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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw observes International Democracy Day 2019



President U Win Myint, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and dignitaries visit the booth at the event to mark the International Democracy Day 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

the meetings between Hluttaw speakers and delegations, meetings of Hluttaw joint committees, ATPA meetings, IPU meetings, Myanmar Hluttaw buildings, documentary photos of Myanmar Hluttaw patron, chairmen and vice chairmen, foreign visits of Hluttaw speakers and deputy speakers, visitors' signing, award-winning poems, essays and paintings to mark International Democracy Day 2019, field trips of Hluttaw affairs committees, capacity building programmes for Hluttaw representatives and staff members, delegation visits to Hluttaws, supporting talks for Hluttaw held in 2017 and 2018, high level delegation trips arranged by federal countries, forums of federal countries, federal system workshops jointly organized by Regions/States Hluttaws, and the forum of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

President U Win Myint, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat delivered speeches at the ceremony.

Ms June Kunugi, the UNICEF representative for Myanmar, read out the message sent by the UN Secretary General, followed by the screenings of documentary videos to mark 130th anniversary of International Day of Parliamentarism and the relations between Myanmar Hluttaw and the IPU.

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INTERNATIONAL Democracy Day 2019 was held at the Thabin Hall of Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday after-

noon, and it was opened with speeches by President U Win Myint and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

First, President U Win Myint, State Counsellor, Vice President U Henry Van Thio and the invited guests looked around the

displays to mark the event, and the presentations of previous celebrations of Hluttaw anniversaries, oath-taking ceremonies,

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In favour of stronger democratic practices, the differences should be solved through negotiations which require the basic foundations of tolerance, patience and forgiveness

President U Win Myint gave a speech at the International Democracy Day yesterday. The event took place at the Thabin Hall of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw. The following is the excerpt of the President's keynote speech at the event.



President U Win Myint delivers the speech at the ceremony to mark International Democracy Day. **PHOTO: MNA**

I WOULD like to first of all extend my greetings and best wishes for the mental and physical well-being of all attendees, including the State Counsellor, Vice Presidents, Hluttaw Speakers, Union Ministers, Union-level officials, members of parliaments, ambassadors, UN organizations, representatives from political parties, teachers, students, local organizations and civil communities.

The objectives for celebration of International Democracy Day are to honour the sovereign states which are exercising democracy, to encourage democratic practices, to raise democratic awareness among the public, to continue democratic reforms and to enforce democratic foundations.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has introduced a theme for International Democracy Day 'Participation'. Democracy is for the people, by the people and the government of the people. Therefore, democracy centers on the people, and reflects public participation. Moreover, the 2008 State Constitution has recognized public participation in democracy.

'World Guardian Principles' such as righteousness, freedom and justice develop well in democratic states. Democracy is a founding system for peace, development, human rights and rule of law. As democracy is interrelated with human rights and rule of law, failure in one of these segments will lead to the loss of other components. Moreover, democracy aims for ensuring equity of conditions depending on the physical capacity, knowledge and endeavours of all the citizens regardless of gender. It also guarantees fair opportunities for all regardless of their wealth. It can also give opportunities for living in freedom and safety. Good governance or clean government will not come up without a democratic political system in a country. As people have realized this concept, they are always willing to enjoy democracy.

Myanmar is in the process of a democratic transition. It was learnt that the three steps in democratization process are liberalization, transition and

consolidation. Myanmar people should make an assessment on the country's position in these steps. It is also required for all the people need to participate harmoniously in strengthening democracy in the country. People also need to realize that democracy in Myanmar is still at a fledgling stage.

In this regard, all the individuals and communities must abide by the existing laws, rules and regulations for the development of democracy. Democracy is a system of majority rule with respect for minority rights. In favour of stronger democratic practices, the differences should be solved through negotiations which require the basic foundations of tolerance, patience and forgiveness. A right solution could be found through a good mind and a fair opinion among every stakeholder. Absolute trust on democracy should be developed with national reconciliation by avoiding hate speeches and by overcoming loathing.

The government is striving for emergence of a democratic federal republic to retrieve democracy and federal rights. Democratic practices in Myanmar will help to ensure a federal system. Reciprocally, the practices of a federal system will strengthen democracy of the country. Therefore, the fundamental democratic norms and federal principles could not be neglected. These principles could ensure fair rights and self-rule for the ethnic people, and help them live in unity.

Racial problems and disagreements are the major obstacles for the development of democracy in the countries without democracy or with fledgling democracy. Broader participation of the ethnic people is very important for effective democratization process through internal peace in developing a democratic federal republic. The norms for democracy and basic human rights should be enshrined in drawing, amending and adding some provisions in the State Constitution and laws. It is very important to filter out destructive acts during the process of democratization. Moreover, the practices that value democracy and human rights should be included in this process.

If all the people truly believe in democracy, they need to exercise democratic practices today, instead of in the future. In a democracy, the people are sovereign - they are the highest form of political authority. People's participation is the lifeblood of democracy, and it will foster democracy.

As democracy is concerned with the people, it must be implemented inclusively. The present time is a rare occasion for people as they are getting opportunities to take part in the democratization processes of Myanmar

Absolute trust on democracy should be developed with national reconciliation by avoiding hate speeches and by overcoming loathing.

political history. The people of today are performing the remaining duties of the former generation who sacrificed their lives in successive eras in fighting for democracy. Democratization is a never-ending process, and it needs the continuous participation of the public.

I wish to urge all of you to work for the goal of democracy, establishment of a federal democratic republic, preventing authoritarianism and ensuring basic human rights. I conclude this speech by calling on the collective strength of the people who are the major driving force for democracy to strengthen basic principles of democracy which recognize that people are sovereign in a democracy. Thank you. *(Translated by Aung Khin)*

(Unofficial translation)



To help democracy thrive, we must balance self-interest with public interest: State Counsellor

Following is the excerpt of the State Counsellor's speech delivered at the International Democracy in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the event to mark International Day of Democracy. PHOTO: MNA

TODAY is International Democracy Day. We need to study the background of every such event, and think about the goals. We are observing the International Democracy Day as the number of countries respect and value democracy worldwide is increasing rapidly. But we must be aware of the difference between respecting and valuing something. What we should have in mind is that why democracy conceived in a little town on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea over 2500 years ago spread all over the world. Our serious thoughts should be on the importance of the system at present.

Roughly, the direct translation of the word “democracy” is “people’s power.” Power can be used for positive or negative results. As for the positive reason, we can use democracy as best as we can. As the theme of this year’s International Day of Democracy is “Participation”, how are we going to participate for the flourishing of democracy? How are we going to effectively and correctly use people’s power? We should hold these ideas. Basically, “balancing act” is of vital importance in the proper use of people’s power. In fact, people’s power is for the people. So, who are the people? Everyone of us. Actually, people mean every individual.

If we really value democracy and wish to see it flourishing, we must strike a balance between self-interest and public interest. More and more countries and institutions are accepting democracy through the belief that majority act is more effective for majority interest. If we are to serve the majority interest, we need a balanced state. Basically, human beings are selfish. We can’t ignore this fact, if we want a successful system. I would say democracy is a culture, rather than a system as it involves not only politics, but also social, economic and philosophical values.

