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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VI, No. 132, 12th Waning of Wagaung 1381 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Tuesday, 27 August 2019

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues constitution amendment debate, union tax revenue report

THE Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued debating the Joint Scrutinizing Committee's report on the Second Bill to Amend the Constitution during its 16th-day meeting, 13th regular session, yesterday. The bill was submitted by 145 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives, including MP Dr Maung Tin of Meiktila constituency.

MPs debate on future steps for Constitution

Firstly, MP U San Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3 voiced his approval of the report. He said the 2008 Constitution needs to be amended in order to pave way for a Union based on democratic and federal values, as wanted by the people.

He said careful analysis of the Constitution showed that it contained provisions that were undemocratic, incoherent, contradictory, and obstructive to systems of democracy and federalism. He said the time was right for all Hluttaw representatives to muster the courage and wisdom required to realize the wishes of the nation, its ethnic people and future generations.

Next, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Lwin Maung Soe said the Hluttaw and its conduct need to adhere to the enacted laws and it was every representative's duty to expose and prevent improper conduct. He said he rejected the bill report as the direction it was pursuing did not conform with constitutional amendment



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

provisions as it is attempting to merge two different processes.

Following this, MP U Pe Than of Myebon constituency said there was a great need for earnest participation and negotiations regarding this matter. He said the main issue is a limited time period and if no individual or combined negotiations could be reached then the matter must be submitted to the Hluttaw with due haste.

The nation was at a crucial stage of constitution amendment and all MPs must debate for the benefit of the entire nation and not for the sake of win-

The nation is at a crucial stage of constitution amendment and all MPs must debate for the benefit of the entire nation and not for the sake of winning their arguments: MP U Pe Than.

ning their arguments, said MP U Pe Than.

The report was further debated by Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Lt-Col Tun Lin Oo, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Thaug Htike Soe, Tatmadaw

Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Aung Thwin Soe, MP U Kyaw Myint Oo of Mandalay Region constituency 10, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Nay Win, MP U Nan Mon Htin of Machanbaw constituency, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw

representative Major Sein Tun, and MP U Si Hu Dwe of Kachin State constituency 2.

Deputy Ministers explain ADB loan

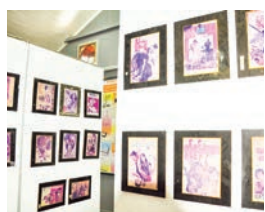
Next, Deputy Construction Minister U Kyaw Lin and Deputy Planning and Finance Minister U Maung Maung Win explained to the assembly the matter of acquiring US\$51.20 million from the Asian Development Bank as funding for the rural road networking project, to be implemented by the Ministry of Construction.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues constitution amendment ...



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat. **PHOTO: MNA**

natural disasters, and roads that can be safely traversed in all weathers.

The Deputy Minister urged the assembly to approve the motion and Speaker U T Khun Myat then announced that MPs who were interested in discussing the loan could register their names.

Union officials respond to tax revenue report

Afterwards, the assembly continued hearing from Union-level officials responding to the report from the Joint Public Accounts Committee (No 12/2019) regarding the tax revenue list of Union Ministries and organizations in the first six months of fiscal year 2018-2019, sent from the Union Government.

Agri-ministry exceeds fishery tax collection

First, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw responded that Section 39 of The Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Bylaw has designated the land tax exemption period for various businesses on the different types of land. He said they have notified authorities to impose fines for late payments or evasion and alerted those who haven't paid yet to do so urgently.

The Deputy Minister said Section 21 of The Vacant, Fallow

and Virgin Lands Management Law stated that those who violated the tax payments provisions would have their deposited security fees converted into State finance and their right to cultivate or utilize the land will be revoked.

He said the matter of law tax arrears for 2017-2018 FY would be discussed thoroughly in the upcoming meeting No 21/2019 of the Central Committee for the Management of Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands.

The Deputy Minister said there were 3,404 individuals who were excluded from the 2018-2019 land tax exemption period. He said K1,421 million in tax had been projected for 512,000 acres of land and those concerned have been notified of tax levy starting in September.

The Deputy Minister said his ministry had collected K3,484.332 million from fishery businesses in the first six months of the current fiscal year, thus achieving 134 per cent of the projected K2,607 million target. He said they would continue to levy tax and conduct management in line with the procedures prescribed by the nation.

Car ownership registration streamlined

Next, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo said there were 580,000 auto-telephone lines and

438 telephone exchanges across Myanmar and up to July 2019, they have swapped 330,000 lines and 110 exchanges for multi-service access nodes.

The Deputy Minister said car owners tried to evade the recently high sales tax by providing false names and addresses. He said they discussed with the Ministry of Planning and Finance to resume the previous system of converting the car owner's name after reviewing tax matters, so that tax revenue was not lost.

The report was discussed further by the Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and the deputy ministers for office of the Union Government, natural resources and environmental conservation, electricity and energy, commerce, and planning and finance. Next, Joint Public Accounts Committee member Daw Ni Ni Dun moved for the Hluttaw to approve report 12/2019. The Speaker called for the deliberation of the Hluttaw, received no opposition and announced that the joint committee's report has been approved and the tax revenue list sent by the Union Government has been put on record.

The 17th-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session will commence tomorrow. —*Aung Ye Twin, Aye Aye Thant*

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin.



Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win.

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U Kyaw Lin explained they would upgrade a combined 152 kilometers of road in Maubin and Pantanaw townships in Ayeyawady Region and Natmauk and Myothit townships in Mag-

way Region into nylon-tar and bitumen roads.

He said that the project would bring with it upgradation and maintenance of rural roads in Ayeyawady and Magway regions, new technology to shelter the rural road network from

Myanmar Motion Picture to celebrate centenary next year

THE Myanmar Motion Picture industry will enter its centenary on 13th October 2020 as it started with a locally created film on the same day in 1920 during colonial era.

The centenary celebration will be observed with launching Myanmar Motion Picture Museum at the building of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization located on Wingaba Street in Bahan Township of Yangon.

The building is now under renovation that is scheduled to complete in late October this year.

Nearly 100 years ago in 1920, Myanmar showed its first film, dubbed 'Metta & Thurar' after two years of struggles against the lacks of techniques, skills and equipment.

U Aye Kyu Lay from the Myanmar Motion Picture Or-

ganization said, "Ancestors of Myanmar movie industry tried to connect films for the required length for motion picture, gradually from 50 ft to 400 ft in length. Although they learned foreign movies on screens, they encountered problems in all the production stages.

They tried to create clear pictures with sufficient lights, while there were no modern cosmetics such as makeups and lipsticks. It is very proud to celebrate the centenary of Myanmar Motion Picture. The renovation works are expected to complete in a couple of months."

The Myanmar Motion Picture industry has passed its silver jubilee in 1945, the golden jubilee in 1970 and the diamond jubilee in 1995.

The last event was joyous-

ly held in Yangon and Mandalay cities with the participation of all the people from this industry.

The MMPO will form an organizing committee in October this year for the centenary celebration.

The silver jubilee, celebrated on 13 October 1945, was attended by Bogyoke Aung San, and the documentary photos of that event will be displayed at the museum.

In commemoration of centenary, the members of MMPO will grow trees in Chauk and Yenangyoung townships, dig ponds and lakes in dry zones.

The MMPO has expected the renovation works for Myanmar Motion Picture Museum to complete at the end of October this year.—*Than Htike*

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Photo shows the Myanmar Motion Picture Museum in Bahan Township, Yangon. **PHOTO: THAN HTIKE**



Movie posters and other photos on display for the centenary of the Myanmar Motion Picture at the museum. **PHOTO: THAN SOE**

Vice President's spouse attends school upgrading ceremony

THE Ministry of Education has officially upgraded a middle school level to a high school rank in Kyaungkone Seikkyi Village of Thanlyin Township, Yangon.

The upgrading ceremony was held yesterday morning in conjunction with the donation of toilet and footpaths funded by Than Sin Metta, a local NGO.

Dr Shwe Hluan, the wife of Vice President U Henry Van Thio, attended the ceremony, together with Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Director General of Basic Education Department U Ko Lay Win, Deputy Director General of Yangon Region Education Office Daw Khin Mar Swe and Headmistress of Kyaungkone Seikkyi Basic Education High School Daw Khin San Maw cut the ceremonial ribbon to inaugurate the school signboard.

The wife of Vice President, the Union Minister for Education, the Director General of Basic Ed-



Dr Shwe Hluan and officials cut ceremonial ribbons to inaugurate the Kyaungkone Seikkyi village's upgrade to high school status in Thanlyin Township, Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

ucation Department, Chairman of Thant Sin Metta U Nay Oke also cut the ceremonial ribbon to

hand over toilets and footpaths in the school compound. In expressing thanks for the

ceremony, Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi explained about the norms for upgrading to a high

school that needs at least 200 students at Grade 10 and Grade 11 classes, and locating 10 miles away from a nearest high school.

With 1,014 households in the village, Kyaungkone Seikkyi school has a total of 268 students for these levels out of 1,328 school children.

The Union Minister also appreciated for the donation of Thant Sin Metta at the school.

Chairman U Nay Oke explained about the donation of their NGO and the headmistress expressed her gratitude for the developments before she presented the commemorative emblems to the Union Minister and the officials.

The ward administrator presented a honorary certificate to the chairman of Thant Sin Metta, and Dr Shwe Hluan awarded certificates of gratitude to the well-wishers.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Donations made towards flood-affected civilians



Dr Shwe Hluan presents a certificate of honour to a donor. PHOTO: MNA

VARIOUS donors have been contributing to the relief and aid of people affected by the recent floods throughout Myanmar.

Yesterday, representatives and officials from Myanmar

Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association (MGJEA), SNK (Asia Pacific) PTE, Ltd. Myanmar Branch) and the Myanmar-born Chinese Humanitarian Support Philanthropic



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye hands over a certificate of honour to donors of flood affected regions in Myanmar at his ministry. PHOTO: MNA

Group handed over donations of K50 million, K7.6 million and K4 million respectively to the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye then gave honorary certificates to the donors in return.

