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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for a photo together with Mr. Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Pahlawan Colonel (R) Dato Paduka Haji Abdu'r Rahmani bin Dato Paduka Haji Basir, Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam, and spouse in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi hosts farewell lunch for Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam and spouse

DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, hosted a farewell lunch for Mr Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Pahlawan Colonel (R) Dato Paduka Haji Abdu'r Rahmani bin Dato Paduka Haji Basir, Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to Myanmar and Dean of the

Diplomatic Corp who is leaving Myanmar after completion of his tour of duty in Myanmar and spouse at 12:00 pm on 11 September 2019 at her residence in Nay Pyi Taw.

Also present at the lunch were Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and spouse.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw debates pesticide reduction, safeguarding ecosystem

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs is negotiating between the governments of Myanmar and Thailand for foreign travellers to pass through Mese Gate BP-13 for 7-day trips but local residents of Mae Hong Son province are currently allowed 3-day trips up to Loikaw after receiving approval from the Union Government through the Kayah State Government.

This was part of Union Minister U Thein Swe's reply to a question raised by MP U Pe Du of Prusho constituency during the 19th-day meeting of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 13th Regular Session yesterday.

The MP's question focused on whether foreign travellers going through Mese Gate BP-13 to Loikaw will be allowed 3-day and 7-day trips. The Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population also said both countries are still negotiating to officially open the border gate. He said his ministry will allow the 7-day trips if an agreement is reached between both governments and the Union Government approves.

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Sufficient irrigation & floodgate advantages

Next, MP U Tun Tun of Pwintbyu constituency raised a question on whether there were alternative plans to distribute irrigation in Pwintbyu Township should Mone Hydropower Station or Kyee Ohn Kyee Wa Hydropower Station receive inadequate water or suffer mechanical failures.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw replied that in the event the hydropower stations stop working or the Mone Creek reservoir and Kyee Ohn Kyee Wa reservoir are hit with a drought, they will release irrigation water through the canals built in the reservoirs.

Next, MP U Nyunt Aung of Monywa constituency raised a question on whether there were plans to safeguard the farmlands and natural resources deteriorating from the lack of high water levels from the Chindwin River after blocking Paukpin Village Creek south of Monywa.

U Hla Kyaw replied that there is no damage to local natural resources since floodgates have been installed on Pauk Pin



Union Minister U Thein Swe. PHOTO: MNA

Creek and allows floodwater to be diverted away from human settlements, used for irrigation, and allow fish and prawns easy access.

Following this, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the assembly has received the Rural Region Development Bill returned by the Amyotha Hluttaw with amendments and called for MPs interested in submitting amendment proposals to register their names.

Motion urging safer agricultural practices

The assembly then debated the motion tabled by MP U Myint Thein of Wetlet constituency,



MP U Pe Du. PHOTO: MNA

urging the Union Government to provide training for systematic use of fertilizers and pesticides to ensure agricultural products are safe for consumption and to prevent damage to the ecosystem and to closely monitor the import and distribution of highly potent chemicals.

U Sai Okkar of Laikha constituency said a developing country like Myanmar depends on its agricultural sector and is critically important to learn how to use pesticides systematically. He said climate change is causing a reduction in crop production with the rain acting out of pattern.

He said the excessive use of chemicals is a result of in-



MP U Tun Tun. PHOTO: MNA

adequate infrastructure in the agricultural sector; weak fiscal policies, market deficiencies, lack of widespread usage of modern agricultural systems and an efficient working environment, and no coordination among the cultivators.

U Sai Okkar said there are laws and bylaws necessary to the development of Myanmar's agricultural sector that have yet to be drafted, and also advised having educational programmes in ethnic languages.

Call for top-down assessment of agri-sector

Next, MP U Sein Win of Maubin constituency supported

the motion, remarking the mover's good intentions of systematic usage of pesticide and pushing for greater awareness of the technology. He said cultivators need to be able to assess when their crops need to be sprayed with pesticides and whether all or a portion of them. He suggested the Union Government to organize for natural fertilizers to be sold in all townships.

Following this, MP U Tin Ko Ko Oo (a) U A Tut of Bilin constituency said that rather than the Hluttaw debating the motion, the time is right for the Union Government to carefully assess the entire agricultural sector.

He said simply providing awareness training is not enough as the situation requires a solution to be implemented, otherwise the people will continue to suffer from the negative consequences of fertilizers and pesticides. He said all relevant ministries should focus more on the resulting situation than what processes they have implemented before other sectors are affected by the non-communicable diseases caused by the circumstances outlined in the motion.

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Amyotha Hluttaw approves 5th amendment bill on election laws

SENIOR government officials answered the asterisk questions during the 19th day meeting of second Amyotha Hluttaw's 13th regular session which also approved the 5th amendment bill on Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law, Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law and Region/State Election Hluttaw.

U Bwe Khane, MP from Chin State constituency 3 asked for the government's support to construct a mini hydropower plant near Thabaung creek in Surngin village-tract of Thantlang Township of Hakha District. Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr Tun Naing replied the ministry has not allocated a budget for this proposed project in 2019-2020 fiscal year as it has other prioritized plans.

U Myint Naing, MP from Rakhine State constituency 5, asked for the timely employment of high school teachers at the sub-high schools in 12 villages of Kyauktaw Township in Rakhine State. Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun replied that these sub-schools have started to run high school classes this academic year, except the one from last year. The junior assistant teachers and the



MP U Bwe Khane. PHOTO: MNA

outsourced teachers are teaching there. The Department of Basic Education will fill the requirements for the positions depending on the allocated organizational structure and budget. The Rakhine State Education Office will also work with the state government to employ the teachers at these schools.

U Hla Oo, MP of Sagaing State constituency 4, asked for upgrading Mingaung-Ngamyang-taung road into a tarred road in ChaungU Townhsip in Monywa District. Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Linn confirmed upgrading of the road has been



Deputy Minister Dr Tun Naing. PHOTO: MNA

planned for 2020-2021 fiscal year, and the implementation will be possible depending on the receiving fund.

U Ye Myint Soe, MP of Yangon Region constituency 7, asked for construction of a creek bridge in Thongwa Township in 2019-2020 fiscal year. The deputy minister also replied that the fund for construction of this bridge has been requested from the Yangon Region government for 2020-2021 fiscal year, and that construction of this bridge is possible depending on the receiving fund.

Daw Htu May, MP from Rakhine State constituency 11, asked



MP U Myint Naing. PHOTO: MNA

about the master plan for electrification in Rakhine State. Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr Tun Naing answered it. U Kyaw Thaung, MP from Sagaing State constituency 1, asked the time for completion of school building at the Basic Education Middle School in Myinsel village in Sagaing Township. Dr Win Myint, MP from Bago Region constituency 11, asked about the shift of examination center to Ohethalgone Town in Okpo Township, for the matriculation students from the Basic Education High School in Yegyaw village in Letpan Yegyaw village-tract in Minhla Township.

The two questions were answered by Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun. MP Saw Hsla Phaung Owa from Kayin State constituency 12 asked for construction of four bridges on Kawkareik-Asun-Kyeik-Kyeikdon motorway in 2019-2020 fiscal year. U Khin Zaw Oo, MP from Mon State constituency 3, asked for lateral expansion up to 18 ft on some sections of 39-mile 7-furlong and 90 ft long road between Taranar-Phayagone Road in Kyaukmaraw Township. The Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Linn answered it.

U Thein Lwin, the member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, explained the report of bill committee on the fifth amendment bill on Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law. Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than sought the approval of Hluttaw for the bill.

U Min Swe, the member of Union Election Commission, filed a motion for approval of the bill in the amended version. U Maung Maung Latt, MP from Sagaing Region constituency 9 approved it.

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VP U Henry Van Thio encourages sustainable development of Myanmar sugar industry

WITH the aim of promoting harmonization of sugarcane production and its market, the Myanmar Sugar Forum 2019 was opened at Horizon Lake View Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivered an opening speech at this forum.

In his address, the Vice President said that the Myanmar government has adopted the 12 point economic policy on 29th July 2016, aiming for multi-sector development, food efficiency and promotion of exports through harmonized development in agriculture, livestock and industrial sector. It also adopted an economic model that called for maintaining equilibrium between the agriculture and industrial sectors.

Sugarcane is grown as a commercial and industrial crop in developing and developed countries. Although some other crops such as carrots and cassava can be used in sugar production, sugarcane is the major crop for Myanmar in production of sugar for both domestic consumption and export.

The Myanmar sugar industry is an agro-based industry for domestic consumption, production of sugar-based foodstuff and export commodities. Moreover sugarcane is a multi-purpose raw crop that also produces other byproducts such as molasses and bagasse. It can also be used in production of alcohol,



Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivers the opening address at the Myanmar Sugar Forum 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



bio fuel, natural fertilizer, paper, card board, household items and some construction materials. Therefore, these products can help the economic development of the country.

There has been an increase in consumption of sugar-based foodstuff such as soft drinks, coffee mix, tea mix, cakes, jams and dairy products with the increasing economic development of the country. As a consequence, the number of industries in sugar-based foodstuffs has gradually risen, with development in terms of product categories and quality.

Food production in rural areas has developed from a manageable scale to a commercial role thanks to electricity supply and better transportation. Therefore,

this is a transition period to gain momentum in the agribusiness development.

