 in October, K1,519-1,524 in November and K1,485-1,513 in December.

On 20 September 2018, the dollar exchange rate hit an all-time high of K1,650 in the local currency market. (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Chilli growers earn high profit

WITH chilli grown on a commercial scale in Myinmu township, the local chilli growers are earning a good income, according to the local chilli growers.

“The chilli plants are mostly grown with two or three feet away from one another. Around 7,000 plants of chilli can be grown in an acre of land. The chillies have to be plucked after two months, and it can be plucked twice a month. The oldest chilli plants can produce more chilli. For the first time, the chilli can yield around 200 visses (one viss equals 1.6 kg). The retail price of fresh chilli is K1,600 per viss in the market. So, the growers can earn over K200,000 per acre from chilli plantations. If there is some space to grow the plants, the local people should grow the chilli plants,” said U Hla Myint, a chilli grower from Myinmu township.

The cultivation of chilli costs K900,000 per acre. Each chilli plant can be picked up 14 times. Monywa merchants come to buy the chilli right on the chilli fields. So, the chilli is one of the best crops to grow recently. — Aung Soe Phay (Myinmu)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Myanmar-China trade exceeds $40 bln in incumbent government period

THE value of Myanmar bilateral trade with the neighbouring country China through maritime trade and border trade has stood at an estimated amount of US$42.29 billion in the incumbent government period, the statistics issued by the Central Statistical Organization under the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry indicated.

The ministry reported that the imports outperformed the exports in trade with China over the past four years, with exports reaching over $19.7 billion and imports valued at over $22.5 billion.

Between 2016-2017FY and 2019-2020 (as of August), China has been Myanmar’s largest trade partner beyond the regional states. China accounted for 80.4 per cent of total trade in the FY2016-2017 with an estimated trade value of $6.20 billion, 78.4pc in the FY2017-2018 with a trade value of over $7.00 billion, 57.4pc in the FY2018-2019 with $3.9 billion and 58.7pc in the FY 2019-2020 (Oct-April) with $5.56 billion respectively.

Rice, various types of peas, sesame seeds, corn, fruits and vegetables, dried tea leaves, fishery products, rubber, gem and animal products are primarily exported to China. In contrast, machinery, plastic raw materials, CMP raw materials, consumer products and electronic tools flow into Myanmar.

The border trade value ($22.8 bln) is relatively higher than the maritime trade value ($19.47 bln) in the bilateral trade between Myanmar and China. Myanmar mainly exports agricultural products to China through the border trade, which 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.

“Illegal trade is highly witnessed between Myanmar and China borders in the previous years. This year, traders sent the goods via legitimate trade route, and trading volume sharply fell,” said an official of Myanmar Rice Federation.

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

Myanmar is carrying out border trade with the neighbouring country China through Muse, Lweje, Chinshwehaw, Kampait and Kengtung. Apart from its leading trade partner China, Myanmar is carrying out its external trade mostly with the regional trade partners. Trade with countries in the European Union, however, remained uncompetitive, compared with regional trade partners. — Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)
ICT online panel discussion to be launched on 27 September

By Nyein Nyein

THE ICT talk online panel discussion led by Yangon Region Computer Industry Association will be held on the motion of “Health and ICT” through Zoom App from 1:00 to 3:00 pm on 27 September. The association will launch the panel discussion to provide support through ICT technology to the doctors and health workers who are fighting COVID-19 second wave and will discuss matters to avoid or to apply things related to COVID-19. The panel discussion will be broadcast live through the CIA Yangon Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/MCIA Yangon/

During the discussion, U Zayar Phyo @ Jack Chen (MD/Technovisions Co., Ltd) will be the moderator for the panel discussion and the panelists are Dr Tun Thura Thet, Founder & CEO/ MYanmar Information Technology Pte Ltd, Dr Khin Khin Gyi, Director/Ministry of Health and Sports, Dr Tin Aung Kyaw, Assistant Director/Yangon General Hospital and Dr Htet Zan Lin, CEO/On Doctor Company Limited.

As of 24 September at 8 am, Myanmar has reported 7,827 COVID-19 confirmed cases including 133 deaths, according to the Ministry of Health and Sports.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Onion price sharply increases in Seikphyu

The onion from Seikphyu township is sold well at K400-500 per viss in the local market, up from around K400-500 per viss previously. The local farmers from Seikphyu township mainly grow the onions. The onions are also exported annually to foreign countries through townships and border areas from across the country. The onions can be harvested in March and April.

The local onion growers are selling the onion in the onion commodity depots depending upon the onion market for their family livelihood, education, health and social matters.

Then, the onion from Seikphyu Township are sent to Yangon Bayint Naung commodity depot, Mawlamyine, Pathein, Pyay and border areas from across the country; and the price of onion dropped this year. From April to September, the cost of onion is around K400-500 per viss. Because of the difficulties in the storage of onion, the local onion growers are selling at a low price.

