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Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services receives Ambassador of India



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meeting with Indian Ambassador Mr. Saurabh Kumar at the Bayintnaung guest house in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Ambassador of India

Mr. Saurabh Kumar at the Bayintnaung guest house in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting mat-

ters relating to increasing friendship and cooperation between the two militaries were cordially discussed according to

a news release from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Myanmar Competition Commission promises to level playing field for businesses

THE Myanmar Competition Commission will work with businesspersons to remove hindrances to fair competition, said Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint, urging businesses to abide by the Competition

Law. The Union Minister, in his capacity as the chairman of the commission, made the remarks during his opening address at an event about competition, held yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

The event was held with the

aim of raising awareness about the importance of cooperation between the commission and businesspersons in responding to unfair competition.

In his speech, the minister stressed the important role

played by businesspersons in boosting economic development, and reiterated the government's commitment towards creating an environment of fair competition for businesses.

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Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe attends 23rd St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, meets Russian FM

H.E. U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, accompanied by H.E. U Set Aung, Deputy Minister for Planning, participated in the 23rd St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, St. Petersburg, Russia, from 6-8 June 2019.

The St. Petersburg International Economic Forum has been held since 1997 and is considered to be a unique event in the world of business economics. It is held under the auspices of the President of the Russian Federation who attends each event. The Forum provides a global platform for the business community to meet and discuss key economic issues facing the Russian Federation including the world as a whole and emerging markets.

The Myanmar Delegation led by the Union Minister together, Deputy Minister and U Ko Ko Shein, Myanmar Ambassador to the Russian Federation participated in the "Plenary Session" of the Forum on 7 June 2019. During the plenary session, H.E. Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, H.E. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, H.E. Rumen Radev, President of Bulgaria, H.E. Nikol Pashinyan, Prime Minister of Armenia,

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UEC Chairman receives USIP Bio Data of Election Security Assessment Team Leader

UNION Election Commission (UEC) Chairman U Hla Thein received United States Institute of Peace (USIP) Bio Data of Election Security Assessment Team Leader Ms. Lyndal Barry and party at UEC Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting preparations made to successfully hold the 2020 General Election freely, fairly, transparently and credibly; forming election security com-

mittees and coordination committees at all levels and stages; arrangements made to prevent false/fake news and hate speech and possibilities for cooperation in election security were cordially and openly discussed.

The meeting was attended by Commission members and officials from the Commission Office it is learnt. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein poses for a photo with a delegation led by United States Institute of Peace (USIP) Bio Data of Election Security Assessment Team Leader Ms. Lyndal Barry in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister for NREC receives World Bank Myanmar ENR Manager

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (NREC) U Ohn Win received the World Bank Myanmar Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Manager Mr. Christophe Crepin and party at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Establishment of forests owned by local people in the region, investment related works, cooperation in development and capacity building works in priority regions, translating into ethnic people languages the newly prepared

and drawn up instructions on local people owned forests, works done for effective cooperation with locals, drawing up programs for joint funding from international financial resources to implement waste management strategy, cooperation with states/regions to manage travel works related wastes and country level environmental assessment were introduced at union level to be implemented at state/region level at the meeting. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Union Minister U Ohn Win holds talks with World Bank Myanmar Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Manager Mr. Christophe Crepin yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister for Border Affairs receives Ambassador of India

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung received Ambassador of India to Myanmar Mr. Saurabh Kumar at Ministry of Border Affairs meeting hall yesterday morning.

At the meeting the status of road transport, road/bridge, education, health and agriculture sector development works implemented in Chin State and Naga Self-Administered Zone

with India's annual support of US\$ 5 million, future project particulars, outcome result of selecting and training Ministry of Border Affairs personnel in English and subject specific courses under the scholarship program of Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) and status of India's future works on future requirements in various sectors in My-

anmar were openly discussed and views cordially exchanged.

Under the Myanmar-India Friendship Project, an MOU on implementing development project of border area was signed in 28 May 2012 and a total of US\$ 25 million was provided at a rate of US\$ 5 million per year for the five years it is learnt. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung poses for a photo with Indian Ambassador Mr. Saurabh Kumar at the Ministry of Border Affairs yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Drug traffickers arrested in Shan, Kachin states, Mandalay Region

Police in Momauk Township arrested a man identified as La San (a) Mar Kham and Naw Htwal in possession of 1.22 kilos of heroin and 5,700 psychotropic tablets on 9 June.

On the same day in Patheingyi Township, police arrested

two individuals identified as Ma Ja Sai and L Htwaw Gun Mandu in possession of 19,000 psychotropic tablets and 330 grams of heroin onboard a passenger vehicle.

And in Laukkai Township, Tatmadaw officers arrested a

man identified as Kyauk Law Pha in possession of 3,100 psychotropic tablets. The suspects have been charged with the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — Ko Ye

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo) ■

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Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe attends 23rd St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, meets Russian FM

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H.E. Peter Pellegrini, Prime Minister of Slovakia as well as Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations delivered their speeches respectively. This was followed by an intensive 2-hour question and answer session.

Meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

On 10 June 2019, the Union Minister met with H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs office. Deputy Minister U Set Aung, the Myanmar Ambassador to Russian Federation and officials concerned attended the meeting.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on promoting the economic relations, enhancing cooperation between Myanmar and Russia, and strengthening the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership which was elevated to "Strategic Partnership" in November 2018.

The Union Minister apprised the Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov the issue of the Rakhine State. He shared information with regards to the efforts by the government to resolve the issue. Immediately after the assumption of State responsibility, the Central

Committee for Peace, Stability and Development of Rakhine chaired by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was established. The Government also set up an Advisory Committee on Rakhine State chaired by Mr. Kofi Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations. The attack by terrorist group ARSA was a deliberate attempt to thwart the efforts of the government to find a peaceful resolution to the issue.

He explained to the Foreign Minister that one of the root causes of the issue in Rakhine was irregular migration from Bangladesh. Bangladesh is one third of the size of Myanmar and three times its population. Throughout the years, there has been irregular migration from Bangladesh due to the porous borders between the two countries. Although the Bangladesh government would not acknowledge the fact, there were more than half a million irregular migrants from Bangladesh to Myanmar as early as 1975. Myanmar would like to have good and friendly relationship with all its neighbours including Bangladesh.

Myanmar believes that issues between neighbours should be solved bilaterally in an amicable manner. This is not the first time that Myanmar and Bangladesh have had to deal with displaced persons.

It has happened twice in the past. Both times, the issue was resolved satisfactorily through bilateral means. This time also, Myanmar has signed a bilateral agreement with Bangladesh. Under the agreement, Myanmar has agreed to repatriate the displaced persons in Bangladesh if it is verified that they have been residents in Myanmar.

Myanmar has done everything to fulfil the bilateral agreement. However, this was not reciprocated. Myanmar has also involved the ASEAN in the repatriation process. In recent report by the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) after a systematic survey, it has testified to significant efforts made by Myanmar to receive the returnees. Up to now, because of lack of cooperation from Bangladesh, there has been no repatriation through the official channel. However, some 200 people both Muslims and Hindus have returned under own volition under their own arrangement. Instead of implementing the bilateral agreement, Bangladesh has been calling for the establishment of a 'Safe Zone' inside Myanmar. This attitude will in no way help to resolve the issue. The only realistic way to resolve the situation is through bilateral means.



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe shakes hands with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr. Sergey Lavrov at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs office on 10 June 2019. PHOTO: MNA

Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov expressed Russia's appreciation for the steps Myanmar has been taking including the signing of the bilateral agreement with Bangladesh, involving AHA in the repatriation process, signing the MOU with UNDP and UNHCR. He also expressed appreciation in regards to the establishment of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE).

He confirmed the position of the Russian Federation that the issue of repatriation of the displaced persons currently in Bangladesh should be resolved bilaterally and that the international community should help this process. He also expressed his appreciation the position taken by Myanmar with regard to the resolution that are of interest to the Russian Federation.—MNA

Union Minister, MRF hold meeting on stabilizing paddy price

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu, Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw, Permanent Secretaries, directors general, Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) Chairman and members, private business owners and officials from public

companies attended a meeting held in the meeting hall Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Union Minister Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. The meeting was held to discuss increasing public-private cooperation with regards to declin-

ing paddy prices and alleviating difficulties faced by the farmers.

In the meeting the Union Minister invited discussions on matters in which the ministry was required to do to resolve the matter of declining paddy price, provide immediate assis-

tant and help to farmers facing losses, setup work processes to stabilize paddy price in the long run and increase public-private cooperation.

The meeting then discussed balancing the value of investment and production, actual implementation works according to designated base price, difficulties in field purchases and drying machine in storage, acquisition of short term loan, increasing purchasing power, preparation for forthcoming raining season, coordination between relevant departments toward speedy inspection and approval of standards and norms for export sale, issuing necessary notifications to implement contract farming, increasing the paddy purchase of mills by fulfilling the mills' energy requirements it is learnt. —MNA
(Translated by Zaw Min)



Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu holds meeting with Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) Chairman, private business owners and officials from public companies in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Correction

Please read "Myanmar Embassy" instead of "Korean Embassy," and "U Thant Sin" instead of "U Thant Zin" in the news story "Myanmar Evening Tourism Promotion held in Seoul" on page-3 of June 10 Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar.—GNLM ■

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Myanmar Competition Commission promises to level playing field for businesses



Union Minister Dr. Than Myint delivers the opening speech at the ceremony to launch the Myanmar Competition Commission in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-1

The commission will make sure it becomes a reliable and competent authority for the benefit of the people, said the chairman of the commission.

The commission will implement laws, raise awareness, and explore and take action against those who violate the law, he said.

It will make efforts to enforce the Competition Law by

issuing the necessary orders, notifications, rules, and directives.

Afterwards, the Secretary of the Competition Commission and Director-General of the Directorate of Trade, U Min Min, gave a briefing on the formation of the commission and introduced the members of the commission.

During the ceremony, the members of the commission re-

plied to questions raised by the representatives of departments and businesspersons about the Competition Law.

The event was also attended by Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun, officials from the office of the commission, representatives of ministries, businesspersons, entrepreneurs, and mediapersons. — MNA

Gem sale in local currency continues in Nay Pyi Taw

THE third day of a sale of gems and jades in the local currency continued at the Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, putting up 260 gem lots and 3,108 jade lots for sale through an open tender system.