The Myanmar sugar industry needs to increase sugarcane cultivation for the sufficiency of domestic consumption, to produce quality sugar, and to turn byproducts into value-added products. Moreover, trade agreements should be made to export the surplus sugar.

The lives of farmers should be definitely supported in promoting cultivation of sugarcane. Research and development experts need to help them with modern agricultural methods, good varieties in quality, easy access for cultivation, establishment of contract farming between the farmers and the industries,

adopting appropriate policies in this industry.

The Vice President also emphasized the harmonious development among all the stakeholders such as farmers, sugar producers, sugar-based industries, traders and consumers.

Any dysfunction in the supply chain will have the most serious impacts on the farmers, and that the industry should abide by the Law of Protection of the Farmers' Rights and Enhancement of their Benefits.

U Henry Van Thio also advised the attendees to adopt short and long plans after reviewing the prevailing situations in this industry, and the relevant government ministries are to support with appropriate policies.

Then, Union Minister Dr Aung Thu explained the ministry's works to promote sugarcane cultivation, substitution with 60 per cent good varieties, continuous production of good varieties and research for development in this industry.

Dr Ye Tint Tun, the Director-General of Department of Agriculture, presented appropriate policies on sugar industry. Chairman of Myanmar Sugar and Sugarcane Product Entrepreneurs Association U Soe Lin explained the goals of their association.

The opening ceremony was concluded with showing a video clip that demonstrated sugarcane cultivation and the importance of sugarcane.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu, Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint, Agricultural Ministers from State/

Region governments, members of Hluttaw Affairs Committees, Permanent Secretaries, Chairman and executive members of Myanmar Sugar and Sugarcane Product Entrepreneurs Association, responsible persons from sugar mills, local sugar producers, representatives of sugarcane farmers, representatives from the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and NGOs, departmental officials and invited guests.

After the opening ceremony, the Vice President posed for documentary photos with the attendees.

Then, they looked around the exhibitions of sugars, sugar-based foodstuff and agricultural machinery displayed by the Department of Agriculture, the Myanmar Sugar and Sugarcane Products Entrepreneurs Association, Kubota Myanmar, Delicious Foods Limited, Super Coffee Mix, and Great Wall-Wilmar.

The forum was continued with paper reading sessions on the topics of using high-yield techniques, factors influencing contract farming in sugar industry, analysis on the capacity of sugarcane farmers, data collection, sugar export to China in government to government system and business to business system, survey on domestic consumption and the use of sugar and opportunities for production of ethanol fuel.

The attendees also took part discussions on the papers, and the strategy for Myanmar sugar and sugarcane industry development.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Vice President U Henry Van Thio looks around the exhibition at Myanmar Sugar Forum 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

International Democracy Day organizing committee holds coordination meeting (5/2019) with working committees

THE International Democracy Day Organizing Steering Committee held a coordination meeting (5/2019) with working committees at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at 3pm yesterday.

Present at the meeting were the Committee Chairman Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, members of the committee and officials. At the event, Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw said that the meeting is the last one ahead of the International Democracy Day celebration and that the working committees have

done almost their tasks. He then urged to discuss the remaining matters for decisions. Afterwards, the chairmen and secretaries of working committees explained about their plans and accomplishments, followed by the suggestions of the attendees at the meeting. The meeting was concluded with the closing remark by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker. —MNA

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein delivers the speech at the coordination meeting for holding International Democracy Day yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Ambassadors Visit Returnees in Rakhine

A DELEGATION of Heads of Missions and senior diplomats from the embassies of the nine ASEAN member states; China, India and Bangladesh as well as the representatives from UNDP and UNHCR, visited Rakhine State from 10 to 11 September 2019. On 10 September, they met with men and women returnees of the Hindu community; and on 11 September they met with 10 members representing the Muslim families who had also returned of their own volition. The delegation was accompanied by U Khin Maung Tin, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor:

The delegation met with the 11 returnees from the Hindu community and was able to engage in a discussion in an open, free and frank atmosphere. The returnees responded to the queries raised by the members of the delegation. They recounted on the loss of lives and property

and how they were forced to flee to Bangladesh due to the attacks by ARSA in August 2017 and how they were repatriated back to Rakhine with the help of a Hindu religious leader from Rakhine State and the Indian government. Following their return to Rakhine, they continued to be threatened by ARSA and therefore lived under the protection of the security personnel. They had felt safe and secure under their protection, but now wish to return to Maungdaw to lead normal lives and be able to earn their own living. They also mentioned about the NVC cards.

The government officials accompanying the delegation also told the returnees about the readiness of the purpose-built houses for their resettlement and livelihood. They were also informed that they would be able to move back to Maungdaw to pursue a normal life soon. The government is also coordinating with the international entities to

create sustainable livelihood opportunities.

The delegation also met with ten members from the Muslim community who returned of their own volition and was told of the hardships and intimidation during their short stay in the camps. Because of these atrocities, threats, killings, food shortages, schooling and healthcare difficulties for their families they decided to return on their own accord and arrangements. On arrival back in Rakhine, the Myanmar immigration authorities ascertained that they were former residents and that they have no links with any terrorist groups. They also related how those remaining in the camps continue living in fear and threat from ARSA, that there have been threats via the internet and social media. And even though they want to return to their place of origin they are afraid of the threat from ARSA. And even though their relatives

and friends wanted to return, they dared not, because the situation in the camps was fraught with danger including constant threats from ARSA. The NVC cards and the creation of livelihood opportunities were further discussed.

The Rakhine State Minister for Security and Border Affairs said that 6 more people out of 20,000 who have listed to return under the agreement between the two countries, arrived back at the Taung Pyo Let Wei reception centre on the morning of 11 September. Temporary relief, welfare and accommodation assistance, and arrangements for them to be resettled in their original places or nearest to it are being organized.

Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin thanked the members of the delegation for their participation and requested continued assistance, support and cooperation from ASEAN member states, the neighbouring countries and relevant UN agencies in the

implementation of the bilateral agreement on the repatriation of displaced persons.

Myanmar is also appreciative of the assistance from Japan. Mr Ichiro Maruyama, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar visited Maungdaw, Buthitaung in Rakhine State late last month, to find out, first hand, the situation on the ground for the returnees. The Japanese Ambassador was able to conduct a face to face interview with 12 Hindu returnees.

Following his visit, the ambassador said the embassy will identify types and nature of assistance required in order to determine the needs and also to provide advice to the Myanmar government and coordinate efforts with related UN agencies.

According to a first hand observation made by a member of the delegation, people in Maungdaw and Buthitaung were going about their daily business freely. —MNA



Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin and delegation meet with ten members representing the Muslim families in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**



Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin and delegation meet with men and women returnees of the Hindu community in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Joint Bill Committee discusses on Union Tax Bill

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting on 2019 Union Tax Bill sent by Union Government at the meeting hall of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the Joint Bill Committee and Joint Public Accounts Committee U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win, the vice-chairmen, secretaries, joint secretaries and members of the Joint Bill Committee and

Joint Public Accounts Committee, and officials from the Pyithu Hluttaw Banks and Monetary Affairs Development Committee, Hluttaw representatives who tabled amendments to the bill, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Union Attorney-General Office, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.—MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Ohn Win attends UNCCD COP 14 in New Delhi



Union Minister U Ohn Win attends the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in New Delhi on 8 September. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win, who had been in New Delhi to attend the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP 14), first attended minister level meeting on 8 September.

He gave an opening remark at the meeting.

The meeting focused matters related to exchange of resources, technical skills and experiences among the developing countries, and ways to promote cooperation among them to tackle land degradation and desertification.

The Union Minister then at-

tended the opening ceremony of the High-Level Segment (HLS) of the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP 14) at the India Expo Centre in New Delhi on 9 September.

He also joined the roundtable talk entitled "Land, Climate and Renewable Energy" and interactive dialogue entitled "Healthy land, healthy people."

On 10 September, the Union Minister attended the high-level luncheon to launch the Peace Forest Initiative, which aims to support joint rehabilitation of degraded areas in post-conflict settings.—MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Asian EPI managers meeting held in Nay Pyi Taw

A MEETING of Asian managers from the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) was held at the Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting aimed for new opportunities and technical updates under the enhancing immunization programmes, and it was also taken part by the experts from John Hopkins Medical Institutions, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, CDC, PATH, John Snow Inc, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Melbourne.

At the event, Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe made a keynote speech, saying that it would be beneficial to discuss latest technology on vaccine,

and that he is confident that the discussion of prestigious universities and organizations would bring about new ideas.

He added that efficiency, technology, facilities, socio economic environment, maintaining cold chain and other management matters are involved in the vaccination programme.

He also advised to conduct researches to overcome challenges and alleviate weakness.

He suggested the health professional need to carry out data analysis, and to report the findings to relevant departments.

The Union Minister remarked that the public health-care knowledge is directly related with the success of vaccination programmes, and



Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe delivers the speech at the Asian EPI Managers meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

the knowledgeable people will surely come together at the vaccination centres.

