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Constitution amendment bill sent to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for second time

AT THE 24th meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session yesterday, the Speaker informed the Hluttaw about the receipt of the bill to amend the Constitution for the second time and the formation of a joint committee to study the bill. Copies of the letter and the bill were then distributed to the Hluttaw representatives.

Bill Amending the Constitution for the second time

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker first informed the Hluttaw of the receipt of a bill amending the Constitution for the second time signed and submitted by 144 Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives including Pyithu Hluttaw Tatmadaw representative Brig-Gen Maung Maung on 10 September 2019. As per Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Rule section 135, a Joint Committee to Study the Bill to amend the Constitution for the second time was formed consisting of all committee members of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committees with Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office Notification 69/2019 on 17 September 2019. A copy of the draft bill and the letter sent were being distributed to the Hluttaw representatives, said the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

Joint Public Accounts Committee Report 15/2019

Next, Joint Public Accounts Committee Vice Chairman U



Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session holds its 24th-day meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Aung Min read the committee's report 15/2019 on its findings and comments on Ministry of Education, Basic Education Department's implementation of construction works in fiscal year 2018-2019 and tabled a motion for the Hluttaw to discuss.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker invited the list of Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the report.

US\$ 100 million loan from

As per Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Rule section 135, a Joint Committee to Study the Bill to amend the Constitution for the second time was formed ...

World Bank IDA

Afterwards Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win explained

to the Hluttaw about the US\$ 100 million loan from World Bank International Development Association (IDA) for Ministry of Education to conduct Inclusive Access and Quality Education

Program sent by the President.

Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi explained that the program will be conducted in 115 townships out 330 townships in all states and regions. The aim was for all students in basic education schools to have access to quality education, create learning opportunity for out-of-school school-age youngsters and to strengthen financial and management abilities.

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Constitution amendment bill sent to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for second time

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The program duration was for four years and the program value total US\$ 180 million of which \$ 100 million was World Bank loan, \$ 70 million was a grant from Global Partner for Education and \$ 10 million was a grant from European Union, said the Union Minister.

By conducting the program the capacity of the teaching staff and personnel will be strengthened in addition to enabling transparent management of human resources and public finances. Basic Education Department had prepared school quality assurance norm index in cooperation with World Bank and development partner organizations and will draw up school development program according to the index and raise the quality of the schools.

School maintenance program for the most required schools will also be conducted as part of the program. By conducting on job training courses for teachers, access to quali-



Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win. PHOTO: MNA

ty education program will be strengthened and increased for all children. While efforts were made to reduce drop-outs from schools, quality out-of-school education will be provided to about 77,000 out-of-school school-age youngsters by the program.

The loan is a 30 years development loan with a grace period of 5 years. Loan repayment period is 25 years with 3.3 per cent of the total loan being paid back annually. SDR service fee and interests were 0.75 per cent and 1.25 percent respectively



Joint Bill Committee secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe. PHOTO: MNA

explained the Union Minister in order for the Hluttaw to approve the \$ 100 million loan from World Bank IDA.

Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win explained that the program was in accordance to Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Union Budget Law, Public Debt Management Law, 2018 Mid-term debt management strategy and policy on development aid. Furthermore it was also found to be in line with Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (2018-

2030) strategy 4.1. The Deputy Minister concluded by requesting the Hluttaw to discuss and approve the loan.

Following the explanation by the Union Minister and the Deputy Minister, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the matter to register their names.

New Tree Species Protection Bill approved

Joint Bill Committee Secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe then tabled a motion to approve by clauses the New Tree Species Protection Bill in which the two Hluttaws were in disagreement. After discussion by Hluttaw representatives and obtaining the opinion of the relevant ministry and the Hluttaw representatives, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the approval of the bill.

Hluttaw discuss US\$ 185 million loan from ADB

As a final agenda of the day U Sein Aung of Paletwa constitu-

ency, Daw Khin Sandi of Launglun constituency, U Tun Wai of Phaungpyin constituency, U Hla San of Magway Region constituency 1, U Bo Gyi of Chauk constituency, Dr U Kywe Kywe of Mandalay Region constituency 6, U Than Tun Myint of Kalewa constituency, U Han Win Thein of Taninthayi Region constituency 4, U San Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3, U Ko Ko Naing of Sagaing Region constituency 8, U Thet Naing Oo of Yebyu constituency, U Maung Maung Ohn of Ayeyawady Region constituency 5 and U Soe Win of Rakhine State constituency 12 discussed \$ 185 million loan from Asian Development Bank for Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation to implement public development projects sent by the President

The 25th-day meeting of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session will be held on 19 September. — Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Pyithu Hluttaw Advisory Team leader receives Facebook Myanmar delegation



Daw Su Su Lwin, Leader of the Advisory Team to Promote Legislative Capacity-Building of Pyithu Hluttaw, meets Facebook Myanmar Team delegation led by Mr KhoeReh in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE Leader of the Advisory Team to Promote Legislative Capacity-Building of Pyithu Hluttaw, Daw Su Su Lwin, received the delegation of Facebook Myanmar Team led by Mr KhoeReh at Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The meeting focused on the assistance of Facebook Myan-

mar Team in upgrading information security and technology for the Hluttaw and its members in using the social networks, dissemination of Hluttaw information to the public, and possible contribution in 2020 General Election. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

E&E Minister receives US Ambassador



Union Minister U Win Khaing meets with US Ambassador Mr Scot Marciel at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing received Ambassador of the United States to Myanmar Mr Scot Marciel at the ministry in Nay

Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed promoting electricity and energy sector of Myanmar, the assistance of the United

State in the future projects, and assistance in technology and human resources development. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Correction

Please read "Attendees of the 7th Ethnic Media Conference pose for documentary photo." in the caption of the news story titled "7th Ethnic Media Conference takes place in Myitkyina" on page-5 of September 17 Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar. GNLM regrets the error.— GNLM

UEC Chairman receives US, EU, Canadian Ambassadors

UNION Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein received Mr Scot Marciel, the Ambassador of the United States of America to Myanmar, Mr Kristian Schmidt, the EU Ambassador to Myanmar, and Ms Karen MacAthur, the Canadian Ambassador to Myanmar, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to arrangements for the 2020 general elections in accordance with the five norms of free, fair, transparent, credible and reflecting the will of the people,

meeting with stakeholders from multi-sectors, the compilation of nationwide voter lists, and preparing codes of conducts for political parties and candidates.

