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Tuesday, 6 August 2019

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session holds eighth-day meeting



Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: HTAN PHON

THE eighth-day meeting of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session was held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning where the Hluttaw discussed and approved Myanmar acceding as member to an agreement on establishing International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) as international organization.

Hluttaw put on record appointment of Kachin State Immigration and Human

Resources Minister

At the meeting the Hluttaw was first informed about the appointment of U Zaw Win as Kachin State Immigration and Human Resources Minister sent by the President and the Hluttaw put the matter on record.

Hluttaw put on record expansion of a village area in Yangon Region

Next the Hluttaw was informed about expanding the

area of Sinku (Thike Kon) Village in Chaungwa Village Tract, Hmawby Township, Yangon Region and the Hluttaw put the matter on record.

National Education Policy Commission six month report

Afterwards, a six-month report (10 October 2018 to 9 April 2019) of National Education Policy Commission was read by National Education Policy Commission Chairman. Pyidaungsu

Hluttaw Speaker announced that the matter will be discussed at 9 August 2019 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting and Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the matter are to register their names.

International Anti-Corruption Academy

As a final agenda of the day U Kyaw Tote of Mandalay Region constituency 7, Daw Mar Mar Khine of Thaton constituency,

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Weather bureau warns of flash floods, landslides due to depression

THE Meteorology and Hydrology Department has issued a warning of flash floods and landslides, as heavy rainfall is expected over the next two days due to a low pressure buildup in the Bay of Bengal.

According to the weather bureau's observation at 6:30 pm MST yesterday, the low pressure area over the North Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify over the next 48 hours.

Advisory

With the forecast of strong winds combined with heavy rainfall, people must remain on the alert for flash floods and landslides near hilly areas and also small rivers, according to the weather bureau.

General Caution

The weather bureau has also forecast widespread rain or thundershowers in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi regions, and Rakhine, Kayin, and Mon states, with regional variations, isolated heavy rainfall, and strong winds.

Frequent squalls with rough to very rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar coast. The surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40-45 mph, and wave height will be about 10-15 feet.— GNLM ■

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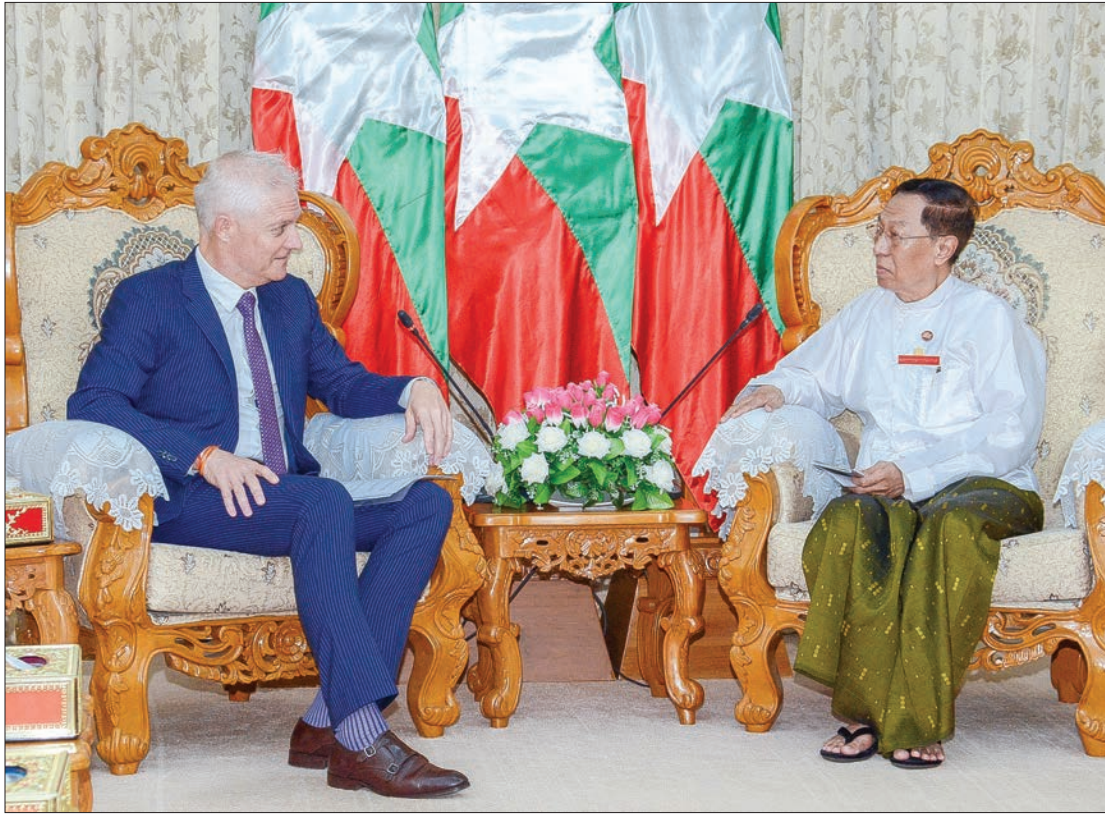
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UEC Chair discusses electoral affairs with Swiss Ambassador



Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein meets with Swiss Ambassador Mr Tim Enderlin in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein met with Swiss Ambassador Mr Tim Enderlin at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, both sides openly discussed prepa-

rations for the 2020 General Elections to be free, fair, transparent, trustworthy, and coherent with the wishes of the people. They also talked on plans to hold discussions with members of political parties to

amend the code of conduct for political parties and Hluttaw candidates to be more relevant to the present times. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Anti-grave violations working committees discusses reporting mechanism with CTFMR

The Working Committee for Preventing Grave Violations against Children in Armed Conflicts held a meeting with officials from the UN Country Task Force on Monitoring and Report (CTFMR) at the office of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement yesterday.

Led by the Permanent Sec-

retary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U Myint Thu, the working committee discussed with CTFMR on the action plan to implement a national reporting mechanism to prevent the maiming of, and sexual violence against children in conflict zones.

Also present at the meeting were working committee

members from the ministries of defence, foreign affairs, information, labour, immigration and population, health and sports, office of the Union Government, and education, and the Union Attorney-General's office and officials from CTFMR. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Myint Thu and attendees pose for the documentary photo at the working committee for preventing grave violations against children in armed conflicts in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

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

The Office of the President issued Press Release No 29/2019 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs' arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 3 August. The ministry made the

arrests, acting on information, sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President as of 3 August. The full text of the press release will be reported in the 7 August issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar — GNLM

Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session holds ...

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Daw Khin Hnin Thit of Padaung constituency, Naw Hla Hla Soe of Yangon Region constituency 10, U San Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3, Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency, U Sein Myint of Myingyan constituency, Daw Myat Thida Tun of Mon State constituency 5 and Daw Aye Aye Mu @ Daw Sharmie of Kalay constituency discussed Myanmar acceding as a member to an agreement on establishing International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) as international organization.

Anti-Corruption Commission

secretary then said suggestions and discussions made by the Hluttaw representatives will be heeded and requested the Hluttaw to approve the matter.

As there was no objection towards this the matter of Myanmar acceding as a member to an agreement on establishing International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) as international organization was approved by the Hluttaw.

The ninth-day meeting of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session will convene on 9 August. — Mawsi, Hmwe Kyu Zin

(Translated by Zaw Min)



People observe Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

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'Myanmar Day' event takes place in Beijing

UNION MINISTER for Commerce Dr Than Myint observed 'Myanmar Day' event at International Horticulture Expo 2019 held in Beijing, capital of People's Republic of China, on 4 August.

The event kicked off with the national anthems of Myanmar and China at the International Horticulture Expo Guirul Theater at 9:30 am local time.

Union Minister Dr Than Myint and Deputy Commissioner General Mr Zhao Liangping of the expo made the opening remarks of the event.

Artists from Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture of Myanmar performed with traditional dances to the audience. The event was attended by officials and representatives of respective associations of Myanmar and China.

In the afternoon, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thit

Lin Ohn, Permanent Secretary U Aung Soe and Executive Director of the China-ASEAN Business Council Mr Xu Ningning attended the meeting at the Ocean Spring Hotel, Beijing in the afternoon, to discuss promotion of Myanmar exports to China.

Director Dr Zhao Yifang, General Administrations of Customs of China (GACC), explained rules and procedures in exporting agricultural and fishery products to China. Myanmar and Chinese businesspersons attended the meeting and discussed for possible trades.

Union Minister Dr Than Myint visited Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), and discussed with its Deputy Minister about bilateral trade promotion, establishment of border trade zones and export of Myanmar fruits to China.



Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint observes 'Myanmar Day' event at International Horticulture Expo 2019 in Beijing, China. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Union Minister also met with Vice President of China Oil & Food Cooperation Co, Ltd (COFCO), and discussed about purchasing 0.1 million tons of

Myanmar rice that was agreed between Myanmar Rice Federation and COFCO.

Dr Than Myint also held talks with the President of CITIC

Construction Co, Ltd. to export Myanmar agricultural products and Chinese investment in agricultural sector. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Innwa Bank opens new branch in Mandalay

INNWA BANK LTD. formally opened their 61st branch at Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay Region, with a ceremony yesterday.

Firstly, the Managing Director and officials of Innwa Bank cut ceremonial ribbons and the Commander of Central Command, Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Lin, unveiled the bank's signboard. The officials then inspected the interior of the bank.

Innwa Bank offers 9 per cent interest rates on savings

accounts and up to 10 per cent on fixed deposit accounts, depending on the account owner's choice. The bank also gives out loan capitals for aspiring entrepreneurs. —GNLM

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Lin and officials open the signboard Innwa bank's new branch in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay. **PHOTO: MNA**



AA training camp in Yathedaung captured

THE security forces discovered a training camp of the AA in Yathedaung Township during a security patrol from 2 to 3 August. The forces captured the camp and seized equipment and other articles used in military training.