At the meeting, the experts

discussed about Seasonal Flu, Japanese Encephalitis, Rotavirus, Cervical Cancer, Rabies, Diphtheria and Hepatitis B

which can be protected by vaccinations.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung receives British Ambassador

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung received British Ambassador Mr Daniel Patrick Chugg at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed and exchanged views on peace, stability and development in border areas, implementing ethnic people's socio-economic sustainable development, supplying food and low cost housing for the people in conflict areas, peace, stability and development in Rakhine

State and work on closing the IDP camps, repatriation and resettlement of returnees, implementing agriculture and development tasks as substitute for eradication of narcotic drugs, cooperation with United Nations agencies and international non-governmental organizations, the result of cooperation in education between Britain and Department of Education and Training under the Ministry of Border Affairs, and future cooperation.—MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)



Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung holds talks with British Ambassador Mr Daniel Patrick Chugg in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



Union Minister U Soe Win meets with British Ambassador


UNION Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win met with British Ambassador Mr Daniel Patrick Chugg at his office in

Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to Myanmar-Britain bilateral economic cooperation, opportunities for insurance and banking businesses operated by Britain in Myanmar, project bank and public-private partnership.—MNA ■

Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win holds talks with British Ambassador Mr Daniel Patrick Chugg in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

(Translated by TTN)



Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE)

လွတ်လပ်သောစုံစမ်းစစ်ဆေးရေးကော်မရှင်

OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY

Press Release

11 September 2019

The Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) held its eleventh meeting from 10 to 11 September in Nay Pyi Taw. They discussed work progress of the Evidence Collection and Verification Team (ECVT). They also discussed documentation received from the Tatmadaw and Security forces. The Commission noted the report of ICOE's Advance Team which visited Bangladesh from 17 - 20 August 2019. The ICOE appreciated the cooperation extended by Bangladesh to the Advance Team and looks forward to similar cooperation and security arrangements to the ECVT when they get to Cox's Bazar for taking of depositions and the collection of evidence. They continued their discussion on the framework of final report. The twelfth meeting of the ICOE is scheduled for October 2019.

Office of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE)
Nay Pyi Taw
11 September 2019

SBS Plus begins filming music documentary in Myanmar

A 42-member film crew from South Korea's SBS Plus filmed young children learning music in Taw Taik Dhamma Yeik Thar monastic school in Mingaladon Township, Yangon, yesterday as part of their Music Documentary Program.

The program features popular Korean artists Yoon Do Hyun, Sandara Park, Sandeul, Kim Jeahwan and Joo-E and will

follow their journey to observe the beauty of Myanmar and teach music to children in classrooms.

The program will give children without contact with music a chance to learn practically and show their lovely performances while also exploring the natural scenery of Myanmar.

The documentary will film scenes at Yangon International Airport, Dee Doke Waterfall,

Sin Phyu Mae Pagoda, U Bein Bridge, Bagan NyaungU, and Shwe Gu monastic school from 9 to 18 September.

The program is planned to broadcast 'My Music Teacher Mingalaba' on South Korea's SBS Plus, SBS FunE and Myanmar's Free to Air Channel, Fortune TV.—Myo Myint Aung (FDC) ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



South Korea's SBS Plus film crew shoot children learning music in Taw Taik Dhamma Yeik Thar monastic school in Mingaladon Township, Yangon, yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Gold price slides K80,000 from record high of K1.3 mln in one week

By Nyein Nyein

WITHIN one week of touching a high of over K1.3 million per tical (0.578 ounces or 0.016 kilograms), the price of gold in the domestic market has dropped by K80,000, according to the Yangon Gold Entrepreneurs Association (YGEA).

“The domestic gold price has slumped as the global gold price has dropped. It hit the highest record of over K1.3 million per tical on 5 September, and shortly thereafter, it plummeted to K1.22 million. The price is likely to extend its fall,” said U Myo Myint, the chairman of the YGEA.

“The domestic gold price will continue to fall further if the global gold price drops. At present, global gold price is heading downward,” said U Myo Myint.

Despite a fall in the local gold market, trading has cooled, he added.

“Gold price had risen sharply in recent days. To stabilize the gold price and control the price level, the association had warned its members of legal action, if any

fraudulent case was detected during the price hike. Furthermore, traders were asked to clear payments at once. Members who are found defaming the association would be dismissed, as per the association’s Code of Ethics,” said U Myo Myint.

“Additionally, officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs have inquired whether the price hike is related to irregular trading or not,” he added.

“The authorities have been monitoring the gold price three times a day. Gold is traded freely within the country. There are no trade barriers. The officials did not intervene, but just inquired about the price,” he said.

Rumours of financial instability in the banking industry have sparked a price hike and led to dollar gaining in the market.

“The banking industry needs to shut down the rumours immediately. A quick comment can stop the rumours. Also, it will not spark panic. As it takes a certain amount of time to stop the rumours, the price soared,” said U Myo Myint.

The price of pure gold rose



Saleswomen waiting for customers at a jewelry shop in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR



above K1.2 million per tical in the domestic market on 7 August, and it reached a fresh peak of over K1.3 million on 5 September, said gold traders.

With global gold prices on the uptick, the domestic price has hit fresh highs this year,

rising above K1 million per tical between 17 January and 21 February, crossing K1.1 million (22 June to 5 August), climbing to K1.2 million (7 August-4 September) to reach a fresh peak of K1.3 million on 5 September.

According to gold traders, in the last three months, gold

prices touched the lowest level of K1,055,000 on 1 June and the highest level of K1,125,500 on 25 June. The prices moved in the range of K1,099,000 (1 July) and 1,149,400 (31 July) in July. Last month, the prices moved between K1,142,000 (1 August) and K1,260,500 (29 August).

Oil imports down \$380 mln as of August-end

MYANMAR imported 4.9 million tons of fuel oil worth US\$2.9 billion over the past 11 months of the current fiscal year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

In the October-August period, the import volume fell by 480,000 tons and the import value dipped \$380 million from the corresponding period of the previous fiscal.

During the same period in the 2017-2018FY, the country imported 5.44 million tons of oil, worth over \$3.326 billion.

US crude oil prices have risen on the back of a large inventory draw in the global market. Yesterday, Brent crude oil price stood at \$62.89 per barrel, while WTI crude was priced around \$57.9 a barrel in the global oil markets.

In the domestic retail market yesterday, Octane 92 was priced at K750-795, Octane 95 at K840-885, diesel at K850-890, and premium diesel at K860-900, according to the Myanmar Petroleum Trade Association.

On 10 October, 2018, due to an increase in global crude oil prices and the weakening of the Kyat against the US dollar, oil



A file photo shows a worker seen at a petrol station in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

prices had touched a high of K1,065 per liter for Octane 92, K1,115 for Octane 95, K1,085 for diesel, and K1,105 for premium diesel.

On 1 January, domestic fuel oil prices touched a low of K695 for Octane 92, K760 for Octane 95, K870 for diesel, and K875 for premium diesel. In April, the prices surged above K1,000 per liter, and then plunged to below K1,000 in June, when oil prices registered an extended drop in

the global market, according to the local oil market.

Ninety per cent of fuel oil in Myanmar is imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is produced locally.

Myanmar imports fuel oil primarily through Singapore, with monthly volumes touching 200,000 tons for gasoline and 400,000 tons for diesel. There are 2,000 fuel stations and 50 oil importer companies in Myanmar.—GNLM (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Over 33,000 Myanmar workers took up jobs in 8 countries in August

A TOTAL of 33,805 Myanmar workers took up jobs in eight countries in the month of August, according to figures released by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population.

The majority of workers — over 24,500 — went to Thailand. Malaysia employed over 7,800 Myanmar workers. In addition, some job seekers headed to Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Jordan, and Qatar.

The low employment rate and low salaries in the domestic market have forced young Myanmar workers to seek jobs overseas, with the number of migrant labourers touching 5 million, said an official from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, and Population.

“Young people are struggling to find jobs in the domestic market. Fewer job opportunities

and low pay are making them leave their home country for higher-paying jobs overseas. There is economic disadvantage from the loss of young workers,” said U Myo Aung, Permanent Secretary, MoLIP.

Meanwhile, 28,982 local job-seekers have gained employment in the states and regions. Yangon employed the highest number of workers 20,396, followed by Bago Region 3,170, and Mandalay Region 1,424. The remaining regions and states saw an influx of less than 700 new employees.

The ministry is making concerted efforts to create more employment opportunities for both domestic and overseas job hunters through the online labour exchange management system.—GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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The dark side of power: corruption and bribery

SOME say greed for wealth and power is the root cause of corruption. Some say there are four paths that lead to corruption: people choose corrupt practices willingly, out of hate, fear, or misapprehension. No matter what the answer may be, we must not let graft hijack democracy.

Corruption undermines democracy and the rule of law, leads to violations of human rights, distorts markets, erodes the quality of life, and allows organized crime, terrorism, and other threats to human security to thrive.

It is an insidious plague that has a wide range of corrosive effects on societies.

It has been seen that corruption becomes rife in societies during periods of inefficient administration. During such times, the more power and rights one has, the easier it is to become

rich through corruption and bribery. Although corruption has always been considered a plague to human civilization, the phenomenon has traditionally been wildly rampant in societies. Due to such wrongful practices, the country has been caught in the poverty trap.

While those who resort to corruption and bribery may become rich and popular, their actions exert an adverse influence on the morality and cultural traditions of society.

Corruption and bribery reduce income and government revenues; they increase costs, thereby undermining fair competition; distort policy, and allow priorities to be determined by personal interests; breed disloyalty in public institutions; divert resources from where they are needed the most; reduce productivity, thereby demotivating those who receive unfair rewards; and, destroy cultures at all levels.

When the government elected by the people took office, it prioritized fighting corruption and bribery.