Similarly, the Yangon Region Disaster Management office has received food and aid worth K2.1 million from Shwe Thazin Family and Myanmar

Kindness Foundation, K1 million worth of clothes from Myanmar Finance Center, 100 blankets valued at K600,000 and K300,000 in cash from the music group The Five, K500,000 from Dr Tin Mi Mi (Obstetrician and family) in remembrance of Dr Kaung Myat (Orthopaedical Surgeon), K5 million from Strategy First University's faculty, students and staff, K2 million from Asia Hlaing Kyaw Family, K100,000

from U San Thar Han and Daw Aye Aye Myint's family, K70,000 from U Kyaw Lin Zaw and Daw Aye Myat San's family, and K10,000 from U Soe Moe Kyaw's family.

Dr Shwe Hluan and departmental officials accepted the donations and handed honorary certificates back to the donors.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Children vaccinated against polio in Khamaukgyi, Kawthoung District

THE local health department at Khamaukgyi in Kawthoung District is conducting a cam-

paign for administering polio drops to babies and children under five.

So far, 332 children have been given polio drops, with 100 per cent coverage.

A team from the local health department will make a field trip to several villages on

27 and 28 August to inoculate children.—Khamaukgyi IPRD (Translated by TTN)

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 28/2019



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein attends the meeting of the Joint Committee on amending 2008 Constitution in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution held its 28/2019 meeting at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Joint Committee Pyidaungsu Hlut-

taw Deputy Speaker Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Chairman of the Joint Committee Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Joint Committee secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe, joint secretary U Htay Win Aung (a)

U Pyone Cho and members who were Hluttaw representatives from political parties and Tatmadaw Hluttaw representative and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Committees meet for organizing International Democracy Day 2019



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein addresses the third meeting for organizing International Democracy Day 2019, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE third meeting to organize the International Democracy Day 2019 was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw building yesterday afternoon.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, in his capacity as the chairman of the steering committee for the event, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung

as the vice-chairman of the committee, and members of the committee were present at the meeting.

The deputy speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw presided over the coordination meeting, and the deputy speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw discussed preparation of security measures for the event.

The chairmen and the

secretaries of respective working committees reported on the progress in their works and the participants at the meeting discussed ongoing works.

The meeting was concluded with the remarks by the deputy speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

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

THE Office of the President issued Press Release No. 32/2019 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs' arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 24 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 24 August.

The full text of the press release will be reported in the 28 August issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar.—GNLM ■

Indonesia Embassy holds fun walk for 74th Ind Day, 70th bilateral relations anniv with Myanmar

EMBASSY of Indonesia in Yangon conducted a fun walk to mark the 74th anniversary Independence Day and 70th anniversary of Indonesia-Myanmar bilateral relations in Yangon on Sunday, attracting a hundred participants.

Ambassador of Indonesia Prof Dr Iza Fadri waved a start flag to mark the beginning of a Fun Walk at 6:30 am in Yangon.

Indonesians in Yangon, colleagues from Myanmar and ASEAN Member States and Timor Leste joined the Fun Walk.

It was a part of a series of activities held to commemorate the 74th Anniversary of Indonesia's Independence Day and the 70th Anniversary of Indonesia-Myanmar Bilateral Relations.

The Fun Walk started from the Indonesian Embassy in Yangon and reached its finish line at the Indonesia International School Yangon (IISY) about 45 minutes later. "The two anniversaries are worth celebrating, but in addition to the fun, I want

to add the fitness value. That's why we held the Fun Walk," said Ambassador Iza Fadri after reaching the finish line at IISY Sports Hall.

At the IISY Sports Hall, an Indonesian Community Gathering consisting of a bazaar of Indonesian Food and Indonesian products including batik dresses was held.

Indonesian art and cultural performances were also staged, such as angklung (Indonesian musical instruments made of bamboo) performance by IISY students and a dynamic Indang Dance from West Sumatera, a Province in Indonesia. Games typically played in the Independence Day Celebration in Indonesia were also played, such as tug-of-war, eating crackers race and panjat pinang.

The gathering last until afternoon and it aimed to strengthen the bond between Indonesians and Myanmar friends who also took part in the event. About 350 people were present. — GNLM ■



Hundreds of participants joined the Fun Walk organized by the Indonesian Embassy to celebrate its 74th Independence Day and 70th anniversary of relations with Myanmar, yesterday. **PHOTO: PHOEHKHAR**

Myanmar Investment Commission's work in June and July 2019

MYANMAR Investment Commission (MIC) is permitting local and foreign investments, according to Myanmar Investment Law. MIC had permitted in June

this year total foreign investment, including increased investment, valued at US\$660.328 million, and in July this year total foreign investment, including

increased investment, valued at \$366.474 million.

Foreign investments permitted during June and July of 2019 are as follows:

Sr	Sector	June		July	
		No of investment	Capital US\$ (million)	No of investment	Capital US\$ (million)
1.	Transportation and communication sector	-	287.093*	-	64.000*
2.	Industrial sector	21	279.087*	23	151.794
3.	Housing and building construction sector	1	4.900	1	87.500
4.	Hotel and tourism sector	-	-	1	3.200
5.	Animal husbandry and fishery sector	3	66.297	-	-
6.	Other service sector	2	22.951*	1	55.000*
7.	Agricultural sector	-	-	1	4.980
Total		27	660.328	27	366.474

* Increased investment was included in the investment amount.

MIC had permitted in June this year a total of Myanmar national investment valued at K92520.726 million and in July K128735.614 million respectively.

Myanmar national investments permitted during June and July this year are as follows:

Sr	Sector	June		July	
		No of investment	Capital Kyat (million)	No of investment	Capital Kyat (million)
1.	Housing and building construction sector	-	-	1	100693.850
2.	Industrial sector	6	13509.702*	4	14173.398
3.	Industrial zone construction sector	1	36924.990	-	-
4.	Hotel and tourism sector	5	23327.454	1	6010.000
5.	Animal husbandry and fisheries sector	-	500.000*	2	4000.000
6.	Agriculture sector	-	-	2	500.000
7.	Other service sector	6	18258.580	3	3358.366
Total		18	92520.726	13	128735.614

* Increased investment was included in the investment amount.

Increased number of jobs for locals created sector-wise by foreign investments during June and July this year are as follows:

Sr	Sector	Number of jobs created for local workers	
		In June	In July
1.	Agricultural sector Oil and natural gas sector	-	160
2.	Animal husbandry and fisheries sector	258	-
3.	Industrial sector	12598*	15849*
4.	Hotel and tourism sector	-	97
5.	Housing and building sector	4	224
6.	Other service sector	225	353
Total		13085	16683

* Increased number of employees was included in the employee list.

Increased number of jobs for locals created sector-wise by Myanmar national investments during June and July this year are as follows:

Sr	Sector	Number of jobs created for local workers	
		In June	In July
1	Industrial sector	1992	314
2	Hotel and tourism sector	366	51
3	Housing and building construction sector	-	59
4	Animal husbandry and fisheries sector	-	294
5	Industrial zone construction sector	38	-
6	Agriculture sector	-	32
7	Other service sector	477	118
Total		2873	868

MNA

Information minister receives members of Chin association



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint holds talks with a delegation of Chin Association for Chin Christian Alliance in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

UNION MINISTER for Information Dr Pe Myint received the representatives of Chin Association for Chin Christian Alliance, led by its President Dr U Saw Tun Aung Myint, at the minister's office yesterday morning.

At the meeting, the CACC representatives asked about the broadcast media channel.

Dr Pe Myint explained that the ministry is working for the emergence of Television and Broadcasting Bylaw and the formation of Broadcasting Council which will formulate rules and regulations to carry out the future processes in broadcasting media platform.

—MNA

(Translated by GNLM)

Landslide reported at charcoal mining site

A LANDSLIDE was triggered by heavy rainfall on the night of 25 August at a charcoal mining site, located at a distance of 5 miles from Setpyar Village, Minhla Township, Thayet District, Magway Region.

According to a report, four mining workers were trapped

at the site, and a team led by Inspector Aung Min Oo from the Township Police Station comprising police officials, locals, and miners are conducting rescue operations. —Township IPRD

(Translated by La Wonn)



Workers conducting rescue operations at a charcoal mining site in Minhla Township, Magway. PHOTO: TOWNSHIP IPRD

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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2.5 mln living with diabetes in Myanmar

OVER 5 million people are at risk of developing diabetes and 2.5 million have been diagnosed with the disease in Myanmar, which has prompted citizens to monitor their health and seek new treatments, according to the Myanmar Diabetes Association.

A seminar on diabetes care

was organized by the association on 25 August at the Melia Hotel in Yangon City. At the event, participants discussed the disease, medical check-ups, and treatments.

"Diabetes cure programs are always changing and new scientific facts are annually being discovered. Therefore,

Dapazin (Dapagliflozin INN), which can reduce at least a third of the side-effects, has been introduced in Myanmar. At the seminar, domestic doctors and attendees also discussed other related matters," said Dr Tint Swe Lat, the chairman of the association.

According to 2014 data, the

prevalence of diabetes cases in the 25-65 age group is 10.5 per cent, and 2.5 million people in Myanmar have the disease. Of every 100 people with pre-diabetes, two are likely to develop the disease. Therefore, there are diabetes cases in over 7 million people. — Pwint Thitsar

(Translated by La Wonn)

Taxi registration aids police investigation in 2,900 traffic cases

By Nyein Nyein

THE systematic registration of city taxis for greater regulation has helped law enforcement agencies investigate 2,900 traffic cases, according to U Hla Aung, the Joint Secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

"The cases include hit-and-runs and other crimes. We have helped the law enforcement agencies in those cases as we are regulating city taxis through registration," said U Hla Aung. "Between 2014 and 20 August, 2019, we have helped in the investigation of 2,900 cases, including lost case and other crimes, by tracing city taxis through their regis-

tration," he added.

City taxi registrations were started in 2002 to bring transport services on par with Yangon's image as a commercial hub and for regulating the taxi service.

The YRTA was formed on 8 July 2016 to improve transport facilities in Yangon for the convenience of the public.

In a bid to ensure traffic discipline, the YRTA, through an announcement in state-owned newspapers, had asked city taxis to register or renew their registrations with the authority.

It extended the deadline to 30 September after it was found that more than 5,000 taxis remained to be registered or



Taxis run in downtown Yangon. The Yangon licensed taxis needed to register as the City Taxi by this year. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

needed to get their registration renewed.