Recently, the locally produced onions are consumed not only in the country but also demanded from Bangladesh. So, the price of onion has risen again these days. The price of onion ranges between K700 and K800 per viss depending upon the size of the onion. These days, about 10,000 tonnes of onion enter Seikphyu commodity depot.

The local onion growers will be faced with the losses of the profit by growing onion. So, the growers expect to get more price of onion before Thadingyut Festival.

—Zin Yaw Aye
(Translated by Hay Mar)
Virus death rates climbing in seven countries, warns EU

The seven have “an increased proportion of hospitalized and severe cases” among older people and “increasing or high death notification rates are already observed... or may be observed soon”.

The seven have “an increased proportion of hospitalized and severe cases” among older age groups, the ECDC said.

A third group were considered to be stable, where the risk was “low” for the general population and “moderate” for risk groups.

The ECDC noted that in the EU, “the vulnerability of the population to infection remains high as available data from seroprevalence studies suggest that the level of immunity in the population is less than 15 percent in most areas within the EU/EEA and the UK”.

“Most of the people can still be infected,” ECDC director Andrea Ammon told reporters during an online briefing with European Commissioner Stella Kyriakides.

SOURCE: AFP

Paris, Marseille hit out at new virus restrictions

OFFICIALS in Paris and Marseille reacted angrily Thursday after the national government announced tighter restrictions to curb a flare-up of coronavirus cases, in particular for restaurants and bars already hammered by a two-month lockdown last spring.

Health Minister Olivier Veran announced Wednesday that bars, restaurants and gyms in Marseille will shut from Saturday, while eating and drinking establishments in Paris and 10 other cities will close at 10:00 pm starting Monday.

Marseille was put on “maximum alert”, while Paris was at “elevated alert” – the second tier on a new sliding scale system of infection control measures.

The Mediterranean port city objected that it was not consulted ahead of time, and insisted that steps taken locally have started bearing fruit in braking the virus outbreak.

Under the new measures, public establishments such as theatres, museums or cinemas in Marseille will also have to close unless they have strict virus barriers measures in place.

The city asked for a 10-day reprieve to show its own measures were working.

“Once again our territory is being sanctioned, punished, singled out,” Marseille’s deputy mayor Benoît Payan told reporters.

For her part, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo said she had lodged a formal protest.

Apart from restricted bar and restaurant hours starting Monday, Paris will also see gyms and other indoor sports facilities closed. “I do not think that the closure of bars after 10:00 pm is a pertinent measure,” Hidalgo told France 3. “It is hard to understand: how will it prevent the spread of the virus? How will the fact that we can no longer exercise help us, while sport is an important part of keeping us healthy with strong immune systems?” she asked.

“How can you understand an easing of health protocols in schools on one hand, and on the other we have to close bars at 10:00 pm?”

SOURCE: AFP

Met Opera cancels entire 2020-21 season over coronavirus

NEW York’s Metropolitan Opera on Wednesday announced the “painful” cancellation of its entire 2020-21 season over the still-spreading coronavirus, a major blow for the city’s decimated arts and culture industry.

The announcement is a dire signal for live arts institutions in New York – including the renowned Broadway theatre district – which have sat dark since the pandemic hamstringed the city starting in mid-March, and look set to remain that way indefinitely.

Shows at the Met, a 3,800-seat bellwether for the return of live performances, now will not resume before September 2021 at the earliest.

The Met said it based its decision to cancel the entirety of its current season on the advice of health authorities, saying it would be unsafe to resume rehearsals and productions until “a vaccine is widely in use, herd immunity is established, and the wearing of masks and social distancing is no longer a medical requirement.”

“How health officials have said this will likely take at least five to six months after a vaccine is initially made available,” the organization said.

Peter Gelb, the Metropolitan Opera’s general manager, told AFP that with the cancelation of this season along with the final eight weeks of the previous one, the revered house anticipated a loss in earned revenues of at least $154 million, even as expenses have been reduced.

Calling this “the most challenging time” in the company’s 137-year history, Gelb said in an interview he was aiming to negotiate with unions representing many Met employees to help them weather the storm.

SOURCE: AFP
COVID-19 pandemic: countries urged to take stronger action to stop spread of harmful information

The Union Government has taken measures to ease the impact on workers by relaxing some of the rules of the Social Security Law. If factories are running until 23 September, 2020, they are eligible to enjoy 40 per cent of salary as social security benefits.

COVID-19 pandemic: countries urged to take stronger action to stop spread of harmful information

The Global New Light of Myanmar
25 SEPTEMBER 2020
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
ARTICLE
OPINION

If factory workers contributed social security fees to the Social Security Department for June, and if the factories are running until 23 September, 2020, then they will be eligible to enjoy 40 per cent of their salaries as social security benefits.