The new government has enforced strict rules for the authorities, and to ensure those who have power do not misuse their position and rights for their own interest. The government has taken a balanced approach in the fight against corruption, and is also trying to take serious action against those found committing malpractices.

Due to the action taken against corrupt officials, the public is now becoming more and more aware of the scourge of corruption. By praising honesty and denouncing dishonesty in societies, people can be spurred towards morality and cultural values.

As we strive towards democracy in this transitional period, there is a better chance of us being exposed, if we are corrupt.

We are confident that with the participation of the people who thoroughly understand the difference between good and evil, we can build an economic system with dignity.

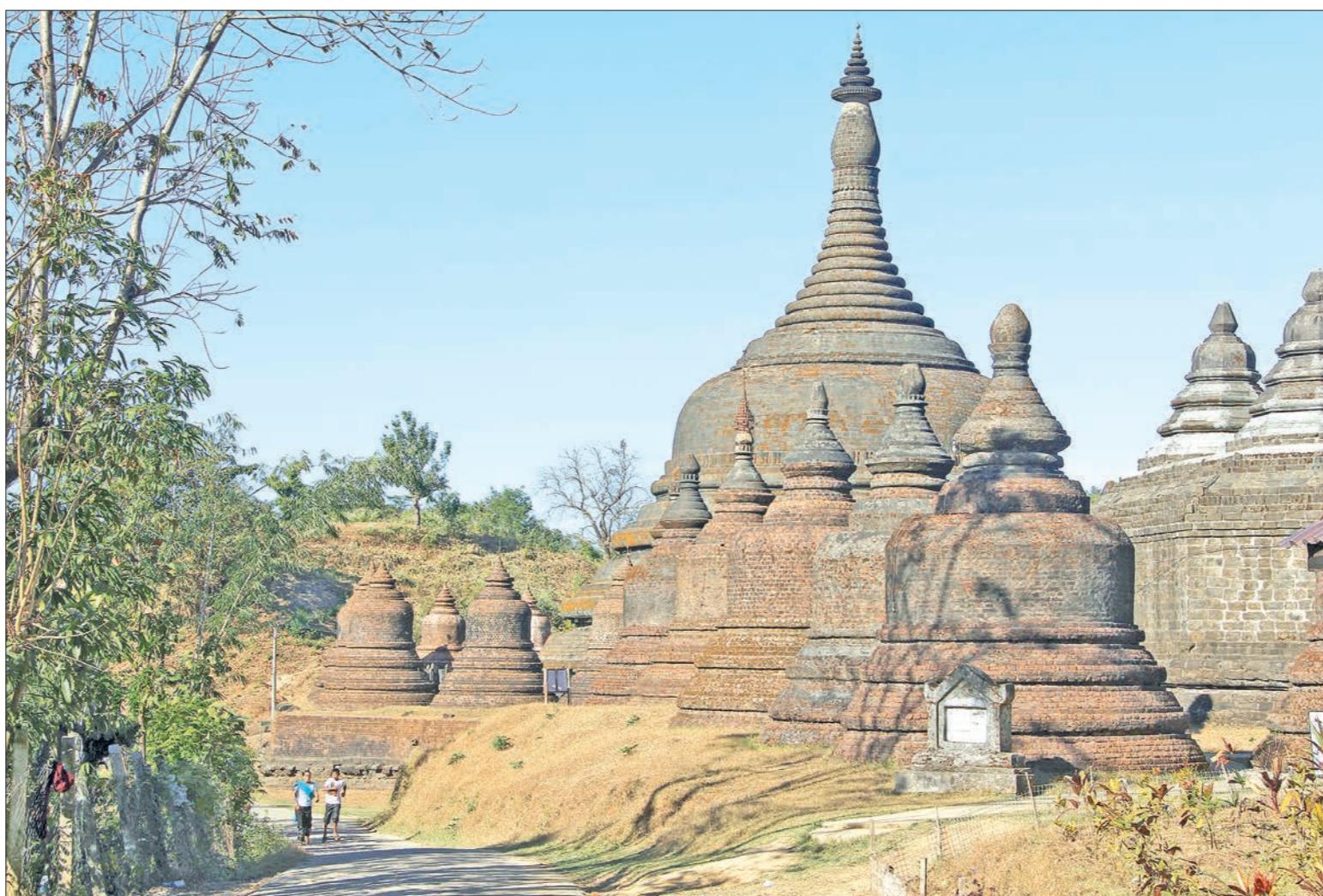


Old City of MraukU aims for World Heritage status

By Zeya (Culture)

OLD city of MraukU set a distinct example for culture and a long history of Rakhine State. King Saw Mon established the royal City of MraukU with a time span of 354 years from 1430 to 1787 with 49 successive monarchs. In the history of Rakhine State, there are the Danyawaddy, Waithali, Lemro and MraukU eras; the MraukU era is the most advanced and progressed period.

After the end of the MraukU Era, the old palace site, city walls, walls, forts, pagodas, stupas, relic repositories, monasteries, granaries and the systematic water supply are set to show a highly civilized society in the past. In addition, the Buddha Statues, stone inscriptions, coins, potteries of the ancient times and the intangible culture heritage of ethnic Rakhine people have shown the high cultural customs. MraukU is an old city worth of a status to put in the World Heritage List.



Famous pagodas and stupas in the old city of MraukU are symbols of history and culture. PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE

The Recognition of the City in the Cultural List

The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture has tried to put Myanmar Cultural heritage in the World Heritage list, putting Pyu old cities of Hanlin, Beikthano and Sri Ksetra in the World heritage list on 22 June, 2014 and an old city of Bagan in UNESCO World Heritage list on 6 July,

2019. The Ministry continued to try to put an old city of MraukU by submitting the Nomination Dossier (Draft) to UNESCO before 30 September, 2019; the complete Dossier must be submitted before January, 2020.

Domestic and foreign experts must make a field trip to cultural areas in MraukU to col-

lect statistics and records again, in order to amend and add to the requirements of the Nomination Dossier (Draft). After the completed dossier is submitted, experts from the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) will inspect the sites in MraukU in September, 2020. If their findings meet the pre-

scribed criteria, the dossier will be submitted to the 45th Council on World Cultural Heritage, which will meet to decide if the areas should be put on the World Heritage list.

The Ministry of Religion and Culture had overcome a lot of obstacles while trying to put ancient Bagan city in a UNE-

SCO World Heritage Site. But the active participation of the State government and the whole local populace, precautionary measures have been carried out without any difficulties to put old city of MraukU in the World Heritage lists.

Cooperation efforts to put old city of MraukU in the

World Heritage List

MraukU National Cooperation Committee was formed on 17 May, 2017; the Committee was presided over by the Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture as Chairman and with Rakhine Prime Minister as deputy Chairman. In order to put old city of MraukU in the World Heritage List, measures are carried out under the cooperation of experts of MraukU region for the World Heritage and working committee of the World Heritage List.

As many as twenty times of the meetings between already formed committees, subcommittees and UNESCO and domestic and foreign experts and local lovers of ancient heritage have been conducted. Among the criteria of the World Culture Heritage, the one put in the heritage list must be consistent with one or two criterion mentioned in the following:

1. Exquisite handiwork by means of historic facts, criteria, and being unrivalled during human history created by human beings;
2. Exhibiting an important interchange of human values, or a time span or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture, or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;

SEE PAGE-11

Myanmar Trade Unions urge UN to be neutral

CTUM

THE Confederation of Trade Unions Myanmar CTUM does not condone any one committing violence nor agree with any organization using violence against any person. But, that does not mean the CTUM concurs with the UN FFM forcing multinational companies from developed and democratic countries to withdraw from Myanmar. It is nothing more than a "scattergun approach" to penalize the Myanmar military but, in fact, will only hurt the ordinary working people by depriving them of their livelihoods and their social status. The FFM's unwitting action will be driving out the workers off the formal economy towards a black economy, the hazards of trafficking, and the uncharted territory

of becoming migrants in another country.

The FFM will be held responsible for wreaking havoc on the lives of the workers in Myanmar who are seeking out a living in one of the lowest income communities of the ASEAN region.

At the same time, the FFM has also neglected the investment of the democratic revolution and the endeavors of the Trade Unions and the Tripartite Dialogue partners who are laying down the foundations for a community that works through Social Dialogue. The FFM's pressure is bound to make the working population of 22 million in this country lose confidence in the United Nations and

The FFM's pressure is bound to make the working population of 22 million in this country lose confidence in the United Nations and hinder the efforts to develop a community that accepts Social Dialogue.

hinder the efforts to develop a community that accepts Social Dialogue.

The Brands also should be

aware that once the contracts are withdrawn, it will take another decade for the political will to be rebuilt. The action will

only aggravate the situation in Myanmar and leave the country behind with employers who do not respect Human Rights and Workers Rights.

Given the difficulties involved in building trust within the displaced communities all over the world, the FFM should not be the one to create mayhem for the 400,000 workers in an emerging working community.

We acknowledge the fact that as a country we need to do more, we can do more to create equal opportunity for all citizens. All members of the FFM know that "trust building" needs working relationship and it does have to start somewhere, "trust building"

needs space to work together to find alternatives rather than blocking all avenues of political, economical and social dialogue.

We, therefore, call upon the United Nations and its agencies to be neutral bodies, to provide accurate information, and refrain from action that will make the 22 million workers of Myanmar lose trust in the United Nations.

We urge the Brands to look at the developments being made in the country by the Tripartite Partners and to trust your own instincts without being swayed by the strong international lobbies.