They also openly discussed matters related to arrangements for electoral awareness campaigns via Facebook, arrangements for migrant workers and displaced people not being loss their voting rights, invitation of local and international election observer teams and promoting women's participation in the election process. — MNA ■
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein holds talks with US Ambassador Mr Scot Marciel, EU Ambassador Mr Kristian Schmidt and Canadian Ambassador Ms Karen MacAthur in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Thein Swe attends 3rd labour ministerial conference in Cambodia



Union Minister U Thein Swe poses for a documentary photo together with Labour Ministers from other countries at the 3rd Labour Ministerial Conference on cooperation among the five CLMVT countries in Siem Reap, Cambodia, yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe attended the 3rd Labour Ministerial Conference on labour cooperation among the five CLMVT countries, which was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, yesterday.

The event was organized under the theme of 'Toward the Protection of Migrant Workers in the CLMVT Countries: Cooperation in Social Security'.

With the opening speech delivered by Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, the event was attended by the labour ministries from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam, as well as the representative from ASEAN Secretariat.

Cambodian Minister of Labour and Vocational Training Ith Sam Heng presided over the meeting where Union Minister U Thein Swe and labour ministers

from Laos, Thailand and Viet Nam delivered speeches.

The conference agreed on the endorsement of the Siem Reap Declaration on Roadmap toward the Labour Ministerial Declaration on the Portability of Social Security Schemes in the CLMVT countries, and the joint statement of Labour Ministers on the outcomes of the 3rd Labour Ministerial Conference.

On 16 September, the 5th Senior Labour Officials meeting was attended by Myanmar delegation led by the Director-General of Labour Department. The delegates from CLMVT countries discussed the portability of social security schemes.

The 2nd CLMVT Ministerial Conference on Labour Cooperation was held on 1 and 2 August in 2017, under the theme of "Promoting human resource development and decent work for migrant workers." At the

conclusion of the meeting, the CLMVT ministers endorsed a joint declaration on migrant labour safety.

With this declaration, the ministers affirmed the nine commitments to further promote regional cooperation in order to better manage migration labour through a number of priority areas for the 2018-2020 period, including social security mobility; pre-departure training and mobility of skills recognition; fair recruitment and guidance from the International Labour Organisation; standard labour contracts; and the welfare fund.

During the visit in Cambodia, Union Minister U Thein Swe held discussions with Cambodian Minister of Labour and Vocational Training Ith Sam Heng about closer collaboration in labour affairs. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Sandalwood plants grown near Shwedagon Pagoda to mark Mahatama Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary

SANDALWOOD plants were grown near Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatama Gandhi, nonviolent resistance leader of India.

The plantation ceremony aims to foster friendship relations between Myanmar and India.

U Khin Maung Htay, the member of pagoda's board of trustees, Mr Raju Goenka, the member of Sandalwood Plantation Organizing Committee for the birth anniversary, and its member Retired Rector U Khin Maung Cho made speeches on the ceremony.

U Shwe, the chairman of Sandalwood Plantation Organizing Committee, the Consul of India Embassy in Myanmar, and U Khin Maung Htay, the

member of pagoda's board of trustees, grew sandalwood plants.

The birthday anniversary will be celebrated with the paper reading sessions and the writers' talks at Shree Bhutnath Mahadev Temple on Banyardala Road in Yangon at 10 am on 21 September.

Dr Khin Maung Aye (Maung Khin Min-Danabyu), Leidwinthar Saw Chit and Min Ko Naing will give the talks, while Professor Dr Than Win (pseudonym Maung Than Win-Yangon University), ABE Country Manager Mr Suren Verma, Daw Kathalin Thein (a Kalpana Kumari (pseudonym Injin May from Hindu Women Network) will read their papers.—Yi Yi Myint ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Sandalwood Plantation Organizing Committee Chairman and officials from India Embassy plant Sandalwood trees to mark 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

NRPC holds peace dialogue with ethnic armed groups in Kengtung

THE government's National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) and representatives of the four groups KIO (Kachin Independence Organization), MNTJP (Myanmar National Truth and Justice Party), PSLF (Palaung State Liberation Front) and ULA (United League of Arakan) met at the Amazing Kengtung Resort in Kengtung (Shan State) yesterday morning to discuss signing of the Bilateral Ceasefire Agreement.

Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, in his capacity as the vice chairman of the NRPC, extended his greetings saying that the meeting was a significant event for the peace making process, and that discussions had been made during the previous occasions in Kengtung for the future ceasefire plan.

During that meeting, both sides thoroughly discussed to stop recent armed conflicts. As a result, the attacks had significantly become fewer along the Union Road despite small remaining clashes in some areas. The three northern ethnic armed groups made a ceasefire announcement as proposed by the government. This situation was recognized as a progress in the ongoing ceasefire attempts. Both sides need to maintain this momentum.

The government discussed the draft proposal of the northern four ethnic armed groups to sign the bilateral ceasefire agreement. Although there were no notable controversies, there were still pending issues on monitoring processes. He was hopeful that this agreement would be signed after both sides had reached agreement.

The unilateral ceasefire announcement by the Tatmadaw would expire on 21 September.

The NRPC vice chairman also urged the representatives of armed groups to bring about a ceasefire agreement as the people across the country were worrying about the results of this meeting.

He also remarked that the peace process would include signing the preliminary bilateral ceasefire agreement with the four northern armed groups in this first stage, and to proceed for making detailed agreements with each individual group. The next step would be the discussions for Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement. After these stages, the political dialogues will be



A meeting between the National Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) and representatives of the four ethnic armed groups KIO, MNTJP, PSLF and ULA takes place in Kengtung, Shan State. **PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG**

held with the participations of all four northern armed groups in accordance with the roadmap based on the results of the peace talks.

The peace process for northern Myanmar was very important at the moment. Dialogues need to be held very frequently to build mutual trust.

The government was also preparing for holding the fourth session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong with the NCA signatories before the 2020 General Election. This session was expected to finalize political agreements in building the Democratic Federal Republic, agreements on lasting ceasefire, agreements on basic principles on democracy and federal system, ongoing plans beyond 2020, and implementation procedures.

In adopting the peace process beyond 2020, the ideas of the four northern armed groups were seriously taken into account as the government has recognized that the northern armed groups played crucial role in adopting the future peace process.

Recognizing the seriousness of the meeting, the government side was represented by NRPC members, Lieutenant Generals from the Tatmadaw, Vice Chairman of the Peace Commission, its secretary and members.

KIO General Secretary Kumhtat Hting Nan said that he recognized the development of the fourth meeting due to participation of senior Tatmadaw

officers to be able to make wider discussions.

He also said the four northern armed groups welcomed the agreements of NRPC on their draft proposal in the previous meeting, and that it had been a driving force for the progress of meeting. The four armed groups were willing to continue the peace talks without prior conditions. The remaining issues were to be discussed in accordance with the dialogue plan for stronger ceasefire agreement. He added that the four armed groups have reviewed the draft proposal.