Those taxis which fail to register within the new deadline will have their licenses revoked according to rules and

regulations, the YRTA stated.

There were 67,085 registered city taxis in Yangon Region as of end-July, according to data from the YRTA.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Farmlands in Katha District suffer severe flooding

FARMLANDS in Katha District have been the worst-affected by floods brought on by heavy rainfall in Sagaing Region.

"The water level in the Ayeyawady River in Katha District has reached (35.43 ft), which is above the danger mark of (34.12 ft). Low-lying farmlands have been submerged and devastated. Currently, farmers have begun cultivation using the direct seeding method," said U Phone Maung, the head of the Katha District Agriculture Department.

According to data recorded on 22 August, a total of 5,833 acres of farmlands in Shwebo, Katha, Kalay, Mawlaik, and Khamti districts in Sagaing and Naga regions have suffered severe flooding.

"Although we were worried about late cultivation in flood-hit farmlands, some farmers in hill regions have begun sowing crops. So, we don't need to worry about the

flood-hit areas," he added. The floods have ravaged over 3,700 acres of land in Katha and Hti-gyaing townships, over 1,800 acres in Kalay Township, 35 acres in Nanyun Township of

Naga region, and over 30 acres of Phaungpyin Township in Mawlaik District.

"A total of 5,800 acres of farmlands, including 5,200 acres of paddy fields, 280 acres

of sesame fields, and 190 acres of sugarcane fields, have been damaged," he added. — Myo Win Tun (Monywa)

(Translated by La Wonn)



Women farmers planting rice seedlings in the outskirts of Katha in Sagaing Region. PHOTO: MYO WIN TUN (MONYWA)

China proposes exclusive industrial zone with Myanmar: UMFCCI

By Aye Yamone

CHINESE businessmen have proposed setting up a Myanmar-China exclusive industrial zone in Myanmar, according to U Zaw Min Win, the President of The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

“Chinese businessmen are running factories in Hlinethaya Township. They came to us to discuss establishing a Myanmar-China exclusive industrial zone,” said U Zaw Min Win.

If they are committed to responsible business, we are willing to invite investments by setting up a Myanmar-China exclusive industrial zone, said U Zaw Min Win, while submitting the request at the 29th meeting of

Vice President U Myint Swe with private entrepreneurs.

The Yangon Region government is planning to sell land to those engaged in the private business development sector. The land will be sold under two categories — commercial business and housing.

“The regional government’s intervention in the property sector is aimed at governing the manipulation of property prices. It has been heard that foreign investors are feeling the strain from high land prices in Myanmar,” said U Phyto Min Thein, the Yangon Region Chief Minister.

“Foreigners are not allowed to wholly invest in land, but they can set up joint ventures with local businessmen. Land will be sold only to those investors who

run a legitimate business. After that, the regional government will pay out compensation for confiscated farmland,” said U Phyto Min Thein.

With the income generated from selling the land, the regional government will pay over K200 billion in compensation to farmers whose farmlands have been confiscated.

Land in Hlinethaya, Shwephyitha, and four Dagon Myothit townships is up for sale. Yangon Region has 29 industrial zones.

China is the second largest foreign investor in Myanmar. Between 1988 and July-end 2019, 372 China-listed enterprises have brought in US\$20.8 billion into the country.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

MOC reports \$1 bln drop in imports in current FY

THE value of Myanmar’s imports between 1 October and 16 August in the current fiscal year stood at US\$15.9 billion, a decline of \$1 billion from \$16.9 billion registered in the year-ago period, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

The value of consumer, capital, and intermediate goods imports fell significantly in the current fiscal. In the October-August period, capital goods, such as auto parts, vehicles, machines, steel, and airplane parts were brought into the country, with an estimated import value of \$4.99 billion. The figure was \$783 million lower compared to the same period in the previous FY.

Meanwhile, Myanmar imported consumer products

worth \$2.9 billion, including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and palm oil. Both private and public sector imports of consumer products showed a decline of \$377 million compared with the same period of the previous FY.

Intermediate goods make up a large share of Myanmar’s imports, with petroleum products and plastic raw materials being the main import items. In the current fiscal, imports of raw materials declined by \$182 million from the year-ago period to reach an estimated \$5.9 billion.

During the same period, raw materials worth \$2 billion were also imported for the Cut-Make-Pack (CMP) garment sector. — GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Mandalay market cools as trade halts on Mandalay-Muse Road



Muse 105 mile border trade zone. PHOTO: KHINE SET WAI

RECENT fighting has forced trucks to suspend operations on the Kutkai and Muse road section, leading to a halt in trade on the Mandalay-Muse Road. As a result, trade has cooled at the Mandalay commodity depot, according to traders.

Some merchants have bought goods at the Mandalay depot for K3,000-5,000 lower than the market price, in order to send them to the border market when the traffic returns to normal on the road, said U Myo Swe, the chair of the Mandalay Commodity Depot.

“The market has cooled

down due to the closure of the road. Some have taken the risk to send goods across the closed road by paying high transportation fees. The price of sesame is falling. Green gram prices have remained unchanged. The market is cooling,” he said.

The security condition is uncertain on the Kutkai and Muse road section, which is used to export goods to China. Therefore, Mandalay merchants have not been able to send goods to the Muse border market. On 25 August, green grams were priced at K95,000-113,000 per bag and black sesame (Samone variety)

was fetching K280,000 per bag in the market.

“Hopefully, we will get a good price when the road is reopened. The market has lesser supply of green grams for now. The price is also on the low side. I bought them at a lower price to export them at another time,” said U Min Aung from Sinmin depot.

Following the closure of the road, the prices of green grams, black sesame seeds, and peanuts have declined by K3,000-5,000 compared to earlier. — Khine Set Wai

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Italy makes first investment in Myanmar with hotel, tourism project

By Nyein Nyein

ITALY has made its first direct investment in Myanmar by pumping in US\$3.2 million in the hotels and tourism sector this year, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Italy’s foray has brought up the number of countries investing in Myanmar to 50 from 49 earlier, said U Kyaw Win Tun, the director of the DICA.

“The increase in investments reflects stronger investment rules and the liberalization process,” he added.

Since 1988, Singapore has been the largest foreign investor in Myanmar, pumping in over \$20 billion, primarily into the power and natural gas sector, said U Thant Sin Lwin, the Director-General of the DICA.

In the 2018-2019 fiscal year, 235 enterprises have been per-

mitted to invest in the country, with an estimated capital of \$2.29 billion. Foreign fund inflows have reached \$3.6 billion, including expansion of capital, since October.

The foreign investments have flowed into the agriculture, livestock and fisheries, manufacturing, power, real estate, transport and communications, hotels and tourism, industrial estate, and other service sectors.

The MIC has set an FDI target of \$5.8 billion for the current FY, according to the DICA.

Myanmar’s FDI is expected to reach \$221 billion within 20 years, as per the short-, mid-, and long-term Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan for 2016-2017 to 2035-2036 fiscal years. Myanmar is forecast to be a middle-income country by the 2035-2036FY.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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Civil discussions can end bloodshed

THE current armed conflicts in Myanmar have been around before the nation even achieved independence, meaning the fighting has been going on for more than 60 years. With more than a hundred unique ethnic races living in close proximity, it seems natural that internal conflict would arise amongst them.

But the use of warfare to settle disputes has gotten out of hand. No matter the differences between us, we are still brothers and sisters of the same nation, the same family. It is unnatural for the clashes between us to have lasted more than half a century with no sign of lessening.

The people of Myanmar have lived through warfare since the times of kings displaying their might through conquest which has spiralled onwards into the armed struggles we witness today.

Feudal lords, colonialism, fascism, independence, and so many other drivers of armed battles have acted as obstacles to development. There are both inevitable struggles and intentional conflicts.

Who profits from war? What benefits have these conflicts brought for the ethnic races, the citizens of Myanmar and to what extent? These are all historical questions that deserve to have answers put on record.

However, the answer to who suffers the most is clear; the ordinary people do, and especially the children who are to lead the future of our nation. With their education ruined and health diminished, how can we envision an environment that will nurture strong and reliable youths to carry the

nation forward?

The majority of the people do not wish for war but they were unable to reduce the scale of fighting and prevent internal conflicts. Throughout the old era, the strong never compromised nor earnestly conducted effective negotiations.

The people have displayed their wish for peace and resentment of internal conflicts yet their efforts could not slow down the stride of armed struggles. Even with the leadership of Thakin Kodaw Hmaing and other influential politicians, they could not successfully spread the light of peace and put an end to the authoritarians profiting off of conflicts.

It is worrying that the armed conflicts are ongoing with people and children driven farther and farther away from homes and schools. The duty, while not wholly, to end this falls on the shoulders of the Hluttaw representatives. They were elected by the people and are responsible for realizing their wishes. We hope they will continue working together to find a sustainable solution to these pressing issues.

Prescription for good health: Clean hands

By Mayu Myo Aung (MANA)

15 OCTOBER was nominated by the United Nations Children's Fund as the World Hand-washing Day; the first day was 15 October, 2008. With the nomination of 15 October as the World Hand-washing day and under the exhortations of UNICEF about the world hand-washing day are formed as follows:

By celebrating the world hand-washing day, thousands of children from Asia and Africa can be saved from threatening their lives. On the global scales, about 5000 children die daily from bowel complaints.

These children have to wash their hands with soap after using toilets, thus reducing the death rate of children by preventing diseases from bowel complaints.

Habits of hand-washing Primary schoolchildren are the most suitable age group to instill good habits into them. Students of the same age gather in the school where they emulate from one another; schoolchildren are deemed to pay great respect to their teachers. At the same time, teachers set an example for their students. By taking these opportunities, school teachers

should make their students to develop the good habits of washing their hands. Cooperation of parents and teachers will make their children healthy, by making them washing their hands at home or school.