Myanmar Gazette

Head of service organization transferred

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred U Soe Han, Director-General of Political Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Director-General of Office of the Union Minister from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Public announcement for remonstrance

DEMOCRACY and Human Rights Party, headquartered at No 24, First Floor, 101st Street, Mingalar Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, is a political party registered with the Union Election Commission (UEC) in accordance with Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law, submitted an application to change their party's flag and emblem.

In accordance with Section 14 (d) of the Political Parties Registration Rules, it is hereby announced that those who want to remonstrate with the UEC about the party's flag and emblem may submit a complaint along with the supporting evidence within seven days starting from issuance of this announcement.

Union Election Commission

Flag of Democracy and Human Rights Party

Emblem of Democracy and Human Rights Party



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 11th September, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and strong elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal. **FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 12th September, 2019:** Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions and widespread in the remaining

Regions and States with regionally heavyfalls in Nay Pyi Taw and Rakhine State and isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40)mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (8-12) feet in Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts and about (4-7) feet in Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthyai Coasts. **OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Continuation of increase of rain in Rakhine coastal areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12th September, 2019: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12th September, 2019: Some rain or thundershowers which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12th September, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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Wild elephant found dead in Ngapudaw Township



Township administrators inspect the elephant carcass in Ngapudaw Township, Ayeyawady Region. PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG MYINT (IPRD)

A WILD elephant was found dead on 10 September, 6 miles from the northern part of Htantabin village, Tinchang village-tract, Ngapudaw Township, Ayeyawady Region.
A combined team of Ngapudaw and Nga Yoke Kung township police forces, the Emergency Elephant Rescue Unit (EERU), and village administrators inspected the elephant carcass after they received a report from residents.

ured 7 feet in height and 6.7 feet in length. Its trunk measured 3.7 feet and tail 2 feet.
According to the EERU, the elephant is estimated to have died two days ago. Furthermore, the EERU has asked U Lin Lin Tun for a detailed inspection. The regional police is currently conducting a search operation, and is inspecting the routes around the village. —Maung Maung Myint (IPRD)

The female elephant meas-

(Translated by La Wonn)

Construction of agri machinery workshop in Kanbalu 80% complete

A REGIONAL agricultural machinery workshop is being constructed in the compound of the Kanbalu Township's Agricultural Mechanization Department, Sagaing Region, by Tech United Power Company, and the construction work is 80 per cent complete, according to U Tun Tun Win, the head of the department.

"The regional agricultural machinery workshop is being set up to repair farming equipment of local farmers and to help them save time. We hope this workshop will boost the earnings of local farmers," he added.

The workshop will provide machinery repair service, sell machines and equipment under instalment payment plans, and buy machines by connecting with other companies, with a view to help farmers shift to modern farming practices. The residents in Kanbalu



The construction site of regional agricultural machinery workshop in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region. PHOTO: AUNG WIN NYEIN (KANBALU)

Township are earning their living through farming.
The Agricultural Mechanization Department is currently conducting long-term projects to boost farmer incomes. Machinery workshops are also

being set up in Shwebo, Wetlet, YeU, and Budalin townships.
There are over 400,000 acres of farmlands in Kanbalu Township, of which 100 acres are following advanced farming practices. "Thus, the farm

machinery workshop will provide several aids for conducting mechanized agriculture," said U Tun Tun Win.—Aung Win Nyein (Kanbalu)

(Translated by La Wonn)

100,000 fingerlings released into Ayeyawady River

THE SAGAING District Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation on Tuesday morning released 100,000 fingerlings — 50,000 carps and 50,000 barbs — into the Ayeyawady River in Sagaing Town.

"The department is aiming at conserving aquatic resources and raising fish production. The Fisheries Department declared June, July, and August as no-fishing season to preserve aquatic resources in order to meet the growing demand of local people," said U Aung Ko Lat, the Deputy Head of the Department.
On Tuesday, Daw Su



Sagaing Region Fisheries Department officials releasing of fingerlings to the Ayeyawady River, Sagaing. PHOTO: AUNG SAN MAUNG

Myat Htet, the representative of the Sagaing Region Hluttaw, the chairman of the Township

Management Committee, and teachers and students from the Sagaing high school released the

fingerlings into the river. —Aung San Maung
(Translated by La Wonn)

Accurate news is priority of state-run media: Union Minister

THE Ministry of Information and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China (PRC) jointly organized a New Media Training and Discussion session yesterday at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the event, Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint stressed the importance of switching from traditional media to new media, and highlighted the important role of new media in the development of state-owned and private media.

Quick dissemination is considered as an important characteristic of media, said the Union Minister, adding that new media helps spread more news quickly and easily at any given time, without the limitation of audiences, boundaries, and time.

While changes are underway, newsreaders are increasingly using new media, said Dr Pe Myint, adding that new media has its advantages and disadvantages, and pointed out that stemming the disadvantages would not be enough, and everyone is obliged to effectively distribute accurate news that benefits the public through new media.

As the configuration of media and development of technology have changed, the products of the media must be changed, he added.

To provide accurate news to the public, educate, and provide clean entertainment are the objectives of the state-owned media, and it will never deviate from those objectives, said the Union Minister.



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint delivers the speech at the New Media Training and Discussion session in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Union Minister said the purpose of the training is for effective implementation on these objectives by learning modern media technology.

Afterwards, Minister Counsellor Li Xuhang made the wel-

coming remarks.

The two-day course will conclude on 12 September.

Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun, Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung, directors-general, managing direc-

tors, officials from the Chinese Embassy, trainers, trainees from departments and enterprise of the Ministry of Information, and officials also attended the event.

— MNA ■
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Amyotha Hluttaw approves 5th ...

FROM PAGE-2

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw also announced an approval for the edited version of the fifth amendment bill on Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Election Law, as the proposal could avoid any objection.

Dr Myo Aung, the member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, explained the report of bill committee on the 5th amendment bill on Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker sought the approval of Hluttaw for the bill.

U Min Swe, the member of Union Election Commission,

tabled a motion to approve the amended version of the bill. U Maung Maung Latt, MP from Sagaing Region constituency 9 approved it.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw also announced an approval for the edited version of the 5th amendment bill on Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law, as the proposal could avoid any objection.

U Larla Minhtan, the member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, explained the report of bill committee on the 5th amendment bill on Region/State Hluttaw Election Law.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker approved the bill in

accordance with the decision of Hluttaw. U Min Swe, the member of Union Election Commission, tabled a motion to approve the amended version of the bill. U Maung Maung Latt, MP from Sagaing Region constituency 9 approved it.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw also announced an approval for the edited version of the fifth amendment bill on Region/State Election Law, as the proposal could avoid any objection. The 20th day meeting of second Amyotha Hluttaw's 13th regular session will be convened on 13th September.—Aung Ye Thwin and Han Lin Naing ■ (Translated by Aung Khin)

Film analysis on French movie “Vagabond” to be held

A FRENCH movie named “Vagabond”, one of the masterpieces of director Agnes Varda, will be analyzed at Film-Development Centreat No. 50, Golden Valley Road in Bahan Township at 12 noon on September 15th.

The program was as a sub program of Cinematheque Program for the development of Myanmar film, and this is the 25th time. A member of management team Dr Aung

Min will lead the discussion.

The genres of the movie is drama and won Golden Lion Award at Venice Film Festival in 1985. It is about a young woman who died on a road side in one of the worst cold snaps. The movie flashes back the events before her death and life and death of a homeless woman who loves freedom.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphon-sus)

Old City of MraukU aims for World Heritage status

FROM PAGE-9

3. Bearing a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
4. Being an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates significant stages human history;
5. Being an outstanding example of traditional human settlements or interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;
6. Being directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas or beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal value.

MraukU Culture heritage is consistent with criteria Nos 3 and 4 and therefore it should be submitted to the World Heritage Committee by mentioning the numbers. While making preparations to put MraukU in the World Heritage List, unfortunately there were unscrupulous practices of opposition and disputes such as AA movements, leading to the suspension of local and foreign tours to the MraukU region.

The World Heritage Committee will ask again for the requirements of the Nomination Dossier (Draft) for the submission of the Complete Nomination Dossier to the World Heritage Committee before 30 January, 2020. Despite difficulties of security and regional stability, MraukU National Cooperation Committee, the Ministry and department

concerned, domestic and foreign experts, the State government and efforts of the local people will submit the Complete Nomination Dossier to the World Heritage Committee within the prescribed time.

After submitting the complete Nomination Dossier to the World Heritage Committee, experts from Landmark and Site committee will make a field trip to MraukU area in September, 2020 and accurate findings will be submitted to 45th World Heritage Committee in order to put the MraukU area in the World Heritage List. All efforts will bring only the MraukU area to be in the World Heritage List.

Despite efforts to put MraukU region in the World Heritage List, lack of regional stability due to continuing wars

in the area will not recognize the status of the World Heritage. The fundamental requirement is the regional stability. Therefore, in order to put the MraukU area in the World Heritage List, it is necessary to re-establish the stable environment in our societies. Those responsible people and groups engaged in disputes should consider for the sake of Rakhine State economy and the benefits of the Union to re-establish the MraukU district or area as a peaceful and stable region.

Therefore, in order to include the MraukU region in the World Heritage List, one of the national objectives should be stated to carry out the most urgent tasks with close cooperation and mass appeals.