Social security benefits a key to making workers resilient to COVID-19

COVID-19 is a crisis that demands robust responses from the international community. It is a call to action not only for governments but also for other stakeholders, including employers, workers, civil society organizations, and the media.

We need to be in this together and show some compassion if the factories are running until 23 September, 2020, they are eligible to enjoy 40 per cent of salary as social security benefits.

In May, the Union Government has extended the duration of the Stay-At-Home order. For workers of some factories, it means time jobs globally in the second quarter of the year.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a catastrophic impact on workers, the head of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) said on Wednesday, with 10 per cent being the latest estimate, and up to 24 million full-time jobs globally in the second quarter of the year.

Workers in developing nations are likely to drop more than 15 per cent, according to the ILO Director-General Guy Ryder, referring to the latest ILO forecast from the UN body. Lower- and middle-income countries have suffered most, with an estimated 23.1 per cent drop in working hours - equivalent to 240 million jobs - in the second quarter.

Previously, the ILO had suggested a 14 per cent average drop in working time - equivalent to the loss of 848 million jobs, relative to the fourth quarter of 2019.

On top of these, the places where there are the weakest social protection systems, so there are very few reseaches or protections for working people to fall back upon,” he said. “If you are in the informal economy, and we were worst-affected, with losses of 12.1 per cent.

Poles apart on financial aid

COVID-19 has been working hard to disseminate communications and health and mobile network operators since the beginning of this crisis to test people who may not have access to the internet, providing them with science- and evidence-based COVID-19 health advice directly on their mobile phones.

Without such fiscal stimulus, working hours issues would have been 28 per cent between April and June, instead of 13.3 per cent, he insisted.

Poles apart on financial aid

It is a war of attrition. We need trust and solidarity and we need to halt the spread of misinformation and the epidemic risk factors. The pandemic is a crisis that requires us to work together.

Mr. Ryder highlighted that the economics with hundreds of billions of infections that has seen hundreds of countries in the pandemic put health and lives at risk, as well as to vaccinate their children, it is essential. But many countries have been unable to do the same.

The co-hosts also called on the media, social media platforms, civil society leaders and other partners to strengthen their actions to disseminate accurate information and prevent the spread of misinformation and information. Accurate, complete and timely communication is critical to build trust and resilience against fake news.

“Trust is a cornerstone of our fight against misinformation and disinformation,” said Audrey Azoulay, the UNDP Administrator and UNICEF Executive Director.

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Without such fiscal stimulus, working hours issues would have been 28 per cent between April and June, instead of 13.3 per cent, he insisted.

It runs a risk of leading to population movements, local and cross-border, that could overwhelm health systems and resources. It also reminds us all that unless we all come countries needed a fraction of this figure - $45 billion - to support workers in the same way as wealthier nations had done, while medium-income countries required the remains $10 billion.

The support for the workers in the most at-risk regions and countries, regions, sectors, and social groups,” he said. “It’s a far cry to the better world that we want to build back, and it reminds us all that unless we are all able to overcome and get out of this pandemic, none of us can help identify and combat mis- and dis-information.

Invitation to young writers for Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting the submission of poems, opinions, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send them to the Global New Light of Myanmar at No. 135, Nga Hla Kyaw Pagoda Road, Bahtaw Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to theglobalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in: poetry, opinion, etc. (2) Own name and (different) your pen name (3) Your place of education (4) Name of your School/College/University. A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been sent to any other news or magazine publishing houses. A color photo of the submitter. (5) Copy of your NIC card. (6) Contact information: mobile number, e-mail address, etc.

LOOKOUT FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Bahnbi State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23rd September, 2020: Isolated rain or showers. Wave height will be about 0.5-0.8 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts. Wave height will be about 0.5-0.8 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23rd September, 2020: Isolated rain or showers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23rd September, 2020: Isolated rain or showers. Degree of certainty is (70%).

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Esteeemed voters and people
I wish for your good health in body and mind and to be safe from all dangers. I am U Thar Tun Hla, Chairman of the Arakan National Party (ANP).

ANP represents the Rakhine ethnic group and believes its national duty to promote the political, economic, education and social objectives of Rakhine people and other ethnic groups in Rakhine State.

ANP was formed by combining the Rakhine Nationalities Development Party (RNDP), which won 35 Hluttaw seats in the 2010 election, and the Arakan League for Democracy (ALD), which won 11 seats in the 1990 election and re-registered as a political party in 2012, with the aim at achieving the interests of Rakhine people through their unity.

ANP’s four main objectives are:
(a) Development of Rakhine State and Rakhine people.
(b) Equality for all ethnic groups.
(c) Promoting democracy.
(d) Preservation of genuine federal Union.