The flourishing of democracy depends on our individual understanding of

the value of the balancing act. For example, we cannot think about democracy alone. We must also take into account responsibilities as well. Responsibility is for everyone, human rights for every individual and the rule of law for everybody. There must be a balance. It will not be proper if individual rights is placed above all. So also, it will not be appropriate if individual right and freedom is restricted in the name of majority interest. So, inclusiveness is required in striking a balance between self-interest and public interest.

We must start from the individual, and then comes his family. As for the rights and powers of individuals, individual families, communities, townships, regions or states, race, country and then the whole world, every stage of the entire chain must be in a state of balance.

Although we started with democracy after restoring independence, we lost it. So we have to begin from the start again. When we look at the world, we can see that Myanmar isn’t the only country where democracy cannot be fully installed. Even the world is facing shortage of democracy. What I mean goes beyond the shortage of global democracy because there is no equality between the powers and small countries.

We are not a powerful country. So we have to struggle hard for our survival. I wish people understand this. We can stand as a democratic country in the world only through inclusive participation. Anyhow, financial, military and the power to exert influence speak a lot.

We lack this power. So, it is important for all of us to work with mind power. We can’t acquire wealth or any one of the said powers in a short period. But we can change our mind in a very short time. This day serves to remind the people of the country of their duty -- helping democratic ideas flourish, not only within the country, but across the world, through the spread of a democratic culture. We must not overlook individual values in our quest for democracy. Inclusiveness is the source of people’s power. Every individual

This day serves to remind the people of the country of their duty – helping democratic ideas flourish, not only within the country, but across the world, through the spread of a democratic culture.

has his own value, and we must properly apply this. We can build a better country, and then a better world through positive strength. Some people think that democracy is just for self-gain. A person always thinking about self-gain is the one who fails to appreciate his value. Only the person who is willing to give appreciates his value. I wish every citizen is willing to serve.

I wish everyone is willing to serve for democracy of the country and the world. But the wisdom to know the dos and don’ts in serving self-interest through individual capability is of vital importance. We should not use our strength at will. We need the intellectual power to ponder. At this International Democracy Day I stress inclusive participation to properly realize democratic culture through true goodwill towards the country and mankind for the flourishing of democracy.

With this I conclude. Thank you. (Translated by TMT)

(Unofficial translation)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker highlights importance of democracy at Int'l Democracy Day event

Following is the excerpt of Speaker U T Khun Myat's speech delivered at the International Democracy Day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

U T Khun Myat, Speaker of both the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw, first extended good wishes to attendees of the International Democracy Day event.

The attendees include the President, the State Counsellor, the Vice President and members of Union-level institutions, State/Regional Hluttaw Speakers, Hluttaw representatives, foreign ambassadors, officials from UN agencies, political parties, and local and foreign organizations, teachers, students, and invited guests.

The Speaker thanked the President and State Counsellor on behalf of the Hluttaws for delivering their addresses at the event in person. He said commemorations for Democracy Day had been held in this Hluttaw compound in Nay Pyi Taw since 2011.

He said this was the ninth consecutive year Myanmar had celebrated the event and they have prepared to conduct it in accord with the year's theme of 'Participation', designated by the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU). The entire world has also been celebrating Democracy Day since it was designated in 2007.

The Speaker said this event aimed to ingrain a better understanding of a democratic federal system and its nature among the citizens, support transitioning to a democratic society and establishing a genuine democratic federal republic, promoting youth inclusion in politics, and to display participation as a democratic member among the countries of the world.

The Speaker said holding International Democracy Day events allowed for revitalizing the motto, 'Democracy is the affairs of the people'. He said this democratic system should be based on inclusion, equal treatment and participation. Democracy was an essential component of peace, sustainable development, human rights and other similar processes.

The Speaker said Article 21-3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government. He said this fact has been the driving force for drafting constitutions around the world. In addition, it also helped to cement global acceptance in democratic values and its fundamental principles.

The Speaker said true democracy was a two-way street, built on a constant dialogue between civil society and the political class. He said he believed constructive negotiations garner effective results for political decisions.

Speaker U T Khun Myat said the IPU would become 130 years old this year and has designated June 2019 to 2020 as '130 Years of Empowering Parliamentarians' for parliaments across the globe. He said he assumed this motto was referring to the duties of the people's representatives so that our path to democracy did not lose sight of its goal. He said it further served to illustrate the importance for the Hluttaws to have a solid foundation in order to carry out their duties of public representation, legislation, and providing checks and balance to the other pillars.

The Speaker said they have organized an exhibition for the IPU's 130th anniversary at this event. He said it would give an account of a section in the IPU and Myanmar's democratic history. He said it would allow people to see that only strong and capable parliaments could address the pressing modern day issues.

The Speaker said putting the democratic system into practice required building mutual trust, understanding and close friendly relations between each citizen while listening to the opinion of the majority and respecting the voice of the minorities, with the goal being to sustain the democratic system as it matures. He said the success of the democratic transition was the duty of the new generation and the whole



Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw, U T Khun Myat delivers the speech at the event to mark International Democracy Day. **PHOTO: MNA**

population. The Speaker said the young generation need to take part in all sectors of national development for a democratic federal republic to emerge. He said we need to nurture young people from an early age to shape the nation's image in line with a true democratic federal system. The Speaker said they have conducted contests for essay compositions, poems and art for International Democracy Day from the middle school level to the college level, so that the seeds of democracy would live on in the young generation. He said appropriate prizes would be given out in this event.

The Speaker thanked the Ministry of Education for organizing the contests, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture for organizing the entertainment programmes, and various other organizations for assisting in the event.

The Speaker concluded his speech by urging all the citizens of the country to unite in their collective strength to develop the nation into a democratic federal republic which was the aspiration of everyone. *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

(Unofficial translation)



Mid-year gems emporium to be held on 16-25 Sept

THE mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium for 2019 will be organized from 16 to 25 September in Nay Pyi Taw. Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win, Dep-

uty Minister Dr Ye Myint Swe and officials visited Maniyadana Jade Hall, where the event will take place, and inspected preparations for the emporium.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Minister U Ohn Win inspects the quality of the jade yesterday at the Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw, where the mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium will take place. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw observes International Democracy Day 2019



President U Win Myint, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and dignitaries watch the performance at the International Democracy Day event in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.
PHOTO: MNA



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The paper reading session continued with the presentations by students, social communities, Wa Democratic Party, National Unity Party, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, Kachin State People's Party, Tatmadaw's Hluttaw representatives, Lisu National Development Party, Pa-O National Organisation, Zomi Congress for Democracy, Ta'ang (Palaung) National Party, Shan Nationalities Democratic Party, Arakan National Party, Union Solidarity and Development Party and National League for Democracy.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Thar Aung and members of parliament presented awards to the winners in the competitions of essays, poems and paintings to mark the International Democracy Day at university and basic education levels. The Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker presented certificates of honour to Shwe Than Lwin Co., Ltd. and Three Swallows Construction Co., Ltd.

In his concluding remarks, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than said in a democracy, the minority follows the decision of the majority, and the majority respects the will of the minority. A democracy prefers welfares of others to own interest, and it also protects human rights. Good characteristics of democracy value human rights in practicing righteousness, freedom and fairness.