On the third day of gem sale, 49 gem lots were reported to be sold at K362.099 million.

The gem emporium will

put jade for sale through an open tender system today.

In the morning of third day, gem merchants examined the jade lots displayed at the emporium and bid price proposals for their selected lots were put into the designated tender boxes.

The emporium will also put 1,050 jade lots, nos. 1 to 1,050, on 11 June, 1,050 jade lots,

nos. 1,051 to 2,100, on 12 June, and 1,008 jade lots, nos. 2,101 to 3,108, on 13 June for sale through an open tender system.

The emporium aims to provide local small merchants with raw materials and businesspersons with income. — Aung Ye Thwin

(Translated by TTN)



Traders evaluate jade stones at the 3rd day of Gems and Jade emporium in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: KO KO LAY**

President's Office continues announcement of illegal drug arrests, seizures acting on tip-offs

THE Office of the President issued Press Release No. 22/2019 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs' arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 8 June.

The ministry made the arrests, acting on information, sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President as of 8 June.

The full text of the press release will be reported in the 12 June issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar. — GNLM

Italian Embassy celebrates Republic Day in Yangon



Union Minister U Soe Win delivers the speech at the reception to mark the National Day of Italy in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

A CELEBRATION to mark the Republic Day or National Day of Italy was held at No.33, Inya Myaing Road in Yangon at 7pm yesterday, with Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win and wife in attendance.

First, the event began, with the national anthems of Myanmar and Italy.

Afterwards, Italian Ambassador Mrs. Alessandra Schiavo and Union Minister U Soe Win

delivered speeches.

The Italian Ambassador then hosted the guests a dinner.

Also present at the event were Ambassadors and chargé d'affaires of foreign embassies in Yangon, representatives of UN agencies and invited guests. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

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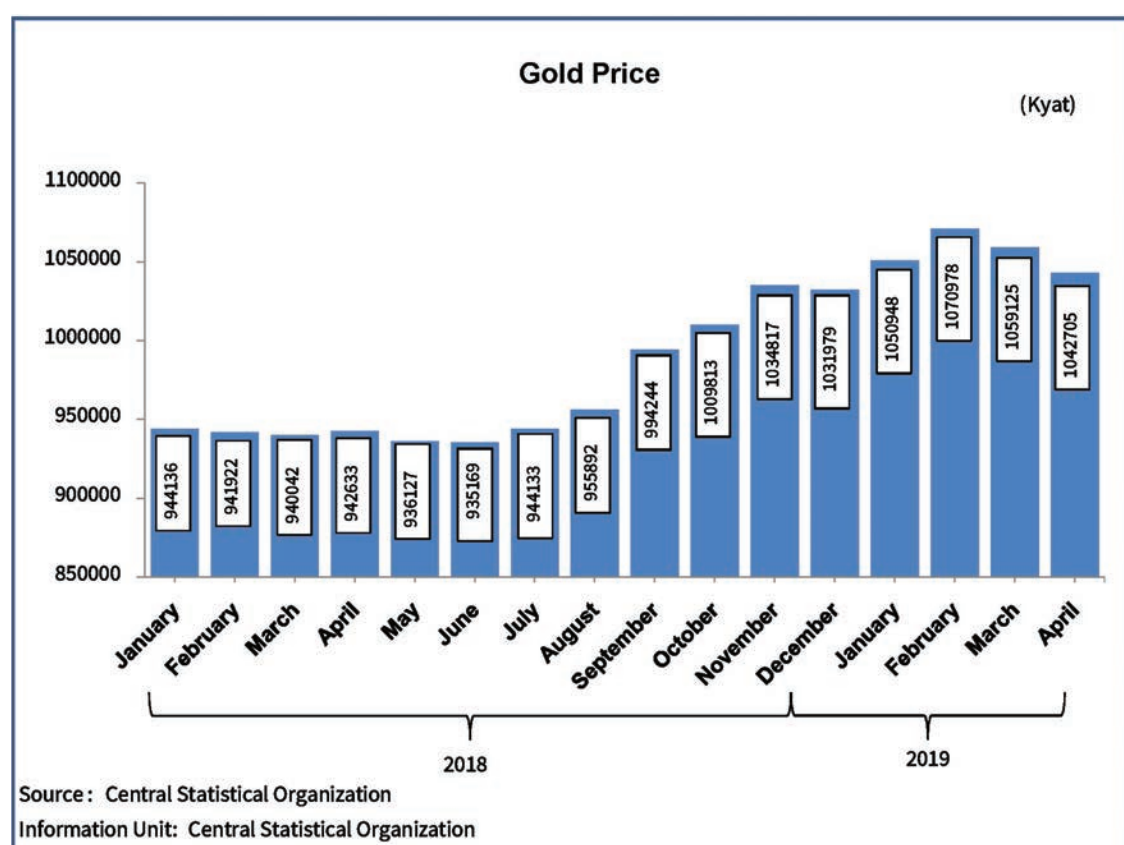
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Comparison table for foreign tourist entry from International airports and border gates

Sr.	International airports and border gates	May 2018		2019 May		Re-mark
		Tourist	Business	Tourist	Business	
1.	Yangon Airport/Sea Port	24502	17377	40251	15977	
2.	Mandalay Airport	2872	3118	21611	4018	
3.	Nay Pyi Taw Airport	226	300	227	344	
4.	Myeik Airport	-	-	-	-	
5.	Tachilek	393	169	3959	145	
6.	Myawady	958	329	949	1562	
7.	Kawthoung	113	98	207	41	
8.	Hteekhee	14	26	24	23	
9.	Tamu	18	8	173	13	
10.	Reedhorda	-	-	9	-	
Total		29096	21425	67410	22123	

Comparison table for foreign tourist entry from International airports, sea ports and border gates

Sr.	Month	2017-2018 Financial Year			2018-2019 Financial Year		
		Tourist	Business	Total	Tourist	Business	Total
1.	October	46693	21253	67946	52647	21005	73652
2.	November	63529	21828	85357	77498	21482	98980
3.	December	63522	19619	83141	82474	19538	102012
4.	January	61123	20485	81608	93125	18689	111814
5.	February	57450	18581	76031	100145	23949	124094
6.	March	51461	25650	77111	95932	23693	119625
7.	April	31198	20392	51590	71148	22848	93996
8.	May	29096	21425	50521	67410	22123	89533
Total		404072	169233	573305	640379	173327	813706



Free vaccination program for cattle against foot-and-mouth disease launched in Debayin

THE Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of Debayin Township, Shwebo District, Sagaing region, is conducting a drive to vaccinate cattle against foot-and-mouth disease with the help of Community Health Assistant Workers, said Dr. Ohnmar Aye, Township Officer, Debayin LBVD. The vaccines are being provided free of cost.

“The department is providing free vaccination for cattle in the villages, which mostly have farming businesses involving cattle. Some businesses are concerned with breeding cat-

tle. Our department is providing free vaccination to prevent cattle from getting infected with the foot-and-mouth disease. The free vaccination program is being implemented with the support of New Zealand,” he said.

The department has vaccinated 1,954 animals in Thayet Kaung, Shwedarkan, Chonywa, Shantaw, Min Swe Hnit, Tanaegyigone, Einyar, Wapar, and Kyat Khat villages, as of 9 June. The free vaccination program is being implemented in 26 villages from 8 to 12 June.—Win Oo (Zeyartine)

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Veterinary team vaccinating the cattle against foot-and-mouth disease in Depayin Township. PHOTO: WIN OO (ZEYARTINE)

YIA Operator Yangon Aerodrome Company Ltd to hold Roadshow in Kolkata on 14th June

YANGON Aerodrome Company Ltd-YACL announced yesterday that it will organize a one-day roadshow in Kolkata to promote air travel between Myanmar and India, two countries which share strong historical and cultural ties. YACL and one of the Indian airline operators, IndiGo will co-host the Enchanting Myanmar 2019, India event at JW Marriott Hotel in Kolkata on 14 June which is expected to gather 500 representatives from airlines and travel operators from the two countries.

Other representatives from Myanmar participating in the event include Myanmar Tourism Federation and its member, as well as Myanmar Airways International, said YACL which has operated YIA since 2015.

Currently, the only Indian airline operating at YIA is Air India, which operates three scheduled flight per week to and from New Delhi. YACL said that the roadshow would raise

awareness about the airport and promote air connectivity between India and Myanmar. YIA handled a total of 6.035 million passengers in 2018. “We are excited to host the roadshow with IndiGo in Kolkata. Myanmar and India are neighboring countries with strong cultural and historical ties and, as the operator of the aviation gateway to Myanmar, we are pleased and look forward to forging stronger aviation links between the two countries,” said Mr. Jose Angeja, Chief Operating Officer at YACL.

“With the Myanmar Government granting visas-on-arrival to Indian passport holders, travel to Myanmar is now more easily accessible for Indian nationals. This roadshow is an important occasion for us to collaborate with our Indian counterparts and partners to develop more routes so more people can experience what Myanmar has to offer, and vice-versa.”—GNLM

UEC staff familiarize effective electoral planning in India-led training

THE Union Election Commission and the Election Commission of India collaborated on a training course for electoral planning held at the UEC Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

UEC Chairman U Hla Thein opened the training with a speech. He remarked that this is the 5th capacity-building training conducted for UEC staff. He said the two of the previous trainings were held in India and two in Myanmar, while attended by 100 trainees.

The UEC Chairman said they are working hard to ensure the 2020 General Elections will be free, fair, transparent, and trusted by all. He said the electoral planning training will support systematic planning

for the pre-election period, the actual election period, and the post-election period.

The UEC Chairman said effective planning is important in ensuring elections go by smoothly. He urged the participants to pay attention to the training seriously and learn from the strengths offered by India's planning methods.