The high-ranking officials

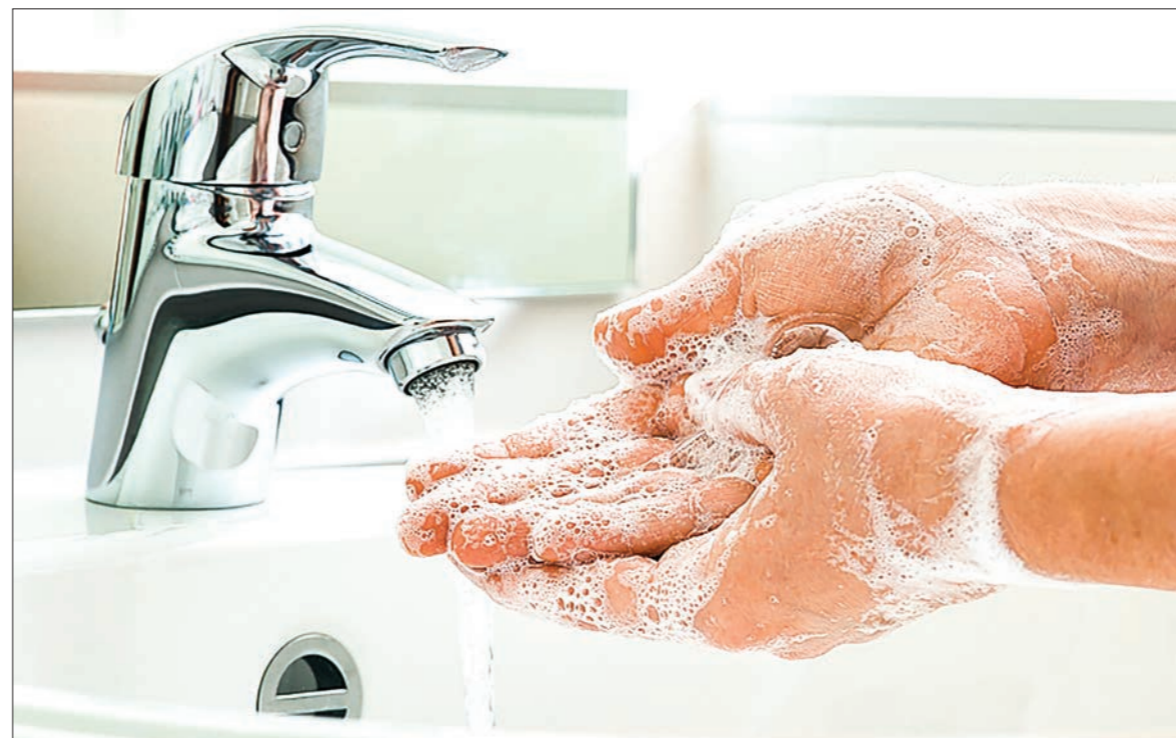
and the staff of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health and Sports, UN organizations, Agencies and NGO's officials led by schoolteachers from the Basic Education Schools, have held the World Hand-washing day yearly with the active participation of schoolteachers, parents and schoolchildren. The movement of hand-washing activities on 15 October makes the children to perform hand-washing conscientiously and the activities should lead to gain momentum. 15 October should let schoolchildren and people know about the advantages of hand-washing and throughout the year, everyday must be regarded as a hand-washing day.

World hand-washing day

By celebrating this hand-washing day across the world, personal hygiene and dirty hands tend to be exhorted. Keeping your hands clean is a basic important requirement habit. Extensions of health knowledge and development of good habits are essential, according to health experts.

Practice naturally tends to change into a habit. Health officials and well wishers in 60 developing countries are required to go to their schools to carry out health plans of personal hygiene and handwashing.

Handwashing should be emphasized more on children. One-



third of children who die in West Africa is due to the weakness in their personal hygiene, according to the findings of UNICEF and urge more emphasis on the movement of world handwashing day. Upon analysis on Myanmar people, one in five people is found to wash their hands cleanly after using the toilets.

Washing hands with soap

Most Myanmar people are found to wash their hands after having meals. Washing hands before meals is to dip them in bowls to soak the dirt in water. Hands must be washed with soap to remove the dirt and diseases; few people to have washed their

hands and handled the meals before their hands are washed with soap. Most housewives are found not to have a wish of developing a habit of handwashing. Clean hands are not emphasized while preparing the meals.

Parents and their children must wash their hands after using the toilets. Let them wash their hands before meals as well as wash theirs before handling the meat. After touching the dirt, they should wash their hands before using drinking water. These disciplines should be established to become good habits conscientiously.

Things in environments are usually covered with germs and

eating habits to develop and they should have a right to live a long life healthily. From infants to the elderly, eating habits play an important role in their daily life. Chewing betel quid too much, smoking and drinking too much could cause serious damage to health. So, these bad habits must be avoided.

Parts of Myanmar National Health Sector include that everyone should live a long life span and lead a disease-free life; these parts are being carried out for the health of urban and rural people. Medical knowledge, precautionary measures against diseases, and effective treatment can help control any outbreaks. The Myanmar National Health Strategy focuses on continuous treatment and awareness-raising through educative talks. As the fruit and vegetables contains a lot of chemicals and pesticides, they must be washed off these chemicals

and pesticides. However, housewives should use salt to dissolve these chemicals and pesticides by washing with water to cook and other dishes.

Not washing properly may lead to food-poisoning. By knowing the characteristics of food-poisoning, housewives as well as the family members might be free from vomiting, stomach ache, dizziness and high fever.

(Translated by Arakan Sein)

Good healthy habits

People should have good

expand their economic activities. He learned to harness the forces of nature for his benefit as for example using irrigation to bring water to where it is needed and for cultivation of crops for human consumption. The accumulation and application of knowledge became an essential element of working and living.

Learning, evolved into what we now refer to as 'non-formal learning' at the workplace. It was a step higher than, 'informal learning' at home and in social dealings within the community. 'Non-formal learning' at the workplace assumed the form of 'Apprenticeship' whereby the learner, called the Apprentice, bound himself to the teacher, known traditionally as the Master to learn a 'trade' for making a living. It was the earliest form of work-based learning.

SEE PAGE-10

CIVILIZATION may said to have begun with homo-sapiens learning to use tools for their survival - to ward off danger to life and limb and to hunt for food. The central process was "learning". They had to "learn" how to protect themselves from predators of the jungle or the land that they inhabited. They had to "learn" how to get food and seek shelter for survival. The "intellect" that they were endowed with played a significant part in the learning process. Probably it was trial and error "learning" at first, which of course exacted it's toll. But eventually "learning" and the transmission of this "learning" to their off-springs did happen and homo-sapiens did survive and multiply.

Before the advent of "language" this transmission of "learning" was accomplished through guidance and observation of be-

haviour patterns of the "teacher" by the "learner" which in the early stage was between parents and

the bread winner and mother of his children. It was within the home and the work to be performed that learning took place.

As families and clans grew into settlements and commu-

their off springs. Whether in the designing of tools or the process of applying those tools, either for hunting and fishing as was the case in the beginning, to the use of tools and draft animals for agricul-

the bread winner and mother of his children. It was within the home and the work to be performed that learning took place.

Learning

By Lokethar

With the accelerating growth of technology there is fast approaching an era where practically, technology will provide 'solutions' to all human problems and endeavors even to the extent of replicating human intelligence.

Union Supreme Court sits to pass judgment and hear civil cases

Chief Justice of the Union U Htun Htun Oo, Supreme Court judges U Myint Aung and U Soe Naing of Special Appellate Bench sits at Union Supreme Court room number 1 yesterday morning and passed judgment on one (Certiorari) criminal case and four (Certiorari) civil cases. It also heard four other (Certiorari) civil cases. — MNA



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 26 August, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 27 August, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kachin and (Northern and Eastern) Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavyfalls in Kayin and Mon States and isolated heavyfalls Bago, Ayeeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40)m.p.h. Sea will be moderate to rough elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (9-12) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (6-9) feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of increase of rain in Bago Region, Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27 August, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27 August, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27 August, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

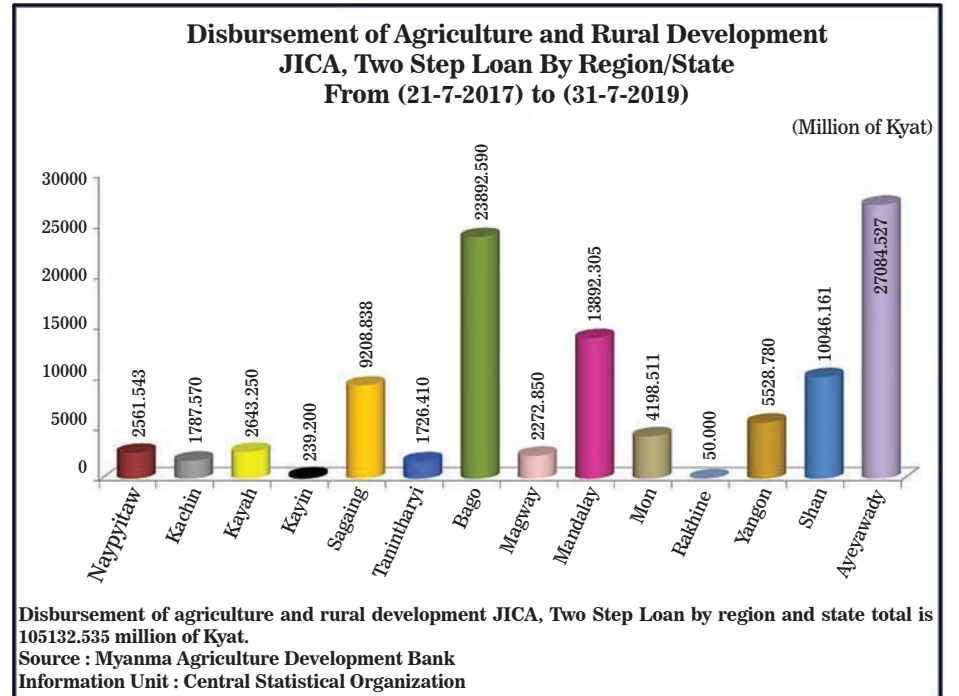
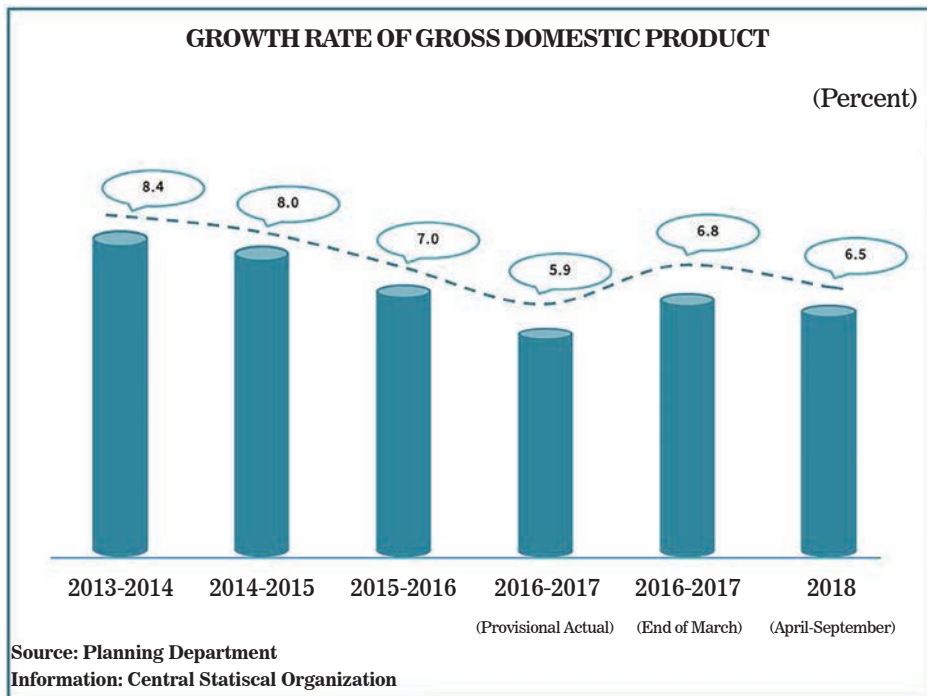
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Learning