Hopefully the participation of senior Tatmadaw personnel would reduce conflicts between the Tatmadaw and the armed groups on the ground, and it was hoped that harsh condemnations of each other would not be made. It was hoped that constructive talks would be made to solve problems.

Then, the representatives discussed the draft Bilateral Ceasefire Agreement in detail.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chairman of NRPC and Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Lt-Gen Min Naung, Lt-Gen Tin Maung Win from the Office of the Commander in Chief (Army), Vice Chairman of the Peace Commission U Thein Zaw, its Secretary retired Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, member of Advisory Board for Peace Commission U Moe Zaw Oo, Shan State government's Security and Border

Affairs Minister Colonel Hla Oo, Director-General U Zaw Htay from Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, Secretary of Shan State government U Soe Soe Zaw and peace negotiator U Thet Naing.

From the EAOs side KIO representative head KIO general secretary, MNTJP representative group head, ULA representative head ULA secretary general and PSLF representative group head PSLF General-Secretary attended the meeting. Peacemaker Creation Group (PCG) representatives also attended the meeting as observers.

NRPC representatives and representatives of four EAOs had met in Muse on 30 April, Mongla on 30 June and Kengtung on 31 August for the Bilateral Ceasefire Agreement and this was the fourth meeting.

After the day's meeting between NRPC and KIO, PSLF, MNTJP, ULA representatives, the heads of the two sides signed a 7 points meeting minutes.

In his concluding remark at the end of the meeting PSLF representative head General Secretary Tar Bone Kyaw said the day's meeting held for the second time in Kengtung brought many expectations for peace. Many tea breaks were taken and discussions were intense. Even though some expectations for peace that were hoped for were not achieved, some good results had been achieved. In their opinion agreeing to discuss again another time, agreeing on

a work process to achieve a true ceasefire and sign an agreement could be regarded as good results. However, thinking back, leaders from both side need to work towards freeing the people from the damage caused by conflict. Tatmadaw leaders attended the meeting together with NRPC. He added that even though there were conflicts at lower levels, they were able to hear the leaders speaking their minds and thought this was a good basis to stop the war.

Afterwards, Vice Chairman of NRPC and Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo said the last Kengtung meeting discussed the proposal of the four groups and that the day's meeting continued with further discussions and coordination efforts were made. Agreements reached were issued as meeting minutes. Discussions were made point by point based on the meeting minutes and agreement was reached to meet again in October to discuss signing of the bilateral agreement, ending the ongoing fighting, IDP matters, troop deployment, ending the seizing of personnel and finding conflict resolution methods. Efforts would be made towards signing an agreement, said the NRPC vice chairman.

After the meeting, Director General U Zaw Htay from the Ministry of the State Counsellor's Office held a press conference with local and foreign news media. — Ye Khaung Nyunt

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 37/2019

MEETING 37/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Joint Committee Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (α) U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Chairman

of the Joint Committee Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Joint Committee secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe, joint secretary U Htay Win Aung (α) U Pyone Cho and members who were Hluttaw representatives from political parties and Tatmadaw Hluttaw representative and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Meeting 37/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution underway in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Myanmar, EU hold dialogue on Sustainable Development Goals

THE EU-Myanmar Sustainable Development Goals Dialogue was held at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Union Minister U Thaug Tun and EU Ambassador Kristian Schmidt presided over the dialogue which was also attended by Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung, the ambassadors of EU member states, officials from these embassies, the representatives and the heads of development cooperation, and senior departmental officials.

During the dialogue, Deputy Minister U Set Aung discussed the ongoing and future plans for the sustainable development project, the Project Bank and the Land Bank. The dialogue also focused on Multiannual Indicative Programme 2014-2020 funded by the EU, and its new aid programmes to Myanmar from 2021 to 2027.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Minister U Thaug Tun and EU Ambassador Kristian Schmidt attend EU-Myanmar Sustainable Development Goals Dialogue in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA



Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung receives Korean Ambassador Mr Lee Sang-hwa



Union Minister for Transport and Communications, U Thant Sin Maung meets with Korean Ambassador Mr Lee Sang-hwa at Ministry of Transport and Communications yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

UNION MINISTER for Transport and Communications, U Thant Sin Maung received Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lee Sang-hwa at Ministry of Transport and Communica-

tions yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed improvement of Mandalay- Myitkyina railway, survey in Dala for development of ports, upgrading Ant

gyi Dook yard, building jetty and dry port in Monywa, Myanmar- Korea collaboration projects and future collaboration.—MNA

Chinese animated series handed over to MRTV under Global Chinese TV program

A CEREMONY to hand over Chinese animated series was held at the MRTV on Pyay road in Yangon. Three animated series: Chess Player, Monkey King and Huge Worm Park were handed over to MRTV under the Global Chinese TV Program.

They portray friendship and environmental conservation,

and Myanmar dubbed version of them will be aired on MRTV.

At the event, Deputy Director-General of the National Radio and Television Administration of China Mr Wang Gaofeng handed over the series to Acting Director of MRTV U Kyi Tun.—MNA

(Translated by Alphonsus)



A ceremony to hand over three Chinese animated series was held at the MRTV in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Office of the President

Press Release No 35/2019

3rd Waning of Tawthalin, 1381 ME
(16 September 2019)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 14 September 2019 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