Next, Dr. Noor Mohammad, Senior Consultant of the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIDEM) delivered some remarks, saying that the electoral planning process is critically important and it is equally vital to identify the challenges presented during the election phases. He said this will allow



Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein delivers the opening remarks at the training course for electoral planning. **PHOTO: MNA**

the participants to draw up programmes suitable for Myanmar and added that India's Election Commission will hold a training

for utilizing technology. This was followed by a group documentary photo. The opening event for the training was attended by

UEC members, trainers from IIDEM, and officials from the UEC Office. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Australian filmmaking workshop brings art of animation to Yangon

THE Film Development Center at No.50, Shwe Taung Kyar Road (Golden Valley Road) in Bahan Township, Yangon, will be hosting a filmmaking workshop on how documentaries utilize a variety of animation techniques to enhance storytelling and visual style.

Titled 'Animation in Documentary Workshop', it is a joint collaboration between the Film Development Center, Yangon Film School and the Australian

Embassy. The Masterclass will be take place on 14 June from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

It will be led by visiting Australian, Marisa Martin, a multi-award winning filmmaker based in Canberra. She is the director of EoR Media: Enemies of Reality Films, a small production house specialising in animation and production design.

There are 6 films on the workshop's filmography, includ-

ing 'Della Mortika: Carousel of Shame', an animation by Marisa that won Best Australian Animation at Flickerfest 2019.

Those interested can register or follow the event at 'Film Masterclass by Marisa Martin' on Facebook, though seating is limited. Translation into Burmese will be provided by professional interpreters and entry is free of charge. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Chinese demand pushes up price of fresh chilies

FRESH chilies are commanding a high price in the Bayintnaung market on the back of good demand from China, according to U Hla Han from the Seinpanlan chili commodity depot.

The wholesale prices of fresh chilies is currently ranging between K4,700 and K9,000 per viss (1.6kg), depending on the variety.

On 3 June, Indian long chilies were fetching K4,700 per viss, locally produced Indian chilies were priced at K4,300,

Wakema chilies at K4,250, and Sinphyukyun chilies at K10,000.

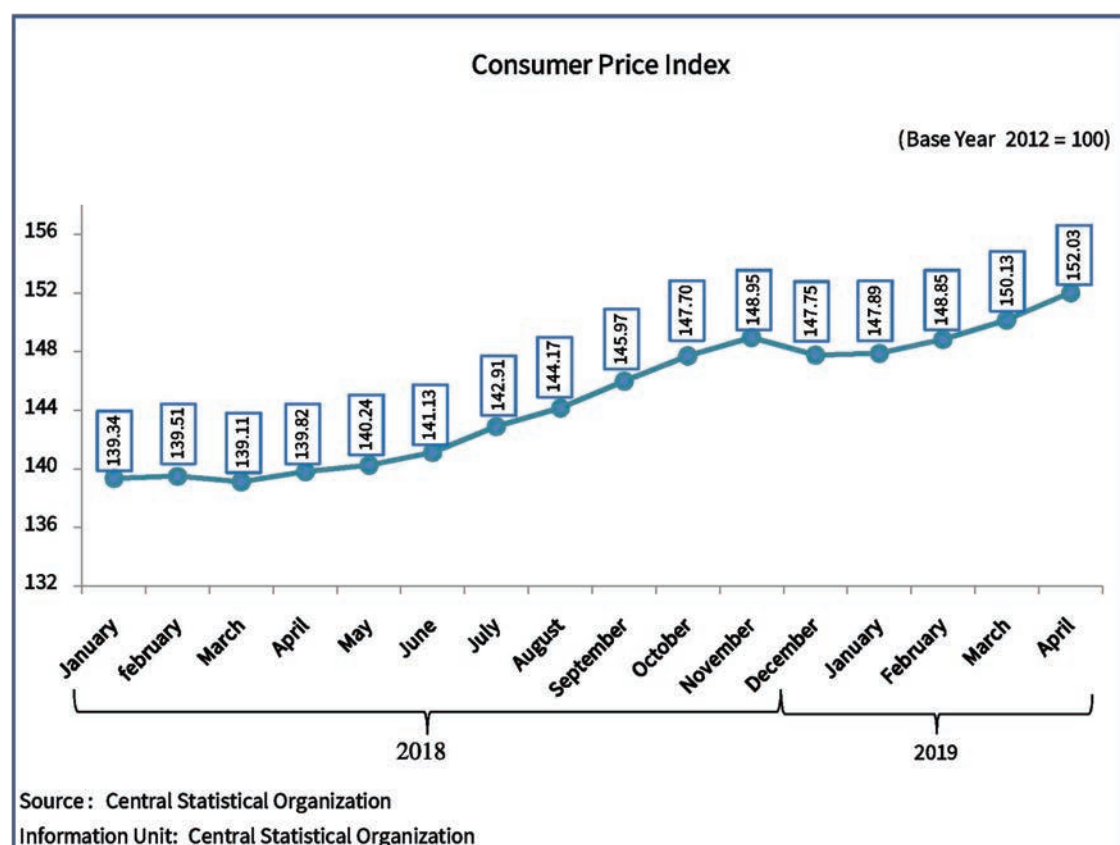
During the same period last year, the price of Indian chilies stood at K3,800, Wakema chilies at K2,600, and Sinphyukyun chilies at K5,500, according to last year's market data.

This month, Kyaukse, Thetaw, and Wandwin regions have been exporting fresh chilies at K4,000 per viss to China through the border gates. — Khin Sai

(Translated by La Wonn)



Farmers harvest chilies in Ngathayauk. **PHOTO: KO HTEIN**



Exports of rice cross 1.5 mln metric tons in Oct-May

MYANMAR exported over 1.5 million metric tons of rice and broken rice, worth US\$472 million, between 1 October and 24 May in the current fiscal year, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation.

In the October-May period, more than 527,870 tons of rice, worth \$159.8 million, was exported through the border gates, while 1 million tons of rice, valued at \$312.3 million, was shipped through the maritime route, according to data from the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar exports rice to 54 countries. China is the main buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by



Workers unloading sacks of rice from a ship at Botataung jetty in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

the Philippines Côte d'Ivoire and Cameroon and Guinea are the fourth and fifth largest buyers of

Myanmar rice. Countries in the European Union account for over 20 per cent of Myanmar's rice

exports, while 25 per cent of the rice produced by the nation goes to African countries.

Myanmar mostly exports broken rice to Belgium, followed by Indonesia, China, the UK, and Netherlands. Broken rice from the country is shipped to 26 foreign markets. Myanmar's rice trade with China through the border channel has been halted since China began cracking down on illegal goods in October, 2018. This has led to a steep drop in rice exports to China, and resulted in about 500,000 tons of rice stocks building up at the Muse gate.

On 21 April this year, Myan-

mar's Commerce Ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the government of Yunnan province for implementing a barter system. If the MoU comes into effect, Myanmar's agro and fishery products will be exported to China on an enormous scale. On 10 June, a co-ordination meeting to export 100,000 tons of Myanmar rice to China through the maritime route was held in Nay Pyi Taw.

Myanmar shipped 3.6 million tons of rice, the highest on record, to other countries in the 2017-2018 fiscal year. —GNLM ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Local gold price likely to slip further: gold traders

By Nyein Nyein

TRACKING the drop in the price of gold globally, the yellow metal is likely to continue its slide in the domestic market, said U Ohn Myaing, General Secretary, Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

The prevailing price of gold in the domestic market is around K1,066,200 per tical (0.578 ounces), while gold is priced around US\$1,327 per ounce in the global market.

"Pure gold was priced at K1,070,200-1,070,300 per tical last Monday and now, it has dropped to K1,066,200. Global gold prices are expected to cool slightly.

Therefore, local gold price may pull back. In addition, the domestic gold market remains cool," said U Ohn Myaing.

"At present, the demand for gold is declining in the domestic market as the academic year has started, and there are no festivals to celebrate," he said.

"Domestic gold price is positively related to the global gold price. Global gold price is likely to remain low," he added.

"But, we need to consider a possible price rise in the domestic market, when the global gold price climbs up," said U Ohn Myaing.

With the global gold price increasing, the domestic gold price

hit fresh peaks in early 2019, reaching K1,050,000 per tical in the period from 17 to 29 January, breaching K1,060,000 in the period from 30 January to 7 February, rising above K1,070,000 between 8-18 February, and above K1,080,000 between 19-21 February.

The price of gold in the domestic market reached a low of K1,043,400 on 1 January and a high of K1,061,000 on 31 January. It touched a low of K1,058,400 on 2 February, and a high of K1,087,300 on 20 February. It recorded a low of K1,048,600 on 30 March and a high of K1,069,000 on 21 March. The price of gold registered a low of K1,037,200 on



Gold jewelry seen at a shop in downtown Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

24 April and a high of K1,054,700 on 11 April. Meanwhile, gold reached a minimum price of K1,035,200 on 2 May and a max-

imum price of K1,059,200 on 14 May, according to gold traders. ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Border trade between Myanmar and Bangladesh drops to \$21.7 mln

THE value of bilateral border trade between Myanmar and Bangladesh between October and May in the 2018-2019FY has touched US\$21.7 million, a decline of \$1.9 million compared with the same period in the previous fiscal, according to statistics provided by the Ministry of Commerce.

Between 1 October and 31 May, the value of border exports stood at \$14.12 million and imports at \$7.59 million.

Border trade between the two countries is conducted through the Sittway and

Maungtau trade camps. As of May, trade through the Maungtau gate totalled \$5.78 million, while trade at the Sittway border point was valued at \$15.93 million.

Myanmar exports goods primarily by sea. Normally, 90 per cent of the border trade is carried out on the Myanmar side, which exports fishery products, including dried fish, as well as other goods to South Asian nations. They, in turn, export kitchen ware and clothing items to Myanmar.

Goods traded between

Myanmar and Bangladesh include bamboo, ginger, peanuts, saltwater prawns and fish, dried plums, garlic, rice, mung beans, blankets, candy, plum jams, footwear, frozen foods, chemicals, leather, jute products, tobacco, plastics, wood, knitwear, beverages, and human hair.

Myanmar's total border trade with her four neighboring countries has reached \$7.1 billion in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.—Zwe ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Manufacturing sector exports exceed \$6 bln in Oct-May

MYANMAR'S exports of finished industrial goods crossed US\$6 billion between 1 October and 31 May in the current financial year, registering a significant increase of \$1.3 billion compared with the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce.

During the year-ago period, the export figure stood at \$4.86 billion.

Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in garment and textiles on the Cut-Make-Package basis, which contribute to the country's GDP to a certain extent.