Around noon on 2 August, the security forces came upon the training camp, located about 2,000 metres west of Chayyardaw Village, and found six foxholes, one PT ground, and three huts, along with two sets of uniforms, 33 civilian clothes, 14 waterproof sheets, some shovels, eight swords, and one mobile phone. The security forces contin-

ued their security operations the next day, and discovered 500 wooden training guns hidden by the AA in an area about

1,500 meters west of Chayyardaw Village. They also discovered six detonators, three containers filled with .5 shells, 13 huts, 60

shovels, 40 crowbar-like tools for digging, 50 swords, one mobile phone, food including rice, three bags of medicines, and utensils,

according to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. —MNA

(Translated by TTN)



The confiscated objects retrieved from AA training camps uncovered in the vicinity of Chayyardaw Village, Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State between 2 to 3 August. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

Universal Periodic Review workshop held in Nay Pyi Taw

A WORKSHOP on Universal Periodic Review was organized at Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Dr Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, made a key note speech, saying that the government is focusing on freedom and development of people, while the respective ministries are implementing their tasks in drawing relevant laws for the rights of people.

The Universal Periodic Review was initiated by UN member countries in 2006. These countries submit reports human rights performance of their countries. Myanmar has already presented its first report in 2011 and the second one in 2015 respectively to the UNHCR. The third report is scheduled to submit in November 2020.

By forming 12 working committees for 12 sectors, Myanmar



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye addresses the workshop on the Universal Periodic Review at Park Royal Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

is implementing 166 points out of 281 suggested by 93 member countries.

The Ministry of Social Wel-

fare, Relief and Resettlement has taken responsibility for 30 points.

Dr Win Myat Aye also said

his ministry is working for protection of children and women, as well as the elderly persons and the disabled ones, while it

is operating One Stop Women Support Centers in Yangon, Mandalay, Lashio and Mawlamyine cities to support the abused women with healthcare services, legal advice, mental and physical aid and financial assistance.

Chairman of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission U Win Mra, South-East Asia Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of OHCHR Ms Cynthia Veliko, Team Leader Mr Joerg Stahlhult from UNDP-Governance and Sustainable Peace made speeches at the workshop.

Officials from ministries and organizations discussed about UPR suggestions and the future plans of Myanmar.

The workshop was jointly supported by MNHRC, UNHCR and UNDP.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Second Media and Information Literacy course conducted for IPRD officials



Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun addresses the capacity-building training course for officials of the Information and Public Relations Department conducted at the IPRD office in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

MINISTRY OF Information launched a capacity-building training course for the officials of Information and Public Relations Department in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The course titled 'Media and Information Literacy' is the second of its kind after the first batch completed in July.

Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun said in his opening remark on the

course that the subject of public relations is concerned with the three main pillars of legislation, administration and judiciary, while the information needs to be exchanged between these estates and the public.

He also remarked most people lack media and information literacy although they are browsing mobile phones for information in digital era. The deputy minister also urged

the officials to share knowledge from this course to other staff and the public.

The course will offer media knowledge about news writing, press release, collecting information, storing, sharing, analyzing and evaluating media, as well as electoral literacy to 37 officials from the state and regional offices of IPRD.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Safety measures of vessels checked in Mandalay

A combined team of private vessels supervisory committee in Mandalay inspected safety measures of cargo and passenger vessels at the jetty of central Myanmar city yesterday.

Rules and regulations for the vessels include carrying life jackets, the number of passengers, the weight of cargo and license of vessel workers.

U Thant Zin Oo, officer of Department of Marine Administration, said, "We checked the safety measures at the vessels at Mandalay jetty to make sure they follow disciplinary rules", adding that most of the car-

go vessels carry commodities over load.

U Htoo, a member of Private Vessels Supervisory Committee did not allow to raise anchors if these vessels failed to abide by the rules.

The committee is comprised with the Department of Marine Administration, Maritime Police Force (Mandalay), Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems, General Administration Department and Private Vessel Owners Association.—ATK

(Translated by Aung Khin)



The private vessel supervisory committee inspects a cargo ship docked at a jetty in Mandalay. **PHOTO: ATK**

Torrential rain causes flash flood in Kyaukkyi, Bago Region

TORRENTIAL rain caused flash flood in Kyaukkyi, Bago Region, yesterday inundating the low-lying areas and the residents were evacuated.

The water level in the Sit-toung River reached its danger mark yesterday morning and overflow water from the river submerged the low-lying areas

affecting 128 households. A total of 564 people from the low-lying areas moved to temporary shelters set up at monasteries and pagodas.

The flood also forced three basic education schools to be closed. Local authorities, Tatmadaw members and volunteers

assisted the people in shifting to the shelters and provided food and water to them. — Ko Thar Gyi (Kyaukkyi)

(Translated by TTN)



Entire communities are submerged in flood water after heavy rains in Kyaukkyi, Bago Region. PHOTO: KO THAR GYI (KYAUKKYI)

About 1,000 pigs reported dead in Tachilek Tsp

About 1,000 pigs have died in two village-tracts in Tachilek Township, but it is not yet known whether African swine fever was the cause of death.

The outbreak of sickness that has killed pigs started in July, and so far about 500 pigs in village of Monghe Village-tract and about 500 pigs in Bushi Village-tract in Mongphyat Township have died.

Local authorities and officials of the Tachilek Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department inspected sick and dead pigs yesterday.

“Local people said the pigs were infected with virus and became weak before their deaths. But, we will know the disease which killed the pigs when the results of the blood test return,” said Dr Kyaw Kyaw Soe, Assistant Director of the Tachilek

Township LBVD.

The villagers did not inform the authorities about the outbreak even though it began in July, he added. The veterinarians from the department vacci-

nated the remaining pigs, took out blood sample from sick pigs for testing and detailed about the directives to minimize the devastation.—Myint Mo (Tachilek)

Translated by TTN



Number of dead pigs seen in Tachilek Township. PHOTO: MYINT MO (TACHILEK)

YGN Night Market to return before year's end

By Nyein Nyein

YANGON'S Night Market along Strand Road will hopefully re-open fully renovated later this year, said the City's Mayor U Maung Maung Soe.

He made the comment at City Hall during a press conference yesterday on the YCDC's tasks, adding that renovations will begin next month.

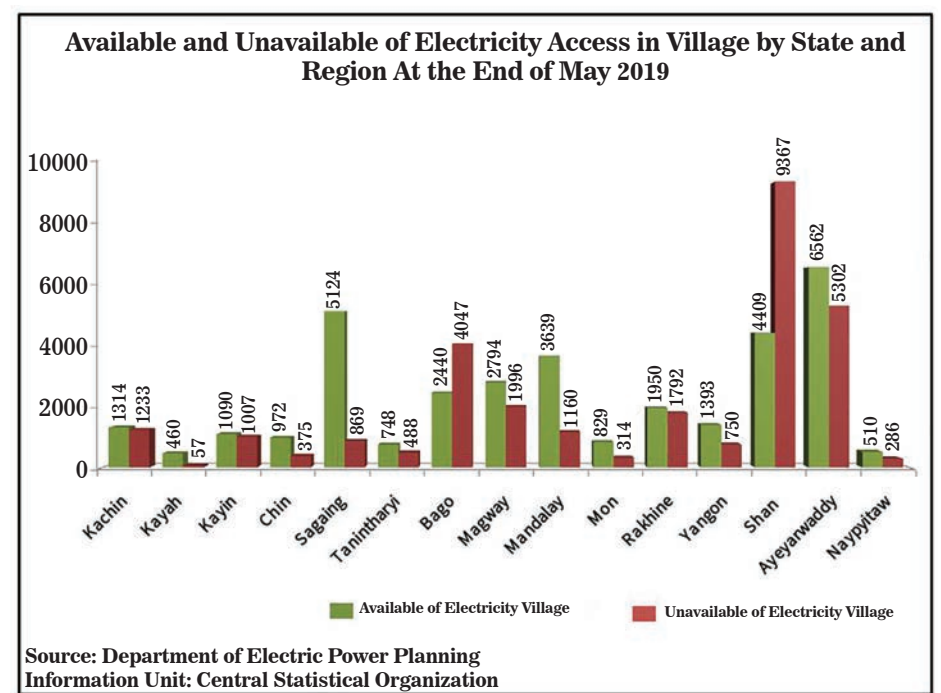
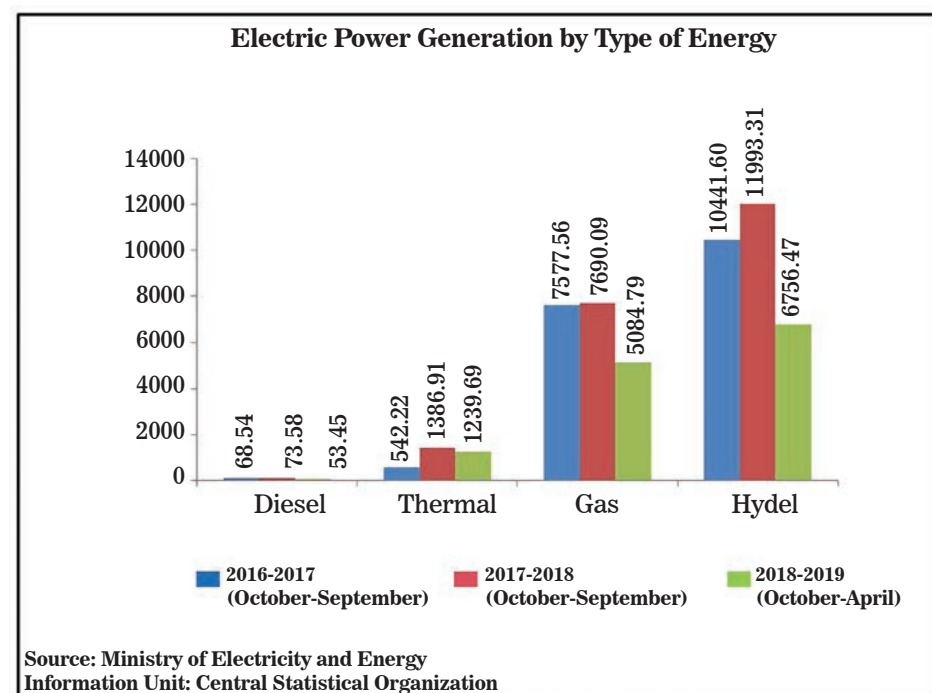
The project site includes part of the night market on Strand Road between Shwedagon Pagoda Road and Pansodan Road and will be handled together with A25 Company through

a PPP system, said the Mayor.

