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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi calls on each citizen to be dutiful

“I wish every individual citizen performs his/her duty responsibly” wrote State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on her Facebook page yesterday. The following is what she wrote:

The biggest positive outcome that came out of the video conferencing done with many regions of Myanmar is the fact that I came to know the most important things needed by those trying to overcome the challenges of COVID-19. As soon as the video conferencing was over, the Ministry of Health and Sports and other relevant departments made immediate assessments of what needed to be done in what places and took immediate action.

To give an example, as soon as the video conferencing was over with Ayeyawady Region, we made arrangements after assessing how many masks, thermometers, PPE's and gloves were needed and how fast we could send them.

There is one thing that I still remember from my discussions with the young nurse. Some people do not thank the health workers. They are working because they get salaries. Why should we thank them? This is not at all surprising in an age where people talk about their rights above everything else. However, it is a really sad situation when people do not value duty and the “mangala” (auspiciousness) of gratitude.

On one occasion on New Year day, someone asked me what would you



Aung San Suu Kyi

State Counsellor

[Message](#)


like to wish for Myanmar. I answered truthfully, the way I felt, “I wish each individual citizen performs his/her duty responsibly.”

Office of the State Counsellor releases statement expressing sadness over civilian casualties in Rakhine, Chin States

THE Office of the State Counsellor has released a statement dated 21st April. Following is the full-text of the statement.

We greet with satisfaction and joy the news that on 19 April 2020, rice supplies have been delivered to the people of Paletwa Township who have been suffering severely from food shortages.

The Government will be implementing programmes for the relief and long-term development of Paletwa Township,

Chin State, in step with improvements in the peace and security situation.

We pay tribute to the members of the Tatmadaw who have discharged their duties with courage and dedication, and sacrificed their lives to defend the lives and property of our people from the ULA/AA terrorist group, who have been engaged in destructive activities at this time when the Government, the people and well-wishers are all engaged

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“People are the key”

Office of the State Counsellor releases statement expressing sadness over civilian casualties in Rakhine, Chin States

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in endeavours for the prevention, containment and cure of COVID-19.
We are deeply saddened to learn of civilian casualties in Rakhine and Chin States. The Union Government will provide all necessary help and support

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for casualties and their families.
The Union Government is resolved to continue with efforts to take the Peace Process, which aims at putting an end to the sufferings imposed by conflict on our people, to a successful conclusion.—MNA

Construction Ministry holds discussions on completion of projects amidst COVID-19



Union Minister U Han Zaw attends the meeting on video conferencing between its headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw and the directors of projects in Regions/States yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Ministry of Construction held a meeting on video conferencing between its headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw and the directors of projects in Regions/States yesterday.
Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw presided over the meeting, which was also attended by Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Lin, the Permanent Secretary and the departmental heads, and they discussed timely completion of ongoing project, while caring about health of workers amid the Coronavirus Disease and safeguarding machinery in coordination with the respective local governments in the project areas.

At the meeting, the Union Minister discussed completion of projects in time, raising health awareness on COVID-19 for the staff and labour at the project in accordance with the guidelines of Ministry of Health and Sports.
Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Lin advised on following the directives and orders of Region/State governments and providing assistance to common people in the project areas.
The Permanent Secretary, the directors-general and the deputy directors-general discussed the progress of respective works and preventive measures against COVID-19.—MNA
(Translated by Aung Khin)

COVID-19 meeting discusses speeding up news releases to reduce rumours

THE work committee on finance, information and awareness related to control and response of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) held a meeting at the Nay Pyi Taw Council in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.
At the meeting, the committee’s chairman and Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aung Myin Tun stressed the needs of accelerating public awareness activities on COVID-19 in the Nay Pyi

Taw Council Area in accordance with guidelines from the Ministry of Health and Sports.
He also said the attendees to cooperate with related departments in speeding up news releases to combat fake news and stop spreading rumours.
U Kyaw Kyaw Tun, Director of the Disaster Management Department, explained the current conditions of public awareness activities.



Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aung Myin Tun chairs the work committee on finance, information and awareness related to control and response of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). **PHOTO: MNA**

Members of the committee reported on the matters related to news releases and awareness activities.
The committee’s chairman coordinated over the matters to be implemented in future. —
Zaw Min Lwin (District IPRD)
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

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Myanmar participates in inaugural WEF COVID-19 Action Platform for Asia Pacific

U THAUNG TUN, Union Minister of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, yesterday participated via videoconference in the inaugural COVID-19 Action Platform for the Asia Pacific organized by the World Economic Forum (WEF), acting as a partner to the World Health Organization (WHO).

The WEF Action Platform provides a virtual senior leaders' community spanning government, business and academia who will meet regularly to address critical issues arising from the COVID-19 crisis.

The videoconference provided participants with an opportunity to exchange perspectives and share insights designed to strengthen regional resilience, develop coordinated responses, and enhance public-private cooperation in



Union Minister U Thaung Tun participates via videoconference in the inaugural COVID-19 Action Platform for the Asia Pacific organised by the World Economic Forum (WEF). **PHOTO: MNA**

the fight against COVID-19.

Participants noted the unprecedented human tragedy COVID-19 has left in its wake, threatening both life and livelihood, and that the pandemic is likely to have dire conse-

quences for global growth and prosperity.

As COVID-19 knows no borders, the need for bold actions at the country-level complemented by greater regional and multilateral cooperation

was also stressed. Myanmar remains committed to working both with both our ASEAN and WEF partners, as well as with all other bilateral and multilateral partners, to ensure supply chain connectivity, to ensure

markets remain open, and to ensure vital emergency, humanitarian and longer-term development assistance is allocated to where it may have the greatest impact in the fight against COVID-19.—MNA

Total number of COVID-19 cases reaches 121 on Tuesday

Update of COVID-19 cases in Myanmar till 8:00 pm on 21 April

1. The National Health Laboratory (Yangon) tested the specimens of 185 persons in the first group for COVID-19 up to 6:00 pm on 21 April 2020. Two persons were tested positive, while the remaining 183 persons negative.
2. These two patients will be transferred to the respective hospitals for medical treatments.
3. There are now a total of 121 confirmed cases in Myanmar up to 8 pm on 21 April.
4. A total of 9 persons have recovered and five persons died.
5. New 123 persons are now under investigation from 12 noon on 20 April to 12 noon on 21 April.

Laboratory results on COVID-19 Positive cases in the laboratory tests (first group) on 21 April Up to 8:00 pm

Case No.	Aged	Gender	Address	Close Contact with COVID-19 positive patients	Travel history to foreign country	Hospital for medical treatment	Laboratory Result	Remark
120	21	Female	Dagon Myo-thit (East)	No	No	Yangon General Hospital	Positive	Patients under investigation
121	21	Female	Taunggyi, Shan State (south)	No	Yes	Sao San Htun General Hospital	Positive	Under quarantine

* The remaining 183 persons are tested negative of COVID-19

Ministry of Health and Sports
(Translated by Aung Khin)

MoFA releases statement expressing condolences to UN, WHO, family of Rakhine attack victim

Following is the full-text of the statement released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

It has been learnt with profound sadness that U Pyae Sone Win Maung, a local staff member of the World Health Organization (WHO) passed away early Tuesday due to injuries suffered when the motor vehicle he was driving came under attack near Yar Maung bridge in Minbya Township, Rakhine State on 20 April 2020. It is all the more perturbing to learn that the attack was launched on a vehicle which clearly bore the WHO emblem and was transporting swab samples from COVID-19 suspects to the National Health Laboratory in Yangon.

The Government of Myanmar expresses its deepest condolences and sympathy to the United Nations, the WHO and the bereaved family of the victim. The Government deeply regrets that such a reprehensible act was perpetrated on a WHO vehicle deployed on a humanitarian mission in support of the unyielding efforts of the Government of Myanmar to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Government of Myanmar will continue to work closely with the United Nations and the WHO to overcome the global pandemic notwithstanding the challenge posed by armed groups. The Government is fully committed to investigate the incident and to prevent recurrence of such abhorrent acts.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Nay Pyi Taw
Dated. 21 April 2020

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COVID-19 Call Centre opens daily

THE Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Containment and Emergency Response Committee has opened the COVID-19 Call Centre in Yangon. It will be opened daily.

In efforts to speed up the prevention, containment and treatment of the COVID-19 disease, the

call centre is established by the 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 8 am to 8 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 has been working at the centre since 8th April.—MNA