Moreover, democracy is people-centered, and it defines that sovereignty of the state is

collectively owned by people; the administration is based on the decision of people who elected the government; the strength of legislative bodies could strengthen democracy.

He also remarked that efficiency of the Hluttaw could lead to democracy, and the country is required to march towards the democratic goal through united strength and common desire.

The Speaker also said Myanmar started to organize the International Democracy Day since 2011, and this was a significant year as it has coincided with the 13th anniversary of Inter-Parliamentary Union. This year's theme was 'Participation' that calls on all-inclusiveness of public by establishing democratic institutions.

In accordance with the

slogan of the Hluttaw 'People's Voice, Hluttaw Voice; People's Will, Hluttaw's Will; People's Ex-

Myanmar started to organize the International Democracy Day since 2011, and this is a significant year as it has coincided with the 13th anniversary of IPU ...

pectation, Hluttaw Implementation', Hluttaw representatives were advised to fulfill the needs

of the people. The State Counsellor was quoted in his speech as sayings to focus what one can give, rather than what one can receive..

Then, the attendees were entertained with performances of artists from Myoma Music Band and Myoma Anyeint Troupe.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, the Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and the Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker presented floral baskets and cash.

The ceremony was attended by President U Win Myint, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Pyidaung Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union

Chief of Justice U Htun Htun Oo, Constitutional Tribunal of the Union Chairman U Myo Nyunt, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Thar Aung, Union Ministers, Union Attorney General, Chairman of Union Civil Service Board, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Chairman of Myanmar Human Rights Commission, Speakers of States/Regions Hluttaw, Deputy Ministers, Chairmen of Hluttaw Affairs Committee, departmental heads, representatives of political parties, diplomats, representatives of world parliaments and IPU, UN organizations, Hluttaw partner organizations, teachers, students and the invited guests.—
MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat presents the third prize of the university-level essay contest to a student. **PHOTO: MNA**



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than presents third prize of the university-level poem contest to a student. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pariyatti universities administrative body holds meeting (2/2019)

THE central administrative body of the State Pariyatti Sasana universities of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held its meeting (2/2019) at the convocation hall of the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) at Kaba Aye in Yangon yesterday.

Vice Chairman-1 of the central administrative body of the State Pariyatti Sasana University, Vice Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Dhamma Yaungchi Saydaw Agga Maha Panddita Dvipittakadhara Bhaddanta Agga Dhamma gave opening address at the meeting.

Then, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko supplicated on religious matters.

The meeting sought the



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko reports the religious affairs to the Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee at State Pariyatti Sasana University in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

approval for the minutes of the previous meeting. Secretary of the administrative body Director-General of the Department for the Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Moe Zaw

Shwe presented the accomplishments of the implementation of decisions of the previous meeting, followed by a general round of discussions.

Afterwards, the sayadaw

who chaired the meeting delivered a concluding Ovadakatha.

Also resent at the meeting were were rectors and pro-rectors of the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities (Yangon/Man-

dalay), Director-General of the Department for the Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana and officials, and central administrative body members. —MNA
■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Myanmar Nurse & Midwife Council holds first annual meeting

MYANMAR Nurse and Midwife Council (MNMC) held its first annual meeting at the meeting hall of University of Nursing in Yangon yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, Union Minister for Health and

Sports Dr Myint Htwe said nurses were one of the important bodies among the ministry's three main healthcare bodies — doctors, nurses and basic healthcare staff — in providing healthcare to the people. Myanmar Nurse

and Midwife Council was also one of the most important institution that is supervising nurses to improve their capacity and to ethically perform their duties.

The work development of nurses and midwives depends

on the association's systematic functions. Formed with 60 members in 13 August 2018, the new Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council were contributing great efforts to their duties. In order to improve the nurses' capacity and raise their standards, the council also distributed manuals for operation instructions, norms and producers to them, the Union Minister said. He then asked the council to make cooperation with nursing universities and midwifery schools so that nurses and midwives can consistently follow ethical codes, and get protection at works and trainings. He also urged the council members in the respective regions and states to exchange experiences with each others.

The ministry will soon allow four private schools to open, the Union Minister added.

He continued that the opening of the private schools will be beneficial for both sides as the schools are partnered with foreign countries and faculties from the ministry can also work part-time there.

He also appreciated the council for organizing public talks related to nursing in Yangon and Mandalay. The image of nurses and midwives will be improved if they cooperate each others with respects and team-spirit, he added.

Afterwards, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thien made a remark and followed by the greeting remark of Daw Nwe Nwe Khin, the president of MNMC. The Union Minister, the Yangon Region Chief Minister and guests the observed the booth at the event. —MNA
■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe addresses the first annual meeting of Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Tourist arrivals on visa up 39% in Oct-Aug

THE number of tourists arriving in Myanmar on a visa rose by 336,154, or 39 per cent, in October-August compared to the year-ago period, according to figures released recently by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Between 1 October, 2018 and 30 August, 2019, more than 1.2 million tourists entered Myanmar on a visa through the three international airports, sea ports, and border checkpoints, as per data from the Ministry. The number of tourists entering Myanmar using border passes also increased by 16 per cent in October-August compared with the same period a

year ago, with estimated arrivals of over 1.6 million.

Myanmar hosted a total of 2.8 million tourists up till June in the current fiscal, while during the same period last year, tourist arrivals were registered at 12.25 million. Tourists entered the country through the Yangon International Airport, Mandalay International Airport, and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, and the Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Hteekhee, Tamu, and Reedhorda checkpoints. Package tours, caravan tours, yacht tours, and riverine tours along the Ayeyawady and Chindwin riv-

ers, and cruises and chartered flights require permission from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, which is sought through local tour agencies.

Tourist arrivals from the US alone have increased, while the number of visitors from Canada and the Americas and Oceania have declined this fiscal. In spite of the increase in Italian, Austrian, and Spanish travellers, the number of tourists from other European countries has registered a fall this year compared to the year-ago period. Meanwhile, the number of visitors from Asia, the Middle East, and Africa has in-

creased. Among the Asian countries, a large number of tourists from China, South Korea, Japan, India, and China (Taipei) have visited Myanmar this year.

Myanmar has extended the preliminary trial for granting visa exemptions to ordinary passport holders from Japan, South Korea, Macau, and Hong Kong by another year. Thus, visitors from the four countries do not need to apply for a tourist visa for visits of up to 30 days, and they can enter and depart from all international checkpoints. The number of tourists from those countries has shown a remarkable increase this

year compared with the year-ago period. Starting 1 October, Italian, Spanish, Australian, Swiss, German, and Russian tourists holding ordinary passports will be granted visas on arrival. The country has also extended the visa-on-arrival facility for Indian and Chinese visitors by one more year. Myanmar is granting passport holders from 100 countries and China (Taipei) eVisas for tourist purposes, and businessmen from 54 countries and China (Taipei) eVisas for business. For more details, tourists can visit www.evisa.moip.gov.mm. —GNLM (Translated by EMM)



Dear valued customers,

In order to serve you better and in accordance with the policy set out by the Insurance Business Regulatory Board of Myanmar, we are delighted to announce that IKBZ Insurance is spinning off its life insurance portfolio to a new company: IKBZ Life Insurance Co., Ltd. (IKBZ Life) with effect from 16 September, 2019. Products covered by IKBZ Life Insurance include Short saver, Education Saver (Pain Nyar Shwe Oo), Group life, Sportsman Life, Snake bite Life and Farmer.