“I earnestly want the Night Market to develop. It's not about the money. Development is key and when it does develop then money will automatically follow suit,” said U Maung Maung Soe.

YCDC Secretary Daw Hlaing Maw Oo said new recreation areas will be included in the renovation project. She said they will also construct proper car parking spaces and shops in shipping containers for certain businesses. Officials estimate the entire renovation project will cost K2 billion. (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

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YBS card payment system to be launched in October

By Nyein Nyein

A card payment system will be installed on Yangon Bus Service lines starting October, according to the Yangon Region government's biweekly press conference.

"We are endeavouring to launch the card payment system on YBS buses in October, as the cashless payment system will be more convenient and secure for passengers," said U Phyo Min Thein, the Chief Minister of Yangon Region.

The concerned departments are working on installing the card payment system, he said. If YBS bus lines are found using bus conductors, they will face legal action, he added.

Additionally, on the third-year anniversary of the YBS, report cards will be issued for YBS buses on their quality and services. Those bus lines with

poor services will be warned, said the Chief Minister.

"Acting on complaints, we will strictly take action against bus conductors. The report cards with comments on quality will come out," he said.

The Yangon Region government's Tender Supervisory Committee had invited tenders for the Yangon Payment Services (YPS), and announced the list of shortlisted companies in the preliminary stage.

Excel KC Myanmar Co Ltd was originally selected by the Tender Supervisory Committee on 10 January, 2018. But, the company was found to be not complying with rules while conducting checks. Therefore, its tender was revoked.

Later, two other candidates — Any Pay Payment Services Co Ltd and Asia Starmar Transport Intelligent Co Ltd — were scrutinized, in accordance with

tender rules and regulations, on 24 April, 2018, and their names were submitted to the Yangon Region government.

During the Yangon Region Government meeting 20/2018, held on 17 May, 2018, Asia Starmar Transport Intelligent Co Ltd was selected as the tender winner.

The company is currently finalizing payment techniques, and it is working with the related government institutions, said U Hla Aung from the Yangon Region Transport Authority.

The YRTA is supervising the Yangon Bus Service in the region. As commuters in the commercial hub of Yangon depend on bus services, the YRTA is endeavouring to offer better services to the public than the All Bus Lines Supervisory Committee.

The YBS was launched on 16 January, 2017 during the incumbent government's term. At

present, over 123 bus lines are operating 4,300 buses on about 123 routes, along with the Airport Shuttle. The number of daily commuters has been estimated at 1.8 million.

The YRTA was formed to improve the transport facilities in Yangon for the convenience of the public. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein was appointed as the patron of the transport authority, while Daw Nilar Kyaw, the Yangon Region Minister for Electricity, Industry, and Transportation, was made the chairpersons.

In April, 2019, the number of members was increased to 22 from 16, with the YRTA appointing the Security and Border Affairs Minister as Vice Chairman 1 and Yangon Mayor as Vice Chairman 2, besides officials from related departments and organizations.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Heavy rain, high tide lead to temporary closure of two schools in Htantabin Tsp

ON account of heavy rain and high tide, the Kazan and Thitseint primary schools in Htantabin Township of northern Yangon District have been temporarily shut down, according to the Township Education Office.

The classrooms in the school compounds have been submerged due to the recent heavy rain and high

tide. Therefore, officials have arranged to temporarily close the two primary schools for two days to ensure the safety of students and teachers. Although the Kazan primary school had been closed from 1 August to 3 August, it had not reopened till 5 August.

A total of 55 students, including 29 boys and 26 girls, are attending the schools,



which are planning to provide additional classes on week-ends.—Zin Min Htike (Htantabin) (Translated by La Wonn)

Police seize drugs in Kachin, Shan states, YGN Region

PUTAO police confiscated 396g of heroin, 4,000 stimulant tablets, a handphone and K66,500 from a married couple identified as Sar Moe Ri and Daw Phan Mar Htar after the passenger vehicle they were riding in was pulled over for inspection at Tabaung bridge near Phat Mar Dar Village, Putao Township, at 11 pm on 3 August.

Similarly, at 7 am on 4 August, Mansi police arrested a woman identified as Ma Khin Hnin Phyu after they discovered 1,900 psychotropic tablets in her home in Ma Lin Village, Mansi Township.

At 4 pm on the same day, anti-drug police of East Yangon arrested a man identified as Htet Myat Phone Pyae Sone after discovering 1.5g of the drug ice in his possession while lodging at a hotel in Tamway

Township. Further investigation led police to arrest another man lodging in the same hotel identified as Thiha Tin Moe and three other men identified as Nay Win Aung, Kyaw Thu Soe and Pyae Sone Kyaw who were in possession of 2,288 psychotropic tablets and 48g of ice, in a different hotel in Mayangon Township.

In a separate incident at 2 pm

on 4 August, anti-drug police in Taunggyi arrested a man named Law Sel in Saik Khaung Sanpya Village, Hsihseng Township, after discovering 28,000 psychotropic tablets in his possession. Similarly, at 4 pm on the same day, Lashio police searched the hut of a man named Dai Naungt in Area 16, Ward 12 of Lashio, and arrested him and three others, identified

as Sai Aik Tun, Kyaw Aye and Aik Maung, together with 1,198 psychotropic tablets and K27,000 in their possession.

Police have opened cases against their respective suspects under The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Ko Ye

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Sar Moe Ri and Daw Phan Mar Htar are seen together with drugs. PHOTO: MPF



Law Sel with seized drugs. PHOTO: MPF

Myanmar to ship 10 tons of tea leaves to Germany

By Khine Set Wai

AS MYANMAR is seeking foreign markets for its tea leaves, about 10 tons of green and dry tea leaves will be exported to Germany soon, said Chairwoman Daw Nyo Nyo Sein of Myanmar Tea Procedures Association.

Majority of tea leaves are grown in northern and southern Shan State, and distinguished into various categories based on taste and quality for local markets, while organic tea leaves are aimed for foreign buyers.

“Local market is a stronghold for both green and dry tea leaves. Foreign consum-

ers have accepted the taste of Myanmar tea leaves. Our association is trying to expand the market in collaboration with tea producers. We have targeted Germany and then other markets for the produce,” Daw Nyo Nyo Sein said.

Germany has agreed to purchase 10 tons of tea leaves, and the delivery is expected near future, she added.

Myanmar has exported organic raw tea leaves to the United States from 17 to 20 tons every year.

“Quality is very important for foreign markets. Myanmar tea leaves should be produced in good quality to get stronger international markets in find-

ing more foreign markets,” she said.

The price for Myanmar tea leaves ranges from US\$6 to \$10 per kilogram based on the quality.

Daw Ru Par, director of Yathar Wady Company in Mandalay, said “We received positive feedbacks on tea leaves from foreign customers. We are informing at the foreign trade shows that green tea leaves can also be consumed in addition to drinking. As 90 per cent components in tea leaves benefit for health, we have to guarantee for its quality along the supply change from raw to finished products.

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Farmers harvest tea leaves in northern Shan State. PHOTO: KHINE SET WAI

Lower imports, exports drag maritime trade down \$1.2 bln in current fiscal year

THE VALUE of Myanmar's maritime trade for the period between 1 October and 26 July in the current fiscal year totalled US\$20 billion, a decrease of over \$1.2 billion compared with the corresponding period of the previous FY, according to data provided by the Ministry of Commerce.

In the October-July period, maritime exports were valued at \$7.7 billion, while imports were registered at \$12.37 billion. Compared to the year-ago period, imports were lower by \$1 billion, while exports reg-

istered a drop of \$208 million.

In the past ten months, the value of trade through the border gates has been estimated at \$8.59 billion, an increase of \$1.27 billion amid tight confiscation of illegal untaxed goods and trade suspension by Myanmar's main trade partner, China.

During the period, the country's total external trade has topped \$28.7 billion, which is slightly higher than the \$54.65 billion recorded in the year-ago period.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, fishery

products, minerals, livestock, forest products, finished industrial goods, and other products, while it imports capital goods, consumer goods, and raw industrial materials.

The country currently has nine ports involved in sea trade. The Yangon Port is the main gateway for Myanmar's maritime trade, and includes the Yangon inner terminals and the outer Thilawa Port. — Mon Mon

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Regional trade exceeds \$9 bln in nine months, reports Ministry of Commerce

THE VALUE of Myanmar's regional trade with ASEAN countries through the sea route and border gates was estimated at US\$9 billion in the October-June period of the current fiscal year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The ministry reported that imports surpassed exports in regional trade, with exports reaching \$3.29 billion and imports valued at \$5.9 billion.