Esteeemed voters and people
Our nation has been suffering various unfortunate circumstances for over 70 years due to armed conflicts and bad management since gaining independence. And it’s still to this day. They are suffering, such as the loss of innocent lives, mutilation, and leaving their homes and jobs to seek refuge in IDP camps. We believe this and the numerous armed conflicts are a result of lacking equality among ethnic people, the choice to make one’s own destiny, and self-determination. That is why we all need to cooperate to create a Constitution that guarantees a genuine federal Union with democratic values based on self-determination.

Esteeemed voters and people
ANP is not based solely on Rakhine ethnic groups. We include other ethnic groups living in Rakhine State to become a member of our political party. Our party will actively stand for all the ethnic groups in Rakhine State and all of the Union. We have clearly outlined the 18 action plans of our party in our charter and are practically implementing it. In summarizing, the plans concern creating opportunities for education, healthcare, social, economy, culture through labour unions and farmer unions with projects funded by foreign investments and participation of Rakhine entrepreneurs, full rights to economic benefits from international investments and natural resources in Rakhine State for the Rakhine people, helping displaced Rakhine people return home and find jobs, and ensuring the full rights and protection of women, children, the elderly and people living with disabilities.

Esteeemed voters and people
ANP secured the most seats in Rakhine State during the 2015 election, but we did not get the opportunity to form our state government yet we pushed on with our national political trek through managing the state Hluttaw.

Our party representatives have worked hard in the Rakhine State Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for the benefit of Rakhine people and all ethnic people and citizens of the nation. However, we hope you understand when we were unable to fulfill the wishes and needs of the Rakhine people and all residents in Rakhine State.

We are using the best of our abilities in politics within and outside the Hluttaw.

The people are well aware that ANP has been there when difficulty rises for the Rakhine people either through our own effort or in collaboration with parties working for Rakhine interests. We are currently working hard to assist within the legal framework, to fulfill basic needs and humanitarian assistance, children unable to pursue education, and the elderly and children facing hardships. We firmly believe the Rakhine people will vote for our party as the national duty on 8 November 2020 to resolve the challenges in Rakhine State and to preserve our integrity as Rakhine.

Esteeemed voters and people
ANP will continue to implement genuine federal Union and emergence of a Union built on self-determination highlighted in our four objectives. We have submitted and read our genuine federal Union paper at the first session of the Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong.

We respectfully request Rakhine people to vote for our party representatives who will be competing for Hluttaw seats to continue the unending national duty to the fullest abilities.

In conclusion, we wish all voters and people to be free from danger and for all misfortunes to come to an end.

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.

Elections are the root for development of democracy.
Danu National Democracy Party presents its policy, stance and work programmes

Esteemed citizens of the Union of Myanmar

I wish you good health and happiness.


Danu National Democracy Party is based on six townships – Ywangan, Pindaya, Kalaw, Nawngkhio, Lawksawk, and Taunggyi – where the majority of ethnic Danu people live. The headquarters of the party is located in Ywangan town in Ywangan Township in Danu Self-Administered Zone.

Danu National Democracy Party was formed on 3 July 2012, and the party registration number is at 57. The party was re-organized with new Executive Committee members on 12 September 2019.

Esteemed citizens of the Union of Myanmar and ethnic Danu people

The flag of Danu National Democracy Party consists of a red field, and there is a white circle in the middle of the red field. Fourteen same-sized golden-yellow stars encircle the white circle bearing a Danu traditional drum. The flag represents “Danu in the Union”.

Our party’s emblem consists of a red-coloured square, and on that background, there is a white circle bearing the Myanmar word ‘Danu’ and a Danu traditional drum. Our slogan is “Wake Up, Danu! Danu, Wake Up!”.

I would like to talk about the history of the Danu people. Since before the Union of Myanmar was collectively founded, since a very long time, Danu people live independently in accordance with their own traditions and cultures. British seizing Rakhine and Taninthayi area; Pway Hla hereditary chieftain (Saopha) Sao Tun Aye ruled the Shan State’s midland area, Pway Hla hereditary chieftain (Saopha) Sao Tun Aye ruled the Shan State’s midland area to oversee Shan State’s midland area. They established Western Danu Self-Administered Zone.

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The Danu hereditary chieftains, as mentioned above, helped General Aung San when he visited Shan State on 25 December 1946 for matters related to seeking independence for Myanmar. On 12 February 1947, Hsomongkhiam hereditary chief Sao Tun Aye signed the historic Panglong agreement as a representative of Shan hereditary chieftains. Similarly, U Khun Saw (P’indaya) signed the agreement as a representative of Shan people.

I am speaking about this history to emphasize peace processes discussed in the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong, the matters related to drafting constitutions for states, and the federal system.