Sr	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken
1	Information received of Eik Laik and Kyaw Thu who live in Kattha Village, Homalin Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 8 September 2019, police searched the house of Eik Laik (a) Myint Maung Kyaw, 33, son of U Sein Maung, who lives in Kattha Village, Homalin Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened him with MaMaSa(Homalin) MaYa(pa)88/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of Kyaw Thu, 33, son of U Tun Shwe, who lives in the same village and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened him with MaMaSa(Homalin) MaYa(pa)89/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Pe Than Lay who lives in Tilaung Village, Homalin Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 8 September 2019, police searched the house of Pe Than Lay, 38, son of U Ba Aung, who lives in Tilaung Village, Homalin Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened him with MaMaSa(Homalin) MaYa(pa)90/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of U Pwa who lives in Khapaungyon Village, Kyunhla Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 14 September 2019, police searched the house of U Pwa, 60, son of U Paw Ba, who lives in Khapaungyon Village, Kyunhla Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened him with NaMaSa(Thaphanseik) MaYa(pa)6/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Yan Kyaw who lives in Bo Myat Tun Street, Bo Tun Zan Ward, Dawbon Township, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 10 September 2019, police searched the house of Yan Kyaw (a) Yan Kyaw Thwin, 29, son of U Win Oo, who lives in Bo Myat Tun Street, Bo Tun Zan Ward, Dawbon Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened him with MaMaSa(Dawbon) MaYa(pa)36/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of Maung Maung who lives in Nyaungpintha Village, Yaksawk Township, southern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 11 September 2019, police searched the house of Maung Maung (a) Maung Maung Swe, 40, son of U Kyaw Swe, who lives in Nyaungpintha Village, Yaksawk Township, and found him accompanied with Zaw Shwe, 43, son of U San Tun, who lives in Thet Oo Ywarthit Village. Police arrested them together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened them with MaMaSa(Yaksawk) MaYa(pa)48/2019 under Section 19(a), 20(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of Kyaw Min Tun and his wife Ma Su Theingi Kyaw who live in 28 th Street, No 2 Ward, Nyaungdon Township in Ayeyawady Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drug.	On 14 September 2019, police searched the house of Kyaw Min Tun (a) Kyaw Lay, 41, son of U Maung Tun, who lives in 28 th street, No 2 Ward, Nyaungdon Township, but police did not found him Police found his wife Ma Su Theingi Kyaw, 28, daughter of U Nyi Nyi Kyaw together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened them with MaMaSa(Nyaungdon) MaYa(Pa)2/2019 under Section of 19(a), 20(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substance Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far a total of 749 cases have been opened files as of 14 September 2019. A total of 1163 people, including 980 men and 183 women had been arrested with 6712.8984 g of heroin, 1318.72 g of ICE, 39776.95 g of opium, 329.6 g of low-quality opium, 19809.27 g of speciosa powder, 7833.19 g of speciosa, 2.5 liters of liquid speciosa, 339682 stimulant tablets, 8363.22 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 513.26 g of opium

blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 29.15 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 18 firearms, different kinds of 257 cartridges and 1 grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the ministry will report on further exposed cases.

4. In addition to the investigations and arrests conducted on drug related complaints mentioned above, the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force have also carried out separate investigations on drug complaints, search and arrests at border gates, and searches of vehicles acting upon given information.

During the previous week, multiple arrests were made in the border regions and joint-surveillance gates. Upon acting on a tip-off, police arrested three men together with 1900 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle at the BalaMinhtin bridge, Citarpur Ward, Myitkayna Township in Kachin State. Police arrested a man together with 1430 g of heroin in Minenaung Village, Mohnyin Tsp, Kachin State. Acting on a tip-off, two women from that village were arrested together with 11540 g of heroin and a motorcycle. Police arrested a man together with 30 g of crush stimulant tablet powder in Wheykhlar Village Phakant Tsp in Kachin State. Police arrested a woman together with 35 stimulant tablets in Kayanthaya Village (south), Loikaw Tsp in Kayah State. Police arrested a woman together with 166 stimulant tablets in Thingannyinaung Village, Myawady Tsp in Kayin State. Acting on a tip-off, a man together with 6071 stimulant tablets was arrested in No 5 Ward. Two men together with 426 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle were arrested in Myaingthaya Ward, Mawlamyine Tsp in Mon State. Police arrested six men together with 97500 stimulant tablets in Myoma Khanyintan Village, and a woman with 300 stimulant tablets in Thazaygon Village, Maungtau Tsp, Rakhine State. In Shan state, police arrested two men together with 8,000 stimulant tablets and 2,500 g of opium block in Kangyi Ward, Taunggyi. Police searched a man with a motorcycle at No 65/3 milepost on the Kalaw-Thazi road near Yayyar Village in Kalaw and arrested him together with 7,200 g of marijuana and a motorcycle. Police arrested a man together with 42,500 g of opium and a motorcycle on the Aungban-Ywangan road, near Nyaunggon Village, Ywangan Tsp. Security force seized 840 stimulant tablets and 110 g of opium during patrolling around Nantparchi Village in Kutkai Tsp. With the information receiving, the police in Nawngkhio inspected a vehicle at the milepost No 80/4 of Muse-Mandalay highway near Nawngkhio Tsp and arrested three men together with 1,687 stimulant tablets and a vehicle. Security force patrolling near Kyaka Village and Kawmonghon Village in Kenglat Tsp seized 25,000 g of caffeine. Police arrested a man together with 4,000 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle on the Paungnet bridge near Pinkyeinthit Village, Mabein Tsp. Police searched a man with a motorcycle near Taungchay Village in Kengtung Tsp and arrested him together with 9,750 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle. While the police tried to stop four motorcycles en route from Panmat Village to Yinkhwetaung Village near Panmat Village, those cycles turned back and police seized plastic woven bags contain in 150,000 g of ICE which drop from those cycles. Police arrested two men and a woman together with 3,310 stimulant tablets and 20 g of heroin in Kyaukton Village, Monghsat Tsp. With the information receiving, the police in Tachilek inspected two tricycles on the No 1 Friendship Bridge in Tarlot Ward and arrested three men together with 2,300 l of hydrochloric acid on that tricycles. After interrogating the detainees, the police arrested another three men together with 5,980 l of hydrochloric acid, two vehicles and two tricycles in Hsanein (kha) Ward, Tachilek. Police arrested a man together with 500,000 g of ICE and a motor vehicle at the milepost 37 on the road of Tachilek-Wanpon near Wanpon Village. A woman together with 730 stimulant tablets was arrested in Nanyaung Village, Mongphyat Tsp. In Sagaing Region, police searched two men with a motorcycle on the road of Pinmalut Village, Katha Tsp, and arrested them together with 1,950 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle. Acting on a tip-off, police arrested another man together with 32 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle in Minlae Village. Police arrested a man together with 740 stimulant tablets and a vehicle in Peinnegon Village, Indaw Tsp. Police in Wuntho Tsp arrested a man together with 19 g of opium, 1.5 g of low quality opium and a motorcycle near 5-mile junction, on the road of Wuntho-Pinlebu.