(Translated by Arakan Sein)

Archbishop of Canterbury prostrates over 1919 India massacre

AMRITSAR — Britain has never apologised for the 1919 massacre at Amritsar in India but the head of the Church of England prostrated himself to say sorry in a personal capacity and “in the name of Christ”.

British troops fired on thousands of unarmed men, women and children in Amritsar on April 13, 1919, killing 379 people according to colonial-era records. Indian figures put the total closer to 1,000.

“I can’t speak for the British Government as I am not an official of the British Government. But I can speak in the name of Christ,” Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby said as he visited the location in northern India on Tuesday.

“I am so ashamed and sorry for the impact of the crime committed. I am a religious leader, not a politician. As a religious leader, I mourn the tragedy



Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby paid tribute to the hundreds of people killed at Amritsar in 1919. **PHOTO: AFP**

we see here,” he added at the site, known in India as Jallianwala Bagh.

On Facebook he added that his visit aroused “a sense of profound shame at what happened in this place. It is one of a number of deep stains on British history. The pain and grief

that has transcended the generations since must never be dismissed or denied.”

The event 100 years ago marked a nadir in Britain’s occupation of India, and served to boost Indian nationalism and harden support for independence.

In 1997 Britain’s queen laid a wreath at a site during a tour of India. But her gaffe-prone husband Prince Philip stole the headlines by reportedly saying that the Indian estimates for the death count were “vastly exaggerated”.—AFP ■

Pyithu Hluttaw debates pesticide reduction, safeguarding ecosystem

FROM PAGE-2

Ministries have processes in control

Next, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw responded to the motion. He said his ministry scrutinizes the situation in accordance with the fertilizer import approval from the committee outlined in the Fertilizer Law and the pesticide import approval and price approval from the pesticide licensing group after which the Department of Trade approves the import license.

The Deputy Minister said the Customs Department reviews whether the imported commodities match the information outlined in the import license. He said every trade route into the country is regularly monitored to prevent illegal imports and the state/regional governments form special task forces to apprehend illegal importing as well.

He said the Consumer Affairs Department monitors all commodities in the market across the states and regions and confiscates or destroys harmful products and takes other neces-

sary action. In addition, they also provide the necessary education and have been doing all these processes since 2017, said the Deputy Minister.

He said the Department of Agriculture follows the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to ensure agri-products are safe, and conducts awareness raising campaigns to reduce pesticide usage, combine multiprotection systems for crops and ensure safe use of pesticides.

The Deputy Minister said that since all relevant ministries already have processes in place that work towards the content mentioned in the motion, the assembly should simply put it on record. The Speaker then asked for the mover’s opinion who replied for the motion to be put on record. After gathering the deliberation of the Hluttaw and receiving no opposition, the Speaker announced that the motion will be put on record.

The 20th-day meeting of Second Pyithu Hluttaw’s 13th Regular Session will be held tomorrow. —Aye Aye Thant, Kyaw Zin Htike (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Iran football fan who set herself ablaze was ill: father

TEHRAN — An Iranian football fan who set herself ablaze and died after being arrested for trying to defy a ban on women in stadiums was ill with a “neurological disorder”, her father said.

Sahar Khodayari, 30,

was reportedly arrested early last year when she tried to enter a stadium in Tehran dressed as a man to watch her favourite team, Esteghlal FC.

Dubbed “blue girl” because of the club’s colours, she set herself on fire

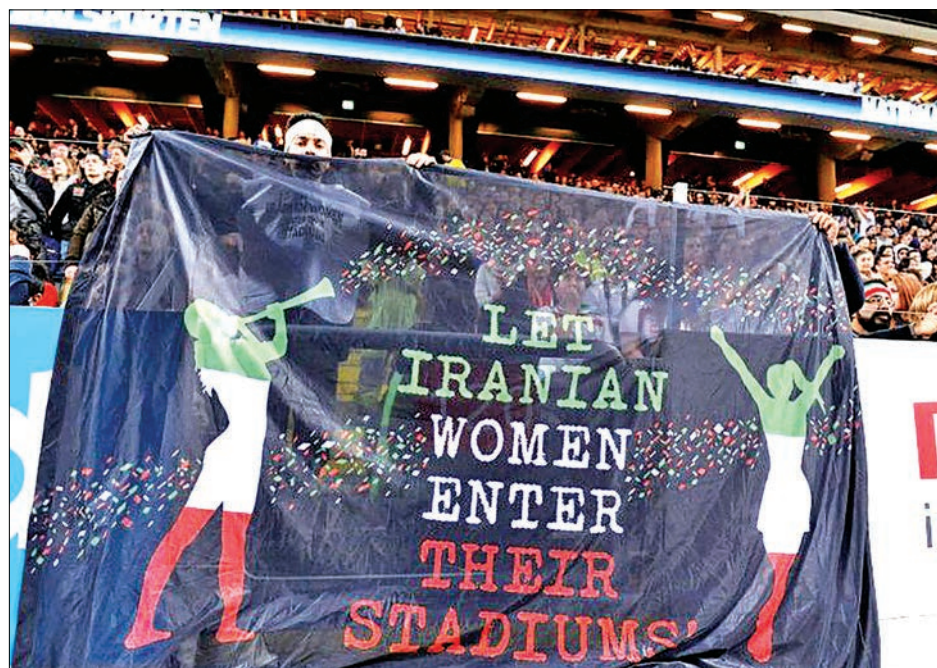
outside a court last week after being told she would be jailed for six months, various media outlets said.

“My daughter had a neurological disorder and that day she became very angry, insulting and fought with law enforcement of-

ficers,” her father Heidar Ali Khodayari said, quoted by Mehr news agency late Tuesday.

Iran has barred Iranian women spectators from football and other stadiums since 1981, with clerics arguing they must be protected from the masculine atmosphere and sight of semi-clad men.

The judiciary said a young woman had been arrested when she tried to enter a stadium and faced charges of offending “public chastity and insulting” law enforcement officers.—AFP ■



Supporters hold a banner calling for Iranian women to be allowed to enter football stadiums, during a match between Sweden and Iran near Stockholm in March 2015. **PHOTO: AFP**

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Anger at Netanyahu's West Bank annexation pledge

CAIRO — Arab and Muslim countries Wednesday led a wave of outcry after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to annex a key part of the occupied West Bank if re-elected.

Netanyahu's controversial pledge involves extending Israel's sovereignty over the Jordan Valley and the northern Dead Sea which account for one-third of the West Bank if he wins next week's elections. It would not include however annexing any Palestinian cities such as Jericho.

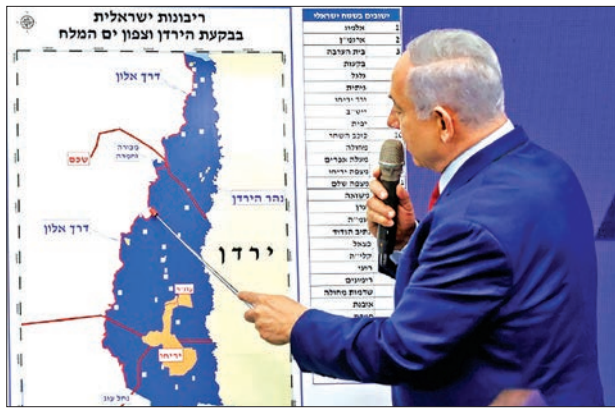
The pre-election promise late Tuesday drew immediate condemnation from Arab powerhouses with many warning of disastrous consequences for the stagnant Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

"The announcement constitutes a dangerous development and a new Israeli aggression," Arab foreign ministers said after an Arab League meeting in Cairo.

They also warned in a statement of "the ramifications of these dangerous, illegal and irresponsible" moves saying it would "undermine the chances of progress in the peace process".

Jordanian and Palestinian officials said any such measure risks "killing off" and "destroying" the entire peace process, which has failed to make any progress for years.

Damascus "strongly condemned" Netanyahu's vow, with a Syrian foreign ministry source telling the state news agency SANA



Pre-election pledge by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to annex a key part of the occupied West Bank has triggered a wave of international anger, particularly from Arab and Muslim countries. **PHOTO: AFP**

that it was an "expansionist" plan which would be a "flagrant violation" of international treaties.

Israel occupied the West Bank in the 1967 Six-Day War in a move never recognised by the international community.

It also seized — and later annexed — part of the Golan Heights from Syria, and the two countries remain technically at war.

'Racist' move

Saudi Arabia flagged the announcement as a "dangerous escalation", calling for an "emergency meeting" of the foreign ministers of the 57 member states of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

Beyond the Arab world, Turkey slammed Netanyahu pledge as "racist".

It would "defend (the) rights and interests of our Palestinian brothers and sisters till the end," said Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu.

The United Nations remonstrated that Netan-

yahu's plan would have no "international legal effect."

Meanwhile, the European Union said the pledge undermines any prospects for peace.

"The policy of settlement construction and expansion... is illegal under international law and its continuation, and actions taken in this context, undermine the viability of the two-state solution and the prospects for a lasting peace," an EU spokesperson said in a statement.

When announcing his pledge, Israeli prime minister said he would take the step in coordination with his ally, US President Donald Trump.

But by Wednesday morning there had still been no official US reaction to Netanyahu's latest state-

ments. Israel has enjoyed a strong US support under the Trump administration which in a highly controversial move overturned decades of US policy to recognise the holy city of Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish state in 2017.