FROM PAGE-9

Learning was eventually institutionalized with the evolution of schools of 'basic' learning followed by colleges and universities for 'higher' learning. The higher institutions of learning provided multiple 'fields' of learning and levels of qualifications depending on the length of the learning period.

Within the 'institutionalized learning,' there evolved, the branch of learning which is nowadays referred to as Tech-

nical and Vocational Education. Probably it was to "institutionalize" apprenticeship into a formal learning mode aimed at producing technicians and craftsmen, which within the "Apprentice System" did the same.

However it has not, up to the present time, entirely replaced "Apprenticeship" as a form of learning practical skills required for specific "Trades" or "Occupations".

The accumulation of learning through the ages, and the

application of learning to create and innovate to better improve life and living resulted in the emergence of "Technology". "Technology" can be viewed as an activity that forms or changes culture. Additionally, technology is the application of math, science, and the arts for the benefit of life as it is known". Research and Development has been the driving force of rapid technological advancement.

With the accelerating growth of technology there is fast approaching an era where

practically, technology will provide 'solutions' to all human problems and endeavors even to the extent of replicating human intelligence.

As of now technology is changing the landscape of production and services so rapidly that one can hardly keep up with the latest technology except at its place of practical application. This may soon take the practical (hands-on) aspects of 'learning' the application of technology out of the institutional environment to the application environment or workplace.

Institutions of higher learning will in future, focus more

and more on propagation of already discovered principles and concepts and evolve into "Research Centers" for furthering the threshold of existing knowledge and its application as well as the "discovery" of new knowledge.

With "work" being the essential economic activity to earn income to sustain life and living, and with the fast evolving technologies that impact on "work", learning would need to be a lifelong process. Those who fail to keep on learning to keep up with the advances in science and technology that impact on work and life, may risk facing "obsolescence".

Thai palace releases rare images of king's royal consort

BANGKOK (Thailand)—Thailand's palace has released rare images and a biography of the king's newly anointed royal consort, including both candid and action-packed photos of her aiming a weapon on a firing range, piloting a plane, and preparing to parachute.

King Maha Vajiralongkorn bestowed the rank of "Chao Khun Phra" or noble consort on the 34-year-old former army nurse Sineenat Wongvajirapakdi on his 67th birthday in July.

She is the first woman to receive the noble rank in nearly a century.

The publication of the more than 60 photos and a 46-page biography was dated last week, but did not start circulating online until Monday.

"The king has ordered

the creation of a royal biography for Chao Khun Phra Sineenat Bilaskalayani," a statement from the Royal Office said, using her full title.

The images and details provide an unusually intimate glimpse into the private lives of the powerful, ultra-wealthy and inscrutable monarchy, which is protected by a royal insult law that carries a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison per count.

They show Sineenat in camouflage fatigues, taking part in military drills, flying a small plane, and laughing at a table with the king, both wearing casual clothes.

In one of the photos she is shown in traditional Thai dress standing next to Vajiralongkorn and holding his hand.

Born in the northern province of Nan, she graduated from the Royal Thai Army Nursing College, trained as a pilot in Thailand and abroad, and served in the king's royal bodyguard unit, reaching the rank of major-general in May.

A cycling and aviation enthusiast who spends much of his time abroad in Germany, Vajiralongkorn was crowned in May in an elaborate three-day ceremony that Sineenat participated in.

The ceremony took place mere days after a stunning announcement that Vajiralongkorn had married Queen Suthida Vajiralongkorn na Ayudhya, a former flight attendant and deputy commander of the monarch's security detail.

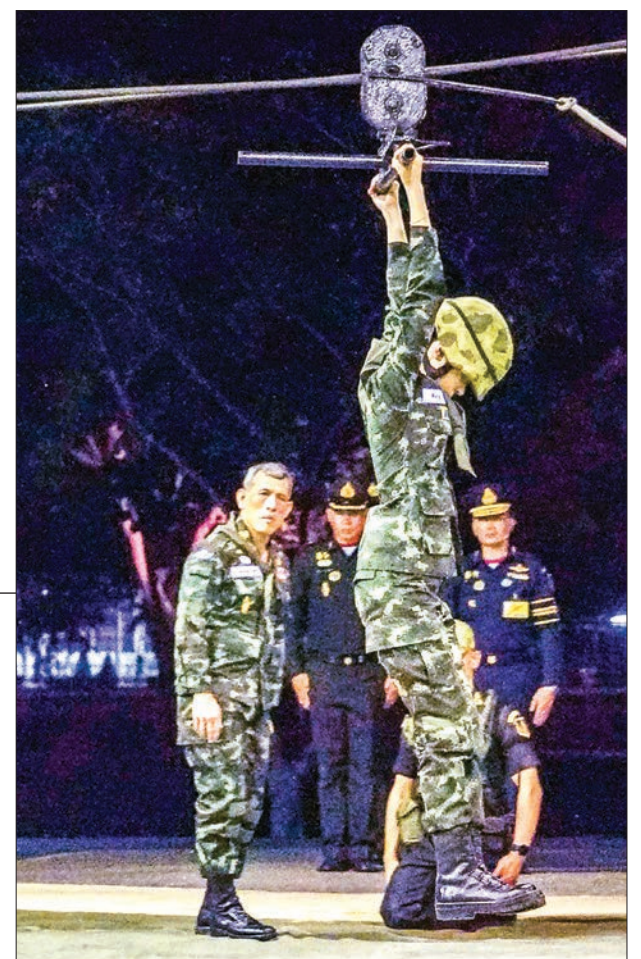
Suthida is the fourth wife of the monarch, who has a teenage son from his third marriage and six other children.

The king is not as well-known to the public as his beloved father Bhumibol Adulyadej, who died in 2016.

In the run-up to his coronation the billboards and government offices were peppered with large imposing portraits of Vajiralongkorn. — AFP

This undated handout from Thailand's Royal Office received on 26 August 2019 shows Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn (L) looking at royal noble consort Sineenat Bilaskalayani, also known as Sineenat Wongvajirapakdi.

PHOTO: AFP



Hong Kong protests turn violent, several policemen injured

HONG KONG — Protests turned violent in Tsuen Wan, in the western New Territories of Hong Kong, on Sunday as radical protesters hurled petrol bombs at police officers and brutally assaulted them.

Several police officers were injured after they were attacked by rioters while they were on duty in Tsuen Wan. Hong Kong's Commissioner of Police Lo Wai-chung visited the injured officers in Princess Margaret Hospital on Sunday night.

Lo expressed strong anger and condemnation against the reckless, violent and unlawful acts and said the police force will strive to investigate all violent acts that have caused serious, even life-threatening injuries to the police officers.

Sunday's marches took place in Tsuen Wan and neighboring areas. After the marches ended, violent protesters deviated from their routes to attack police officers.

Some radical protesters hurled bricks and petrol bombs at police officers outside Yeung Uk Road Market in Tsuen Wan. They also aimed strong light beams at the officers and setting up barriers

to confront the police.

Masked protesters, armed with poles and hats, escalated their violence in the afternoon and evening. They blocked various roads in Tsuen Wan, paralyzing traffic in the vicinity.

Having given repeated warnings to the protesters in vain, anti-riot officers fired tear gas and used minimum force to disperse them.

Some demonstrators also took down the national flag at the Kwai Chung Sports Ground, where the rally took place, and trampled on it, challenging the authority of the country and breaching the National Flag and National Emblem Ordinance, the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) said in a statement.

The illegal and violent acts are appalling and they are pushing Hong Kong to a very dangerous edge. The government strongly condemns the violence, it said.

At the site, the police repeatedly unfurled signs for the demonstrators to leave, but demonstrators ignored the warning of the police. A police commander at the scene ordered to deploy



Radical protesters attack police officers in Tsuen Wan, in the western New Territories of south China's Hong Kong, on 25 August 2019. Radical protesters block various roads, hurl bricks and stones at police officers in the protest. PHOTO: XINHUA

at least two specialized crowd management vehicles, commonly known as the "water cannon vehicles", to disperse the crowd.

At around 7:30 p.m., many masked demonstrators who had been dispersed gathered again in Yi Pei Square of Tsuen Wan, holding iron bars, wooden sticks and bricks. They smashed doors and windows of several shops

and broke some closed-circuit televisions. About half an hour later, several anti-riot police officers arrived at the scene where shops were vandalized, and were immediately surrounded and assaulted brutally by a large group of masked radicals holding long metal rods.