In the current fiscal year, garment exports have generated an income of more than \$2.5 billion so far.

The CMP industry has emerged as a promising one in

the export sector. The export value of CMP was only \$850 million in the 2015-2016 fiscal year, but it tripled within two years, reaching \$2.5 billion in the 2017-2018FY, according to the Myanmar Global Investment Forum 2018, held on 12 September.

During the last mini-budget period (April-September, 2018), exports of clothes manufactured under the CMP system totalled \$2.27 billion, which was double the value recorded in the previous year.

Japan is Myanmar's apparel largest market, followed by the European Union.

The manufacturing sector is likely to remain the top draw for FDIs in the current financial year. —GNLM ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Accelerating climate change calls for better disaster preparedness

MYANMAR is once again entering monsoon season and while the majority of the country is having its share of pouring rain and blowing winds, the nation's dry zone has still not seen a drop. On the other hand, while there have been strong winds and lightning strikes occurring frequently we currently do not have to fear any approaching cyclones, storms or floods.

However, we must not let our guard down. Natural disasters are spontaneous so we must make sure we have everything prepared to counter their effects. The increasing pace of climate change means we are now facing more natural disasters than before. They are no longer an unusual incident but something we get to see at least once a year, whether it be cyclones, earthquakes or flash floods.

There are three seasons in Myanmar – hot, rainy and cold – but we are now experiencing lacklustre rain, warm winters and blazing hot summers. The monsoon season is also getting shorter and either doesn't rain at all or lets loose torrents that end up flooding the country.

In a recent meeting of the National Disaster Management Committee, its chairman

Vice President U Henry Van Thio called on disaster risk management to constantly observe the changing weather patterns so that we can make necessary preparations, adapt our rescue strategies, and invest in emergency response programmes and long-term protection plans.

It is inevitable that there will be losses when a natural disaster strikes, but early preparation can mitigate things considerably. For example, when Cyclone Fani hit the Indian State of Odisha on 2 May this year, it caused around US\$7 billion in damages and the destruction was such that experts estimate it will take at least ten years to restore things. However, on a natural disaster of that scale, only 64 deaths were reported, showing how effective early preparedness can be.

Echoing a similar experience, Cyclone Nargis' entry into Myanmar on 2 May 2008 saw hundreds of thousands die due to a lack of proper preparation. It was a costly lesson. But eventually, we have improved our disaster management efforts and with the active participation of the people, who have experienced numerous calamities following Nargis, we have managed to reasonably reduce damages and casualties incurred from natural disasters.

But now there is another issue. While more and more people are energetically engaging in early disaster preparedness and emergency response programmes, we need to ensure our surrounding natural environment does not deteriorate any further.

If we cannot protect nature and our environment, then we will have difficulty keeping up with the increasing force and rate of natural disasters that occur due to deforestation and habitat destruction. Therefore, we implore everyone to keep their environment clean and promote eco-friendliness in order to preserve our natural world. After all, this is also part of disaster risk management.



Chin mountain ranges and roaming gayals

By Maung Tha
(Archaeology)

IN ORDER to study the culture and traditions of ethnic Chin nationals, I went to Chin State; I saw a lot of gayals during my trip to Kanpetlet Township in Southern Chin State and Tedim Township in Northern Chin State. Indian pied hornbills and gayals are regarded as outstanding animals for Chin State, but the former are not found during my trip.

Chin State

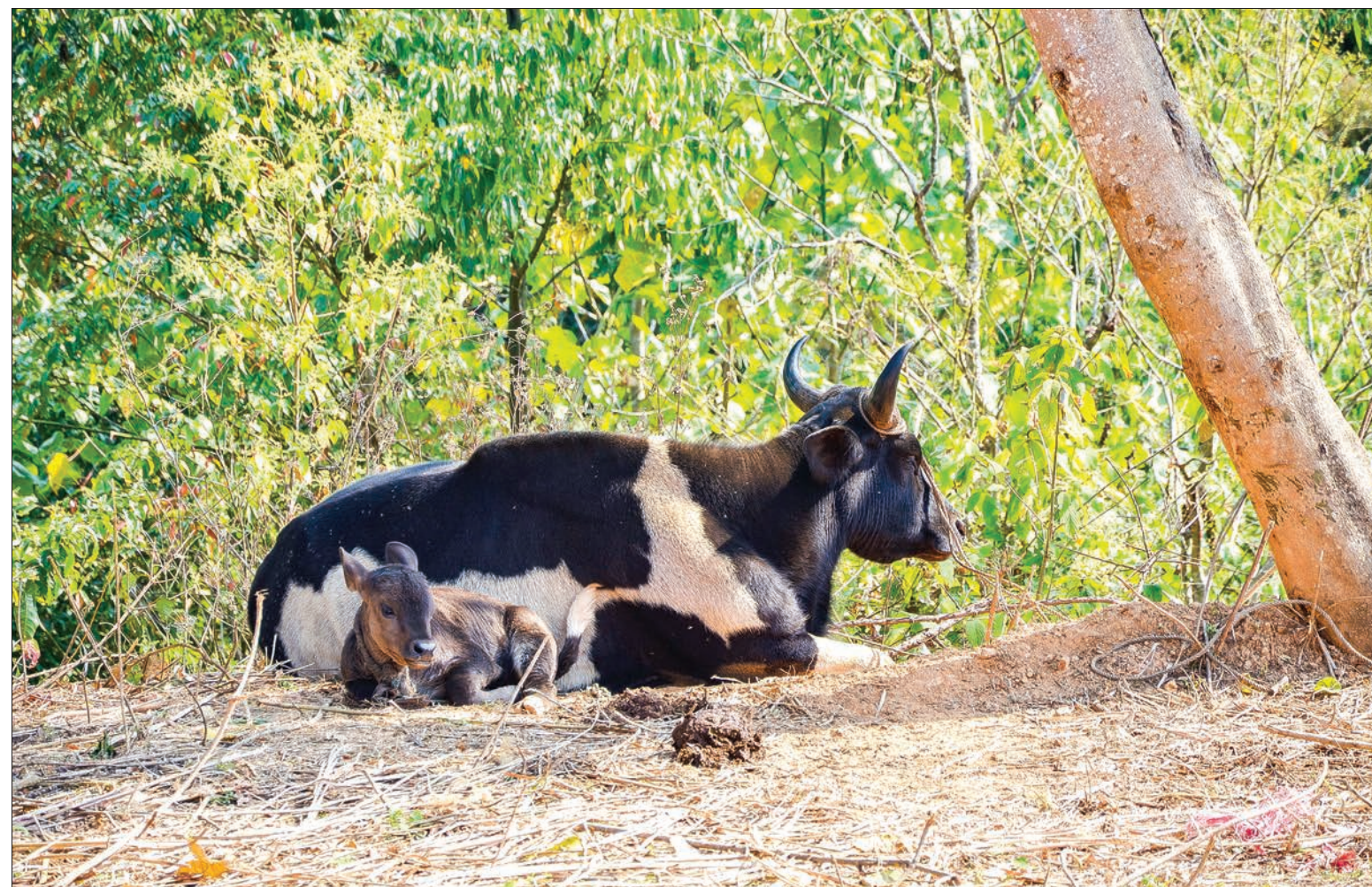
After our country's independence, the Chin State was composed of seven Districts; Southern District consisted of Haka, Paletwa and Matupi townships whereas Northern District included Tedim, Haka and Falam townships. After adoption of 1974 Constitution, the Chin Division became a State, designating 20 February as its National Day.

Nowadays, Chin State is composed of three Districts and nine townships. Haka district consists of Haka and Htantlang townships; Mindat District is composed of Mindat, Kanpetlet, Matupi and Paletwa townships. Falam district consists of Falam, Tedim and Tunzang townships.

The Chin State which lies in the west of Myanmar is situated on a mountain range far away from Myanmar proper. In the past, difficult transport made people go across the towns through mountain and spur ranges. Now it is easy to go from town to town through wide and smooth roads. Extensions of motor roads were seen during our trip; herds of gayals have moved en masse among nearby forests.

Gayals from Chin mountain ranges

Gayals belong to the same species (*Gavarus*) of bisons and bantengs. Among the species, gayals have no humps with dented foreheads and small snouts. They are not like cows but with hanging necks and hairs have grown long enough to reach their ankles. Most of them are found grey in color; black and white gayals are also found in bright colors. Gayals have generally four white legs below knees; gayals with hair on the belly are also found. If gayals are looked right in the front, their triangular heads can be seen. The base of the horn is slightly flat with pump backbones



Gayals are easily tamed like Myanmar cows; they are lethargic and roam aimlessly in groups in the forests. PHOTO: TIN WIN

in a strong tail at the base.

Gayals are termed as Sials by ethnic Chin nationals; they are usually bred for meat. They are naturally found between 3000 and 10,00 feet above sea level. They are found roaming in shady gorges in townships in Chin State, Khaunglanphu and Nagmon townships in Northern Kachin State and Leshi township in Sagaing Region.

In Chin State, the wealth of a family is measured by a number of gayals. Visitors are served with gayal meat in traditional festivals, social occasions of joy and grief. By assessing the value of gayals, wedding ceremonies and several kinds of compensations have been awarded up to this day. That might be the reason that the more gayals a man belongs, the wealthier he is regarded.

The breeding of gayals

Among the varieties of draught cattle, dairy and meat cows, the gayal falls into a meat category. The average weight of a gayal is between 800 and 1300 pounds, bigger than local cows nearing the size of Friesian horse. Cattle breeders marked on the horns of gayals of their own and sent them into the forests. In the past, the breeders did not put a fence for gayals which were marked and freed into the forests.

When needed, they were called by their owners by feeding them salt. Sometime, there were disputes over the markings about ownership of gayals.

Nowadays, they are fenced in by the breeders for meat-producing business. But they are not bred in villages; but in a large compound at a designated place in the forest. The fences for gayals are made of pine branches of crossed posts upon which poles of mangrove trees are tied with thin bamboo strips by creating a compound surrounded by three or four rows. By breeding them inside the fences from June to December, they are sent into the forest for the rest of months. The gayal breeders have used the fences for six to seven years; a new place is sought for a new compound with a new fence.