Since April, Thailand has been Myanmar's largest trade partner in ASEAN, with trade

valued at \$4 billion, followed by Singapore (\$2.76 billion), Indonesia (\$773.95 million), and Malaysia (\$737.9 million). Viet Nam has emerged as the nation's fifth largest trade partner, with bilateral trade estimated at \$632.27 million.

Meanwhile, Myanmar's bilateral trade with the Philippines was \$134.33 million, Cambodia \$7.98 million, Laos and Myanmar \$1.27 million, while trade with Brunei stood below a million dollars.

Myanmar's main export items included agricultural

and fishery products, as well as minerals, while imports included food and beverages, electronic tools, motor vehicles, and consumer goods. Apart from its main trade partner China, Myanmar's external trade was carried out mostly with its regional trade partners. Trade with countries in the European Union, however, remained uncompetitive, compared with regional trade partners. —GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Domestic gold price likely to maintain upward trend on positive global cues

WITH gold prices soaring in the global market, the yellow metal has remained strong in the domestic market, with the price breaching K1,166,500 per tical (0.578 ounce or, 0.016 kilogram) yesterday, according to the Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

On 1 August, when global gold prices were recorded at US\$1,410 per ounce, the price of gold stood at K1,142,000 in the domestic market. With the global gold prices gaining gradually, the domestic price rose to around K1,151,000 per tical on 2 August, before increasing to K1,154,900 on 3 August evening. Yesterday afternoon, the price crossed K1,166,500 as global prices surged to \$1,457, according to the Yangon Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

Gold is likely to continue its strong gains in the global market with China extending its gold-buying spree on the back of an escalating trade war with the US.

According to the YGEA, at present, there are more sellers in the domestic market than

buyers, and there is a gap between the domestic and global gold prices. The local gold price is likely to continue its upward trend on positive global cues, according to the association.

The domestic gold price is positively linked to global gold prices. With global gold prices climbing, the domestic price has hit fresh highs this year.

According to gold traders, in the month of January, the domestic gold price reached its lowest level of K1,043,400 on 1 January, and the highest level 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. In March, the lowest price recorded was K1,048,600 (30 March) and the highest was K1,069,000 (21 March). In April, gold prices registered a low of K1,037,200 on 24 April and a high of K1,054,700 on 11 April. The lowest price for gold in May was K1,035,200 (2 May) and the highest was K1,059,200 (14 May). Last month, gold prices moved in the K1,130,000-1,056,000 range. — GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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Let's not jump to conclusions in Rakhine

MYANMAR has shared information on arrangements made for prospective returnees from Bangladesh and implementing the recommendations made in the Preliminary Needs Assessment report at Cox's Bazar, said Union Minister U Kyaw Tin at the working dinner for the 52nd AMM in Bangkok, Thailand on 30 July.

For better or worse, the Rakhine situation is one of the most complex and challenging problems in Myanmar's modern history. The Union Government and the UN have formed their respective investigation commissions, and many more similar groups have contributed, to review the stability, rule of law, humanitarian assistance and repatriation status of Rakhine State.

The world has differing opinions on Myanmar concerning the situation in Rakhine State. On the one hand are countries who try to negatively put pressure on Myanmar with prejudice and on the other hand there are countries that offer constructive criticism and genuine support through these difficult times.

It is important to refrain from making the situation more complicated and avoid driving a wedge between the different organizations and communities.

The Rakhine situation is extremely nuanced and complex with deep-rooted underlying reasons that date back decades in the past. It requires careful review and an open-minded approach to resolve it.

The Union Government has promised the communities in Rakhine to implement stability, security and development to the best of its abilities. They have formed respective commissions to speed up the process. The Union Government is earnestly cooperating with the UN and ASEAN to create a conducive environment for potential returnees and addressing the root causes of the problem.

Myanmar's recent collaborations with ASEAN are not meant to replace UN's assistance. They are simply mutual support provided among regional neighbours.

The Rakhine situation is among one of the many challenges presented to the Union

Government as it puts in concentrated effort in Myanmar's democratic transition and journey towards peace, national reconciliation and development. The reason its garnering so much attention is due to the misguided portrayal by international media.

The Rakhine situation is extremely nuanced and complex with deep-rooted underlying reasons that date back decades in the past. It requires careful review and an open-minded approach to resolve it.

We must understand that it will take time and dedication to rebuild trust and instil harmony among the different communities of Rakhine and work towards achieving it together.

We welcome ASEAN's extended support for implementing sustainable development, rule of law, harmonious coexistence in Rakhine State and assisting Myanmar's government in realizing them.

Furthermore, we must continue working hand in hand with our neighbours and affiliated countries to resolve issues of peace, development and stability across the whole of Myanmar.

Myanmar sets 7 Aug as target date for Sat 2 launch

Interviewer: Nanda Win

THE Myanmar's very own Earth Observation Satellite, Myanmar Sat 2 or Intelsat 39, which is now in Ariane Space Launch Base in French Guiana in South America, will be launched at 2 am on 7 August Myanmar standard time, according to Information Technology and Cyber Security Department.

The initial launching date of Myanmar Sat 2 was on 24 July this year, but it was delayed due to the failure of an Italian-manufactured satellite that crashed only minutes after it was launched from the Ariane Space Station on 10 July.

Information Technology and Cyber Security Department and Intelsat company signed an agreement in connection with the Myanmar Sat 2 on 1 June 2018. Under the agreement, Maxar Technologies manufactured Myanmar Sat 2 at a cost of US\$ 155.7 million as its 52nd satellite.

Thanks to the Myanmar Sat 2, Myanmar's telecommunication operators will be able to offer high-speed rates while videos across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Indian Ocean region can be downloaded quickly.

In this regard, we interview Chief Engineer U Win Aung of Information Technology and Cyber Security Department, about the



Chief Engineer U Win Aung, Information Technology and Cyber Security Department.



An illustration of the IS 39 carrying a Myanmar satellite 2 in orbit.

launching program in detail.

Q: Please explain the launching program of Earth Observation Satellite, Myanmar Sat 2 or Intelsat 39.

A: The satellite was manufactured by California-based Palo Alto, formally known as Space System Loral (SSL). It is now called Maxar Technologies. We placed an order of the satellite at the Maxar Technologies. After a thorough test, we sent it to the launch site.

We also made an order of the launch vehicle. Some produce the launch vehicle at the other place, and send it to the launch site. But in some cases the company

that runs the launch site is the manufacturer. So it transports the launch vehicle to its own launch site. Myanmar Sat 2 is a joint program with Intelsat Satellite Operator. We can name the Myanmar own part "Myanmar Sat 2." After a detailed test, we sent the satellite to the launch site. Arianespace, a French-owned company, builds Ariane 5 booster rockets, and blasts them off from its Ariane Space Launch Base in French Guiana, a French territory facing the Atlantic Ocean at the northern tip of South American Continent.

Q: As Myanmar Sat 2 will be launched soon, what are your

not finished then.

Q: So, what is the new liftoff date?

A: We hope that the launch vehicle can be taken-off at 4:30 pm local standard time on 6 August (2 am Myanmar standard time on 7 August) as the test procedure is complete.

Q: What kind of services will Myanmar Sat 2 provide?

A: Myanmar Sat 2 will allow improved and faster connectivity across the country, including in remote areas, where there are no fibre links or microwave links yet. It would also allow communications to be established quickly in case of a natural disaster, so photos, videos, and information can be shared, thereby, contributing significantly to the success

current operations in connection with aerospace industry?

A: We are currently leasing satellite channels from the US,

Myanmar Sat 2 will allow improved and faster connectivity across the country, including in remote areas, where there are no fibre links or microwave links yet. It would also allow communications to be established quickly in case of a natural disaster, so photos, videos, and information can be shared, thereby, contributing significantly to the success of rescue works.

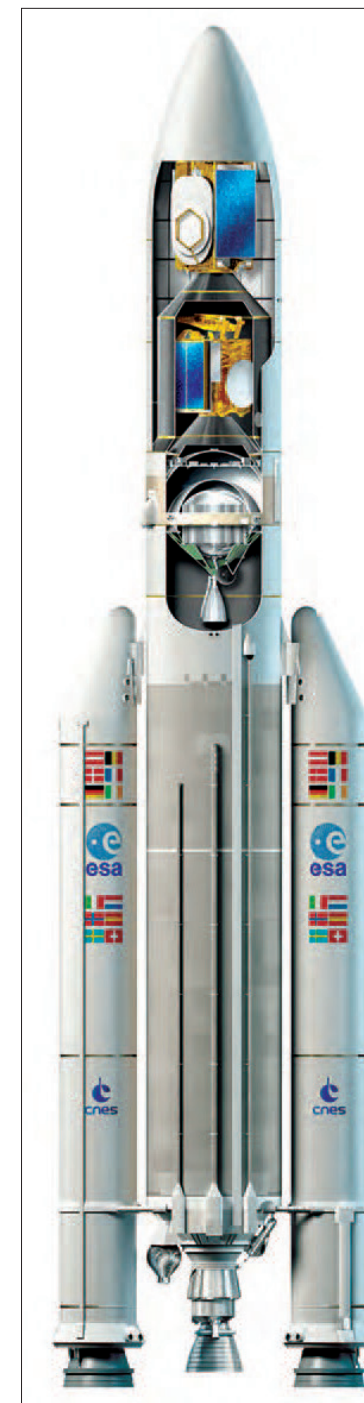
China, Thailand, Viet Nam and Indonesia at an annual cost exceeding \$10 million. So, the cost is high.

Q: We have heard that the launching date of Myanmar Sat 2 was earmarked on 24 July. But later it was postponed. What is the cause?