All other general insurance products will still fall under IKBZ Insurance (e.g. Motor Comprehensive, Fire & Perils, Travel, Individual & Group Health, Personal Accident, etc.).

All our Life customers can expect to receive a letter with further details. If you have any questions, please contact the IKBZ Insurance hotline at 01 2307000 or the IKBZ Life Hotline at 0995 44 777 88 or 0995 44 777 99. Alternately you can visit our new website www.ikbzlife.com for more information and an overview of Frequently Asked Questions.

IKBZ Insurance and IKBZ Life remain committed to providing the highest service levels and we deeply value the trust you have put in us. We look forward to improving the quality of life in Myanmar by providing the right insurance solutions for all, together with you, our valued customers.

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Pros and cons of the social network

IT WAS 15 years ago that a group of friends at a US varsity created an innovative social platform with the aim of connecting Harvard students by forming an online community. But, at the time, little did the students at the university realize that their creation – Facebook -- would become one of the most influential social networks in the world, boasting approximately 2.2 billion monthly users. Besides, they never envisaged that Facebook would rival other IT giants like Amazon, Apple, and Google in global supremacy. Now, Mark Zuckerberg, one of the Harvard students and the founder of the social network, is the youngest billionaire in the world.

Except in a few countries where Facebook is banned, the social media platform started by Harvard students for their counterparts is now a website with members from all over the world. According to 2019 records, the number of regular Facebook users globally has reached 2.41 billion and counting.

We must not accept information that appears on Facebook or other social networks easily, unless it is posted on other media, especially the trusted ones.

The sharing of technological information among friends was the initial aim of Facebook. But later, colleagues and friends began expressing, disseminating, and sharing their ideas, opinions, beliefs, knowledge, and experiences through Facebook. If used wisely and properly, Facebook is a fathomless treasure trove. But, on the other hand, improper use or misuse of Facebook can be akin to opening the proverbial Pandora's box.

Indeed, Facebook is a new frontier technology

created for establishing friendships and receiving information in the fastest manner. But, it needs controls. Every place, community, organization, or social interaction has its own ethics or codes, but Facebook has none. Normally, social lives online are controlled by rules and principles and have limits and restrictions, but, in many cases, online activities can go beyond legal or social boundaries. So, there needs to be an online check and control system as users need to be made aware of the falsifications, deceptions, or distortions on the social media platform.

We must not accept information that appears on Facebook or other social networks easily, unless it is posted on other media, especially the trusted ones. It is of vital importance that we have at least some information about our Facebook friends. Besides, we must also keep our personal facts or private information secret, otherwise unscrupulous elements can use them for their own ends, as the social media network is like a mega city where crime can be rampant.

Apart from online threats, another objectionable consequence is pornography, which has become rampant with the spread of the Internet.

As social media has become a part of human lives, the best way forward for users is self-control and awareness, which will steer them on the correct part of the platform and screen them from harmful ideas or beliefs while browsing the World Wide Web.



Management of Captive Elephants in Myanmar

By Tommy Pauk

WORLD Elephant Day was observed in Myanmar on 12 August to help people understand the need for preserving and protecting the giant mammals. Observance of such days is one way people from across the world can be brought together to help the elephants. It has become necessary to raise awareness about the urgent need for saving these intelligent mammals from extinction. Some countries are working to bring attention to the chances of African and Asian elephants becoming extinct, unless efforts are made for their conservation.

As for the country Myanmar, we Myanmar regard elephant as a precious animal. Besides, we use them for our traditional or auspicious ceremonies or events like novitiation ceremonies and royal ceremonies. It is very significant that the familiar relationship between tamed elephants and Myanmar can be learnt. According to the historical records, King Mindon had issued the directives for the systematic conservation of wildlife elephants as well as captive elephants in the country. Geographically, Myanmar has a good and favorable habitat for Asian elephants in wild life and they have been caught and tamed for timber



Visitors interact with elephants at the Ngaliketha Elephant Camp in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: AYE THAN

survival of wild elephants in the forests in the world.

As a result, the world elephant population is significantly declining. The number of elephants in Myanmar is also declining. People, governments, and animal lovers around the world have realized that they need to protect elephants through proper care and management to ensure the future of the

species on the Earth. Myanmar too has laid down the conservation project of wild elephants as well as captive elephant management. Moreover, many countries consider elephants the endangered species and demand ending the practice of capturing elephants and sending them to zoos and entertainment venues around the world.

The number of elephants in Myanmar is also declining. People, governments, and animal lovers around the world have realized that they need to protect elephants through proper care and management to ensure the future of the species on the Earth.

extraction and Royal Army since the successive reigns of Myanmar monarchs. Thus, some of them have become captive elephants and they get familiar with Oozies or Mahouts involved in State-owned Timber Extraction and dutiful to their log-carrying work properly. Nowadays, the elephants in wild life encounter narrow habitat and inadequate natural food due to deforestation and impact of climate change. Even then, illegal elephant poaching and illegal ivory trade are threatening to the

species on the Earth. Myanmar too has laid down the conservation project of wild elephants as well as captive elephant management. Moreover, many countries consider elephants the endangered species and demand ending the practice of capturing elephants and sending them to zoos and entertainment venues around the world.

In 2015, the Forest Department had laid down a plan called Myanmar Elephant Conservation Action Plan (MECAP). Now it has

out healthcare activities in the areas where the captive elephants engaged with MTE work

- Since timber production has declined, MTE-owned captive elephants stand idle. Therefore, they are put in elephant conservation based tourism.
- Baby elephants from MTE and wildlife baby elephants (orphans) are conserved by MTE.
- Currently, 1721 adult elephants, 748 loader elephants, 613 calves totaling 3082 elephants are being conserved by MTE
- MTE has already formed 10 units of Emergency Elephant Response Units to conserve wild elephants with the collaboration of Myanmar International Elephant Foundation and Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute
- In 2017-2018 fiscal years, arresting the elephant poachers, seizing the weapons and regular patrolling had been carried out.
- Elephant releasing or Rewilding must be carried out due to the increasing numbers of captive elephants and declining number of wild elephants in the wildlife

The above-stated are the actual situation and Myanmar is striving for conserving elephants

and how the captive elephants are being used for country's tourism and public recreation. Particularly, the tamed elephants are very helpful for our traditional ceremony, timber extraction and entertainment. Obliging, we are ready to cooperate with international organizations related to wildlife and captive elephant conservation scheme. Since we love elephants, the government, public and stakeholders will help wild and captive elephants for maintaining their survival and natural habitat in our country. To summarize the article, it is learnt that Myanmar is currently working together with WWF – Myanmar (World Wide Fund For Nature), International Elephant Foundation and Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute for preserving, protecting and expanding the habitat of wild life elephants in Myanmar. In addition, Myanmar complies the ban on using captive elephants in hard labor and in the condition of harsh riding on them. In conclusion, Myanmar is striving for maintaining and nurturing the huge land mammal-elephant species in Myanmar constantly.

References: Wikipedia, Captive Elephant Management Workshop held at Summit Park View in Yangon on 30-31 August 2018.