Gayals do not eat grasses and straws like Myanmar cows; they eat green leaves, creepers and bamboo leaves by living in groups. They are very fond of eating salt; the breeders regularly feed them by salt. Gayals roaming in the forests are in the habit of coming to a place when the time of feeding salt comes.

Gayal owners herd them to their villages by feeding salt

Gayals are often found on mountain motor roads; when they

see cars and motorcycles coming, they run down along the hillsides. Gayals are not hostile to men, but they attack wild dogs in groups. Wild dogs in turn attack young gayals and eat them ravenously. They like a steamy place, but they resist climate change. Very young gayals are often attacked and eaten by tigers and wild dogs;

suck its mother milk and start to eat food other than milk. At the time of giving birth to the young, their mother tends to produce a lot of milk, but Chin nationals do not drink the milk.

Entrusting one's gayals to another

Ethnic Chin nationals breed

As gayals are closely connected with Chin traditions, they have been raised in mountain ranges from generation to generation.

but loss is few and far between among the adult gayals, but only a few in young ones

The growth rate of gayals is faster than that of Myanmar cows and they could become pregnant at the age of one and half years. Male gayals have mated up to the age of eight but females could give birth to the young up to the age of 15, producing a young per year. Female gayals are 100% successfully pregnant with very few fatalities. Two young gayals at a birth are few and far between. Four-month-old young no longer

gayals for the purpose of producing meat; they are not trained to be tame in order to do something. Gayals are easily tamed like Myanmar cows; they are lethargic and roam aimlessly in groups in the forests. They are mostly free from diseases and live full lifespan unless killed by men. But gayals bred in compounds are vaccinated against diseases during June with the help of employees from Animal Husbandry and Cure Department. The system of entrusting one's gayals to another is widely practiced in Chin mountain

ranges.

The owner of the male gayals has entrusted them to the receiver. If they are bred and give birth to a young, the first offspring belongs to the receiver; the second one goes to the male owner. Other offspring will be shared half-and-half by the owner and the receiver. Because of good entrusting system, the breeding of gayals has improved dramatically.

Seventy per cent of village households in townships in Chin State raise gayals; they are widely bred to show the wealth of a family. The current price of an adult gayal is over eleven lakhs, according to a breeder from Matupi town. At Chin wedding ceremonies, gayals are appraised for the properties brought by the bridegroom to the bride; this tradition is still practiced up to this day. Gayal meat is served as a main dish at social occasion of joy or grief and festivals; an increase in Chin population means more breeding of gayals.

According to a report released in March, 2017 there were 22491 gayals in Chin State with the most of gayals in Matupi Township. Visitors to Chin State savour gayal meat with obvious relish and dried gayal meat is widely used. Less striated gayal meat stinks and is boiled soft easily. A male gayal aged between three and four tends to produce 80 to 100 litres.

As gayals and cows have the same genera, they can be bred; but with buffaloes they cannot be because of different genera. A strange thing is that an ox and a female gayal are bred, the female gayal is fertile whereas the offspring male is sterile. But a male gayal and cow are bred, the male and female offspring are fertile. Friesian ox and female gayal or male gayal or female Friesian are bred, their male and female offspring are fertile.

As gayals are closely connected with Chin traditions, they have been raised in mountain ranges from generation to generation. As gayals are raised for foods, they can be found easily in mountain ranges, thus becoming an outstanding symbol for Chin State and its people. Many villages in Chin mountain ranges keep hanging the skulls of wild animals including those of gayals which can be seen as a sign of Chin culture.

(Translated by Arakan Sein)

Union Supreme Court sits to pass judgment, hear cases

UNION Supreme Court yesterday sits at Union Supreme Court room number 1 yesterday morning with Chief Justice of the Union Supreme Court U Htun Htun Oo and all Union Supreme Court judges and passed judgments on six special civil appeal cases. In addition to this, it also heard three special criminal appeal cases and three special civil appeal cases. — MNA ■



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 10th June, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal and weak to moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL Afternoon OF THE 11th June, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Mandalay Regions, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Magway Region and Kayah State, fairly widespread in (Northern and Eastern) Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (8 -10)feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Strong-monsoon over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th June, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th June, 2019: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th June, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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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.

Japanese company to conduct feasibility study on new waste disposal method in Monywa

JAPAN'S Fujita Company will study the feasibility of implementing a new waste disposal system in Monywa in July, said U Thit Htoo Myint, the Director of Sagaing Region's Municipal Committee.

"Monywa produces about 150 tons of garbage a day. The current system of waste disposal will damage the environment. Additionally, there is only limited space for dumping waste in the long run. Over time, this problem will become big. Therefore, we will conduct a feasibility study to find out if we can implement a waste disposal system in collaboration with a Japanese company. We will implement this project within three years. We have already shown them the waste dumping areas. In July, the Japanese company will conduct a field inspection of the three waste dumping areas to implement the new system," he added.

Of the total volume of waste produced in Monywa, 74 per cent comes from



Monywa Municipal Committee staffs show waste dumping areas to experts from Japan's Fujita Company for conducting feasibility study on new waste disposal system in Monywa. **PHOTO: WIN OO (ZEYARTINE)**

household kitchens, 10 per cent is plastic rubbish, 1 per cent comprises bottles and canes, and the remaining 15 per cent comes from farming business-

es. The waste is currently being dumped in three separate areas, which have limited space and pose the risk of environmental pollution. Therefore,

the authorities are working to implement the new system as soon as possible.— Win Oo (Zeyartine) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Food engineering courses to open this year in Yangon, Kyaukse TUs

THE Yangon Technological University and the Kyaukse Technological University will begin offering B.E. in food engineering and post-graduate diplomas in food biotechnology and food and bioprocess engineering from the 2019-2020 academic year.

Universities in most neighbouring countries have been conducting food science and technology courses at the undergraduate level. However, there are no such courses in Myanmar yet. As a result, those interested in participating in food competitions in other countries can only do so under an observer status. They do not get a chance to participate as competitors. If Myanmar opens undergraduate courses in food science and technology, they will get the chance to compete in such competitions, in ac-

cordance with the rules and regulations.

"Our country doesn't have undergraduate courses in these disciplines. But, we have been permitted to start undergraduate and post-graduate courses from this academic year. Now, a six-year B.E (food Engineering) course will be opened at YTU. The first to fifth years will be concerned with theory only. However, the final year will focus only on practical sessions. Students will have to write a thesis and a project paper. The YTU has 24 faculty members," said U Zaw Lay Win, a lecturer from the Chemical Engineering Department of YTU.

"The disciplines involved in the B.E food engineering course are food science, food chemistry, food processing, food engineering, food pres-

ervation, food microbiology, food toxicology, food post-service technology, and food enzymology, among others," he added.

A one-year post-graduate diploma in food technology was opened in 1974 at RIT and Yangon University. Then, a Master of Food Technology (MFT) course was opened in 1999. Both DFT and MFT courses were suspended for a few years because the universities did not have adequate equipment. The diploma course was opened again in 2006.

Undergraduate diploma courses in food biotechnology and food and bioprocess engineering will be launched at the Kyaukse Technological University in Mandalay from this academic year, it is learnt.—GNLM ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Motorcyclist killed in head-on collision with three-wheeler in Bago Region

A MOTORCYCLIST was killed after colliding head-on with a trishaw around 6:45 a.m. on 10 June on the Yangon-Pyay highway in Zigon Township, Tharyawady District, Bago Region.

The motorcyclist has been identified as Corporal Zaw Min Oo. He was on his way from Yangon to Pyay when his bike collided with the trishaw, which was on its way from Pyay to Yangon. The trishaw was being driven by U Than Toe Aung. Corporal Zaw Min Oo sustained serious injuries and died on the spot. U Than Toe Aung was also injured and taken to the Township People's Hospital.

The Township Police have initiated action against the trishaw driver, U Than Toe Aung, under Section 304 of the Penal Code. — Tin Myint (Natalin) ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

China's exports beat forecast to rise as trade war heats up

BELJING (China) — China's exports beat gloomy forecasts to rebound in May though imports sank more than expected, official data showed Monday, as concerns lingered about the impact of its ongoing trade war with the United States.

The spat between the world's top two economies escalated last month, with President Donald Trump increasing tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese goods.

But Chinese exports to the world bounced back to rise 1.1 percent last month after falling 2.7 per cent in April, according to customs data. Analysts surveyed by Bloomberg News had forecast a 3.9 per cent drop.

Imports, however, plummeted 8.5 per cent after rising 4.0 percent in April.

The trade surplus surged to \$41.7 billion in May compared with \$13.8 billion the previous month. The politically sensitive surplus with the United States was \$26.9 billion, up from \$21 billion in April. Trade talks between Beijing and Washington have stalled while the two countries have threatened to slap more sanctions on each other.

Trump has blacklisted Chi-



The US has threatened to impose tariffs on nearly all goods entering the country from China as their trade war rumbles along. **PHOTO: AFP**

nese telecom giant Huawei and warned that he could impose tariffs on nearly all remaining products from China, worth more than \$300 billion.

Beijing responded to Trump's latest tariff hike by increasing levies on \$60 billion of US products on June 1.

China is also preparing its own blacklist of "unreliable" companies and has suggested that it could halt exports of rare earth minerals — key to the production of many high-tech goods — to the

United States. Trump is expected to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping at the G20 summit in Japan at the end of the month.

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said at a G20 meeting of finance ministers Saturday that any potential deal with China will wait until the two presidents meet later this month, but Washington was ready to impose new tariffs if talks fail.

Tumble expected

Analysts said despite the rebound in exports, China's trade

outlook is likely to suffer because of the turbulence ahead.

"While exports rose in May, weaker global demand and the escalating trade war suggest that they will start to fall again before long," Marcel Thieliand, senior economist at Capital Economics, said in a note.

Others attributed the bounce in May to exports being scheduled so they are shipped ahead of when tariffs kick in, pointing to a likely drop later in the year. —AFP ■

Japan firm opens logistics center in Viet Nam

HO CHI MINH CITY — Shirogane Transport Co. of Japan has opened a logistics center in southern Viet Nam to meet local transport demand.