A: Originally, the take off date of Intelsat 39 which included Myanmar Sat 2 was earmarked on 24 July. It was put off later because of the loss of a Vega rocket which was to launch a United Arab Emirates' low-orbiting earth observation satellite on 10 July. The rocket failed just minutes after the liftoff. So, we have to make sure everything is normal and functional. We targeted the liftoff date on 2 August. But it was delayed as the test procedure of the EDRSC-C, a co-passenger satellite, that will also be included in Intelsat 39 had

e-Health functions through the broader utilization of e-Application. Government ministries can also use an application that will serve the public interest more. If we are able to manage and operate our own satellite frequency, it would increase the nation's GDP from three percent to five percent. We are going to post the liftoff from the Ariane Space Station, the arrival of the satellite in the orbit and all the latest developments on Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook. The takeoff can also be watched live at www.arianespace.com or at youtube.com/Ariane-space.

Thank you.
(Translation: TMT)



Ariane 5 rocket launch on its mission to space.

Union Supreme Court sits to pass judgment, hear cases

Union Supreme Court sits at Union Supreme Court room number 1 yesterday morning with Chief Justice of the Union Supreme Court U Htun Htun Oo and all Un-
ion Supreme Court judges to pass judgments on five special civil appeal cases. It also heard 13 special civil appeal cases. — MNA
(Translated by Zaw Min)

U Myint Thu appointed as Ambassador of Myanmar to Japan

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Japan.—MNA

U Thurain Thant Zin appointed as Ambassador of Myanmar to the Republic of Serbia

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Thurain Thant Zin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Japan, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Serbia.—MNA

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the Global New Light of Myanmar at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Own name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar

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After El Paso killings, renewed focus on online hate forums. **PHOTO: AFP**

After El Paso killings, renewed focus on online hate forums

WASHINGTON (United States) — Efforts to take down the 8chan website where a racist “manifesto” was posted shortly before the El Paso shooting highlight the legal and ethical difficulties in curbing online hate speech that foments violence.

The digital security firm Cloudflare said Sunday it was terminating its services to 8chan, making it more difficult for the message board to remain online.

But hours later, an 8chan administrator said the service was migrating to BitMitigate, which calls itself “a non discriminatory provider” of security “that operates in the fullest consistency to free speech.”

But 8chan’s forum is the latest to raise questions about policing the internet without curbing digital rights or free speech.

Mark Potok, a senior fellow at the Centre for Analysis of the Radical Right, said it is entirely appropriate for private web

hosting and security providers to shut down sites like 8chan.

The site “is a cesspool of people egging each other on to all kinds of violence, not only violence against non-whites, but violence against women and more,” Potok said.

“The private companies hosting these websites have every moral obligation to shut them down.”

Potok added that a more proactive effort could be made to monitor sites like 8chan promoting violence.

“Law enforcement should be allowed to look at 8chan and other venues like that without violating people’s rights,” he said.

8chan, which promotes itself as a site devoted to the “darkest reaches of the internet” appeared to be offline Monday, but posted a message on Twitter saying “there might be some downtime in the next 24-48 hours while we find a solution.” **_ AFP**

Trump condemns racism, white supremacy after US mass shootings

WASHINGTON — US President Donald Trump on Monday told a nation mourning the death of 30 people in two weekend mass shootings that he rejected racism and white supremacist ideology, moving to blunt criticism that his anti-immigrant rhetoric fuels violence.

As flags flew at half mast at the White House and across the country and the death toll edged up by one, Trump made an unusually direct condemnation of racists as he took on the role of consoler in chief.

But as the country tried to digest weekend shootings that left 21 dead at a Walmart store in El Paso, Texas and another nine outside a bar in Dayton, Ohio, Trump offered little in the way of new ideas for a country awash with guns and painfully accustomed to mass shootings.

“Our nation must condemn

racism, bigotry, and white supremacy,” Trump said.

He stressed that mental illness was the main culprit fueling mass shootings in America, as opposed to the ready availability of firearms or extremist thinking, as argued by gun control advocates.

At the sites of America’s latest massacres — numbers 250 and 251 so far this year — people came to honor the dead.

Makeshift memorials with candles, flowers, heart-shaped balloons and posters with messages of condolence sprang up outside the Walmart in Texas and the Dayton bar.

“You are loved,” read an inscription on a small yellow cardboard heart placed outside the Ned Peppers Bar.

Outside the Walmart store that was attacked Saturday, people paused to pay their re-

spects at the memorial. Balloons shaped like stars — Texas is the Lone Star State — fluttered in the morning breeze.

One poster read: “A date never to forget: 3 August, 2109.”

In his brief address, Trump made no mention of two ideas he had tweeted hours earlier: tightening background checks for gun buyers and linking gun control reform to changes in immigration law.

The president did say he supported “red flag” laws allowing authorities to confiscate weapons from people believed to present grave risks.

Many people were grateful that even more were not killed in Ohio.

In Texas, 26 people were wounded, and another 26 were hurt in Ohio, where the shooter was killed in roughly 30 seconds by police who were patrolling nearby. One of those injured died Monday.

100-round drum magazine

Dayton Police Chief Richard Biehl told a news conference Sunday that the quick police response was crucial, preventing the shooter from entering a bar where “there would have been... catastrophic injury and loss of life.”

Biehl said the shooter wore a mask and a bullet-proof vest and was armed with an assault rifle fitted with a 100-round drum magazine. — **AFP** ■



US President Donald Trump speaks about the mass shootings from the Diplomatic Reception Room of the White House. **PHOTO: AFP**

Ecological land grab: food vs fuel vs forests

PARIS (France) — The overlapping crises of climate change, mass species extinction, and an unsustainable global food system are on a collision course towards what might best be called an ecological land grab.

Coping with each of these problems will require a different way of using of Earth’s lands, and as experts crunch the numbers it is becoming unnervingly clear that there may not be enough terra firma to go around.

A world of narrowing options threatens to pit biofuels, forests and food production against each other.

Experts who once touted “win-win” scenarios for the environment now talk about “trade-offs”.

This looming clash is front-

and-centre in the most comprehensive scientific assessment ever compiled of how global warming and land use interact, to be released by the UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on Thursday

Proposals to convert areas the size of India and the United States to biofuel crops or CO₂-absorbing trees, for example, “could compromise sustainable development with increased risks — and potentially irreversible consequences — for food security, desertification and land degradation,” a draft summary of the 1,000-page report warns.

Meanwhile, the fundamental drivers of Earth’s environmental meltdown — CO₂ and methane emissions, nitrogen and plastics pollution, human

population, unbridled consumption — continue to expand at record rates, further reducing our margin for manoeuvre.

Case in point: to have at least a 50/50 chance of capping global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) — the temperature guardrail laid down in a landmark IPCC report last year — civilisation must be “carbon neutral” within three decades.

Earth’s surface temperature has already risen one degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels, enough to trigger deadly extreme weather and sea level rise that could swamp coastal megacities by 2100.

And yet, 2018 saw a record 41.5 billion tonnes of planet-warming CO₂ added to the

atmosphere, up two percent from the previous record, set the year before.

Harsh reality

At this pace, humanity will

exhaust its “carbon budget” for a 1.5 C world before US congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, co-sponsor of the Green New Deal, turns 45 (in 16 years). — **AFP** ■



Experts who once touted ‘win-win’ scenarios for the environment now talk about ‘trade-offs’. **PHOTO: AFP**

Chocks away for round-the-world Spitfire flight

CHICHESTER (United Kingdom) — A vintage World War II Spitfire plane took off for an unprecedented journey around the world on Monday, which will see the iconic aircraft soar over some 30 countries.

The restored plane took off from Goodwood Aerodrome outside Chichester, near the south coast of England, for the first leg of the epic journey.

The British plane, built in 1943, has been stripped of its guns and military paint, exposing the gleaming aluminium underneath, showing it off as a design classic rather than a war machine.

The Silver Spitfire was

heading for Lossiemouth in Scotland on the first stage of its attempt to cross the Atlantic Ocean via the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland and the wilds of remote northern Canada.

Two British aviators, Matt Jones and Steve Brooks, are taking turns to fly it in some 90-odd legs on its four-month, 43,500-kilometre (27,000-mile) adventure westwards around the globe — the first time a Spitfire will ever have circumnavigated the planet.

Jones, 45, will fly the first leg, with 58-year-old Brooks in the following support plane.

“I’m nervous and beginning

to get excited,” Jones told AFP. “We’re going to see so many people and so many countries. I hope it’s successful and we get back.

We want to show this plane off to the world.” Standing in the hangar, Brooks warmed up for the expedition with a bacon sandwich and coffee in a British flag mug.

“Bacon sarnie. Absolutely essential,” he told AFP.

“We’ve been training for this for so long, I can’t wait to go.”

The Silver Spitfire took off from the grass airstrip accompanied by three other Spitfires in their regulation military



Two British aviators, Matt Jones and Steve Brooks, are taking turns to fly the Silver Spitfire on its four-month, 43,500-kilometre adventure westwards around the globe — the first time a Spitfire will ever have circumnavigated the planet. **PHOTO: AFP**

green colours, before circling back round for a flypast. Of around 20,000 built, fewer than 250 Spitfires survive, with only 50 or so of those still airworthy. —AFP ■

July 2019 hottest month globally ever recorded: EU

PARIS (France) — July 2019 was the hottest month across the globe ever recorded, according to data released Monday by the European Union’s satellite-based Earth observation network.

“While July is usually the warmest month of the year for the globe, according to our data it also was the warmest month recorded globally, by a very small margin,” Jean-Noel Thepaut, head of the Copernicus Climate Change Service, said in a statement.

“With continued greenhouse gas emissions and the resulting impact on global temperatures, records will continue to be broken in the future.”