Elephants perform for visitors at the Phoe Kyar Elephant Camp in Yedashe Township. PHOTO: MNA

Myanmar Daily Weather Report
(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 15th September, 2019)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 16th September, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Naypyitaw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Eastern Shan and Kayah States, scattered in Upper Sagaing, (Northern and Southern) Shan and Rakhine States, fairly widespread in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthyai Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35)m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (8-10) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthyai Coasts and about (4-6) feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of withdrawal of Southwest monsoon from Northern Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16th September, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16th September, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16th September, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Yangon-Toungoo railway to be upgraded starting on 1st October

Yangon-Mandalay railway, which is 385.5 mile long, would be upgraded with the help of JICA's ODA (Official Development Assistance) for the convenience of travellers by train. The project is reported to cost US\$ 2.4 billion.

Ministry of Transport and Communications reported that the first phase of the project, Yangon-Toungoo section, is 166 mile long, and it will be started on 1st October. As the Yangon-Mandalay railroad is too long and costly to update all at once, it will be carried out in two phases. Phase-1 is 166 mile long Yangon-Toungoo section and phase-2 is 219.5 mile long between Toungoo and Mandalay.

General Manager (Inspection) of Myanmar Railway, U Ba Myint said that for the Phase-1, 6000 ton worth of rail will be used, and it is estimated to cost 91.921 billion Yen. Three contractors will start removing rails on 1st October for the phase one. The posts are CP 101 (Puzundaung-Bago), CP 102 (Bago-Nyaunglebin) and CP 103 (Nyaunglebin-Taungoo). During the project, instead of up and down system, training travelling in both direction will share a single track. There will be 12



The Yangon - Mandalay railway will be upgraded with the help of JICA's Official Development Assistance. **PHOTO: MNA**

phases, and the stations will be updated too.

With JICA's ODA, the railway embankments and rails will be upgraded along.

Ten stations between Yangon and Mandalay will be re-

built. The other 85 stations will be renovated step by step with the arrangement of Myanmar Railway.

In Mandalay railway upgrading project, 96 station platforms will be raised to the height of

train step, and they will be extended from 400ft to 800ft. The signal will be changed to electrical system. Alarm system at level crossings will be installed as well. —MNA ■ (Translated by Alphonsus)

Four private nurse training schools in the offing

FOUR private nurse training schools will soon be opened to meet the country's requirements for trained nurses and midwives, said Daw Nwe Nwe Khin, the chair of the Myanmar Nursing and Midwifery Council.

"At present, over 10,000 nurses and 15,000 midwives are serving in Myanmar. About 60,000 health workers -- nurses and midwives -- are required. Therefore, the Ministry of Health and Sports increased the number of health worker posts to 3,600 in 2018 from 1,800 in 2017. This year, the Ministry is planning to recruit 3,600 health workers. Increasing the number of posts will help plug the shortage of nurses and midwives in three or four years. To meet the staffing requirements, a plan to open four private schools is in progress," said Daw Nwe Nwe Khin.

She made the remarks at the 1st anniversary meeting of the nursing and midwifery council, held at the University of Nursing Yangon.



University of Nursing (Yangon) is producing qualified and competent nurses.

PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG

The Pinlon Group of Hospitals, Sayadaw Ashin Sandadika's Shwe Parmai Monastery, Victoria school, and the Mandalay group of private hospitals are planning to open private nursing and related training schools.

At present, the council has reviewed the curriculum and quality of teachers for private schools. The plan will be forwarded to the Ministry of Health and Sports.

There are 50 state-run nursing and related training schools

and two nursing universities in the country. However, the schools produce only a small number of nurses and midwives, which has prompted the private sector to open training schools. —Myint Maung ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar exploring new markets for rice exports

MYANMAR has recently begun exploring new markets such as Mozambique and Liberia to export rice through maritime trade, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar exports more than 30,000 tons of rice every week through sea trade. The prices per ton range from US\$320-340 for the Aemahta variety, \$275-345 for white rice, \$235-270 for broken rice, \$235-430 for parboiled rice, and \$550-575 for the Pawsan variety, depending on the type and grade of rice.

Myanmar's rice exports through the border trade channel have registered a drastic decline in the current fiscal year, according to figures released by the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Myanmar primarily exports rice to China through the border gates. However, trade in agricultural products is often halted on account of China clamping down on illegal border trade. The closure of the gate on the major trading route on

the Mandalay-Muse Road, following fighting in mid-August, has compounded the problem.

At present, rice is being exported to China through a government-to-government (G2G) agreement and a barter system, in exchange for Chinese goods.

Earlier, border trade was relatively high compared to sea trade in terms of rice exports. During the current fiscal year, border trade has accounted for just 29 per cent of the total rice export, while maritime trade has constituted 70.9 per cent.

Between 1 October, 2018 and 30 August, 2019, rice exports through the border gates helped the country earn an estimated \$179 million, whereas maritime trade generated an income of \$443.79 million, data from the Commerce Ministry showed.

The volume of rice and broken rice exported in the past 11 months of the current fiscal year is estimated at over 2 million metric tons, worth over \$623.57 million, according to an announcement from the Myanmar Rice Federation.



Myanmar exports more than 30,000 tons of rice every week through sea trade. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Myanmar currently ships rice to 62 foreign markets. China, which accounts for 33 per cent of the total rice exports, is the main buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by the Philippines and Côte d'Ivoire. Cameroon is the fourth-largest buyer and Mada-

gascar the fifth-largest buyer of Myanmar rice. The European Union countries account for over 20.88 per cent of rice exports, while 25.4 per cent of Myanmar's rice goes to African countries.

Myanmar exports broken rice mostly to Belgium, followed

by Indonesia, China, the Netherlands, and the UK. It is placed in 37 foreign markets.

Myanmar shipped 3.6 million tons of rice in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, which is the all-time record in rice exports.—GNLM ■ (Translated by EMM)

India keen on importing Myanmar walnuts: MOC

INDIA'S agricultural authority has shown a keen interest in importing dried walnuts from Myanmar, according to news released by the Ministry of Commerce online. Walnut is a perennial tree which is cultivated in colder regions. In Myanmar, walnuts are primarily found in Kachin State.

Normally, walnuts enter the market in October.

At present, stocks of walnuts have nearly run out in the market. Walnuts fetch K100 in the domestic market, while imported walnuts are priced at K150.

The value of trade between India and Myanmar was

registered at US\$1.17 billion in the October-July period of the current fiscal year, according to trade data from the Ministry of Commerce.

Imports outperformed exports in bilateral trade with India, with imports valued at \$654 million and exports totaling \$519

million. Myanmar exports mung beans, pigeon peas, green grams, areca nuts, ginger, saffron, turmeric, bay leaves, and other fruits and vegetables, and fishery and forest products, while it imports pharmaceuticals, oil cakes, electronic products, motorbikes, steel, and other construction

materials. Bilateral trade between the two countries was recorded at \$800 million in the last mini-budget period, \$1.46 billion in the 2017-2018FY, \$1.94 billion in the 2016-2017FY, and \$1.7 billion in the 2015-2016FY.—GNLM ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Importers now need to register business for trading agri inputs, medical equipment

IMPORTERS will not be allowed to trade six items – fertilizers, seeds, pesticides, medical equipment, construction materials and equipment, and agricultural machinery and equipment without a wholesale or retail business registration, according to the Trade Department under the Ministry of Commerce.