The company has invested around 1 billion yen (\$9.2 million) to build a warehouse with a total floor space of some 6,300 square meters in an industrial park near CaiMepThiVai port in Ba RiaVung Tau Province, about 40 kilometers southeast of Ho Chi Minh City.

Partnering with ThanhBinhPhu My, a local property and industrial park developer, Shirogane has established a joint venture, Vina-Japan Shirogane Logistics Co., to run the facility for forwarding and warehousing services in the Phu My 3 Specialized Industrial Park.

CaiMepThiVai port, which became operational in 2009 with Japanese aid, is one of Viet Nam's largest international ports with a depth of 14 meters, deep enough for large freighters

to make port calls.

Currently, logistics firms tend to use shallow river ports near Ho Chi Minh City to receive cargos via barge transport after transshipment at CaiMepThiVai port, but shippers have faced traffic congestions, according to a report of the Japan Interna-

tional Cooperation Agency.

Over 60 Japanese logistics firms are based in Ho Chi Minh City, but Shirogane chose the industrial park to capture potential local forwarding demand, Tatsuya Ito, general director of the joint venture, said at an opening event on Friday.

The joint venture plans to develop the logistics center in up to three phases on a 22,500-square-meter tract of land in the industrial park, Ito said, adding it is considering undertaking cargo inspections and packaging in the future.—Kyodo News ■



Shirogane Transport Co.'s logistics center in Vietnam's Ba RiaVung Tau. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Russia warns of 'great risk' of oil overproduction

MOSCOW (Russia) — Russia on Monday warned of a strong risk of global overproduction of oil that could lead crude prices to drop below \$40 a barrel.

"There are really great risks of overproduction today," Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said during a meeting with Saudi counterpart Khalid al-Falih in Moscow.

"We have to analyse everything... in order to take a balanced decision in July" he said, referring to a key meeting of the so-called OPEC+ alliance between OPEC members and other oil producing countries including Russia.—AFP ■

Britain agrees Brexit trade deal with S.Korea

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Britain said Monday it had concluded a trade deal with South Korea to maintain links after Brexit.

International Trade Secretary Liam Fox has agreed a preliminary deal with Korean Minister of Trade YooMyung-Hee in Seoul, the UK government said in a statement.

It is Britain's first post-Brexit trade deal in Asia and follows similar agreements with nations including Chile, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.—AFP ■

Egypt's annual inflation up to 14.1 pct in May: statistics

CAIRO — Egypt's annual urban consumer price inflation increased to 14.1 percent in May from 13 percent in April, the country's official statistics agency said on Monday.

"The annual inflation rose to 13.2 percent in May year on year from 11.2 percent in the same month in 2018," the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) added.

The CAPMAS report attributed the increase in inflation rates to the hiking prices of fruits by 18.1 percent, beef by 3.6 percent and medical equipment by 5.5 per cent.—Xinhua ■

Thousands march in Port-au-Prince to demand president's resignation

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Haiti) — Several thousand demonstrators marched through Port-au-Prince on Sunday to demand the resignation of Haitian President Jovenel Moïse over allegations of embezzlement.

Led by dozens of protesters on motorcycles, the mostly youthful demonstrators filled city center streets in a rally organized by opposition parties and civil society groups. Amid a heavy police presence, the marchers erected barricades of burning tires, and at least two buildings near the departmental police headquarters caught fire. There were also clashes near the presidential palace, but no immediate reports of injuries.

“We demand that all those squandering (public) funds be tried and punished, their assets seized and turned over to the state for serious development projects, and that the president resign and turn himself in,” said Velina Charlier, a protest leader.



Several thousand people marched on June 9, 2019 through the streets of Port-au-Prince to demand the resignation of President Jovenel Moïse (L) over his alleged role in an embezzlement scheme. PHOTO: AFP

The judges of the High Court of Auditors said in a voluminous report last week that Moïse was at the center of an “embezzlement scheme” that had siphoned off Venezuelan aid money intended for road repairs.

Venezuela’s Petrocaribe aid program has been plagued by allegations of corruption since its establishment in 2008.

The judges’ report laid out

a litany of examples of corruption and mismanagement. The magistrates discovered, for example, that in 2014 Haitian authorities signed contracts with two different companies — Agritrans and Betexs — for the same road-repair project. The two turned out to have the same tax registration number and the same personnel.

Moïse, before he came to power in 2017, headed Agri-

trans, which received more than 33 million gourdes (\$700,000 at the time) to do the road work, though the company in principle did nothing but grow bananas. The Petrocaribe scandal gave rise to parliamentary inquiries in 2016 and 2017, and public protests goaded the High Court of Auditors to examine how the \$1.6 billion in Venezuelan funds were spent by succeeding Haitian administrations.

Opposition parties, who contested Moïse’s 2017 election, urged their supporters on Sunday to demonstrate peacefully. At least seven Haitians died during violent protests in February that led to the fall of the government. But no new cabinet has been appointed, no budget has been approved, and there is no certainty when legislative elections will be held. This comes amid a continuing economic crisis, with an inflation rate above 17 per cent, the country’s currency devalued, and many Haitians lacking basic necessities. —AFP ■

4 dead in Sudan a week after bloody crackdown

KHARTOUM (Sudan) — One week after dozens died in a crackdown on Sudanese protesters demanding civilian rule, four people were killed as security forces moved to quell a civil disobedience campaign launched Sunday.

The deaths marked almost two months since the 11 April ouster of longtime ruler Omar al-Bashir, as talks broke down between protest leaders and military rulers over who should lead a new governing body — a civilian or soldier.

Protesters set about building roadblocks in Khartoum, while markets and shops were closed in other towns and cities.

A doctors’ committee linked to the demonstrators said two people had been killed in clashes in the capital, while two others died in its twin city of Omdurman, just across the Nile.

The Central Committee for Sudanese Doctors blamed forces supporting the ruling military council for the deaths, which it said took the overall toll to 118 since a 3 June crackdown to disperse a sit-in by protesters outside army headquarters.

The health ministry says 61 people died nationwide in Monday’s crackdown, 49 of them from “live ammunition” in Khartoum.

In the capital’s northern Bahari district, people gathered tyres, tree trunks and rocks to build new roadblocks as the campaign began early on Sunday.

But riot police swiftly moved in, firing gunshots in the air and tear gas at demonstrators before clearing the makeshift barriers, a witness said.

“They opened the way, we closed it again, they opened it, we re-closed it. It was a game of cat and mouse,” said one protester, a 20-year-old mechanical engineering student.

The Sudanese Professionals Association, which first launched protests against Bashir in December, said the campaign would continue until military rulers transfer power to a civilian government.

In Bahari district, onlookers saw a police truck full of people in civilian clothing, but it was not possible to confirm whether they were detained demonstrators. —AFP ■

Democrats slam Trump’s use of trade threats against ally Mexico

WASHINGTON (United States) — Democrats on Sunday slammed Donald Trump’s tactics of threatening punitive tariffs to extract concessions on immigration from Mexico, saying the US president was recklessly endangering ties to a major ally and trade partner.

“What the world is tired of, and what I am tired of, is a president who consistently goes to war, verbal war, with our allies,” Senator Bernie Sanders, an independent who caucuses with Democrats, said on CNN’s “State of the Union.”

“We need a decent relationship with Mexico,” added Sanders, who is a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2020. “We should not be confronting them every other day.”

His comments came two days after the US and Mexico, following urgent talks in Washington, reached a deal to avert the five-per cent tariffs Trump had threatened on all imports from Mexico, a move economists said would have had devastating impact in both countries.

The Mexican side, for its

part, agreed to bolster security on its southern border and expand its policy of taking back Central American migrants as the US processes their asylum claims.

‘Threats and tantrums’

Trump and his Republican supporters hailed the deal as a major breakthrough, but the Democrats sharply criticized his frequent resort to tariff threats and said many of the Mexican concessions were made months ago.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi issued a sharply worded statement Saturday saying Trump had “undermined America’s preeminent leadership role in the world” by threatening tariffs against Mexico. “Threats and temper tantrums are no way to negotiate foreign policy,” she said.

But Kevin McAleenan, the acting secretary of Homeland Security, insisted that results were what mattered. “People can disagree with the tactics (but) Mexico came to the table with real proposals,” he said on “Fox News Sunday.” “We have an agreement that, if they im-

plement, will be effective.”

‘Brilliant’ use of tariffs

Beto O’Rourke, a former congressman from the border city of El Paso, Texas who is also pursuing the Democratic nomination, was among the critics challenging how much Trump had actually accomplished.

“I think the president has completely overblown what he reports to have achieved,” he said on ABC’s “This Week.” “These are agreements that Mexico had already made, in some cases months ago. “They might have accelerated the timetable, but by and large the

president achieved nothing except to jeopardize the most important trading relationship that the United States of America has.”

Many lawmakers from border states like Texas — even many Republicans — had expressed grave reservations about the tariff threat, but Republicans, at least, welcomed the outcome. “In general, Republicans understand that tariffs are attacks on American consumers and we don’t want to see them in place long-term, nor do I believe President Trump does,” Republican Senator Ron Johnson said on Fox. —AFP ■



Democrats have slammed President Donald Trump’s tactic of using tariff threats to press Mexico to curb the northward flow of migrants before they reach border points like this one in California. PHOTO:AFP

ASEAN leaders to vow at summit to tackle marine debris

BANGKOK — Southeast Asian leaders will commit to tackle the growing problem of marine debris, in particular plastics, during their summit later this month, according to a draft declaration obtained Monday.

The leaders of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations will make the vow in the Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in ASEAN Region, to be inked during their summit to be held on June 23 in Bangkok. In the draft, the leaders call for strengthening actions at the national level, as well as through in-

ternational collaboration, to prevent and significantly reduce marine debris. They pledge to enhance policy dialogue and information sharing, implement partnerships between the public and private sectors, and promote innovative solutions to reducing plastic litter, including through development of a circular economy whereby plastics are kept out of the environment and instead returned to production through reuse and recycling. The leaders also commit to devote more scientific and research work to combating marine debris and to increase public awareness

and participation through advocacy and education, with the aim of changing people's behavior. The draft shows ASEAN's concern over the "high and rapidly increasing levels" of marine plastic litter and other debris, and the adverse impacts on marine biodiversity, ecosystems, animal well-being, fisheries, maritime transport, recreation, tourism, local societies and economies. It cites an "urgent need" for strengthened knowledge of the levels and effects of microplastics and nanoplastics on the marine ecosystem, food safety and human health.—Kyodo News ■



File photo of plastic waste along a coast in Conakry, Guinea, taken in September 2017. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Australia's public broadcaster weighs legal action after police raid

SYDNEY (Australia)—Australia's public broadcaster is considering legal action to demand the return of documents seized in a police raid, its chairwoman said Monday, ahead of a meeting with the prime minister over a crackdown on whistleblower leaks.