Esteemed citizens of the Union of Myanmar and ethnic Danu people

I would like to talk about the objectives of Danu National Democracy Party. The party’s goals are as follows:

1. To cooperate with all stakeholders in creating a federal union that will ensure national equality, autonomy and democracy;
2. To establish mutual trust, respect, friendship and unity between various national, ethnic groups in the Union, and create situations in which different ethnic groups can co-exist peacefully;
3. To protect and preserve the languages, literature, culture and tradition of ethnic groups in Danu area;
4. To take collaborative efforts to achieve lasting peace, to combat dictatorship and chauvinism, to take measures to establish a federal democratic system;
5. To promote the standard of living of people in Danu area, to encourage high tech businesses, to help make the education system to be modern, to enhance the healthcare sector; to promote tourism.

Seven candidates of Danu National Democracy Party will stand for the general elections on 8 November 2020, in Pindaya and Ywangan townships; three candidates in Nawngkhio; two in Kalaw. So, a total of 12 candidates – one for Amyotha Hluttaw, three for Pyithu Hluttaw and eight for Shan State Hluttaw – of our party will contest the general elections. Among them, three are women, so it is 25 per cent of the total candidates of our party.

If candidates of our party are elected, we will carry out the following tasks.

1. We will work hard to achieve a federal union that can ensure national equality based on the great love of the Union, autonomy and democracy.
2. In the parliament, we will cooperate with any party that is working for democracy and the creation of a federal union.
3. We will cooperate with all relevant organizations in seeking nationwide peace by political means.
4. We will also protect the rights of other ethnic groups in the area.
5. In cooperation with the citizens, we will promote transparency in natural resources production and management and environmental conservation.
6. We will discuss with experts and relevant officials to remedy the effects of deforestation, landslides, creek and lake vanishing, and climate changes and work cooperatively in the protection of the natural environment.
7. We will cooperate with the officials concerned in anti-drug activities because it is one of the biggest problems in Myanmar.

Esteemed voters and people

Candidates of ethnic political parties need to be elected for the parliament to participate in the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong. Danu National Democracy Party is a member of the UNA (United Nationalities Alliance), which comprises 13 ethnic parties. Its member parties from Shan State are Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, and Danu National Democracy Party.

As a member party of UNA, we, alongside other UNA members, will adhere to the principle of the UNA.

Esteemed voters and people

We would like to call on all of you to vote for the candidates of our party, Danu National Democracy Party, in our constituencies in the general elections on 8 November 2020.

In conclusion, we, alongside other national, ethnic groups, can participate in building a federal union, which national, ethnic groups are keen to achieve. Please stamp next to Danu traditional drum, which is the emblem of our Danu National Democracy Party, in the general elections on 8 November 2020.

Thanks to all.
Israel toughens second lockdown as virus cases surge

JERUSALEM — Israel toughened its coronavirus measures on Thursday as a second nationwide lockdown now nearing its second week failed to bring down the world’s highest infection rate.

The new rules will take immediate and harsh measures set to be approved in parliament later Thursday, synagogues will only be allowed to open on Yom Kippur, a Jewish holiday which begins Sunday afternoon.

At other times, only outdoor prayer will be allowed with a maximum of 20 people attending. The same restrictions have been applied to demonstrations.

“Over the past two days, we’ve heard from experts that if we don’t take immediate and harsh measures, we’ll reach an abyss,” Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said late Wednesday, at the start of a cabinet meeting to thrash out the new measures.

The government’s latest move comes as the country is poised to enter the second week of a three-week lockdown imposed last Friday, which included the closure of schools and restrictions on work and leisure.

Under the new measures set to be approved in parliament later Thursday, synagogues will only be allowed to open on Yom Kippur, a Jewish holiday which begins Sunday afternoon.

At other times, only outdoor prayer will be allowed with a maximum of 20 people attending. The same restrictions have been applied to demonstrations.”Netanyahu said.

“This is also necessary for the economy. Whoever thinks we can work with a raging pandemic, with death and infections rising, without it affecting the economy, is wrong.”

A decision on whether to close Ben Gurion international airport outside Tel Aviv will be made later on Thursday, the government said."

Israel has the world’s highest coronavirus infection rate as a proportion of its population, according to an AFP tally of the past fortnight.

More than 200,000 coronavirus cases have been recorded, with 1,335 deaths, out of a population of nine million. Netanyahu has faced fierce criticism from opposition politicians, who accuse him of tightening the rules to put an end to weeks of protest outside his Jerusalem residence.

Ayelet Shaked, a lawmaker with the far-right Yamina party, said the new rules are “destructive and unreasonable” — AFP

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**Notice for change of distributor**

We, XUZHOU FENGWEI CHEMICAL FACTORY, would like to change the Distributor of the following product, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from Friends Helper Co. Ltd to GRAND AGROCARE COMPANY LIMITED. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next two weeks.

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**PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING**

The manufacturer of GRAND AGROCARE COMPANY LIMITED, has registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name “AGRO GREEN LAND CHEMICAL CO.,LTD”, to new distributor name “TAW WIN DAR CO.,LTD”. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Airport Road, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days.