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Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

FROM PAGE-6

Police in Kalay Tsp arrested a man together with 3.2 g of buprenorphine powder in Mawleik Village and another man together with 246,500 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle on the Linehmone road near Taungphilar Ward. Police arrested two women together with 143 g of heroin and a motorcycle near Kyuntaw Yayshin Village in Tamu Tsp. Police arrested a man together with 135 g of heroin in Myintha Village, Phaungpyin Tsp. Two men together with 752 stimulant tablets, 150 g of heroin and a motorcycle on the Pinkhot Village road in Homalin Tsp. In Taninthayi Region, police arrested a man together with 2,576 stimulant tablets in Kankhoung Ward Myeik Tsp and another man together with 3,610 stimulant tablets in Chaunggyiwa Village, Kyunsu Tsp. Police seized a package containing 1,317 stimulant tablets floating in the sea near Tawkar Village. Police arrested a man together with 8,640 g of speciosa powder in Chaungwa Village, Kawthoung Tsp. In Bago Region, with the information receiving, the police in Toungoo inspected a motorcycle on the Yangon-Mandalay road near No 8 Ward and arrested a man together with 140 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle. After interrogating the detainee, the police arrested another two men together with 2,100 stimulant tablets in No 2 Ward. With the information given to police, a man together with 0.136 g of heroin and a motorcycle was arrested on the road of Myaing-Bahin, near Bahin Village, Myaing Tsp, Magway Region. In Mandalay Region, police arrested a man together with 6,010 stimulant tablets and 4.6 g of heroin in Sa Ward, Pyigyidagun Tsp. Police arrested a man together with 22,850 stimulant tablets on an express bus en route from Lashio to Taungdwingyi at 16-mile inspection gate in Patheingyi Tsp. Police in Mogok arrested two men together with 729 stimulant tablets and 18 g of heroin in Le Oo Ward. Police seized 6,910 g of heroin, 59,800 g of opium and a Mark-II vehicle on the Kate-Kyetsin road near Kate Village in Kyaukse Tsp. A man together with 30,055 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle was arrested in Inntine Village, Yamethin Tsp. In Yangon Region, police arrested a man

together with 798 stimulant tablets in No 27 Ward, Shwepyitha Tsp, another man and woman together with 506 g of marijuana in Kyisu Ward, Dawbon Tsp and a man together with 315 stimulant tablets in No 9 Ward, Dagon Myothit Tsp (east). There has been one seizure together with ammunition. After receiving the information, police in Tachilek inspected a Vigo vehicle near Tarlay toll gate in Tachilek Tsp and found 100,000 stimulant tablets, a vehicle and one flint lock. On that case police arrested a man. There has been an arrest involved foreigners together with ammunition. Security forces cleared the area of near Mongyon Village, Monghsat Township and arrested 13 Thai national entering illegal together with 40,180 stimulant tablets, a 79 mm launcher, four pistols, two M-16 rifles, two AK rifles, 15 grenade launcher shells, 345 bullets and various kind of 12 magazines. There have been 220 cases being opened between 8 September 2019 and 14 September 2019, and 282 men and 28 women have been arrested. Seizures were made of 602,357 of stimulant tablets, 30 g of crushed stimulant tablets, 20745.164 g of heroin, 7779.8 g of marijuana, 650063.39 g of ICE, 102415.43 g of opium, 2500 g of opium block, 2.5 g of low quality opium, 8690 g of speciosa powder, 3.2 g of buprenorphine powder, 25,000 g of caffeine, 8,280 l of hydrochloric acid, 10 firearms, 15 shells, 345 bullets and 12 magazines.

5. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President via following contact numbers:

Contacts:
 Landline No. — 067-590200
 Fax Phone No. — 067-590233
 Email Address — antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

Mid-year Myanmar Gem emporium includes nine jade lots prices at over 1 mln Euro



Merchants appraise jade stones at second day of 2019 Mid year-Myanmar Gem emporium in the Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

SECOND DAY of 2019 Mid-year Myanmar Gem emporium was held at Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Local and international merchant observed to buy raw jade, cut and polished jade, raw gem stones, cut and polished gem stone and jade like stones under open tender.

Shops selling jewelries, sculptures and gemstone art are set up at the event.

At the event, all items will

be sold under open tender system. The gem lots will be on display from September 16th to 18th and will be sold until 19th. The lots are valued at 500 Euro and above. Jade lots will be on display from September 16th to 19th and will be sold from 20th to 25th. The basic price for raw jade lots is 5000 euro, and for cut and polished jade lots it is 1000 Euro and above. Mid-year Myanmar Gem emporium includes nine jade lots prices at

over 1 million Euro.

Visitors can enter with radio – frequency identification technology (REID) used cards along with their fingerprint checked at shutter gates. Bags were also checked with X-ray Machine Detector. ATM and money changers are also placed at the emporium for the convenience of the attendees. —MNA

(Translated by Alphonsus)

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Helping farmers produce safe products, reaching markets is sine qua non

THE setting up of trading centres in townships, on the lines of farmers markets, is a step towards establishing a farmers' market system, which can boost the economic and environmental sustainability of local agriculture.

The Ministry of Commerce has established trading centres in regions and states where local farmers can trade their produce. The centres are similar to farmers markets, and so far, 65 centres have been set up in Yangon, Ayeyawady, Bago, Sagaing, and Magway regions, and Shan, Mon, Kachin, Kayah, and Rakhine states.

The trading centres can be considered as links between producers and consumers in a direct market, and through such direct engagement between farmers and consumers, farmers can become more willing to reduce chemical inputs to meet customer demand.

To ensure that both consumers and farmers benefit from the system, arrangements must be made to fix basic prices for agricultural and livestock products, and to improve production chains to ensure food safety.

The ministry, on its part, is making arrangements to provide farmers with quality seeds, good breeds of livestock animals, technology, and to help them be competitive in the market. It is also conducting government-to-government negotiations to expand the export market.

To establish a farmers' market system, farmers' organizations need to be formed, which can control the market. Farmers' groups play a key role in operating a farmers' market system.

At the moment, the Union Government is supporting farmers to make sure that they have the capability for cooperative work and corporate investment. Only then can they form such farmers' groups.

Post-harvest infrastructure, such as storage and distribution facilities, is vital to a farmers' market, according to the current market-oriented economic system. To implement the farmers' market system, we need time and space to improve such facilities and to encourage practices which can enable a sustainable market situation.

For local development and to solidify community pride in the quality of locally grown products and livestock products, we need to encourage a farmers' market system.

We welcome the motion tabled before the Pyithu Hluttaw for setting up a farmers' market system.

In the current situation, there may be barriers to the establishment of a farmers' market system, such as lack of adequate funding, staffing, information, energy and waste diversion infrastructure, and sustainable packaging and collaboration, all of which make it difficult to understand and implement circular economy practices at a citywide level.

However, we must not lose sight of our ambition of establishing a farmers' market system, and we must work towards this goal step by step.

Can we turn suspended factories into engines of national economic growth?

By Nanda Win

STEEL is an essential material in the industrial products and in building infrastructures. If Myanmar can produce steel on commercial scale, we will be able to save our foreign exchange used in importing steel products and build an industrialized country. In fact, the country has large deposits of iron ore.