Foreign companies and joint venture companies between foreigners and Myanmar citizens, which are importing the six items using their import-export registration certificate, were given a 90-day deadline from 21 May to apply and register their business.

The registration period has expired, but businesses are be-

ing allowed to proceed with the registration process, in accordance with the rules and regulations. However, businesses that have not registered will no longer be able to trade the six items using their import-export license alone.

The Ministry of Commerce (MOC) recently announced it has issued registration cards to 11 retail and wholesale trading services.

To register their business with the MOC, companies will require their company registration papers; a copy of approval or endorsement from the Myanmar Investment Commission (only for foreign companies and joint ventures which need them); rec-

ommendations of the city development committee concerned; a list of commodity classification of goods to be distributed retail or wholesale; and a detailed business plan, including the initial investment amount, the location of distribution, and the dimensions of the facility.

A company can execute retail, or wholesale, or both the trading services. They can apply for registration at the Trade Department of the Ministry of Commerce in Nay Pyi Taw and the export-import licence office of the trade departments in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, and Mandalay, depending on the type of company.—Mon Mon ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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Blame game as wheels come off India's auto sector

NEW DELHI—When India's Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman claimed that a preference by millennials for ride-hailing apps was contributing to a painful slump in car sales, it sparked an online backlash from furious youngsters.

They started a campaign using ironic hashtags such as #BoycottMillennials and #SayItLikeNirmala last week to push back against older generations blaming them for today's problems in society.

While data shows firms such as Uber and Ola are popular with younger consumers more comfortable with shared mobility and digital trends, analysts say the auto industry's problems run deeper than that—and it is facing more serious bumps in the road.



The Uber effect on auto industry being felt in India. PHOTO: AFP

With a population of 1.3 billion people, India is the world's fourth-largest car market and one where owning a vehicle is as much a status symbol as a means of transport.

But the country's once-booming auto sector—seen as an important ba-

rometer of overall economic health—is in the slow lane, with sales slumping for the 10th-straight month in August.

"The minimum (priced) car that you can get nowadays starts from six to seven lakhs (\$8,500–\$9,800)," university student

Somya Saluja told AFP.

"So it's much easier to pool-in rather than to buy a new car."

Even India's richest banker, Uday Kotak, recently said that his son was more comfortable using ride-sharing apps than owning a car.—AFP ■

The big business of classic TV for streaming giants

NEW YORK—How many hundreds of millions of dollars would you pay for reruns of "Friends," the American version of "The Office" or "The Big Bang Theory"? If you are a streaming powerhouse, the answer is: quite a few. As online video platforms jockey for position

with new rivals for audience share, classic television series are commanding hefty sums. "It's a feeding frenzy right now," says Dominic Caristi, a professor of communications at Ball State University. In 2018, Netflix produced 140 original programs, but the most-watched

series was "The Office," made by traditional network NBC and which ended its successful run six years ago. According to ratings tracker Nielsen, "The Office" is followed by "Friends" and far outpaces any of the streaming giant's own offerings.—AFP ■

Shanghai home to over 700 regional headquarters of multinational corporations



A total of 701 multinational corporations have established regional headquarters in Shanghai by the end of August. PHOTO: XINHUA

SHANGHAI—A total of 701 multinational corporations have established regional headquarters in Shanghai by the end of August, according to the municipal commission

of commerce.

Among them, 106 are headquarters for the Asia Pacific region, showing that the city is an important operation center for many mul-

tinational corporations both in China and the Asia Pacific, the commission said. The number of foreign-funded research and development (R&D) centers reached 451

by the end of August, with 10 newly launched in the first eight months of this year, it added. Driven by the prosperous development of these headquarters, foreign investment into Shanghai has maintained fast growth, with 4,661 new foreign investment projects set up from January to August, up 47.8 percent year on year. Shanghai has not only maintained steady growth in attracting foreign investment but also improved its investment structure. This shows that as an important part of China's macroeconomy, the foreign investment economy is also moving toward high-quality development.—Xinhua ■

NEWS In BRIEF

U.S. to expand low-tariff quota for Japanese beef

TOKYO—The United States has agreed to increase its low-tariff quota for Japanese beef in bilateral trade negotiations, sources close to the matter said Sunday.

While it is not known by how much the quota will be expanded from the current 200 tons per year, Japan will be able to export more beef to the United States at a duty rate far below the 26.4 percent levied on quota-exceeding exports.—Kyodo ■

Invitation for Bids

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT
SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE
IDA Credit No.: 5727-MM

Date: 16th September 2019

Contract Title: Concrete Poles for National Electrification Project
Reference No. ICB: MOEE-NEP-P2/C1-G8/19

1. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the National Electrification Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards payments under the contract for Concrete Pole for National Electrification Project.

2. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of concrete pole 10 meter and 12 meter, for the total quantities of 115,400 Concrete Poles to be delivered in 2020 to multiple destinations in all Regions and States of Myanmar. Domestic preference with the margin of 15% will apply. The goods will be grouped into 2 lots and bidders may submit bid for any one or more lots. Evaluation and award of contract will be on a lot-wise basis.

3. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers [edition of January 2011 revised in July 2014] ("Procurement Guidelines"), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to the paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting for the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Project Manager, Office No (27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, nep.pmomoep@gmail.com and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 10:00 to 16:00 hours at the address given below.

5. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be obtained free of charge by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below. The Bidding Documents will be issued through email only.

Attention : Project Manager
Project Management Office (National Electrification Project) Office Building No.27,
Ministry of Electricity and Energy

City : Nay Pyi Taw

ZIP Code : 15011

Country : The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Telephone : +95 67 3431176

Facsimile number : +95 673431176

Electronic mail address : nep.pmomoep@gmail.com

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 10:00 am, 30th October, 2019. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives at the address below at 10:00 am, 30th October, 2019.

Yadanar Hall, Office Building No.27,

Ministry of Electricity and Energy

City: Nay Pyi Taw

ZIP Code: 15011.

7. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as stated in ITB 19.1 Bid Data Sheet of the bidding document.

8. The address referred to above Para 5 and 6 are:

Attention : Project Manager
Project Management Office
(National Electrification Project)
Office Building No.27, Ministry of Electricity
and Energy

City : Nay Pyi Taw

ZIP Code : 15011

Country : The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Telephone : +95 67 3431176

Facsimile number : +95 673431176

Electronic mail address : nep.pmomoep@gmail.com

Tribal leaders in Brazil call for legalization of wildcat mining

MORAES ALMEIDA (Brazil) — Members of an indigenous tribe in the Amazon in northern Brazil on Friday called for wildcat miners to be allowed to prospect for gold on their land, saying it was a source of income.

Hundreds of miners and members of the Munduruku tribe in Para state blocked the BR-163 highway at Moraes Almeida town for five days, paralyzing the key transport route and halting hundreds of trucks loaded with soy, corn and gasoline.

The roadblock was lifted Friday afternoon after President Jair Bolsonaro's government agreed to meet with represent-

atives of the protesters on Monday in the capital, Brasilia.

The demonstrators are demanding wildcat miners be allowed to mine on indigenous territory.