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Japov’s maintains economic view in Sept., recovery seen intact

TOKYO—The Japanese government kept its economic assessment unchanged in September for the third straight month on Thursday, saying activity is continuing to show signs of “picking up” from the coronavirus-triggered slump. Upicks in exports and production are making up for a slowing recovery in consumption, the Cabinet Office said in its monthly report for September. “The Japanese economy is still in a severe situation due to the novel coronavirus, but has been showing movements of picking up recently,” it said, repeating the wording used in the July and August assessments.

By component, the government downgraded its evaluations of private consumption for the first time since April, when Japan declared a state of emergency over the virus spread. The report said private consumption is “picking up,” the same expression used in August, but added that “weakness can be seen in some sectors.” A government official said a “standstill” was seen in consumer spending especially in travel and food services following a resurgence in coronavirus infections. —Kyodo

Sri Lanka scraps $1.5 billion Japan-funded light rail system

COLOMBO—Sri Lanka’s government has scrapped the termination of a $1.5 billion Japanese-funded light rail project, saying it is not a “cost-effective solution” for the congested capital Colombo, officials said Thursday. The deal signed under the previous government is the largest single foreign-funded infrastructure project in Sri Lanka, and was seen as a sign of the island nation reducing its dependence on China. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, elected last year, told the transport ministry to “terminate this project and close the project office with immediate effect”, top aide PB. Jayasundera said in a letter to the ministry.

There was no immediate comment from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which in March last year loaned 30 billion yen ($285 million) to finance the first phase of the Light Rail Transit (LRT).

Japanese technology including rolling stock was to be used on the rail system, which included 16 stations over 15.7 kilometres (9.8 miles).

Detailed planning and land acquisition for the project in Colombo, which has some of the worst traffic congestion in South Asia, had already begun but initial construction was under way.—AFP

Myanmar Port Authority “Notice of High Tide”

Exceptionally high spring from 20.00 feet to 20.05 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon during the period of October 3rd to October 5th, 2020.

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Japan-S. Korea ties need mending, Suga tells Moon in phone talks

TOKYO—Japan’s Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga told South Korean President Moon Jae In in a phone call on Thursday that relations between the neighboring countries—which have been strained by a diplomatic feud over wartime labor—need to be improved.

Speaking to reporters following his first conversation with Moon since taking office last week, Suga said Japan and South Korea are “extremely important neighbors” but that bilateral ties are in a “very difficult situation” and need mending.

“I told President Moon that we cannot allow our relations to remain as they are,” he said.

Bilateral ties have remained frayed since South Korea’s top court in October 2018 ordered a Japanese steelmaker to compensate four Koreans for labor during Japan’s colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula through the end of World War II.

Tokyo argues the court ruling violates a 1965 agreement under which Japan provided South Korea with financial aid on the understanding that the compensation issue was settled “completely and finally,” and warned that selling off assets seized from the steelmaker, Nippon Steel Corp., will further aggravate the situation.

Suga told Moon that it was up to Seoul to create an opportunity for Japan and South Korea to “return to a constructive relationship,” according to a Japanese official who briefed reporters, continuing the hardline stance taken by his predecessor Shinzo Abe.—Kyodo

S. Korea says missing official was shot dead by N. Korean troops

SEOUL—South Korea said Thursday that North Korean soldiers shot dead a South Korean government employee who had gone missing in waters near the inter-Korean border earlier in the week, condemning the alleged act as a brutal killing.

Separately, a military official said that it seems North Korean troops were questioning the government employee before an alleged order came down for him to be shot.

This is the first known killing of a South Korean national by the North since Moon Jae In became president in 2017 and is likely to heighten tensions between the Koreas.

Moon called the execution-like killing “shocking” and said it “cannot be tolerated for any reason,” according to a presidential spokesman.

The Oceans and Fisheries Ministry employee was reported missing Monday while carrying out duties in waters off the western island of Yeonpyeong in the Yellow Sea.

“We have confirmed that North Korea has committed an act of brutality by shooting a South Korean and burning his dead body,” the Defense Ministry said in a press briefing.

The ministry said North Korea is solely responsible for the episode, calling for an apology and explanation from the northern neighbor and punishment for those responsible for the man’s death.—AFP

Nasa chief warns US Congress about Chinese space station

WASHINGTON—Nasa chief Jim Bridenstine told lawmakers on Wednesday it was crucial for the US to maintain a presence in Earth’s orbit after the International Space Station is decommissioned so that China does not gain a strategic advantage.

The first parts of the ISS were launched in 1998 and it has been continuously lived in since 2000.

The station, which serves as a space science lab and is a partnership between the US, Russia, Japan, Europe and Canada, is currently expected to be operated until 2030.

“I’ll tell you one thing that has me very concerned—and that is that a day is coming when the International Space Station comes to an end of its useful life,” Bridenstine said.