Myanmar set up steel mills for the said purpose in the past but they were not successful as they cannot compete with their foreign counterparts in quality, price and designs. They also faced high production costs, dwindling production capacity and financial losses. Hence, the country had to stop them all.

The suspended No. 1 Steel Mill was set up with a total capital of K 1795505 million and Euros 1054 million in Myingyan in the central part of Myanmar. The annual expense for monthly salaries of 828 in-service employees and six retired persons is over K 1805 million. So the suspended mill showed a loss of over K 25090 million in fiscal year 2017-2018.

So the fourth regular session of the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the suspension of 2 steel mills and other 22 factories that are showing losses annually for five success years. The Ministry of Industry owned 112 factories and workshops and of them, 57 are private-government joint-ventures, 31 are operating under the ministry and 24 are suspended factories.

"These factories are showing annual losses as their production cost are high and their products are not competitive in the market. Besides, they have the expenditure for employee salaries, maintenance cost, and interest for foreign loans. So, they are facing losses annually," said MP U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo.

The Ministry of Industry showed a loss of K 89741 million in fiscal 2015-2016, K 94850 million in 2016-2017, and K 66266 million in 2017-2018. The 24 suspended factories of the ministry have 6698 employees and the Union is spending Ks 1243 million annually from its coffers to pay their salaries.

Because of the long-term termination of operations, factories are facing wear and tear while the Union is facing financial losses. Moreover, morale of employees is falling and the industrial sector is facing a sharp drop in production. At the 13th regular session of the second Pyithu Hluttaw, MP U Bo Gyi of Chauk Township Constituency submitted a motion, suggesting joint-venture and privatization programs for the suspended factories of the government as a means to reduce the unnecessary expenditure of the Union and if possible to gain profits.

"Although the cost of loan interest payments, salary payments, production and maintenance expense are high, the fac-



MP of Pyithu Hluttaw U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo.



MP of Pyithu Hluttaw U Bo Gyi.

ories are operating at a loss. As a transparent means to turn them into profitable businesses has not yet seen, I have presented this proposal," he explained.

Other MPs held discussions in support of the motion. As regards the motion, Deputy Minister for Industry Dr. Min Ye Paing Hein promised the adoption of definite and clear policies and procedures in finding the best privatization and joint-venturing means for the suspended industries.

After studying the factories operating under joint-venture programs, the ministry would try to seek ways to serve the interest of the country best, the deputy

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center to assess the possible areas where privatization process can yield profitable results. It will sell the factories that are not economically viable," he said.

The Lower House than passed the motion.

"We should seek new and innovative ideas, instead of out-of-date or conventional means for this privatization project. We should make assessment of the situation from the technological, financial and economic points of view in adopting feasible means to lessen losses by cutting unnecessary expenses and turn unprofitable factories into profitable

possible for changeover from manual to mechanized agriculture." "The Union shall provide inputs, such as technology, investments, machinery, raw materials, so forth, to the extent possible, for development of industries." "The Union shall, to the extent possible, assist to reduce unemployment among the people."

"If we can set up public-private joint-venture industries under a common interest, we will be able to use the already available infrastructure and skilled workforce effectively," said MP U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo.

A nation needs industrial development. So, the rerunning of the factories may fulfill the local demand, increase the volume of import-substitute goods, thereby reducing foreign exchange expenses of the country, generate employment opportunities, pave a channel to transfer technology, and improve staff capacity and hopes.

We must take into account economically viable means, market-friendly ways as the flourishing of industries will generate jobs and income of the people, and finally towards the national economic growth. What's more, we can create a pleasant environment for our people alongside the rise in exports and per capita income, said MP U Kan Myint.

(Translated by : TMT)

"If we can set up public-private joint-venture industries under a common interest, we will be able to use the already available infrastructure and skilled workforce effectively," said MP U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo.

minister assured, and added that the Industry Ministry would cooperate with the relevant organizations including the Ministry of Planning and Finance in effectively managing and settling the issue of domestic and foreign loans.

"The Industry Ministry will join hands with Project Bank and

businesses," an expert suggested.

Basic Principles of the Union of the Chapter I of the 2008 State Constitution stipulates sections 19, 30 and 31, which respectively states as follows: "The Union shall provide inputs, such as technology, investments, machinery, raw materials, so forth, to the extent



SMI Co., Ltd is running a modern steel construction production base at Hlaing Thar Yar industrial zone. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR



More and more local steel fabrication companies entered into the market as industrial sector and construction sector booms. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 39/2019

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17 September, 2019

Appointment of Judge for Mandalay Region High Court

In accord with the provisions stated in article 308 section (b) sub-section (4) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, article 82 section (d) of the Union Government Law and article 45 of the Union Judiciary Law, article 18 section (d) of Region or State Government Law, U Khin Maung Tun has been appointed as Judge for Mandalay Region High Court.

Sd/ Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar



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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 18th September, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Kachin, Chin, Kayin and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf off Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35)mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (6-9) feet in Gulf off Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (4-6) feet in Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of thundery activities in Upper Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18th September, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18th September, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18th September, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein addresses the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee meeting yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds meeting

PYIDAUNGSU Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting on 2019 union tax bill, sent by the Union Government, at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D Meeting Hall at 4 pm yesterday.

Present at the meeting were Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Chairman of Joint Bill Committee and Chairman of Joint Public Accounts Committee, U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Union Minister of Planning and Finance, U Soe Win, Deputy Minister for Commerce, U Aung Htoo, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung

Maung Win, Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor of the Central Bank U Soe Min, deputy chairmen, secretary, joint secretaries and members of the joint committees, Pyithu Hluttaw Banking and Financial Development Committee head, secretary, Hluttaw representative who amend the proposal and officials from Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Union attorney's office, the CBM, UMFCCI, and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw office. — MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Seven points agreed during ceasefire talks in Kengtung

SEVEN points were agreed between the government's National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) and four ethnic armed groups — KIO (Kachin Independence Organisation), MNT-JP (Myanmar National Truth and Justice Party), PSLF (Pa-laung State Liberation Front), and ULA (United League of Arakan) during ceasefire negotiations yesterday in Kengtung, Shan State.

Following the meeting, the Director General of the Office of the State Counsellor, U Zaw Htay, who participated in the talks, held a press conference.

"Seven points were agreed during today's talks. Roughly, both sides have agreed to sign the bilateral ceasefire agreement, and discuss ways for ending the current armed conflicts and tackling the internally displaced persons (IDP) issue. Besides, they have agreed to hold talks again with the Tatmadaw over designating ceasefire rules to be followed by both sides," he said. He continued to say the two sides have also agreed establishing communication offices to avoid further clashes, no arrests from both sides for building mutual trust and a common plan for NCA, making acceptable dialogues from both sides for stronger ceasefire agreement, and another meeting in October 2019.