Searing heatwaves saw records tumble across Europe last month, with unusually high temperatures within the Arctic Circle as well.

Temperatures averaged across July rose highest compared with a 1981-2010 benchmark in Alaska, Greenland, Siberia, central Asia, Iran and large swathes of Antarctica, Copernicus reported.

Wild fires unprecedented in scope and intensity burned across parts of Siberia and Alaska, releasing more than 100 million tonnes of CO₂ into the atmosphere, while Greenland’s ice sheet shed billions of tonnes in melted ice daily.

Africa and Australia were also well above average across most of each continent.

Globally, July 2019 was marginally warmer — by 0.04 degrees



Meteo France measured 42.6C in Paris on 25 July — more than 2C hotter than the previous high, set more than 70 years ago. **PHOTO: AFP**

Celsius (0.072 Fahrenheit) — than the previous record-hot month, July 2016.

The new record is all the more notable because the 2016 record followed a strong El Nino, which boosts average global temperatures beyond the impact of global warming alone.

El Ninos are naturally occurring weather events triggered by periodic warming — every three to seven years — in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

‘Not your grandfather’s summer’

Every month so far in 2019 ranks among the four warmest on record for the month in question, with June being the hottest June measured, the Copernicus team said in a press release.

Accurate temperature records extend into the 19th century, starting around 1880.

The Copernicus service is the first of the world’s major satellite-based climate monitoring

networks to report average July temperatures.

The margin of increase is small enough, it noted in a press release, that other networks — such as the US government’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) — may report temperatures equal to or slightly below the July 2016 record.

“Typically, there is a difference between the values provided by the global temperature datasets of various institutions, and the Copernicus difference between July 2019 and 2016 temperatures is smaller than this margin,” the agency said in a statement.

“We have always lived through hot summers, but this is not the summer of our youth. This is not your grandfather’s summer,” UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said last week, announcing provisional findings from the World Meteorological Organization. —AFP ■

Indonesian man walking in reverse to save forests

JAKARTA (Indonesia) — An Indonesian man is walking 700 kilometres (435 miles) from his home on a volcano in East Java to Jakarta in the hope of drawing attention to the archipelago’s quickly shrinking forests — and he is doing it backwards.

Medi Bastoni, a 43-year-old father of four, set out on his arduous, in-reverse journey in mid-July, with the goal of reaching the capital by August 16, a day before the Southeast Asian nation’s independence day anniversary.

“Of course I’m exhausted, but I’m willing to do this to fight for the next generation,” Bastoni told AFP.

“(My home) is losing all of its trees so I have to do something. I can take the pain and fatigue.”

When he arrives, Bastoni

said he hopes to meet with president Joko Widodo and highlight deforestation across the archipelago including at his home on Mt. Wilis, a dormant volcano.

Indonesia suffers from one of the high rates of deforestation in the world, according to Greenpeace.

Bastoni walks 20 to 30 kilometres backwards every day under the scorching sun, with a rear-view mirror attached to his backpack to avoid bumping into objects.

Along the way, supporters cheer him on, offer him meals or a place to stay overnight. But Bastoni always leaves at dawn to stay on schedule.

Walking backwards is meant as a signal to Indonesians to reflect on the past and remember how national heroes fought for the good of the country, he said. —AFP ■



Medi Bastoni walks 20 to 30 kilometres backwards every day under the scorching sun, with a rear-view mirror attached to his backpack to avoid bumping into objects. **PHOTO: AFP**

US seniors fulfill dreams, fight depression with virtual reality

MIAMI (United States) — Nidia Silva had never realized her dream of swimming with dolphins until a Miami NGO gave her a pair of virtual reality glasses as part of an experimental treatment for depression and isolation in senior citizens.

“You’re in a world you don’t know, but it’s very beautiful and very important for me to see,” 78-year-

old Silva said after taking off the virtual reality (VR) goggles.

She was sitting in Domino Park in Miami’s Little Havana neighborhood. It’s a popular spot for Cuban residents — especially older ones — to meet daily and play dominoes.

“I’m very excited,” said Silva, who felt like she had been swimming in the water around Cuba, from

which she emigrated 19 years ago.

Around her, the clacking of dominoes and lively conversations sounded loud in Florida’s dense, sticky heat, but she paid it no mind. Less accustomed to the climate was Alexandra Ivanovitch, who offered Silva the chance to try VR goggles.

Ivanovitch, who is French, was giving a VR

demonstration to Cuban retirees, transporting them to the Malecon in Havana, to outer space, to the ocean floor or the tops of mountains. Her 2wproject, called “VR Genie,” is designed to counteract the “loneliness and social isolation” that often affects the elderly, especially those who live alone or in nursing homes where there are few activities.—AFP ■



Nidia Silva samples a virtual reality experience in the Little Havana neighborhood of Miami, Florida. PHOTO: AFP

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY. NO. (929S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY. NO. (929S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/T.M.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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE)
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0176-506W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0176-506W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-8-2019 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

TOYOTA TSUSHO ASIA PACIFIC PTE LTD (YANGON BRANCH) Notice of Closure of Yangon Branch

It is hereby notified that in pursuance of Head Office’s Board of Directors’ Resolution dated July 17, 2019 the above Yangon Branch has been closed down with effect from July 31, 2019 since the existence of Yangon Branch was no more required in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Notice to Creditors

The creditors of the above-named Yangon Branch are required to send their names, addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their attorneys, if any, to the undersigned Liquidator in person or by their attorneys to come in and prove their debts or claims on or before September 6, 2019 or in default thereof they will be excluded from the settlement of such debts or claims.

Daw Thauung Mya Wai
LL.B, DA, DCA
Liquidator
Room No. 2D, Rose Condominium,
No. 182/194, 1st Floor, Botahtaung Pagoda Road,
Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar.

Invitation for Bids

Date: 5th August 2019

Loan Agreement No: MY-P26 dated 29th March, 2018

IFB No: IFB-MR/BD/2107

1. The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of the Yangon Mandalay Railway Improvement Project Phase II. The Bid is invited by Myanma Railways as follows:

Invitation for Bid	Description: Procurement of FD Clips and Concrete Sleeper’s Moulds	Issuing Date	Closing Date & Time	Non-refundable Document Fee
IFB No: IFB-MR/BD/2107	(1) Supply of 673,500 units of PANDOROL FD Clips (2) Design, manufacture and supply of the Concrete Sleeper’s Moulds as follows: (i) 470 sets of the Concrete Sleeper’s Moulds for FD Clip Sleeper	5 th August, 2019	18 th September, 2019 At 2:00 pm	USD 1,000

2. Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement.

- (a) The Eligible Nationality of the Contractor(s) shall be Japan in case of the prime Contractor.
- (b) In case where the prime Contractor is a joint venture, such joint venture will be eligible provided that the nationality of the lead partner is Japan, that the nationality of the other partners is Japan and/or the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and that the total share of work of Japanese partners in the joint venture is more than fifty percent (50%) of the contract amount.

3. The Myanma Railways, Ministry of Transport and Communications now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for design, manufacture, supply, installation, delivery, testing and commissioning of FD Clips and Concrete Sleeper’s Moulds as described above (“Procurement of Goods”). International Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with JICA’s Single-Stage (One Envelope) Bidding Procedure.

4. A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be purchased and inspected by interested Bidders upon submission of a written application to the address below during office hours from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m on Monday to Friday (except public holidays of Myanmar).

5. Bids must be submitted to the address below or before 2:00 pm on 18th September, 2019 and must be accompanied by a Bid security of Japanese Yen forty-four million (44,000,000 JPY).

Managing Director,

Myanma Railways, Ministry of Transport and Communications

Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station Compound, Pobba Thiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Telephone: +95-67 77024, Facsimile number: +95-67-677164

Email address: dgmpplan.rail@mrt.gov.mm, dgm.planning.mr@gmail.com (not for submission but for clarification)

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Notice

In regard of the premises being No. 77/91, Sule Pagoda Road (Formerly, Tourist Burma Building), for the all inclusive interests of the said estate, the Mohamed Ebrahim Munnee Family Waqf (Trust) had filed a Civil Regular Suit No. 50/2019 on the date (10-4-2019) before the Regional High Court of Yangon

Under the Suit Title, “Declaration Decree of all inclusive interest in the said estate Recovery of Possession and MMK 5000,000,000 as general compensation and damages” the summon issued by the Regional High Court of Yangon have duly served upon the Defendant and also they had been duly appeared before the Court. This notice is issued in good-faith and without pre-judice.

Under the Instruction;
U Kyaw Nyein (PDT) (No. 2302)
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HSBC boss in shock exit as bank warns of 'challenging' times



John Flint's departure was revealed as HSBC said it was facing an 'increasingly complex and challenging global environment'.

PHOTO: AFP

LONDON (United Kingdom) — HSBC on Monday announced the shock exit of chief executive John Flint, but denied talk of a management split as it also axed 4,000 jobs and warned of dark clouds on the horizon.

The London-headquartered lender gave no reason for Flint's sudden departure after just 18 months in the job, but said there was "no personal clash", adding it needed a change at the top.

Asia-focused HSBC also revealed it would axe two percent of its global workforce, or roughly 4,000 mostly management jobs, in a new restructuring aimed at weathering global turmoil. "HSBC Holdings

plc announces that John Flint has today stepped down as Group Chief Executive and as a director by mutual agreement with the board," read a statement.

The exact amount Flint will get as a payoff remains unknown until he leaves.

'No personal clash'

Monday's surprise news came shortly before HSBC reported first-half net profit up 18.6 percent at \$8.5 billion (7.6 billion euros) from a year earlier.