They also insist the government's environmental protection agency Ibama stop burning mining equipment and vehicles during raids on illegal operations.

"Wildcat miners are the ones who destroy (the environment) the least," Gilson Speare, a gold prospector for the past 12 years, told AFP at the roadblock.

"We just want (the government) to legalize wildcat mining, that's all we want."

Indigenous tribes that permit wildcat mining receive a 10 percent cut of the gold found on their land, mining and indigenous protesters told AFP.

The demonstrators vow to block the highway again if their demands are not met.

Bolsonaro, who came to power in January on a promise to open up the Amazon rainforest to more development, has called for the legalization of wildcat mining, including on indigenous land.

"Wildcat miners are the only ones helping people without jobs," Carlos Augusto Cabace, a Munduruku leader at the protest, told AFP.—AFP ■



Brazilian illegal gold miner Inacio Vilela (2-L) and Munduruku indigenous people, speak with AFP in Morais Almeida, Itaituba, Para state, Brazil, on September 13, 2019. Members of an indigenous tribe have called for wildcat miners to be allowed to prospect for gold on their land. PHOTO: AFP

China sees 105 mln tourists during Mid-Autumn Festival holiday

BEIJING — A total of 105 million Chinese tourists traveled around the country during this year's three-day Mid-Autumn Festival holiday which started Friday, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MCT) said Sunday.

The figure represented a 7.6-per cent increase compared with the holiday last year, the ministry said.

Domestic tourism revenue generated during the period totaled 47.28 billion yuan (around 6.7 billion US dollars), up 8.7 per cent year on year, according to ministry figures.



Tourists visit Shanghai during this year's three-day Mid-Autumn Festival holiday. PHOTO: XINHUA

Many events that promote family values, patriotism and traditional Chinese culture were held across China for the festivity, the ministry noted.

The Mid-Autumn Festival is typically marked by family reunions, enjoying sights of the full moon and eating mooncakes, among other traditions.—Xinhua ■

Transferring Distributor for Registered Products

Distribution of following pesticides registered by Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Singapore) is transferring from **Uni Crop Co Ltd to Farm Link Co Ltd**. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, West Gyogone, Insein Township within two weeks.

Sr	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Type of Reg	Reg No
1.	Diligent 0.3GR	Fipronil 3g/kg	Provisional	2014 - 2172
2.	Restore 500 SC	Iprodione 50% g/l	Provisional	2014 - 2165

Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch),
Rangoun Business Center, Room 209, No.97, West Shwe Gon Daing Road.
Tele :01-8603042, 09-5145328

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CHANGING PESTICIDE TRADE NAME

The trade names of the following pesticides, manufactured by Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Singapore) registered at Pesticides Registration Board, have been changed in reference to import and distribution.

Sr	Trade Name (Old)	Trade Name (New)	Active Ingredient	Type of Registration	Registration No
1.	Restore 50WP	Novel 50WP	Iprodione 500g/kg	Provisional	2014-2166
2.	Exact 20SP	Absolute 20SP	Acetamiprid 200g/kg	Provisional	2014-2169

For the above reason, in accordance with the objection of changing trade names may come and object at The Co Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township within two weeks.

Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch)

Room 209, Rangoun Business Center, No.(97) West Shwe Gon Daing Road, Shwe Gon Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY. NO. (014W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY. NO. (014W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-09-2019 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. (1125W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. (1125W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY. NO. (650 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY. NO. (650 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/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

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Ahsaykhan fort in Sagaing that deserves more tourists



Ahsaykhan Fort in Sagaing. PHOTO: NWE NADI (MYINTNGAL)

By Nwe Nadi (Myit Ngal)

AHSAYKHAN Fort in Sagaing has gained a clean and pleasant environment after it has been renovated. It is also a strong evidence that unveils defence power and structure of naval forces in Ya-

danabon era.

To defend the country in full swing in Yadanabon era, Crown Kanaung Prince established a modern weapon industry with the aim to develop the country into a modern armed power nation.

The Prince formed naval forces in a systematic way and built forts to protect the country from enemies intruded from the water way.

Those forts can still be seen until now. Thabyaydan fort, Hsin Gyone fort and Ahsaykhan fort were such kind of structures.

The forts were constructed in systematic structures. Thabyaydan fort and Sinkyone fort were built on the eastern bank of Ayeyawady river and Ahsaykhan fort in Sagaing is on the northern bank of the river.

Moreover, the forts were built in triangular positions in

preparation for strategic defence of naval men.

Sagaing Asaykhan fort was built by Conmoto pere and Moie Narie, who were French and Italian engineers, together with Myanmar engineers under the guidance of Minister Kin Wun Min in 1237 ME.

The fort lies on the bank of Ayeyawady River, the height of its wall is about nine feet, and two feet thickness.

The fort stretches about 320 feet from north to south, 240 feet from east to west.

The southern side of the walls were built with double brick walls in a shape of semicircle (or crescent), filled with the earth in it to position the canons to shoot at the enemies in the river.

At the half of each wall in the east and west, there are embrasures for firing, and the northern side was structured



Travellers looking round at Ahsaykhan Fort in Sagaing. PHOTO: NWE NADI (MYINTNGAL)

Myanmar welcomes 2.47 mln tourists in first seven months

By Kyaw Htike Soe



Arrivals of Chinese tourists to Myanmar increase by 151 percent this year compared to 2018. PHOTO: MOHT

to look like with full of embrasures to fire along the north wall.

The fort carried four hundred openings for firing and ammunition depots.

In addition to the forts, a naval force was systematically formed to fight against enemies.

Members of naval forces were accommodated in the respective quarters such as Pylonant Hlaydawthar in Pylonant Ward, Linzin Hlaydawthar in Linzin Ward, Moezar Hlaydawthar in Moezar Ward and Taunglon Hlaydawthar in Taunglon Ward, addition to Udaw Ward for guardian forces at the fortification.

During the third Anglo-Burma War, the military forces were deployed at Thabaytan Fortress, Myitngal naval forces at Inwa Elephant camp fortress and Taunglone naval forces in Servant Fortification to conduct combined attacks.

A total of 2,726 Myanmar forces were deployed at Sagaing Servant Fortification. However, the forces surrendered to British naval forces on 26th November 1885 when the royal order came in to do so.

Formation of naval forces and military perspective can be studied from these fortifications which still stand as historical heritage of the country.

The local and foreign travellers can learn more about the forts.

Travellers should come to the fort to study about the history and to learn about the Myanmar ancient kings' advance view on war on those days.

Translated by
Ye Htut Tin (NLM)



MORE than 2.4 million tourists visited Myanmar from January to July this year, according to the statistics from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. The ministry said that globetrotters that visited Myanmar in the first seven months this year

strictions on Asian tourists has significantly prompted the increase of tourist arrivals in the first seven months of 2019 to 2.14 million, up 420,000 compared with the same period last year. Myanmar received more than 3.5 million tourists in 2018, 40 percent of whom came from China. Some 650,000 Chinese

same period last year. But arrival of Europeans to Myanmar declined slightly when compared to last year. Myanmar is hoping to reach its target of attracting 7 million tourists by 2020. According to the figures from the ministry, Myanmar welcomed a total of 2.14 million globetrotters in the first six months of

tour guide training courses for human resource development. The government is much more involved in promoting the ecotourism in cooperation with private tour operators. The ministry has been making appropriate arrangements for attracting foreign visitors to the country in a safe and secure manner. The ministry also organized some travel itineraries for tourists who enter the country through border checkpoints. Some tourists enter the country by car or motorbike or bicycle in either groups or crossing alone through border checkpoints to visit significant tourist attraction sites in the country. Tourists are very interested in the river cruise tours along Ayeyawady and Chindwin Rivers to enjoy the natural scenery of riverbed villages, visit elephant camps and observe the living style of marine workers and traditional pottery industry.