The government has planned to hold the NCA anniversary, and making discussion about resuming 21st Century Panglong. The UPDJC Secre-

tarait will have an oversea trip. And that we will choose an appropriate timing for the next meeting amidst the above-mentioned schedules. In brief, we could made the seven agreements in this fourth peace dialogue.

We issued a joint statement after the previous meeting. As we could make some agreements through serious discussions, this dialogue has positive results. Through frequent meetings, it is hopeful that we have obtained mutual understanding, and the discussions were very friendly and frankly.

As both sides are genuinely trying for a halt of armed clashes in northern Shan State and the emergence of a lasting ceasefire agreement, it is very optimistic about getting better results in upcoming dialogue in near future.

When Director-General U Zaw Htay replied to the answers of media persons, he said that the government was ready to sign a bilateral agreement. If a representative of respective armed group did not have a mandate to do it when they came to the dialogue, they could go back to Mongla for getting approval from their headquarters while we would be waiting for them in Kengtung. However, the four northern armed group just agreed on the meeting minutes as their headquarters did not give them a mandate to sign bilateral agreement. These points are also some parts of bilateral agreement. If they received a clear mandate, it is hopeful to

sign the agreement. Therefore, these representatives will report back to their headquarters, and agreed the developing points in the meeting minutes. A wide range of discussions resulted in broader agreements.

In replying to a question about discussion on reducing armed conflicts included in the Bilateral Ceasefire Agreement he told of requiring an agreement on ending armed conflict. Arrangements were made to cease firing on a certain date but the four northern groups were not ready to sign it so it was kept as an agreement reached at the meeting.

On the matter of monitoring committee included in the Bilateral Ceasefire Agreement

U Zaw Htay said the latest agreement was on conflict resolution, how to resolve dispute between the two groups. It was not about monitoring. It was conflict resolution during the interim period like how to resolve dispute on deployment of forces said U Zaw Htay. On the question of whether there'll be an extension of Tatmadaw's ceasefire that will end on 21st September, he responded in a positive manner saying Tatmadaw representative group led by Lt-Gen Yar Pyae will be reporting to Commander-in-Chief of Defence Service.

With regards to preparation made by the government to prevent harms to the people if discussions didn't go well he replied that peace could not

be achieved by one side only. A will from all side was required, and said Tatmadaw representative group offered to discuss with the four northern groups individually and discuss what was needed by each group. But the other side didn't have the mandate to do that. This side made efforts to avoid conflicts. Agreement to prevent conflict was required and this side made an effort toward that end. While having Tatmadaw representative group was present an approach was made for AA and TNLA to have a separate meeting with the Tatmadaw as the discussion would be effective and an offer was made, said U Zaw Htay.— MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



State Counsellor Office's Director-General U Zaw Htay gives the press conference to local and foreign media in Kengtung, Shan State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar's FDI inflows touch \$4.3 bln

By Nyein Nyein

DURING the eleven-and-a-half months from October to mid-September in the current fiscal year, foreign direct investment of US\$4.3 billion flowed into the country, including capital expansion by existing enterprises, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

The total figure includes investment of \$362 million in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone.

The Myanmar Investment Commission has set an FDI target of \$5.8 billion for the current FY. However, only \$4.3 billion has flowed into the country in the past eleven-and-a-half months, according to the DICA.

In a press statement, the DICA has stated that 262 foreign enterprises obtained MIC permits and endorsements

from regional and state investment committees between 1 October and 14 September in the current fiscal, bringing in a capital of \$2.59 billion. Singapore-listed enterprises were the largest investors during the October-September period, followed by China and Hong Kong.

Transport and communications absorbed over \$1.5 billion in FDI, topping in the investment sector line-up, followed by the manufacturing sector.

In the 2018-2019 fiscal year, foreign investments have flowed into agriculture, livestock, manufacturing, power, transport and communications, hotels and tourism, real estate, industrial estate, and other services sectors.

Under the Myanmar Investment Law, the Region and State Investment Committees are allowed to endorse local and foreign proposals, where



A container ship docking at Botahtaung Jetty in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

the initial investment does not exceed K6 billion, or \$5 million.

This is aimed at simplifying the verification process of invest-

ment projects.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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Manufacturing exports up \$1.67 bln

EXPORTS of finished industrial goods touched a high of US\$9.3 billion between 1 October, 2018 and 6 September, 2019 in the current financial year, an increase of \$1.67 billion compared with the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

As per figures provided by the Ministry, the exports of finished industrial goods totaled \$7.6 billion during the same period in the 2017-2018FY.

Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in garment and textiles produced on the Cutting, Making, and Packaging basis, and it contributes to the country's GDP to a certain extent.

The CMP industry has emerged as a very promising one in the export sector. The

value of CMP exports was just \$850 million in the 2015-2016 fiscal year, but it tripled within two years to reach \$2.5 billion in the 2017-2018FY, as per figures provided during the Myanmar Global Investment Forum 2018, held on 12 September.

In the last mini-budget (April-September, 2018), exports of clothes produced under the CMP system were valued at \$2.27 billion.

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

There are currently over 400 garment factories in Myanmar, which employ more than 300,000 workers. Investors prefer to invest in cheap-labor countries like Myanmar.— GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Natural gas exports reach \$3.5 bln in Oct-Aug

MYANMAR'S exports of natural gas as of August-end in the current financial year amounted to US\$3.5 billion, an increase of \$430 million compared with the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, according to the Commerce Ministry.

The increase in the value of exports is linked to the rise in the price of natural gas in the global markets, according to an expert.

Natural gas is included in the list of major export items of Myanmar. Over 20 per cent of the country's total export

earnings come from the sale of natural gas.

The Shwe natural gas field, located offshore from Rakhine State, was discovered in 2014. Natural gas extracted from the field is exported to China.

The Yadana natural gas project is being carried out by the TOTAL Company, with its pipeline supplying natural gas to Thailand. Natural gas is also extracted in Yedagon, located offshore from Taninthayi and discovered in 1992. The Zawtika Project in the Gulf of Moattama mainly

supplies natural gas to neighboring Thailand.

Production at Yadana and Yedagon is declining, and those projects will be halted in the coming years.