"In the increasingly complex and challenging global environment in which the bank operates, the board believes a change is needed to meet the challenges that we face and to capture the very significant opportunities before us," said chairman Mark Tucker.

Addressing rumours that Flint was pushed out after a management bust-up, Tucker later told reporters that there had been "no personal clash" and "no disagreement over strategy".—AFP ■

Global markets sink; Chinese yuan tumbles

LONDON (United Kingdom) — World stock markets plunged Monday and the Chinese yuan fell sharply, days after US President Donald Trump vowed to impose fresh tariffs on Chinese goods in the latest trade war flare-up.

Europe's stocks dived about two percent, mirroring heavy falls in Asia -- where Hong Kong tumbled nearly three percent as it was hurt also by ongoing pro-democracy protests.

"European equi-

ty markets have been rocked by the rising trade tensions between the US and China," said IG analyst David Madden.

"There is a feeling that China could inflict a lot more pain on the US in terms of the trade spat, and many traders are worried the economic conflict will rumble on for some time."

Trump's announcement late last week means virtually all of the \$660 billion in annual merchan-



World stock markets plunge Monday and Chinese yuan fell sharply. PHOTO: AFP

dise trade between the world's two biggest economies will be subject to punitive tariffs, with the latest duties to take effect 1 September.—AFP ■

Invitation For Open Tender No.(1/2019)

1. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Department of Mines invites to submit the tender quotation sale open tender of (2000) Metric Tons, (15) Lot of Cathode Copper by United States Dollar as follow,

- (a) (100) Metric Tons each, (10) Lot Monywa, Mine Site
- (b) (200) Metric Tons each, (5) Lot Monywa, Mine Site

2. Base price of Cathode Copper shall be based on the London Metal Exchange Copper price on the date of tender opening. The highest proposal amount (Premium amount added to the LME price and deduction of transportation and handling expenses) shall be winning tender.

3. Tender Closing Date and Time is 2nd September, 2019 (14:00) hrs and Opening Tender is (15:00) hrs.

4. Tender documents are available from the Mineral Development Division, Department of Mines, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Office Building No.(19), Nay Pyi Taw and details can be asked to (+ 95) 067 3 409378 and 3 409372 within the Office hours.

Tender Committee
Department of Mines
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environmental Conservation

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For Reliance Doors Pty Ltd,

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Dated: 6 August 2019

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Clashes, travel chaos in Hong Kong as leader warns city on brink

HONG KONG (China) — Hong Kong riot police clashed Monday with pro-democracy protesters for a third straight day, as the city's leader warned the global financial hub was nearing a "very dangerous situation" and a rare strike caused transport chaos.

Clouds of tear gas billowed across multiple locations on Monday afternoon as the city buckled under a general strike, which protesters pushed to emphasise they still had broad public support following two months of increasingly violent unrest.

In a rare public appearance since the crisis began, chief executive Carrie Lam warned protesters she would not cave to their demands.

"(They) have seriously undermined Hong Kong's law and order and are pushing our city, the city that we all love and many of us helped to build, to the verge of a very dangerous situation," Lam said.

She later referenced chants by protesters for a "revolution", describing this as a challenge to the "one country, two systems" framework under which Hong Kong has been ruled since it returned from British to Chinese rule in 1997. "I dare say they are trying to destroy Hong Kong," said Lam, who was appointed by a pro-Beijing committee. China's cabinet-level State Council said it planned to hold a press conference on Tuesday.

Lam spoke on a day that



Protesters throw tear gas back at police lines. PHOTO: AFP

saw widespread civil disobedience across the city. Activists descended on subway stations during morning rush hour, deliberately keeping open doors to stop trains departing and paralyzing large parts of a network that millions of people use daily.

In the afternoon they held simultaneous rallies at seven locations and besieged multiple police stations, stretching the resources of a force that has become a lightning rod for public anger. Tear gas was fired in four separate locations, making Monday's clashes the most widespread so far.

Protesters unbowed

The most sustained clashes occurred outside the city's parliament — where protesters used giant slingshots to launch bricks — and in the working-class district of Wong Tai Sin.

In a briefing that highlighted the longevity of the protests,

police said they had fired more than 1,000 rounds of tear gas and 160 rubber bullets since rallies began on 9 June, with 420 people arrested and 139 officers injured so far. But the protesters remain unbowed.

"Support for the political strike today seems strong and it has been bolstered further by the escalating violence between the police and protesters," political analyst Dixon Wong told AFP.

The strike — a rare occurrence in a freewheeling finance hub where unions traditionally have little sway — hit the vital aviation sector.

More than 160 flights at the city's airport, one of the world's busiest, were listed as cancelled on Monday afternoon. Many were with Cathay Pacific, Hong Kong's flag carrier. The airline did not give a reason for the cancellations, but its flight attendants union confirmed some of its members had walked out.—AFP ■

Japan markets rattled again on trade jitters, stocks, dollar drop

TOKYO — Japan's financial markets remained rattled Monday, as US-China trade jitters sent the Nikkei index and the dollar-yen pair to two- and seven-month lows, respectively, with the benchmark long-term government bond yield dropping to a three-year low.

Market concern about the US-China trade dispute grew, as Beijing allowed the yuan to sink Monday to its weakest level in about 11 years, in apparent retaliation after US President Donald Trump said Thursday his administration will implement a new round of tariffs on Chinese imports from September.

Beijing also reportedly asked state-owned companies to suspend imports of US agricultural products.

The escalating trade dispute between the world's two biggest economies prompted market participants to unload stocks and seek safe-haven assets such as government bonds and the yen.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average ended down 366.87 points, or 1.74 per cent, from Friday at 20,720.29, its lowest level since 4 June. The broader Topix index of all First Section issues on the Tokyo Stock Exchange finished 27.58 points, or 1.80 per cent, lower at 1,505.88.

Of the Topix subindexes for 33 industries, 32 declined and

only the retail sector ended higher. On the First Section, declining issues outnumbered advancers 1,914 to 196, while 39 ended unchanged.

In the bond market, the yield on the benchmark 10-year Japanese government bond fell to minus 0.200 per cent, its lowest level since July 2016.

With no fresh incentives to temper the impact of Trump's new tariff threat against China, Tokyo shares extended their declines as other Asian markets also tumbled on the day following the global sell-off late last week.

"The aftershock of Trump's tariff remarks continued to dominate the market," said Akira Tanoue, a senior strategist in the investment research department at Nomura Securities Co.

The Nikkei has lost about 820 points, or 3.8 per cent, over the two trading days since Trump's announcement.

Exporters were among major decliners as the US dollar briefly dropped below the 106 yen line to around 105.80 yen, its weakest level in seven months.

At 5 pm, the dollar fetched 105.94-95 yen compared with 106.56-66 yen in New York and 106.91-92 yen in Tokyo at 5 pm Friday. It moved between 105.79 yen and 106.68 yen during the day, changing hands most frequently at 106.03 yen.—Kyodo News ■

India abolishes Kashmir's special autonomy

NEW DELHI (India) — The Indian government on Monday stripped Kashmir of the special autonomy it has had for seven decades, prompting a furious response from nuclear-armed rival Pakistan and raising fears of further violence in the Muslim-majority Himalayan region.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu-nationalist party rushed through a presidential decree to scrap from the constitution the Indian-ruled part of the disputed territory's special status.

It also moved a bill proposing the Indian-administered part of Kashmir be divided into two regions directly ruled by New Delhi.

Ahead of the announcements, tens of thousands of extra

Indian troops were deployed in the territory, and a security lockdown was imposed overnight Sunday with all telecommunications there cut.

Home Minister Amit Shah, a close ally of Modi, told parliament the president had issued a decree abolishing Article 370 of the constitution, which gives special autonomy to the Himalayan region.

The decree said the measure came into force "at once".

Pakistan's foreign ministry condemned the move as "illegal".

"As the party to this international dispute, Pakistan will exercise all possible options to counter the illegal steps," it said in a statement.

A senior Pakistani securi-

ty source said that a meeting of the Pakistani military's top commanders had been called for Tuesday.

Kashmir has been divided between Indian and Pakistan since their independence in 1947.

For three decades the Indian-administered part has been in the grip of an insurgency that has left tens of thousands dead.

Armed Kashmiri rebels and many residents have fought for the region's independence or to join neighbour Pakistan.

There were already growing fears among Kashmiris that the special status would be ditched after Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) obtained a large parliamentary majority in recent elections.

His party had vowed to ful-



India has imposed a security clampdown on Kashmir and is rushing a bill through parliament to scrap the region's special status. PHOTO: AFP

fil a long-held promise to scrap the laws, and many fear New Delhi wants to change the region's demographics by allowing non-Kashmiris, mostly Hindus, to buy land locally.

The move is set to exacerbate the already bloody rebellion in Kashmir and deepen the long-running animosity with nu-

clear rival Pakistan which has fought two out of three wars with India over the territory.

"There will be a very strong reaction in Kashmir. It's already in a state of unrest and this will only make it worse," Wajahat Habibullah, a former senior bureaucrat in Jammu and Kashmir, told AFP.—AFP ■

Japan's Leading Fermented Milk Drink Brand introduced in Yangon

JAPAN'S leading fermented milk drink brand Yakult opened its doors recently in Yangon, showcasing its advanced technologies to media at the factory.

During the media launch event, media members observed the Yakult fermented milk drink going through vigorous assessments including a series of stringent quality checks by experienced Japanese production professionals to ensure that the people of Myanmar receive Yakult fermented milk drinks of the same high quality as other parts of the world.

In addition, the media members also viewed a corporate video about the history of Yakult and its scientific re-

search.

Currently, Yakult dairy products can be found in 39 countries and regions around the world. With Yakult Myanmar launching sales of Yakult, Myanmar will be the 40th country or region where Yakult can be found.