In order to be able to have the United States of America have a presence in low Earth orbit, we have to be prepared for what comes next,” he added.

To that end, Nasa has requested US$150 million for the 2021 financial year to help develop the commercialization of low Earth orbit, defined as 2,000km (1,200 miles) or less from the planet’s surface.

“We want to see a public-private partnership where Nasa can deal with commercial space station providers, so that we can keep a permanent uninterrupted human presence in low Earth orbit,” Bridenstine said.—AFP

Malaysia’s Mahathir says not running in next election

PUTRAJAYA—Former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Thursday he will not be contesting in the next election, but that will not stop him from fighting against corruption through his new party. “I want to stay a bit longer but I thought I will serve for a short period,” he told Kyodo News in an interview in his office at the federal administrative capital, Putrajaya. “But I will not be contesting in the 15th election.”

The 95-year old Mahathir held the record as the world’s oldest head of government when he returned to the top job for a second run after leading a ragtag coalition to an unexpected win in the May 2018 election. He was the longest serving prime minister in his first turn, from 1981 to 2003.

Mahathir won the parliamentary seat for the northern constituency of Langkawi, a popular tourist island, in the 2018 election after staying out of office for 14 years.—AFP

Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga speaks to reporters following his telephone conversation with South Korean President Moon Jae In. PHOTO: KYODO

Japanese steelworker monitors the conditions of the International Space Station through the end of its useful life,“ Bridenstine said.

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**Mexican protesters set up camp demanding president quits**

**MEXICO CITY**—Opponents of Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador set up a protest camp Wednesday in front of the presidential palace, demanding he resign over his handling of the coronavirus pandemic. The protesters erected dozens of tents in the capital’s central square, the Zocalo, vowing to stay until the left-wing populist known by his initials AMLO steps down.

“We will be here demonstrating in the Zocalo until Lopez (Obrador) leaves,” protest leader Gilberto Lozano, a businessman from the northern city of Monterrey, told reporters. The movement, which calls itself the Anti-AMLO National Front, has held months of protests against Lopez Obrador’s management of the pandemic and the economic fallout, among other things.

“We have a dictator as president,” said Guillermina Moreno, a flag-waving housewife. “He’s corrupt. The people who work with him are corrupt,” the 69-year-old added. Lopez Obrador, who took office in 2018 vowing a pro-austerity and anti-graft drive, told reporters the protesters were welcome to stay. The country has reported nearly 75,000 coronavirus deaths – one of the world’s highest tolls. Lopez Obrador enjoyed an approval rating of 58 per cent in August, although that was far below a peak of 81 per cent seen in February 2019, according to the polling firm Oraculus. —AFP

**Volkswagen to compensate Brazil dictatorship victims**

**BERLIN**—Volkswagen said Wednesday it had signed a deal with prosecutors to compensate former workers at the company’s Brazil unit for rights violations committed during the South American country’s military dictatorship. Former workers and their families sued the German carmaker five years ago, alleging its Brazilian security office had collaborated with the military regime (1964-1985) to identify suspected opponents, who were then detained and tortured. —AFP

**Two US police shot as protests erupt over Breonna Taylor case**

**LOUISVILLE**—Two police officers were shot as angry protests ripped across the United States after authorities announced no one would be charged with the killing of Breonna Taylor.

Taylor, who was shot dead in her apartment by plainclothes officers, has become a symbol for the Black Lives Matter movement and demonstrators’ calls for an end to what they say is unjustified police violence. A grand jury charged one of the three officers involved in the raid with “wanton endangerment” over shots he fired into a neighboring home, but neither he nor his two colleagues will face charges over Taylor’s death. The news sparked protests across the country – including in New York, Boston, Washington and Los Angeles.

Two officers stood in a taped-off area where a police officer was shot as protesters marched in Louisville, Kentucky. —PHOTO: AFP

**Swiss vote threatens free movement in heart of Europe**

**GENEVA**—A Swiss vote Sunday on limiting EU immigration is not expected to pass, but fears abound that a shock “yes” could deal a fatal blow to relations with the bloc.

The initiative, backed by the populist right-wing Swiss People’s Party (SVP) – Switzerland’s largest party – has seen dwindling public support in recent polls.

But SVP has eked out surprise victories in the past in its draw-out war against tightening relations with the European Union, fueling concern that Switzerland’s relationship with its biggest trading partner could be in jeopardy.

The initiative, put to a vote as part of Switzerland’s direct democracy system, calls for the country to revise its constitution to ensure it can autonomously handle its immigration policy.

SVP which has built its brand by condemning immigration and EU influence, warns that the wealthy Alpine country is facing “uncontrolled and excessive immigration” and that Swiss “jobs are threatened.”

“We must retrieve the portion of sovereignty involving controlling immigration,” Vincent Schaller, an SVP member of the Geneva municipal parliament, told AFP.