With only small shields for defense, the police officers tum-

bled backward along the Sha Tsui Road, with the violent protesters chasing after them. In face of the extremely dangerous situation, a police officer fired a warning shot into the sky. Superintendent Leung Kwok-wing of the New Territories South Regional Crime Headquarters said the police fired the shot as his life was in danger. — Xinhua ■

DR Congo unveils new government after months-long delay

KINSHASA (DR Congo) — Nearly eight months after former opposition chief Felix Tshisekedi was elected president, the Democratic Republic of Congo on Monday unveiled a coalition government dominated by supporters of his predecessor, Joseph Kabila.

"The government is finally here. The president has signed the decree and we will begin work soon," Prime Minister Sylvestre Ilunga told reporters.

In gestation for seven months, the new government will see most of the 66 portfolios handed to Kabila's Common Front for Congo (FCC), with Tshisekedi's Direction For Change alliance accounting for most of the rest.

Tshisekedi, 56, has vowed to enact sweeping reform and root out corruption but has been hampered by the need to share power with the legislature, which is dominated by FCC MPs.

Forging the coalition government took time as both sides had to "remove everything that could be an obstacle to the functioning of the government," Ilunga said.

The new team will get down to work as soon as its members

are approved by the National Assembly, he added. The parliament has been convened in special session until 7 September to approve the government.

"I believe this has been worth waiting for," Ilunga said.

"Here we have a government that manifests the vision of the head of state, in the direction of change. So change starts now. Let's get to work!"

Female foreign minister

Ilunga said 17 per cent of government positions were now occupied by women.

"This percentage is still low but it is balanced by the importance of the portfolios attributed to women," he argued.

The foreign ministry was handed to Marie Tumba Nzeza, a member of Tshisekedi's Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS).

She becomes only the second female foreign minister in the country's history. The first was Ekila Liyonda, who briefly served in the 1980s under former dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, who had renamed the country Zaire.

Women have also been



Tshisekedi has taken seven months to forge a government - he is having to share power with a legislature dominated by supporters of his predecessor, Joseph Kabila. PHOTO: AFP

named in charge of the employment ministry and ministry for gender affairs.

The new government also includes a female vice prime minister from Kabila's party, Elysee Munembe, who takes the planning portfolio, Ilunga said. There are five vice prime ministers in all.

The defence ministry went to Aime Ngoy Mukena, a close Kabila supporter and the finance portfolio to another Kabila-era veteran, Jose Sele Yalaghuli.

The interior ministry was

attributed to Gilbert Kankonde, a pro-Tshisekedi figure from UDPS ranks, who will face the thorny task of dealing with future protests. Ilunga declared that three-quarters of members were serving in government for the first time, which he regarded as the "most important innovation."

Tshisekedi emerged victorious in elections on 30 December that marked the DRC's first peaceful transition of power since the mineral-rich nation gained independence from Belgium in 1960. —AFP ■

Japan's Abe to reshuffle Cabinet, ruling party executives in September

BIARRITZ (France) — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Monday he will reshuffle his Cabinet and executives in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party next month.

Speaking at a press conference after a Group of Seven summit in the French resort town of Biarritz, Abe said he will decide on a "powerful lineup that can ensure political stability and takes on new challenges."

Abe's diplomatic schedule is tight in September as he is scheduled to attend an economic forum in Russia's Vladivostok, where he plans to also meet bilaterally with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

A session of the U.N. General Assembly is also set to convene next month in New York. Abe agreed with US President Donald Trump on Sunday to work toward signing a bilateral trade deal on the gathering's sidelines. —Kyodo News ■

G7 to finance fire-fighting aircraft for Amazon

BIARRITZ (France) —The G7 has agreed to spend 20 million euros (\$22 million) on the Amazon, mainly to send fire-fighting aircraft to tackle the huge blazes engulfing the world's biggest rainforest, the presidents of France and Chile announced Monday.

The G7 club — comprising Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States — has also agreed to support a medium-term reforestation plan which will be unveiled at the UN in September; France's Emmanuel Macron and Chile's Sebastian Pinera said at the G7 summit in southwest France.

Brazil would have to agree to any reforestation plan, as would

local communities.

The initiative was announced after G7 leaders meeting in the resort of Biarritz held talks on the environment, which focused on the fires destroying chunks of the Amazon.

Macron had made the issue one of the summit's priorities, and threatened to block a huge new trade deal between the EU and Latin America unless Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, a climate change sceptic, takes serious steps to protect the Amazon.

"We must respond to the call of the forest which is burning today in the Amazon," he said.

Nearly 80,000 forest fires have been detected in Brazil



Nearly 80,000 forest fires have been detected in Brazil since the beginning of the year, a little over half in the Amazon region. **PHOTO: AFP**

since the beginning of the year, a little over half in the Amazon region. Under pressure from the

international community to save a crucial area for maintaining a stable global climate, Bolsonaro

finally deployed on Sunday two C-130 Hercules aircraft to douse the fires. —AFP ■

Greta Thunberg's yacht due in New York on Tuesday



The teen refuses to fly because of the carbon emissions caused by planes. **PHOTO: AFP**

STOCKHOLM (Sweden) — Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg said she expects to arrive in New York on Tuesday, completing her zero-carbon Atlantic crossing on a yacht.

The Malizia II racing yacht — skippered by Pierre Casiraghi, the son of Monaco's Princess Caroline, and German round-the-world sailor Boris Herrmann — left Plymouth in southern England on August 14 for a two-week voyage in order to enable the Swedish teen to attend a UN summit on zero emissions in September in New York.

The 16-year-old, whose school strikes have inspired children across the world to protest against global warming, refuses to fly because of the carbon emissions caused by planes.

On Monday, the sailboat was nearing the US coast with strong downwinds. "Strong winds are pushing us west. We expect to

arrive at North Cove Marina in Manhattan, New York sometime Tuesday afternoon or evening," Thunberg wrote on Twitter.

In a video post published late Sunday, she said the boat was travelling at "between 20 and 25 knots" and it was "very rough, and very high waves." The teen marked the first anniversary of the start of her school strike on 20 August. She began sitting outside the Swedish parliament in August 2018 to raise the awareness of members of parliament to the urgency of climate change. She was swiftly joined by other students around the world, as word of her strike spread through the media, and the "Fridays for future" movement was born.

The 18-metre yacht features state-of-the-art solar panels on its deck and sides while there are two hydro-generators which together provide all the electricity needed on board.—AFP ■

Canary Islands fire finally under control

MADRID (Spain) — A wildfire that raged through the Spanish holiday island of Gran Canaria for more than a week has finally been brought under control, emergency services said on Monday.

In a tweet, they said the blaze had been "declared controlled" by the regional government.

"Ground crew will continue to work in the area until its extinction."

The fire, which began on 17 August, had threatened several natural parks rich in biodiversity in this island off the northwestern coast of Africa. Thousands of residents were evacuated. They have

since been allowed back home.

With its arid hot summers, Spain — the world's second tourism destination — is frequently plagued by huge forest fires.

Experts say these threaten to become more violent and frequent due to climate change. —AFP ■

Asiatic black bear cubs rescued in remote Laos

BANGKOK (Thailand) —Five Asiatic black bear cubs were rescued from a remote stretch of northern Laos and are being nursed back to health at a sanctuary, NGO Free the Bears said Monday, calling the one-day rescue the largest in its 24-year history.

Across Asia thousands of the animals, classified as vulnerable on the IUCN Red List of endangered species, are kept in cages as pets and used to extract bile from their gall bladders for traditional medicine.

Working with Laos police, the team swept in on three different locations in LuangNamtha province near the Chinese border last week. The cubs were weak and malnourished after being fed on mainly rice porridge but are now "doing well", NGO spokesman Rod Mabin told AFP.

"For the first day or so they were a bit picky as they adjusted to the milk but now they are fully adjusted."

He added that they would be in quarantine for a month at a sanctuary near the tourist town

of LuangPrabang before being introduced to a nursery enclosure.

The cubs were found in a bamboo paper factory, a cassava plantation, and a private household. All owners claimed to have purchased them from villagers, but in Laos it is now illegal to keep the bears, trade their parts or extract bile.

Wildlife authorities in Laos and Vietnam have cracked down

on the painful and invasive practice but bear bile farming still persists. Many of the creatures, also known as moon bears, are starved, dehydrated, wounded and psychologically scarred when they are rescued. The Asiatic black bear population is also threatened by habitat loss. The NGO has rescued 11 bears so far this year and are on track to beat their total of 13 in 2018.—AFP ■



The rescued cubs were weak and malnourished after being fed on mainly rice porridge but are now in recovery. **PHOTO: AFP**

Kenya ships first-ever export of crude oil

NAIROBI (Kenya) — Kenya exported its first-ever batch of crude oil Monday, with President Uhuru Kenyatta declaring the shipment of 200,000 barrels a “special moment” in the country’s history.

The president unfurled the Kenyan flag aboard a tanker at the Indian Ocean port of Mombasa that will be carrying the oil to Asia.

“There are special moments that mark a turning point in the destiny of our nation,” Kenyatta said at the ceremony.

“The first export of crude oil by our nation, therefore, marks a special moment in our history as a people and as a country.”

The maiden shipment was purchased for USD\$12 million (10.8 million euros) by Chinese trading company Chem China for export to Malaysia. Kenyatta said the first attempts at finding oil in Kenya date back to 1937 but it was not until 2012 that a commercially-viable deposit was located.

This field was discovered in the South Lokichar

Basin in Turkana, in Kenya’s far north, by British firm Tullow and its joint venture partners.

The company estimates the field holds 560 million barrels of oil.

In early June 2018, the company began shipping crude from Turkana to Mombasa by road. It will eventually be shipped via a pipeline under construction.

Kenyatta said it “showed the global market that Kenya possesses the know-how and the infrastructure required to



An oil tanker carrying 200,000 barrels of crude oil worth Ksh 1.2 billion is berthed at Kipevu Oil Terminal in Kenya’s port city of Mombasa on 26 August 2019. PHOTO: AFP

facilitate full-fledged development”.

“This first oil pilot scheme has also brought

with it prosperity for the people of Turkana but also the wider republic with very many local commu-

nities directly benefiting from employment opportunities in production and logistics,” he said. —AFP ■

German business confidence at lowest level since 2012: Ifo

BERLIN (Germany) — Amid growing concerns about a looming recession, confidence among German business leaders fell in August to its lowest level since late 2012, a widely-watched survey showed Monday.