Being one of the fastest growing markets among ASEAN countries is one of the reasons for entering Myanmar.

With the start of operations, Yakult Myanmar will also create more job opportunities for women in Myanmar through its unique home delivery system by Yakult Ladies, who perform an important role delivering Yakult products door-to-door every day. — GNLM



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Australia rules out hosting US missiles

SYDNEY (Australia) — Australia on Monday ruled out hosting ground-based US missiles after talks with Washington's top defence and diplomatic officials.

Following an announcement that the United States plans to deploy intermediate-range missiles in Asia — widely seen as an effort to contain China — Australia scotched the notion of locating them Down Under. "It's not been asked of us, not being considered, not been put to us. I think I can rule a line under that," Prime Minister Scott Morrison said of the notion.

His comments came hours after US Defense Secretary Mark Esper and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo departed Sydney following talks.

Australian Defence minister Linda Reynolds told public broadcaster ABC the issue came up in her meeting with Esper:

"I asked him directly, 'was there any expectation of a request', and he said 'no'."

Any formal request would put Australia in a difficult spot between long-time ally the United States and major trade partner China. Policy toward Beijing has become an increasing point of friction between Washington and Canberra —

which has tried to maintain good working relations with Chinese President Xi Jinping's government.

While Australia has a mutual defence treaty with the United States, China's purchases of Australian coal and iron ore kept the latter's economy purring through the global financial crisis.

Pompeo's visit featured a sharp warning for partners to "have their eyes wide open" about China's increasingly assertive behaviour.

He also cautioned Australian policymakers about the risk of turning a blind eye to abuses in order to trade with Beijing.

"You can sell your soul for a pile of soybeans, or you can protect your people," he said.

"We think it's possible to have trade with China and yet require them to behave with the same set of rules."

US Marine Corps units regularly rotate through Darwin, raising speculation that the northern city could host missiles after the US withdrawal Friday from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty with Russia.

Experts say the most likely location for deployment is at American military facilities on the island of Guam. —AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Putin urges new arms talks with US to avoid 'chaos'

MOSCOW (Russia) — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday urged the United States to begin new arms talks after the collapse of a Cold War nuclear pact between the two world powers.

"In order to avoid chaos that has no rules, limits and laws, one needs to once again weigh all possible dangerous consequences and start serious dialogue without any ambiguities," Putin said in a statement. —AFP ■

Syria army says to resume military operations in Idlib

DAMASCUS (Syria) — Syria's army said Monday it would resume operations against the jihadist-run Idlib region, just days after it agreed to a truce ending months of deadly bombardment.

"Armed terrorist groups, backed by Turkey, refused to abide by the ceasefire and launched many attacks on civilians in surrounding areas," state news agency SANA reported it as saying, using the regime's blanket term for jihadists and rebels.

"The armed forces will resume their military operations against terrorists," it said, ending a truce announced on Thursday. —AFP ■

NEC unveils flying car prototype using its communications technology

ABIKO (Japan) — NEC Corp. unveiled Monday a prototype of an electric flying car as it seeks to offer its communications and control technologies to other companies amid the global boom to develop such airborne vehicles.

Starting with a roaring sound, the 148-kilogram helicopter-like prototype with a length of 3.9 meters, height of 1.3 meters and width of 3.7 meters came afloat by itself to 3 meters above ground and hovered for several minutes at a testing ground at NEC's Abiko plant in Chiba Prefecture. — Kyodo News ■

Walmart to keep selling guns despite recent shootings at its stores

NEW YORK (United States) — Despite two deadly shootings at its stores in less than a week, American retail giant Walmart has no plans to stop selling guns and ammunition, a spokesman said Sunday.

A man opened fire with an assault rifle at a Walmart in Texas on Saturday, killing 20 people, just four days after a disgruntled employee shot dead two coworkers and wounded a responding police officer at one of the massive chain's stores in Mississippi.

"We are focused on supporting our associates, our customers and the entire El Paso community," spokesman Randy Hargrove said. Following the El Paso shooting, Walmart CEO Doug McMillon posted a note on Instagram saying he "can't believe" it was the second such in a week. "My heart aches for the community in El Paso, especially the associates and customers at store 2201 and the families of the victims," he

wrote. "I'm praying for them and I hope you will join me."

Walmart founder Sam Walton loved guns — so much so that the American gun manufacturer Remington named a hunting rifle model after him. But the retail giant maintains that its target audience is sport shooters and hunters. Walmart has made gun policy changes over the years, such as in 1993, when it stopped selling handguns. The company stopped selling semi-automatic rifles in 2015, and after the Parkland, Florida shooting in February 2018 — which saw 17 people killed at a high school — Walmart raised the minimum age to buy guns and ammunition in its stores to 21.

Additionally, "Walmart goes beyond federal law requiring all customers to pass a background check before purchasing any firearm," said Hargrove. He also noted that all new Walmart employees are required to complete an



Texas State Troopers keep watch outside the Cielo Vista Mall WalMart where a shooting left 20 people dead in El Paso, Texas. PHOTO: AFP

active shooter training program, which they then must pass on a computer four times a year.

But since it is the largest retail chain in the United States, Walmart continues to attract

criticism for its enduring stock of firearms. When the company tweeted it was "in shock" after the tragedy in El Paso, many Twitter users replied: "Stop selling guns." —AFP ■

North (C) wins MPT U-14 Football Tournament 2019

THE North (C) team won the MPT U-14 Football Tournament 2019 yesterday after beating the West (C) team with a 1-0 score in the final match, held at the Yangon United Sports Complex, according to the Myanmar National League website.

The lone and winning goal for North (C) was scored by Wai Yan Phyo. Meanwhile, in the match for the third place in the tournament, North (B) defeated East (A) with a 4-0 score. An award presentation ceremony was held at the ground after the final match.

At the ceremony, U Pye Phyo Tay Za, the vice president of the Myanmar Football Federation, presented gifts to referees who took part in the final match.

Tam Shwae from North (B) received the award for the best



North (C) celebrates during the presentation of the trophy after winning the MPT U-14 Football Tournament 2019 football match against West (C) at the Yangon United Sports Complex in Yangon on 5 August. PHOTO: MNL

forward player, Hlaing Htut from East (A) was declared the best midfielder, Sithu Khant from West (C) took the best defender award, and Ye Wunna

Tun from North (C) obtained the best goalkeeper award.

Thet Paing Phyo from North (C) was declared the top scorer and the best player,

while the East (A) team was given the award for the best fair play.

Meanwhile, MFF general secretary U KoKoThein pre-

sented individual medals to the third-placed team North (B). The team also received a cash prize of K300,000 from U Kyaw Zeya Tin, National Business Development Manager, Myanmar Brewery Limited.

U Aung Kyaw Oo, the Director-General (Planning/Finance) of the Basic Education Department, Yangon Region, presented individual medals to the runner-up team — West (C), while MFF chief administrative officer U SuuAung handed them a cash prize of K500,000.

Mr. Yoshiaki Bennio, COO, MPT-KSGM JO presented individual medals and a cash prize of K1 million to the champions, the North (C) team.

The championship trophy was presented to the North (C) team by MFF vice president U Pye PhyoTay Za. — KyawKhin



Harry Maguire is set to become the world's most expensive defender by joining Manchester United, according to reports. PHOTO: AFP

Man Utd make Maguire world's most expensive defender

LONDON (United Kingdom)— Manchester United signed Harry Maguire from Leicester on Monday for a reported £80 million fee that makes the England centre-back the world's most expensive defender.

United have secured Maguire on a six-year contract with an option for a further 12-month extension. The £75 million Liverpool paid for Virgil van Dijk in 2018 was the previous record fee for a defender. However, Juventus' capture of Van Dijk's Netherlands teammate Matthijs de Ligt earlier this month (July) could rise to 85.5 million euros (£77 million) in add-ons.

It is also a record fee between Premier League clubs, surpass-

ing Van Dijk's move to Anfield from Southampton and Romelu Lukaku's switch from Everton to Manchester United. "I am delighted to have signed for this great club. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Leicester and would like to thank everyone at the club. However, when Manchester United come knocking on your door, it is an incredible opportunity," Maguire told United's website.

"From my conversations with the manager, I am excited about the vision and plans he has for the team. It's clear to see that Ole is building a team to win trophies. I am now looking forward to meeting my new team-mates and getting the season started." — AFP ■

AFF U-18 Next Media Cup 2019: Myanmar to face Laos today in Viet Nam

MYANMAR will take on Laos at the AFF U-18 Next Media Cup 2019 today evening at the Binh Duong Fields in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, according to a media briefing yesterday at the Ramana Hotel in Ho Chi Minh.

"The teams in our group are strong teams, but we will compete to get good results. We are also prepared for the matches and hope to advance to the next level," said U Soe Myat Min, the Myanmar chief

coach, at the press conference.

For the tourney, Myanmar has been placed in Group A with Indonesia, Laos, Timor-Leste, the Philippines, and Brunei, while Malaysia, Thailand, host Viet Nam, Australia, Cambodia, and Singapore are in Group B.

Each team will face each other in a round-robin format in the group stage before the top two teams from Groups A and B progress to the semi-

finals.

The semifinals are scheduled to be played on 17 August at the Go Dau Stadium, and the play-off for the third place as well as the final will take place on 19 August at the Thong Nhat Stadium in Ho Chi Minh City.

Last year, Myanmar was defeated by Malaysia in the final. Thailand have been the most successful team in the competition, having won the title five times. — KyawKhin



The press conference for AFF U-18 Next Media Cup 2019 is in progress at the Ramana Hotel in Ho Chi Minh, Viet Nam on 5 August. PHOTO: MFF