Some tourists travel to Myanmar through border checkpoints to enjoy its natural landscapes, visit attractive spots and observe a diverse range of cultures and traditions of ethnic tribes. "Myanmar is a very promising country for the businessmen at home and abroad who want to operate tourism industry. Myanmar has plenty of natural resources including fantastic natural scenery, social status and traditional culture of the ethnic people. If tourism industry is developed in Myanmar, there will be more job opportunities for local people inevitably," said an official from the ministry who declined to be named.



Some tourists enter Myanmar by motorcycles in group through border checkpoints. PHOTO: MOHT

totalled over 2.47 million, a 26 percent increase when compared to the same period last year. Arrivals of Chinese travellers to Myanmar increased by 151 percent this year compared to 2018, and topped the list of tourists to the country, according to the ministry.

China remained as the top foreign tourist market with 385,942 arrivals, followed by Thailand with 157,261 during this period. Japan came as third place with 69,756 arrivals, while South Korea ranked the fourth with 382,634 arrivals. The ease of visa re-

visitors arrived in the first four months of 2019, an increase of 30 percent when compared to the same period last year, according to the ministry. Due to the sharp of Chinese travellers to Myanmar this year, more Chinese airlines are operating direct flights to the country.

The skyrocketing arrival of Chinese visitors to Myanmar had nearly doubled since visa restrictions were relaxed in October 2018. A total of 39,146 tourists from the United State visited Myanmar from January to July this year, an increase of 3 percent compared to the

this year, a 24 percent increase compared to the same period last year. The ministry expects tourist arrivals to the country would reach 6 million after the rainy season. The government is exerting all possible ways to woo more tourists to the country by organizing international invitational sports events and showcasing cultural heritages and traditional food.

At the same time, the government has been launching new destinations and creating ecotourism for globetrotters as well as conducting language proficiency courses and basic

Myanmar prepares for AFC U-16 Championship Qualifiers

THE Myanmar U-16 national football team is preparing for the AFC U-16 Championship Qualifiers, which is scheduled to be held from 18 to 22 September at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

Led by head coach U Min Thu, team Myanmar underwent special training yesterday.

In preparation for the AFC U-16 Qualifiers, team Myanmar also took part in the U-16 Boys Elite Football Tourney, supervised by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and the Union of European Football Association (UEFA), in August in Mandalay.

For the upcoming AFC U-16 Championship Qualifiers, host

Myanmar has been placed in Group K with Thailand, South Korea, and Chinese Taipei.

Myanmar will play against Thailand at 6:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time) on 18 September; South Korea at 6:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time) on 20 September; and Chinese Taipei team at 6:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time) on 22 September.

Two matches will be played at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon every day, starting from 18 September, and tickets for the matches have been priced at K2,000, according to the Myanmar Football Federation. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Myanmar U-16 players undergo training ahead of the AFC U-16 Championship Qualifiers. PHOTO: MFF

Shan United wins Myanmar National League 2019 with no losses

SHAN United won the Myanmar National League 2019 with no matches lost in the tourney to become the first undefeated champions of the league.

In a decisive final yesterday, Shan United beat Rakhine United by 4-1. Dway Ko Ko Chit and William scored goals for Shan United in the early minutes of the match. Maximum scored

the third goal for the team at 81 minutes.

Rakhine United bagged a consolation goal at 84 minutes. The penalty was scored by striker Samuel. At 87 minutes, Dway Ko Ko Chit landed the fourth goal for Shan United.

The match ended with a score of 4-1, and Shan United claimed the championship of

the league.

Shan United played 22 matches in all. It won 12 matches, lost none, and conceded to a draw in 10 matches, scoring a total of 46 points.

This is the second time Shan United have claimed the championship of the league. They last won the title in 2017. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Shan United celebrate their victory yesterday after claiming the championship title of the Myanmar National League 2019 at their home stadium in Taunggyi. PHOTO: MNL

States, regions U-17 football tourney final to be shown live on MRTV

THE final match of the States and Regions U-17 Football Tournament 2019, which will take place between the Yangon

Region and Mandalay Region teams at 3:00 pm on 16 September at the Wunna Theikdi Stadium, will be broadcast live on

MRTV and MRTV Sports Channel. The live broadcast will begin at 2:45 pm. —MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Marquez steals Rossi thunder in San Marino MotoGP

MISANO ADRIATICO, Italy— Spaniard Marc Marquez screamed with joy as he snatched victory on the final lap at the San Marino Grand Prix on Sunday to close in on a sixth MotoGP world title.

The 26-year-old Spaniard said his motivation had been high after his spat with local hero Valentino Rossi in qualifying on Saturday.

“I knew there was no need to win because (Andrea) Dovizioso was far behind but what happened yesterday (Saturday) in qualifying gave me extra motivation and winning today was the best way to answer,” said Marquez.

Marquez and Rossi both insisted the other had deliberately ruined his chance to start on pole position as they pushed for the best time on the final lap in qualifying.

Honda rider Marquez, starting on the second row, matched Rossi with a third MotoGP win in Misano, finishing ahead of France’s Fabio Quartararo, on a Yamaha-SRT, who had the lead for most of the race.

Pole sitter Maverick Vinales completed the podium for Yamaha.

Marquez now has a 93-point lead on Italian Ducati rider Dovizioso with six races left this season. Dovizioso finished sixth on Sunday in front of his home crowd.

Seven-time MotoGP world champion Rossi — who last won in Misano in 2014 — finished fourth 12.660sec behind Marquez

after starting from the third row.

“At the end I just decided to go for it,” said Marquez, after his seventh win this season after being pipped on the line in the last two races at Silverstone and the Dutch GP. “Having lost two races on the last corner burned a bit,” said Marquez.

“Fabio, however, is ready to win a race and, starting next year, fight for the championship. now I can say that it is very nice to win in Italy.” Marquez has now won 77 Grand Prix races in all categories to overtake British legend Mike Hailwood, who competed in the 1960s.

The Spaniard has won 51 MotoGP races, 16 Moto2 and 10 Moto3 — and is fourth overall behind Giacomo Agostini (122), Rossi (115) and Angel Nieto (90).

“It was a very tough race,” said Quartararo, 20, who has now achieved four podium finishes in his first season.

“It was the first time that I battled like that with Marquez.”

Marquez claims a sixth win in Misano and third in the MotoGP category after 2015 and 2017. He matches Rossi’s record of three wins at the San Marino MotoGP.

Suzuki’s Alex Rins, winner in Silverstone, lost his third place in the championship standings after crashing out of the race, with the next round at home in Valencia next weekend.

In Moto2, Spaniard Augusto Fernandez also snatched victory on the final lap to make it back-to-back wins after Silverstone.—AFP ■