Having already dropped sharply in July, the Munich-based Ifo institute’s monthly barometer declined further to 94.3 points, its lowest level since November 2012, from the revised figure of 95.8 in July.

The latest figures, based on a survey of 9,000 German companies, reflect a bleak outlook among business executives in Europe’s biggest economy,

said Ifo president Clemens Fuest. “The wrinkles of concern among German corporate leaders are getting deeper and deeper — the signs of a recession in Germany are intensifying,” he added in a statement.

“The companies again assessed their current situation significantly more negatively. Pessimism also increased with a view to the coming months.”

The mood is low in the German business sector due to a slowdown in orders, prompted by the year-long trade war between the USA and China and concerns about what shape Britain’s exit from the European Union will take on 31 October. —AFP

ပြည်ထောင်စုသမ္မတမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရ
ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းဒေသကြီးအစိုးရအဖွဲ့
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ

စိတ်ပါဝင်စားမှုဖော်ပြခြင်း အဆိုပြုလွှာဖိတ်ခေါ်ခြင်း

၁။ Master Plan အရ ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်တွင် ဇန်နဝါရီလ ၂၀၁၉ ခုနှစ် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေး စီမံကိန်းဆိုင်ရာ လုပ်ငန်းများအတွက် Public-Private Partnership (PPP) ဖြင့် အကောင်အထည်ဖော်ဆောင်ရွက်ရန် စိတ်ပါဝင်စားသည့် ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပ သို့မဟုတ် ဖက်စပ်ကုမ္ပဏီများအား စိတ်ဝင်စားမှုဖော်ပြခြင်း အဆိုပြုလွှာများ တင်သွင်းနိုင်ရန် ဖိတ်ခေါ်အပ်ပါသည်။

၂။ စိတ်ပါဝင်စားသည့် ကုမ္ပဏီများအနေဖြင့် EOI တင်သွင်းရန် လျှောက်လွှာ ပုံစံများအား ၂၀၁၉ ခုနှစ် ဩဂုတ်လ ၂၈ ရက် နေ့မှစ၍ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါလိပ်စာတွင် ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

ရေရရှိရေးနှင့် ရေပေးဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်း တာဝန်ခံအဖွဲ့ရုံး
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ
၁၂ ထပ်ရုံးသစ်
အမှတ် (၃၉၀) ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ။

၃။ အိတ်ပိတ်ထားသည့် အဆိုပြုလွှာများအား ဖော်ပြပါလိပ်စာသို့ ၂၀၁၉ ခုနှစ် အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၈ ရက်နေ့ ၁၅:၀၀ နာရီမတိုင်မီ လူကိုယ်တိုင်လာရောက် ပေးပို့ရမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး သတ်မှတ်နေ့ရက်နှင့် အချိန်ထက် နောက်ကျပေးပို့လာသော အဆိုပြုလွှာများအား ထည့်သွင်းစဉ်းစားမည် မဟုတ်ပါ။

၄။ တင်ဒါကော်မတီသည် အဆိုပြုပေးပို့လာသည့် စိတ်ဝင်စားမှု ဖော်ပြချက် အဆိုပြုလွှာ များအား အကဲဖြတ်ပြီး ပဏာမ အရည်အသွေးပြည့်မီသည့် ကုမ္ပဏီများအား လုပ်ငန်းတင်ဒါ အဆိုပြုလွှာများ ဖိတ်ခေါ်သွားမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

၅။ အသေးစိတ်သိရှိလိုပါက ဖုန်းနံပါတ် +၉၅၉-၈၆၂၇-၉၉၂ သို့ ဆက်သွယ် မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

တင်ဒါကော်မတီ
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Yangon Region Government
Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC)

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)

1. Applications/ Proposals for Expression of Interest (EOI) are invited from interested companies (local, international or joint venture) to carry out the works for the Project for the development of Zoning Water Distribution System (the Project) in Yangon City according to the master plan under Public-Private Partnership (PPP).
2. A complete set of the EOI documents may be purchased by the interested companies from the date of 28th August, 2019 at the address below during office hours:
Water Resources and Water Supply Authority Office
Yangon City Development Committee
12-Storeyed New Office Building
No. 390, Merchant Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
3. Applications for EOI shall be delivered in sealed envelopes to the above address not later than 15:00 hours(local time) on 28th October, 2019 by hand. The EOI documents submitted later than the designated time and date will not be considered.
4. After the evaluation of EOIs, the Tender Committee will invite Proposal Bids from the Applicants that have been prequalified.
5. For further information, please contact Phone: +959-8627-992.

Tender Committee
Yangon City Development Committee

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE
M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0178-508W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0178-508W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-8-2019 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

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE
M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (933S/925N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (933S/925N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 CETUS STAR

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CETUS STAR VOY. NO. (219044) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T-3 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 WILHELMSES SHIPS SERVICES PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

Signs of hope as Trump says US-China trade talks back on

BIARRITZ (France) —There were signs of a thaw in trade-war tensions between China and the US on Monday as President Donald Trump said delegations would “very shortly” resume talks and Beijing’s top negotiator called for “calm”.

The two sides have been embroiled in a bruising year-long dispute that has seen tariffs slapped on billions of dollars worth of goods in two-way trade, with the row escalating over the weekend.

But just three days after the announcement of further mutual tariff hikes, Trump told reporters at the G7 summit in France’s Biarritz that there had been two “very, very good” phone calls from “high-level” Chinese officials.

“China called last night... said let’s get back to the table. So we’ll be getting back to the table,” he said on Monday, adding that “they want to make a deal”.

He later said talks with China were “more meaningful than at any time” because the United States was doing well while China was “losing millions of jobs”.

Trump’s comments followed moves by China’s most powerful trade negotiator, Vice Premier Liu He, to take the edge off the soaring tensions.

“We are willing to solve the problem through consultation and cooperation with a calm attitude,” said Liu, according to a report by Chinese news outlet Caixin.

“We firmly oppose the escalation of the trade war,” he said,

speaking at the opening ceremony of the 2019 Smart China Expo in the southwestern city of Chongqing.

Trump later said “calm” was “very good word to use. It’s not a word I use often.”

The US president also insisted the calls were at “the highest levels”. “The vice premier is low level? I don’t think so,” he said, seemingly referring to Liu.

US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin travelled to Shanghai in July for a round of trade talks, where discussions were described as “constructive” but ended with no announcements. Monday’s detente came after Trump increased tariffs on more than half-a-trillion dollars worth of



Monday’s detente come after Trump hiked tariffs on more than half-a-trillion dollars worth of imports in a fresh round of punitive measures that are roiling global markets. **PHOTO:AFP**

imports in a new round of punitive measures that are roiling global markets.

The US announcement on Friday followed an earlier surprise notification from Beijing

that it would introduce fresh tariffs on US goods worth \$75 billion. Some of these measures are due to take effect on 1 September, with the rest to follow over the coming months.—AFP ■



Sudan’s Christians suffered decades of persecution under the regime of Islamist general Omar al-Bashir. **PHOTO:AFP**

Sudan’s persecuted Christians eye long-sought freedom

KHARTOUM (Sudan) — Sudan’s Christians suffered decades of persecution under the regime of Islamist general Omar al-Bashir. Now they hope his downfall will give the religious freedom they have long prayed for.

Deep within the maze of dusty alleys that honeycomb Omdurman, Khartoum’s sprawling twin city, YousefZamgila’s church is not visible from the street.

It is hidden in the courtyard of a friend’s home and consists of a few iron benches, a pulpit and crosses hastily painted on pillars holding a corrugated roof.

“The previous centre got destroyed because we didn’t have the right papers. They always refused... So we use the land of our neighbours,” says the Lutheran reverend. Denying the Christian minority permits to build churches has been the main tool of oppression over the years.

Another was the all-Islamic

culture imposed by the state in schools and in the workplace, despite the former constitution’s provisions on religious freedom.

“Our youths and children cannot learn about Christianity because their entire environment is made only for Muslims,” says Jacob Paulus, a 28-year-old teacher in Omdurman.

Government figures say Christians represent only three percent of Sudan’s 40-million inhabitants, although Christian leaders say the real figure is much higher.

Copts, Catholics, Anglicans and a number of other confessions are present in the country, yet Bashir’s Islamist regime drove many of them underground. Some of the foreign charities assisting Sudan’s Christians were driven out, a movement that intensified after the country’s Christian-majority south seceded in 2011.—AFP ■

Anti-G7 activists march with ‘stolen’ Macron portraits

BAYONNE (France) — Several hundred anti-G7 protesters staged an unusual protest in southwestern France on Sunday, holding “stolen” portraits of French President Emmanuel Macron which were held upside down in a pointed critique on his policies.

Demonstrators at the so-called “portrait march” were carrying official portraits of the 41-year-old French leader which had been taken down from town halls across the country over the last few months.

The climate and social justice march was organised by environmental activist group ANV COP 21, as well as two Basque groups Alternatiba et Bizi all of whom were marching under a

slogan which pledged to “take down Macron”.

“One, two, three degrees, it’s a crime against humanity!” they chanted as they marched through the narrow streets of Bayonne near the southwestern French resort of Biarritz where world leaders are gathering for the G7 summit. “We are holding him upside down to show the lack of sense in his policies,” explained a Bizi activist called Mathieu.

Others also carried what appeared to be portraits wrapped up in bags or newspaper on which was written in French, English, Spanish and Basque: “Climate, social justice: where is Macron?”

“Taking down a portrait is civil disobedience, it’s considered as theft” in some parts of France,

said another demonstrator called Abram. When the summit opened on Saturday, more than 9,000 protesters joined a peaceful anti-G7 march across a bridge linking France and Spain, police said, with organisers giving a figure of 15,000 marchers.

But later in the day, things heated up with police using tear gas and water cannon to break up protests in Bayonne, where hundreds chanted anti-capitalist slogans were blocked from reaching the city centre.