The Sydney headquarters of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) was raided by federal police on Wednesday, the second high-profile raid on journalists in 24 hours.

It targeted executives and journalists involved in a two-year-old investigative report where the ABC obtained documents showing Australian special forces had killed innocent men and children in Afghanistan. ABC chairwoman Ita Buttrose said her organisation had consulted with lawyers over what options they had, but had yet to brief anyone.

"At this point, we're really assessing the allegations to see what actions can be taken and we want to make sure that we're in the strongest available position to defend ourselves and also our journalists," Buttrose told ABC radio.

The Australian newspaper reported Monday the public broadcaster

had retained the services of top media barrister Matthew Collins. Some 100 documents were seized by police in the raid and put onto two USBs that were placed into sealed bags, according to the head of the ABC's investigations team John Lyons.

The ABC has two weeks to appeal the warrant or ask for individual documents to be returned. If there is no appeal or it is not successful, the police can then access those documents, Lyons said. Buttrose said she would be meeting Prime Minister Scott Morrison this week to express her views about the raid. She said last week it was "clearly designed to intimidate". "I'm not going to tell the Prime Minister what to do. But I will tell him how we feel at the ABC and how I feel," she said. "I think all of the media organisations in Australia need to get together and pressure the government to review the laws and the rights and freedoms of the media." Police last week also raided a News Corp journalist's home in Canberra over a report detailing the authorities' bid to gain powers to spy on Australian citizens communications at home.—AFP ■

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Consignees of cargo carried on M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (034 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-06-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T 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.

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Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated 11 June 2019
lmm@kcyangon.com

ALLIANCE FOR MICROFINANCE IN MYANMAR LIMITED hereby notifies all concerned that its shareholders approved on 30 May 2019 by special resolution a share buy-back offer.

On 19 January 2016, Mr. Marc Chatel ("MC"), transferred an amount of US\$49,923.50 to the Company from his personal account. The funds transferred by MC were paid for and on behalf of FIDES AG. Alliance issued and allotted shares to FIDES AG. After discussions with the then existing shareholders of the Company, it was agreed that MC would not be made a shareholder of the Company and the 649 shares allocated towards MC's disbursement were registered under the name of FIDES AG and that FIDES AG would refund the US\$49,923.50 directly to MC. The Parties involved in the entire transaction have commercially agreed to settle the dispute amicably and refund the US\$49,923.50 to MC along with compensation of US\$13,776.15.

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Drugs and Brexit: Race to replace UK's May under way

LONDON (United Kingdom) — The contest to replace Theresa May as Britain's next leader formally got under way on Monday, with frontrunner Boris Johnson facing criticism from Paris over his Brexit plan and a key rival struggling to throw off a drugs scandal.

Eleven candidates have declared their interest in succeeding May, who quit as her Conservative party's leader on Friday over her failure to take Britain out of the EU on time.

She remains prime minister until a new leader is chosen, likely in late July, and they will automatically enter Downing Street.

The race has been dominated by Britain's looming EU exit on 31 October, with Johnson among those talking tough on the need to renegotiate the terms May struck or leave with no deal.

But his vow to refuse to pay the multi-billion-euro financial settlement she has agreed, covering Britain's liabilities from four decades of EU membership, drew a sharp rebuke from Paris.

"Not honouring payment obligations is a breach of international commitment equiva-



Conservative MP Boris Johnson is considered the frontrunner to take over from Theresa May as Britain's prime minister. **PHOTO: AFP**

lent to a default on its sovereign debt, with the consequences that we know," a source close to French President Emmanuel Macron told AFP.

Johnson is the bookmakers' favourite but has not appeared in public for weeks, a tactic that has helped the politician best known for his gaffes, jokes and anecdotes to stay on message.

While his rivals have been touring the broadcast studios, he announced his latest campaign promise — to slash income tax — in his regular newspaper column.

By contrast, another leading candidate, Environment Secretary Michael Gove, spent

the weekend apologising after revealing he had taken cocaine on several occasions two decades ago.

Serious times

May took over after the 2016 EU referendum but was forced to quit after failing three times to get her divorce deal through parliament, and twice delaying Brexit.

Johnson and Gove were both leading campaigners for Brexit in the referendum, but while the former quit the government over May's approach, Gove stayed on.

The pair have history — Gove dramatically withdrew

his backing for Johnson during the 2016 leadership campaign, only to falter himself, clearing the way for May.

The 51-year-old's campaign this time has been hit by the revelation in a forthcoming biography of his illegal use of cocaine, which he admitted but said was a mistake.

He suffered another blow on Monday when his cabinet colleague Amber Rudd, a moderate on Brexit, endorsed Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt for the leadership.

Gove has taken a softer line on Britain's EU departure than Johnson, suggesting he might delay Brexit once again to try to avoid a damaging "no deal" exit.

Meanwhile Hunt claimed at that weekend that he had received encouraging signals for renegotiating the Brexit deal from German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

In response, a German government spokeswoman referenced a previous remark by Merkel that the deal cannot be reopened, although a declaration on future ties could be.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock, Interior Minister Sajid Javid, former Brexit minister Dominic Raab and Commons

leader Andrea Leadsom are also in the running among several others.

Each must have the support of at least eight Conservative MPs to stand. In a series of secret ballots running from 13 to 20 June, MPs will then whittle down the field to a final pair.

These two will then be chosen in a postal ballot by more than 160,000 paying party members.

Johnson emphasises his appeal across the political divide, a persuasive argument as there is a real risk of a general election if the parliamentary deadlock over Brexit remains.

The Tories are under pressure from both leftist Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn and populist Nigel Farage, whose new Brexit Party has been poaching disgruntled Tory voters.

But Johnson's bombastic rhetoric has alienated many colleagues and voters, he has been accused of lying during the Brexit campaign and his time as foreign minister was underwhelming.

In endorsing Hunt, Rudd said: "These are serious times and we need a respected statesman who Brussels will listen to, not more bluster." —AFP ■

Nigerian gangs kill 43 in several attacks: police

KANO (Nigeria) — Gunmen on motorbikes killed 43 people in waves of attacks in northern Nigeria, police said Monday, the latest violence by criminal gangs raiding villages and stealing livestock.

The string of attacks, carried out overnight Saturday to Sunday in Nigeria's far north-western Sokoto state, saw the gangs ride out from forest hide-outs, speeding into villages and unleashing their weapons.

"They opened fire on the village indiscriminately," said Abdullahi Dantani, from the village of Satiru, where 18 people were murdered.

In Sokoto state's Rabah district, gunmen rode into four villages — Rukunni, Tsage,

Giire and Kalfu — massacring 25 people.

"Twenty-five people were killed," said Ibrahim Kaoje, Sokoto state's top police officer. "Several domestic animals were rustled by the attackers."

Four people were arrested in connection to those attacks, Kaoje said, "including a female informant of the gangs, who was disguised as a mad woman."

In a separate wave of attacks in Satiru village, in Sokoto's Isa district, the raiders shot 18 people, and then stole animals.

"We lost 18 people in the raid by the gunmen, who came into the village on motorcycles," said Satiru village resident Umeh Na-Ta'ala. —AFP ■

95 killed in attack on central Mali village

BAMAKO (Mali) — Ninety-five people in a central Malian village inhabited by the Dogon community were killed by gunmen in an overnight attack, a local official and a security source said Monday, giving a provisional toll.

"Right now we have 95 dead civilians. The bodies are burned, we are continuing to look for others," an official in Koundou district, where the village of Sobane-Kou is located, told AFP.

A Malian security source at the site of the massacre said "a Dogon village has been virtually wiped out".

The local official said the attackers came and "started shooting, pillaging and burning."

The village had about 300 inhabitants, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The attack appears to be the latest incident in a cycle of violence in central Mali, an ethnic mosaic.

The tit-for-tat began when a predominantly Fulani jihadist group led by preacher Amadou Koufa surfaced in the region and



Women belonging to the Dogon ethnic group walk back to the village they left in central Mali after it was taken by Islamist groups in February 2013. **PHOTO: AFP**

started targeting the Bambara and Dogon ethnic groups.

The Fulani, also known as Peul, are primarily cattle breeders and traders, while the Bambara and Dogon are traditionally sedentary farmers.

On 16 May, the UN mission in Mali (MINUSMA) announced it had recorded "at least 488 deaths" in attacks on Fulanis in the central regions of Mopti and Segou since January 2018.

In the bloodiest raid, about 160 Fulani villagers were slaugh-

tered in March at Ogossagou, near the border with Burkina Faso, by suspected Dogon hunters.

MINUSMA said that, also since January 2018, armed Fulanis had "caused 63 deaths" among civilians in the Mopti region. Koufa in March 2017 joined the newly-formed Group to Support Islam and Muslims (GSIM), the leading jihadist alliance in the Sahel region, with links to Al-Qaeda. Its leader is Iyad Ag Ghaly. —AFP ■

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Hand-picked successor sweeps Kazakhstan vote criticised by monitor

NUR-SULTAN (Kazakhstan) — The hand-picked successor of Kazakhstan's longtime ruler won a sweeping victory in a presidential election, but the vote was marred by a police crackdown and monitors said Monday it showed "scant respect" for democracy.

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev took 70.8 per cent of the vote in Sunday's election, the Central Election Commission said, well ahead of his nearest rival, opposition candidate Amirzhan Kosanov on 16.2 per cent.

Sunday saw hundreds of arrests after the biggest protests in Kazakhstan in at least three years, as demonstrators urged a boycott of what they said was a fixed election.

"A lack of regard for fundamental rights, including detentions of peaceful protesters,

and widespread voting irregularities on election day, showed scant respect for democratic standards," observers from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) said.