Speaking from a stand set up near a Geneva market for discussions with the public about the upcoming vote, he insisted that “SVP wants immigration of choice.” —AFP

**France rolls out GPS trackers to curb domestic violence**

**PARIS**—French judges will soon have the option of requiring electronic tracking ankle bracelets for domestic violence offenders, the government said Thursday, as the country grapples with a growing number of women killed by current or former partners. The measure, which has long been sought by rights advocates, was passed by parliament this year and will be gradually be rolled out starting Friday, according to a decree in France’s government bulletin.—AFP

**Migration of choice.**—AFP

**Two officers are currently undergoing treatment,” interim police chief Robert Schroeder told reporters. “One is alert and stable. The other officer is currently undergoing surgery and stable,” he said, adding that one person had been arrested.**

President Donald Trump, who is campaigning for re-election on a “law-and-order” platform, tweeted that he was “praying for the two police officers that were shot tonight in Louisville, Kentucky. The Federal Government stands behind you and is ready to help.” Thousands of demonstraters had flooded the streets of Louisville in the afternoon.—AFP
Shan United shapes 2-1 win over Ayeyawady United

At 63 minute, Zin Min Tun made a leading goal for Shan United with his header supported by his teammate.

Shan United made some errors in the defence line and that caused some goal chances for the Ayeyawady but the team could not change their chances into goal results.

The first half was ended with single goal of Shan United.

Ayeyawady United played better at the second half and Shan United again relied on their massive defence.

By taking opportunity over hesitating defenders of Shan United, Ayeyawady’s Thita Zaw found an equalizer for his team at the 59-minute mark.

After 1-1, the match changes as a hot one and Shan United again mounted their maximum attack.

At 63 minute, Zin Min Tun made a leading goal for Shan United with his header supported by his teammate.

Defending champions Shan United is now standing in the third place with 38 points while Ayeyawady seen in second with 39 points.

Meanwhile, Hantharwady United is standing first with 40 points.

Shan United showed their best at the start with accurate attacks plus effective midfield defence and the team’s first goal has found even at 3-minute mark.

After 1-0, Shan United converted to the defence-style play while Ayeyawady United launched their turbo-attack.

Shan United made some errors in the defence line and that caused some goal chances of opponents till the final whistle to celebrate their victory.

The win made Shan United staying on their championship path against another two teams: Ayeyawady and Hantharwady.

Defending champions Shan United will face Yangon United at Pandonmar Stadium.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

French lawmakers move to allow larger crowds into stadiums

PARIS—Lawmakers in France have agreed in principle to allow larger crowds into stadiums in areas where the coronavirus is less prevalent and if venues are big enough, in what has been called a “common sense” move.

At the moment attendances at sports events are capped at 5,000, but are limited to 1,000 in areas where there are larger outbreaks of COVID-19, such as in the Mediterranean city of Marseille.

Currently, no allowances are made for the capacity of venues, and the existing rules meant no more than 1,000 spectators were able to attend Marseille’s Ligue 1 game against Lille last weekend, despite their Stade Velodrome home having a capacity of 67,000.

Sacha Houlié, an MP from the same La Republique en Marche party as President Emmanuel Macron, said before a committee at France’s National Assembly that adapting the rules was a “common sense” move as he pointed out that currently 1,000 people could also pack into a smaller venue where “health guidelines cannot be respected”.

An amendment to the current law was put to a vote and passed, with lawmakers stressing the economic importance to clubs of having spectators in stadiums.—AFP

Stadiums in France are currently allowed to admit a maximum of 5,000 spectators, but that could change in the coming weeks. (AFP/FRANCK FIFE)

Frank de Boer appointed Dutch national team coach

THE HAGUE—Frank de Boer has been appointed as the Netherlands’ new coach, the Royal Dutch Football Federation (KNVB) announced on Wednesday.

The third-most capped Dutch player of all time, De Boer replaces Ronald Koeman who resigned earlier this year to take the reins at Barcelona, and caretaker coach Dwight Lodeweges.

“De Boer is to start immediately,” it added, saying he “will already be on the bench in the upcoming practice match against Mexico and the Nations League duels with Bosnia-Herzegovina and Italy”.

“The 59-year-old former international will be at the helm of the Oranje until the World Cup in 2022,” the KNVB said in a statement.

De Boer “is to start immediately,” it added, saying he “will already be on the bench in the upcoming practice match against Mexico and the Nations League duels with Bosnia-Herzegovina and Italy”.

De Boer, a talented left-footed defender while playing for the Oranje between 1990 and 2004, has had a mixed career as a coach.

He first took up coaching at Amsterdam powerhouse Ajax in 2007 and assisted Bert van Marwijk, together with retired player Phillip Cocu to help the Dutch team reach the final of the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, where they were beaten by Spain.—AFP