Earlier in 2019, Trump also declared Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights, which Israel seized Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War, along with the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

More than 600,000 Israeli Jewish settlers now live in the West Bank and annexed east Jerusalem, among three million Palestinians.

Arab and Muslim leaders have unanimously decried the US moves backing Netanyahu's policies, but done little to challenge them. They have instead insisted on achieving a two-state solution and establishing a Palestinian state based on the borders of 1967 with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner has been tasked with hammering out a peace plan to resolve the bitter Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The plan's economic aspects were unveiled at a Bahrain conference

in June, floating the prospect of pumping some \$50 billion worth of investment into a stagnant Palestinian economy. It failed however to address key Palestinian demands such as the estab-

lishment of their own independent state. It remains unclear when Kushner's full plan will be rolled out with the Israeli elections looming on 17 September. —AFP ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **GONGNIU GROUP CO., LTD.**, a company incorporated in China and having its principal office at **EAST INDUSTRIAL ZONE, GUANHAIWEI TOWN, CIXI CITY, ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, CHINA** is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark(s):-



(Reg. No. IV/13499/2018)

in respect of: "Plugs, sockets and other contacts [electric connections]; Switches, electric; Time switches; Circuit breakers switches; circuit breakers; Electrical adapters; Portable socket; USB wires; USB chargers; Rechargeable batteries; Voltage surge protectors; Resistance materials; Electronic chips; Conductors, electric; Remote control apparatus; Video screens; Phototelegraphy apparatus; Earphones; Materials for electricity mains [wires, cables]; Electric tielines; Telephone wires; Electrolysers; Wireless chargers; Mobile power supply (rechargeable batteries); Wireless routers; Computer programs [downloadable software]; Computer software applications, downloadable; Locks, electric; Anti-theft warning apparatus; Video monitoring equipment; Sensors; Smoke detectors; Gas testing instruments; Audio- and video-receivers; Modems." in class 09

"Lamps; Ceiling lights; Luminous tubes for lighting; Lighting apparatus and installations; Lights for vehicles; Light-emitting diodes [LED] lighting apparatus; Taps for pipes and pipelines; Pipes [parts of sanitary installations]; Bath installations; Bathroom master; Aquarium lights (tracer); Fluorescent tube; Electric torches; Radiators, electric; Electric hair dryers; Electric fans for personal use; Sanitary apparatus and installations; Disinfectant apparatus; Water purification installations." in class 11

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U Kyi Win Associates
For **GONGNIU GROUP CO., LTD.**
BY ITS ATTORNEY

ACTIP IP LIMITED
P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon.
Phone: 372416

Dated: 12th September, 2019

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Toyo Seikan Co., Ltd., a company registered under the laws of Japan, which is located at 18-1, Higashi-Gotanda 2-chome, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141-8640, Japan, is the sole owner of the following trademarks:



Reg. No. 20453/2019

Reg. No. 20454/2019

In respect of **Class 6**: Industrial packaging containers of metal.

In respect of **Class 7**: Beverage filling machines, bottle capping machines and other packaging or wrapping machines and apparatus.

In respect of **Class 21**: Industrial packaging bottles of plastics.

Toyo Seikan Co., Ltd., claims the trademark right and other relevant Intellectual Property right for the marks as mentioned above. Toyo Seikan Co., Ltd., reserves the rights to take legal measures against any infringer who violates its Intellectual Property or other legal rights in accordance with the concerned laws of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Daw Khin Myo Myo Aye, Advocate

For **Toyo Seikan Co., Ltd.**,

Tilleke & Gibbins Myanmar Ltd. No. 1608, 16th Floor, Sakura Tower, 339 Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com

Dated: 12nd September, 2019

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V EVANS

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V EVANS VOY. NO. (1907) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of T.M.I.T-2 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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Merkel says still sees 'every chance' for Brexit deal

BERLIN — German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Wednesday she believed agreement could still be reached with Britain on an orderly exit from the EU, pledging to fight for a deal.

Speaking to the Bundestag lower house of parliament, the German leader said there was still time to hammer out a workable accord. "The EU will in a few months experience the exit of an important member, the exit of Britain," Merkel said.

"I am firmly convinced that we still have every chance to do it in an orderly way and the German government will work toward making this possible until the very last day." However she added that if the European Union and Britain failed to agree on terms for Brexit that Germany as the bloc's top economy was "prepared" for a disorderly divorce.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson suspended parliament Tuesday following a series of bruising clashes with MPs over



German Chancellor Angela Merkel told the German parliament there was still time to hammer out a workable accord for Brexit. **PHOTO: AFP**

his Brexit plan but insisted he was making every effort to strike an exit deal with the European Union. As the planned departure date of 31 October looms, Johnson said: "We're working very hard to get a deal. I think we will get a deal but if absolutely necessary we will come out with no deal." The Conservative leader has faced intense opposition in the House of Commons to his threat to leave the bloc without agreeing exit terms with Brussels.

Before he suspended parliament, MPs rushed through legislation requiring Johnson to postpone Brexit by three months if he fails to secure a deal at an EU summit on October 17-18.

He took office in July promising to renegotiate the Brexit terms struck by his predecessor, Theresa May, which were rejected three times by MPs. He has previously said he would rather be "dead in a ditch" than delay Brexit.—AFP ■

UK intercepts 86 migrants crossing Channel in one day

LONDON— British authorities said they intercepted 86 migrants crossing the Channel from France on small boats on Tuesday, thought to be one of the largest number of apprehensions in a single day.

The migrants — including women and children — who hailed from eight different countries were detained in five separate incidents, according to Britain's interior ministry.

Some had made it ashore from small boats while others were still at sea when they were intercepted by the border force.

The arrivals are the latest in a spate of Channel crossings which have intensified this summer as migrants take advantage of mild weather to try to reach Britain via the world's busiest shipping lane.

Since January, 1,450 migrants have been rescued ei-

ther by British or French coastguards — more than double the number who tried to cross the busy shipping lane in the whole of 2018, according to official French figures released last month.

Interior minister Priti Patel met her French counterpart in Paris last month, when they agreed "to deploy more resources along the French coast to intercept and stop crossings," her department said.

"We are working closely at all levels with the French authorities to tackle this dangerous and illegal activity," an interior ministry spokeswoman said Tuesday.

Border force cutters are patrolling the Channel while equipment including drones, CCTV and night vision goggles are in use.—AFP ■

Soldiers hospitalised as reindeer crashes Lapland wargames

HELSINKI — A reindeer that wandered into the middle of a military exercise in Lapland caused a pile-up of armoured vehicles with 12 soldiers rushed to hospital, the Finnish military said Wednesday.

"A Pasi armoured personnel carrier crashed into the one in front, which swerved to avoid a reindeer," a statement from the Kainuu Brigade said.

Twenty-eight people were travelling in the two vehicles during defence exercises on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, five army reservists remained under observation in hospital, while the remaining personnel had returned to duties and were continuing with the exercise, the statement said.

Finnish Lapland is home to up to 340,000 reindeer during summer and the animals represent a real hazard, not least as they tend not to fear motor vehicles.

Reindeer are especially prone to run onto roads as they try to escape the clouds of mosquitoes that descend on the region's forests during late summer.

As many as 20 reindeer a day can be involved in collisions during the first months of winter, according to Finland's traffic safety agency.

Some herders have experimented with spraying glow-in-the-dark paint onto the antlers of their reindeer to reduce the numbers lost to road accidents.—AFP ■



Reindeer represent a real hazard when they approach roads as they tend not to fear motor vehicles. **PHOTO: AFP**

Eight on trial in Paris for stealing Macron portraits



The acts of civil disobedience were part of a movement called "Take Down Macron" highlighting alleged inaction by the French government over global warming. **PHOTO: AFP**

PARIS — Eight protesters went on trial in Paris on Wednesday for stealing official portraits of French President Emmanuel Macron from public buildings as part of a protest over climate change.

The activists, aged 23 to 36, have been charged with theft after taking down the pictures from local government offices around the capital in February.

The acts of civil disobedience were part of a movement called "Take Down Macron" which was intended to highlight alleged inaction by the French government over global warming.

The group behind it, Non-Violent Action COP21 (ANV-COP21), claims that 128 portraits have been stolen across France, while 57 people face "group theft" charges

which carry a maximum five-year jail term.

Several hundred protesters held up the portraits during a protest in southwestern France at the end of August near Biarritz where Macron was hosting a G7 summit of world leaders.

"Solidarity with the people who took down the portraits of our presidential monarch," left-wing leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon wrote on Twitter on Tuesday.

The head of campaign group Oxfam in France, Cecile Duflot, also backed the protesters, writing: "It's a symbolic action and not a group theft."

All public schools and government offices display the president's portrait, with Macron's showing him perched on the edge of his desk with two mobile phones and the memoirs of French resistance hero and post-war president Charles de Gaulle behind him.—AFP ■

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Japan's Abe shakes up cabinet, brings in rising star

TOKYO — Japan's Shinzo Abe Wednesday appointed new foreign and defence ministers and promoted a popular rising political star, in a cabinet reshuffle that fuelled speculation over the prime minister's successor.

The spectacular appointment as environment minister of the telegenic Shinjiro Koizumi, the 38-year-old son of much-loved former PM Junichiro, set tongues wagging in Tokyo political classes as the Abe era draws to a close.