Tokayev's victory was never in doubt after he received the blessing of former president Nursultan Nazarbayev, who led the Central Asian nation for three decades before his shock resignation in March.

The interior ministry said about 500 people were arrested on Sunday, with deputy minister Marat Kozhayev blaming "radical elements" for holding "unsanctioned" rallies.

An AFP correspondent saw scores more arrested on Monday, several of whom did not appear to be attempting to protest.

Activists denounced the arrests and made claims of ballot stuffing, but Tokayev insisted the election had been "a competition".

"This shows that our level of political culture has seriously increased. There is much work ahead," he said in comments broadcast Monday on state television. Authorities said they would investigate all allegations of vote violations.

No vote in Kazakhstan has ever been recognised as fully democratic by the OSCE, which sent more than 300 observers to monitor this election.

Tokayev's opponents were quick to congratulate him on victory, including second-place finisher Kosanov, a journalist who presented himself as the ballot's sole opposition candidate.

"This political transition will take place with the participation of the people," Kosanov said, criticising "foreign-based" opposition figures who had encouraged voters to boycott the poll.

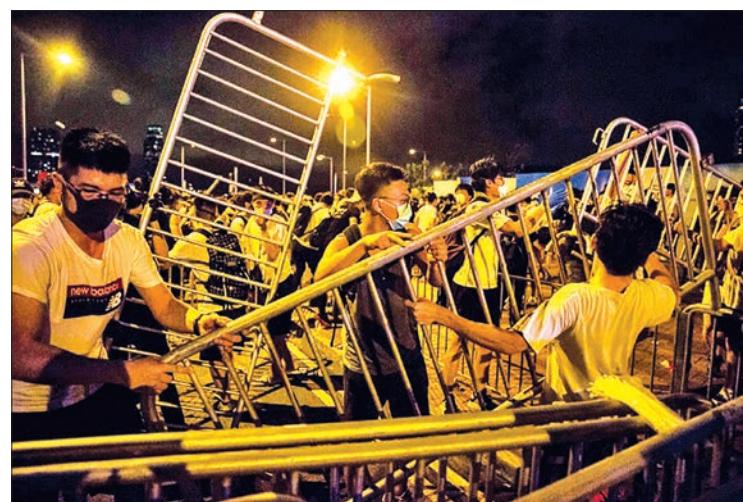
"People are ready for an equal dialogue with authorities," he said in an interview shown on state television.

Kosanov had previously said that if the count was fair the result would go to a second round.

Third place was claimed by Daniya Yespayeva, the first woman candidate in a Kazakh presidential election, who scored 5.2 per cent of the ballot according to the CEC. —AFP ■



Kazakhstan's presidential election was marked by the biggest protests the country has seen in three years. PHOTO: AFP



Protesters block roads with barricades during clashes with police after a rally against a controversial extradition law proposal in Hong Kong. PHOTO: AFP

Hong Kong leader refuses to scrap extradition bill despite rally

HONG KONG (China) — Hong Kong's pro-Beijing leader on Monday refused to scrap a controversial plan to allow extraditions to the Chinese mainland, a day after record crowds came out to oppose the proposal.

Striking a defiant tone after the city's largest protest since the 1997 handover, chief executive Carrie Lam said the legislature would debate the bill on Wednesday as planned, rejecting calls to delay or withdraw the law.

The decision sets her administration on a collision course with opponents who decried her stance and called on supporters to rally outside parliament on Wednesday or hold strikes.

"She's really pushing Hong Kong towards the brink of a precipice," pro-democracy lawmaker Claudia Mo told reporters.

Sunday saw huge crowds march in blazing summer heat

through the streets of the financial hub's main island in a noisy, colourful demonstration calling on the government to scrap its planned extradition law.

Organisers said as many as a million people turned out — the largest protest in three decades and the biggest by far since the city's return to Chinese rule.

Lam's government is pushing a bill through the legislature that would allow extraditions to any jurisdiction with which it does not already have a treaty — including mainland China.

Authorities say it is needed to plug loopholes and to stop the city being a bolthole for fugitives.

But the proposals have birthed an opposition that unites a wide cross-section of the city, with critics fearing the law will entangle people in China's opaque and politicised courts. —AFP ■

Six escape death sentence for rape, murder of eight-year-old Indian girl

PATHANKOT (India) — Six men were convicted Monday over the notorious 2018 gang rape and murder in India of an eight-year-old girl from a Muslim nomadic tribe that provoked horror and stoked inter-religious tensions.

The six men from the Jammu region of northern India escaped the death sentence, however, with three defendants given life imprisonment and the others five years in jail.

Sexual violence, including against children, is rife in India and outrage over the Kathua case, named after the district where the atrocity happened, contributed to the government

introducing the death penalty for child rapists.

According to the charge sheet, the girl was abducted while she was out grazing horses and taken to a village in Jammu, the Hindu-dominated part of the Muslim-majority state of Jammu and Kashmir, on January 10 last year.

In an ordeal lasting five days, she was sedated and held in a Hindu temple, repeatedly raped and then strangled and bludgeoned to death.

Investigations suggested that the girl was targeted in order to strike fear in her nomad community and drive them out of the area.

On Monday a seventh man was acquitted while an eighth person, who claims to be underage, faces a separate trial.

Among the three convicted for rape and murder and sentenced to life were village head Sanjhi Ram and special police officer Deepak Khajuria.

The others were found guilty of taking bribes and destroying evidence.

Prosecutors said that they would study the verdict before deciding whether to appeal. The family, who were not present at the trial, had hoped that all six would be given the death sentences, prosecutors said.

Sexual violence

India has the death penalty for the most brutal murders and terror attacks. The last execution happened in 2015 over bombings in Mumbai in 1993.

The Kathua case sparked two days of violent protests in Jammu and demonstrations in several other places across India, including in New Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore.

The ruling right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party also drew flak after two of its members participated in rallies in support of the accused. The protests were reminiscent of those that followed the fatal gang rape of a Delhi student on a bus in 2012 that made head-

lines around the world.

The Supreme Court had shifted the Kathua trial to Punjab after the girl's family and their lawyer complained of death threats.

Sexual violence, including against children, remains unabated in India. Nearly 20,000 child rape cases were reported in 2016, according to official data, while a 2014 UN report said one in three rape victims was a minor.

On Monday hundreds of police were on duty in Pathankot for the trial. Wary of new protests, security was also heavy in Kathua town and surrounding Muslim areas, although no incidents were reported. —AFP ■

20th ASEAN + Age Group Chess Championships 2019 kicks off in Mandalay

THE opening ceremony of 20th ASEAN + Age Group Chess Championships 2019, hosted by Myanmar, was held yesterday at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay.

The national anthem was first played, followed by salutes to the State Flag.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe delivered a speech.

The championships kicked off with a first move by Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe.

Next, the Union Minister,

members of the Mandalay Region Government, Regional Hluttaw representatives, and officials from ASEAN Chess Confederation (ACC) and Myanmar Chess Federation cordially greeted the players.

Over 190 players from Myanmar and 237 players from Viet Nam, Thailand, Singapore, the Philippines, Mongolia, Malaysia, India and Indonesia are participating in the game.

The Championships will be held from 9 to 19 June.—MNA
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Children's chess competition at 20th ASEAN + Age Group Chess Championships 2019 kicks off in Mandalay on 10 June in the presence of Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe. **PHOTO: MNA**

ISPE grabs gold in MFF Women's League 2018-2019



ISPE FC, Champions of MFF Women's League 2018-2019, pose for group photo at the award presentation ceremony of MFF Women's League 2018-2019 on 10 June at Thuwanna Stadium. **PHOTO: MFF**

By Kyaw Khin

A ceremony to present awards and to conclude the season of MFF Women's League 2018-2019 was held yesterday at Thuwanna Stadium in Yangon.

Team ISPE won the championship, followed by first runner-up Myawady FC and second runner-up Thitsar Arman FC.

Principal of Yangon Institute of Sports and Physical Education U Soe Aung, Director of Sein Gay Har Co., Ltd. U Wai Yan Lin and Director-General of Institute of Sports and Physical Education U Aung Moe presented

individual bronze medals to the players of second runner-up Thitsar Arman.

Deputy Managing Director of KBZ Bank Daw Myint Myint Cho also presented Thitsar Arman with K5 million prize.

Then, first runner-up Myawady team was presented with individual silver medals by Daw Yin Yin Shwe of News Star Co. Ltd, Deputy Chairperson of AYA Bank Daw Htay Htay Khaing and Daw San San of Win and San Co., Ltd.

Chairperson of Women's Football Committee Daw Khin Sabal Kyi then presented Myawady team with K10

million prize.

U Hla Htay, Chairman of Myanmar Women League Organizing Committee presented individual gold medals to the players of winner ISPE FC.

U Zaw Zaw, Vice President of Asian Football Confederation and President of Myanmar Football Federation, also presented K15 million prize to the winner ISPE team of MFF Women's League 2018-2019.

The event concluded after group photos were taken, according to Myanmar Football Federation's Facebook Page.

Aston Villa sign Anwar El Ghazi on permanent deal

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Newly promoted Aston Villa announced on Monday they had completed the signing of Netherlands international Anwar El Ghazi on a permanent deal from French club Lille.

The 24-year-old midfielder has agreed a four-year contract, having spent last season on loan at Villa Park.

El Ghazi starred in the Championship play-off final win against Derby last month, scoring the opening goal in the 2-1 victory that clinched Villa's return to the Premier League.

Villa boss Dean Smith told the club's official website: "Anwar proved to everybody at Wembley how good a player he can be for Aston Villa."

Smith added: "He's ready for the step up to the Premier League and he's a young player who has an awful lot of potential."

"It's now my job and the job of the coaching staff and Anwar himself to fulfil the potential that he undoubtedly has. He'll be a great addition to the squad for next season."

As well as his goal at Wembley, El Ghazi, who has played twice for the Netherlands, scored a further five times during the course of the regular season as Villa finished fifth in the Championship table.

El Ghazi is Villa's second signing of the summer, following last week's addition of Birmingham City forward Jota. —AFP



Netherlands international Anwar El Ghazi (left) has joined Premier League club Aston Villa on a permanent deal from Lille. **PHOTO: AFP**