By Saturday evening, 68 people had been arrested, 38 of whom were taken into custody, officials said. A judicial source later said around 30 were still being held in custody on Sunday evening.—AFP ■



Demonstrators at the so-called “portrait march” were carrying official portraits of the 41-year-old French leader. **PHOTO:AFP**

Indonesia picks Borneo island for new capital

JAKARTA (Indonesia) — Indonesia will move its capital to the eastern edge of jungle-clad Borneo island, President Joko Widodo said Monday, as the country shifts its political heart away from congested and sinking megalopolis Jakarta.

The proposed location — near the regional cities of Balikpapan and Samarinda — is an area at “minimal” risk of natural disasters, where the government already owns some 180,000 hectares (445,000 acres) of land, he added.

“The location is very strategic — it’s in the centre of Indonesia and close to urban areas,” Widodo said in a televised speech.

“The burden Jakarta is holding right now is too heavy as the centre of governance, business, finance, trade and services,” he added. The announcement ends months of speculation about whether Widodo would follow through on the long-mooted plan — it was floated by the newly independent country’s founding



This aerial picture taken on 31 July 2019 by news outlet TribunKaltim shows a view of the area around Samboja, KutaiKartanegara. PHOTO: AFP

father Sukarno more than half a century ago. Shifting from problem-plagued Jakarta would also transfer Indonesia’s power base off Java island, where about half of the sprawling archipelago’s 260 million people live.

“Moving the capital off Java

is a gesture that aims to solidify unity,” said Jakarta-based political risk analyst Kevin O’Rourke.

“Jakarta will continue to be a megacity — as a centre for finance and commerce — for a few more decades, but ultimately it is at severe risk to climate change,”

he added. A bill for the proposed move will now be presented to parliament, Widodo said. Building is set to begin next year with the move of some 1.5 million civil servants slated to begin by 2024, at a cost of 466 trillion rupiah (\$33 billion), officials said.—AFP ■

India lockdown a major blow for Kashmir tourism

SRINAGAR (India) — On Srinagar’s Dal Lake, intricately decorated houseboats usually packed with tourists lie empty as Kashmir’s tourism sector reels from a three-weeks-long lockdown imposed as India revoked the picturesque region’s autonomy.

With its breathtaking scenery, snow-capped mountains and placid lakes, temperate Kashmir is a popular destination for hordes of domestic and international tourists during the scorching summer season in the rest of India.

But authorities in early Au-

gust called for visitors to leave “immediately” over “terror threats”, sparking a mass exodus just days before New Delhi’s controversial decision to bring the violence-hit region under its direct rule.

“They went to every houseboat, hotel and street to force every single tourist out of Kashmir,” Shikara owner Yaqoob told AFP. “Even now they go around hotels to check if anyone is left.”

Streets buzzing with locals and tourists are now mostly deserted. In their place are coils of barbed wire, security checkpoints

and tens of thousands of extra troops New Delhi sent to the Himalayan region to reinforce the half a million already there.

Authorities cut off all communications — including the internet and phone lines — making contact with the outside world very difficult.

“This is not what we expected,” said a Taiwanese couple, the only tourists AFP found in Srinagar, adding they had planned their trip a year ago.

“Nowadays not many people can live daily life without having all this modern technology, with-

out the internet... That’s kind of really hard for people, especially tourists. “We are scared of the entire situation.”

‘Switzerland of the East’

Kashmir, split at the end of British colonial rule in 1947 between India and Pakistan, was a popular international getaway until an armed insurgency against Indian rule erupted in 1989.

The conflict, which has claimed tens of thousands of mostly civilian lives, has challenged efforts to promote tourism in the so-called “Switzerland of the East”.

Tourist arrivals have ebbed and flowed over the years in line with the scale of the insurgency.

In Kashmir, the number of holidaymakers dropped from more than 1.3 million in 2012 to 850,000 in 2018, according to government figures.

But more than half-a-million people visited the valley in the first seven months of this year, with more than 150,000 vacationers arriving last month alone, according to official data.

In addition, some 340,000 religious tourists were visiting the valley in July before their Hindu pilgrimage was called off due to the terror claims.—AFP ■



A man fishes on Dal Lake in Srinagar. Usually a thriving tourist destination, the region has been hard hit by the latest political crisis. PHOTO: AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Indian gov’t compulsorily retires 22 tax officers over corruption

NEW DELHI — The Indian government’s Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) has compulsorily retired 22 tax officers over corruption and other charges, the All India Radio reported on Monday.

The decision is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Independence Day speech recently where he had said that some “black sheep” in the tax administration might have misused their powers and harassed taxpayers. — Xinhua ■

Chinese FM talks with French president’s diplomatic counselor over Iran

BEIJING — China and France should continue the coordination between the two countries on the Iran nuclear issue, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said over a phone conversation on Monday with Emmanuel Bonne, diplomatic counselor to French President Emmanuel Macron. — Xinhua ■

Japanese septic-tank maker to launch potable water business in India

NEW DELHI — Japanese septic-tank maker Daiki Axis Co. will launch a potable water business in India alongside a local firm, cultivating a drinking-water market in a country with one of the poorest water conditions.

Daiki will form a joint venture, Daiki Earth Water Private Ltd., in September with capital of 4 million rupees (\$55,770). It will be owned 74 per cent by Daiki’s Singapore arm and 26 per cent by Earth Water Ltd., according to a statement released by the Japanese company on Friday. — Kyodo News ■

Dragon Boat Racing Championship: Myanmar places 5th out of 30 nations

MYANMAR secured the fifth place at the 14th World Dragon Boat Racing Championship, which was held in Pattaya, Thailand, from 21 to 25 August.

Team Myanmar won four gold medals, four silver medals, and five bronze medals in 15 competitions at the tourney.

Myanmar secured the gold medals in the U-24 Premier Open women's 500-meter race, U-24 women's 200-meter race, men and women 2,000-meter small boat race, and U-24 men's 2,000-meter race.

Around 4,000 athletes from 30 countries, including Germany, Ukraine, Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, Great Britain, Italy, France, Japan, Sweden, the Philippines, India, Iran, the United States, China (Taipei), Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Singapore, Indonesia, and host Thailand, took part in the 14th IDPF World Dragon Boat Racing Championship.

"I led the Myanmar athletes



Myanmar athletes pose for a group photo at the Yangon International Airport on 26 August as they returned from 14th World Dragon Boat Racing Championship held in Thailand. **PHOTO: ARKAR SOE**

in the championship. A total of 4,000 athletes from 30 countries took part in the championship. We were a team of only 40 athletes, and we first intended to compete in 18 competitions.

However, we only took part in 15 competitions as we didn't have

enough athletes for 18 competitions. We are satisfied as we got 13 medals from the 15 competitions we took part in. As it was a world-level championship, we are very proud of the federation as well as the country," said U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing, the vice president

of the Myanmar Rowing and Canoeing Federation. The athletes were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by U Soe Aung, the Principal of Yangon's Institute of Sports and Physical Education, Yangon's Sports and Physical Education Department

Director U Aung Moe and officials, patrons, vice presidents and executives of the Myanmar Rowing and Canoeing Federation, students from Yangon's Institute of Sports and Physical Education, and relatives and parents of the athletes. — Arkar Soe

Myanmar men's national football team heads to China to play friendly match

THE Myanmar men's national football team left for China yesterday to play a friendly match against the Chinese national team on 30 August, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The team will play the friendly match as part of preparations for the 2022 FIFA World Cup qualification.

Miodrag Radulovic, the head coach of the team, selected 23 final players for the team, before they left for Chi-

na.

The final list of selected players includes goalkeepers Kyaw Zin Htet, Kyaw Zin Phyto, and Pyae Hlan Aung, and defenders Zaw Min Tun, Soe Moe Kyaw, Zaw Lin, Pyae Phyto Zaw, David Htan, KyawZinLwin, Nanda Kyaw, and Thein Than Win.

The midfielders chosen on the team are Yang Aung Kyaw, Lwin Moe Aung, Hlaing Bo Bo, Mg Mg Lwin, Kyi Lin, Si Thu Aung, Suan Lam Mang,

and Kaung Si Thu, while forwards are Kyaw Ko Ko, Aung Thu, Win Naing Soe, and Than Paing.

The team will head to Mongolia from China, and play against Mongolia on 5 September in Group F matches for the World Cup qualification.

Myanmar will also play Group F matches against Kyrgyzstan on 10 October and Japan on 26 March, 2020 for the World Cup qualification. — KyawKhin

Real Madrid confirm James calf injury

MADRID (Spain) — James Rodriguez sustained a calf injury while playing against Real Valladolid on Saturday, Real Madrid have confirmed.

James was included in the starting line-up for Madrid's 1-1 draw at the Santiago Bernabeu, despite missing all their pre-season matches as he was expected to leave the club. The Colombian played well but was substituted early in the second half by Zinedine Zidane, who said after the

game James had been feeling some discomfort.

A Real Madrid statement on Monday read: "After the tests carried out today on our player James Rodriguez by the Real Madrid Medical Services he has been diagnosed with a muscle injury in the right calf. His recovery will continue to be assessed." Madrid offered no timeframe for James' return but he is expected to miss their trip to Villarreal in La Liga on Sunday.—AFP ■



Liverpool's Egyptian midfielder Mohamed Salah (C) shoots to score his second goal, Liverpool's third during the English Premier League football match between Liverpool and Arsenal at Anfield in Liverpool, north west England on 24 August 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

Klopp hails 'absolutely amazing' Salah

PARIS (France) — Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp called a Mohamed Salah goal against Arsenal at the weekend "absolutely amazing" as the Egyptian once again stole the show among Africans in the major European leagues.

The reigning African Footballer of the Year fired into the corner of the net after a run from close to the halfway line as the Reds triumphed 3-1 to top the Premier League table.

Salah has recovered impressively with Liverpool after being part of the Egyptian team stunned by South Africa in Cairo at the last-16 stage of the Africa Cup of Na-

tions during July.

MOHAMED SALAH (Liverpool)

The Egypt forward produced a masterpiece in a 3-1 win over Arsenal as he scored an early contender for goal of the season.

With Liverpool two goals up after Cameroon defender Joel Matip's header and Salah's penalty, the star man took possession just inside the Arsenal half and weaved his magic.

Accelerating away from David Luiz and Nacho Monreal, Salah burst into the penalty area and fired home to ensure leaders Liverpool extended their 100 per cent start to the season. —AFP ■