"Abe intends to start an open race to pick the next prime minister or even the one after that," said SMBC Nikko Securities chief market economist Yoshimasa Maruyama.

A darling of the Japanese media, Koizumi received blanket coverage for his recent marriage to television broadcaster Christel Takigawa, which was



Shinjiro Koizumi is a rising star in Japanese politics. PHOTO: AFP

announced at the prime minister's office.

He is the third-youngest minister appointed to the cabinet in Japan since the end of World War II, in a country where seniority is prized in politics and many other walks of life.

Despite intense media

spotlight, he has been coy on expressing his view on the issues of the day and there will be close scrutiny over his policies on nuclear power, particularly on whether he will break with his father's anti-nuclear stance.

"I hope Mr Shinjiro Koizumi will tackle global issues such

as ocean plastics and climate change not with worn-out approaches but with the new ideas of the young generation," Abe said. "He is more seasoned than I was in my 10th year" (since being elected). I hope he will secure results," said the prime minister.

'New challenge'

Abe is set to become Japan's longest-serving prime minister in November but is expected to step down at the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) leadership election in 2021 and the jostling for position is already beginning.

"We should take on the challenge to create a new country at a time when the whole of Japan is filled with positive feeling," Abe told reporters, noting that people were excited about the forthcoming Rugby World Cup and the 2020 Summer Olympics.—AFP ■

UN supports "credible, inclusive" presidential election in Afghanistan: envoy

UNITED NATIONS — The UN envoy for Afghanistan on Tuesday voiced support for the relative Afghan parties to conduct a "credible and inclusive" presidential election slated for later this month.

Tadamichi Yamamoto, the special representative of the secretary general for Afghanistan, described the election as "another step in strengthening the foundation of a representative democratic political system" in the country.

The United Nations supports fully the efforts of independent election commission, and electoral complaints commission, security institutions, civil society as well as candidates, their supporters and voters to conduct credible and inclusive elections on schedule,



The United Nations Security Council holds a meeting on the situation in Afghanistan, at the UN headquarters in New York, on 10 September, 2019. PHOTO: XINHUA

he said.

The 28 September poll will be the fourth presidential

election in Afghanistan since 2001, when the United States invaded the country following

the 11 September attacks and overthrew the Taliban, in power since 1996.—Xinhua ■

Malaysia piles pressure on Indonesia over smog-belching fires

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia has stepped up pressure on neighbouring Indonesia to tackle huge blazes tearing through its rainforests and smothering Southeast Asia in smog, as fires typically started to clear land for crops send diplomatic tensions soaring.

Burning forests to make

way for farming is also thought to be behind the enormous fires currently ripping through the Amazon in South America, and experts believe they could have a serious impact on the global climate.

Malaysian Environment Minister Yeo Bee Yin expressed concerns about the impact of the

smog and offered assistance to Jakarta to fight the fires during a meeting with Indonesian officials Tuesday, according to a statement.

An official in Sarawak state on Borneo — where air quality dropped to very unhealthy levels this week — was less diplomatic, demanding Indonesia send face

masks and medical supplies to Malaysia for those affected by the pollution.

"Until they suffer economically, they will not take our complaints seriously," Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister James Masing was cited as saying by the Malay Mail news portal on Wednesday.—AFP ■

NEWS In BRIEF

S Korean media worry Japan ties could worsen after Cabinet reshuffle

SEOUL — South Korean media reported Wednesday's reshuffle in Japanese Prime Minister Abe Shinzo's Cabinet by citing concerns that already thorny bilateral ties could worsen.

The media largely viewed the new Cabinet lineup, which included the transfer of Foreign Minister Taro Kono to the post of defense minister, as an extreme rightward tilt and predicted a hawkish stance toward South Korea.

As foreign minister, Kono took a tough stance on South Korea over a diplomatic feud stemming from South Korean top court rulings last year that ordered some Japanese companies pay compensation over wartime forced labor.

South Korean media described Kono's successor, former economic revitalization minister Toshimitsu Motegi, as someone who has Abe's confidence.

—Kyodo News ■

Car free day set for Bangkok to reduce traffic congestion, pollution

BANGKOK — The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) on Wednesday announced it will organize Bangkok Car Free Day 2019 to reduce traffic congestion, pollution and save energy on 22 September.

Deputy Bangkok Governor, Sakoltee Phattiyakul told a press conference on Wednesday here that the event will coincide with the World Car Free Day.

The events are held in many countries to encourage motorists to give up their cars for a day and to use public transportation, said Sakoltee. It is essential that the BMA holds a car free day as Bangkok faces severe traffic problems, he said.

"The City Hall has mapped out traffic and transportation planning to serve the high number of commuters in the capital," said Sakoltee, "however Bangkok is still filled with cars."

He said many big cities around the world have developed transportation system and successfully solve traffic woes.—Xinhua ■

Myanmar International Series 2019: Thet Htar Thuzar to play Thailand's Saranporn

MYANMAR badminton star Thet Htar Thuzar will meet Thailand's Saranporn Pornpatanamongkol in the women's singles today, the third day of the Myanmar International Badminton Series 2019 at Court I of the National Badminton Stadium in Yangon.

In another match in the women's singles, Thin Thin San of Myanmar will play against Benyapa Aimsaard of Thailand at the National Badminton Stadium Court I. Meanwhile, Thwe Tar Oo of Myanmar will face P.C. Thulasi of India at the same venue.

In the mixed doubles event, Ye Ye Lwin of Myanmar and Kai Fuk Leung of England will take on Wang Yu Qiao and Chun Hsien Yang of Taiwan at the National Badminton Stadium Court



Myanmar badminton icon Thet Htar Thuzar seen at the previous DANISA Denmark Open 2019 in Denmark on 5 August. **PHOTO: THET HTAR THUZAR'S FACEBOOK PAGE**

I. Meanwhile, Hein Si Thu Toe and Oo Thwe Tar of Myanmar will compete against Paramet Promsarin and Pitchayanin Ungka of Thailand at the same venue.

Seven men's singles, five mixed doubles, eight men's doubles, and seven women's singles have been scheduled today as part of the tournament. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Final week of MNL to be broadcast live on free-to-air channels

THE last week matches of the Myanmar National League will be broadcast live on free-to-air channels, according to a statement issued by the league.

Week 22 will feature some decisive and much-anticipated matches, such as the one scheduled between Shan United and Rakhine United. The match will be decisive for Shan United, who are nursing championship dreams.

All the end-of-season matches have been scheduled on 15 September (Sunday).

Southern Myanmar F.C. will take on Dagon United at 3:30 pm on 15 September at the Mawlamyine Stadium in Mawlamyine. The match will

be broadcast live on Mizzima TV.

Meanwhile, Yangon United will take on Magwe F.C. at 3:30 pm the same day at the Yangon United Sports Complex, and the match will be telecast live on Channel K.

Ayeyawady United will play Sagaing United at 3:30 pm on Sunday at the Kyauk Tine Stadium in Patheingyi, and the match will be shown live on Fortune TV.

Meanwhile, on the same day, Shan United will face Rakhine United at the home stadium of Shan United in Taunggyi. The match will be shown on MRTV and MRTV-4. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Marcelino has been sacked after a successful spell at Valencia. **PHOTO: AFP**

Valencia sack successful coach Marcelino, appoint Celades as new boss

MADRID (Spain) — Valencia announced the shock sacking of coach Marcelino on Wednesday, less than a week before their Champions League opener against Chelsea.

The Spanish outfit have named former Real Madrid assistant coach Albert Celades as his successor.

The 54-year-old joined the club in 2017 with Valencia then struggling after back-to-back 12th-placed finishes in La Liga.

But in both of his two full seasons at the helm he led Los Ches to fourth spot and Champions League qualification, capping his stint with the Copa del Rey title last term — Valencia's first major trophy in 11 years.

“Valencia CF on Wednes-

day told Marcelino Garcia Toral he was dismissed as coach of the first team,” the Mestalla outfit said in a statement.

“The club wants to thank you for your work and dedication during your time with the club and wish you the greatest success for the future.” Marcelino had also previously coached Sevilla and Villarreal, and is the first boss to be sacked in the Spanish top flight this season.

Valencia started their La Liga campaign slowly with a home draw against Real Sociedad and a defeat at Celta Vigo, but bounced back by winning 2-0 against Real Mallorca before the international break.—AFP ■

Gilbert claims Vuelta stage double, Roglic retains lead

GUADALAJARA (Spain) — Belgian veteran Philippe Gilbert claimed a second win at this year's Vuelta a Espana on Wednesday as Slovenian Primož Roglic remained in the lead after stage 17.

Deceuninck-Quick Step's Gilbert, 37, backed up his victory on day 12 in Bilbao with a powerful finish on the flat in

Guadalajara to pip Ireland's Sam Bennett.

Jumbo Visma's Roglic, 29, who signed a new contract with the outfit on Tuesday, finished more than five minutes behind Gilbert along with general standings rivals Alejandro Valverde and fellow countryman Tadej Pogacar.

Former winner Nairo Quin-

tana rocketed up to second place behind Roglic to overtake Valverde, making up five minutes with aggressive riding between Aranda de Duero and the central Spanish city.

Thursday's 177.5km mountainous stage 18 includes four challenging climbs before arriving at Becerril de la Sierra, to the north-west of Madrid.—AFP ■



Belgium's Philippe Gilbert has won stages at all three Grand Tours. **PHOTO: AFP**