According to the second five-year National Development Plan (from 2016-2017 to 2020-2021), the Yadana, Yedagon, Zawtika, and Shwe gas projects are expected to collectively produce over 630 billion cubic feet of natural gas in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.— Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



The Yadana natural gas project. PHOTO: MNA

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Logistics hub planned on Yangon outer circular road: Minister

By Nyein Nyein

A TRUCK terminal yard or logistics hub is likely to be developed on the Yangon outer circular road once the traffic congestion caused by trucks in the city is eased, said U Myint Thaug, the Yangon Region Minister for Planning and Finance.

The minister made the remarks in response to a question raised by U Kyaw Min Han, a Region Hluttaw representative from Latha Township Constituency 2, at the first day meeting of the second Yangon Region Hluttaw's 10th regular session. U Kyaw Min Han had asked whether there are any plans to implement a logistics hub to ensure smooth freight transport and create jobs for Yangon residents.

"Highway freight forwarders

transport goods using 12-, 10-, and 6-wheeled vehicles. Goods imported by the private and public sectors through the sea channel are kept in warehouses in Sule jetties and private port terminals, and then, they are delivered to Yangon and other regions and states. Players in the road transportation sector use 22-wheeled trucks, 12-wheeled trucks, and six-wheeled trucks to carry the goods to factories or Bayintnaung terminals. At present, factories in Hlinethaya, Shwepyitha, Mingaladon, South Dagon, and East Dagon industrial zones are distributing the goods. In addition, the Bayintnaung terminal cannot accommodate all the trucks and the concerned trade body is discussing this with the Myanmar Highway Freight Transportation Services Association. After we

reduce the numbers of trucks entering and exiting the city, we will implement a trucks terminal yard on the Yangon outer circular road. The implementation of a logistics hub will help create job opportunities and improve the SME sector as well," said U Myint Thaug.

U Kyaw Min Han from Latha Township Constituency 2 suggested inviting local and foreign investors for developing international standard warehousing facilities.

"The development of a logistics industry can help control commodity prices, ensure smooth trading, reduce production costs, and support SMEs," he said.

"While sending goods into Yangon city, placing central warehouses on the outside of Yangon

city, forwarding goods to warehouses of respective townships using small express vehicles, and then delivering the goods door-to-door to customers will facilitate shipping and handling of goods. Hopefully, it will also help reduce traffic congestion caused by heavy trucks," said U Kyaw Min Han.

The country's freight transport is moved by air, water, road, and rail. In the 2017-2018 fiscal year, rail freight volume was estimated at 526,100 tons, while over 533,400 trucks, trailers, and three-wheeled vehicles were used for road freight services. Inland water transport carried 422,135 tons using 12 state-owned ferries and 336 private vessels, while domestic airlines transported 1,372 tons of goods.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Yangon walking tours to begin in October

WALKING tours around Yangon for travelers visiting the city will begin in October, according to the Yangon Region government.

The walking tours will cover most of the significant locations in the city, such as the Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Sule Pagoda Road, Botahtaung Pagoda Road, the secretariat building, Bogy-

oke Aung San Museum, Bogyoke Aung San Market, Yangon City Hall, Maha Bandoola Park, Supreme Court, Telegraph Office, Myanma Port Authority Building, Armenian Church, and other important, ancient buildings.

There are two types of travelers who visit Yangon region - free, independent travelers

(FIT) and package tour travelers. The walking tours are being designed with the aim of helping travelers observe the cultural heritage of the city and promote purchase of Myanmar foods and souvenirs, like Myanmar arts and crafts, along the walking tour routes.

In addition to pilgrimage

sites, walking travelers will also get a chance to observe the lifestyles of the local people along their route.

Tour guides will also share local customs and offer cultural insights to travelers opting for the walking tours. — Aye Cho

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Two grenades found in Taungtha Township

Two grenades found in Taungtha, Mandalay region.
PHOTO: KYAW MYO NAING (TAUNGTHA)

TWO grenades were found on 17 September in Thaeboke-ma creek, Chaungson village, Taungtha Township, Mandalay Region.

The bombs were discovered by the team led U Win Htay, a teacher from Chaungson village, while they were clearing the ground. U Win Htay said he was clearing away rubbish which had flowed in with wa-

ter from the mountains after torrential rains when he found two grenades and one detonator inside a torn bag.

He informed the police, and Inspector Soe Min Tun from the Wae Laung police station reached the scene and took the grenades and detonator into his possession.—Kyaw Myo Naing (Taungtha)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

One dead, two injured after truck overturns

ONE person was killed and two others injured when an 18-wheeled truck overturned at 4:30 pm on 16 September at mile-post 12 on the Pasawng-Mawchi Road in Bawlakhe District of Kayah State.

According to witness accounts, the truck — which was en route to Pasawng from Mawchi and was being driven by Kyaw Thu, 28, from Mahlaing Township, Mandalay Region — overturned after the driver lost control.

The truck's spare Tin Ko Latt, 31, from Kwatgyi village-tract, Hmawbi township, was killed on the spot, while driver Kyaw Thu and one more spare, identified as Than Chaung, 22, from Mahlaing Township, were injured and taken to Pasawng People's Hospital for treatment.

The police have filed a case of reckless driving against Kyaw Thu under sections 304/A, 338, and 337 of the Penal Code.—Ko Sai (Loikaw)

(Translated by Hay Mar)



The 18-wheeled truck being seen after turning over on the Pasawng-Mawchi Road in Bawlakhe, Kayah State. **PHOTO: KO SAI (LOIKAW)**

Apple embarks on EU court battle over €13b tax bill

LUXEMBOURG — Apple embarks on an epic court battle with the EU on Tuesday fighting the commission's landmark order that the iPhone-maker reimburse Ireland 13 billion euros (US\$14 billion) in back taxes.

Lawyers for the world's biggest company

will face EU officials in a Luxembourg court, challenging a decision that CEO Tim Cook slammed at the time as "total political crap". The European Commission's conclusion was delivered in August 2016 by Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager; a shock decision that put

Europe at the forefront of an emerging effort to rein in the power of US big tech. The two days of hearings on Tuesday and Wednesday will take place at the EU's lower General Court, where judges will give their judgement no earlier than 2020.

Any appeal would then go the EU's highest court,

the European Court of Justice, for a final decision that could land as late as 2021.

The EU accuses Apple of parking untaxed revenue earned in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and India, in Ireland, which has emerged as a European hub for big tech and global pharma giants.—AFP ■



Apple CEO Tim Cook poses for a selfie during an Apple product launch event at Apple's headquarters in Cupertino, California on 10 September, 2019. PHOTO: AFP

German payment provider Wirecard enters global partnership with China's UnionPay

BERLIN — German payments company Wirecard has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with UnionPay, the world's largest credit and debit card scheme, to "form a global strategic partnership," Wirecard announced on Monday.

The cooperation of the two financial service companies is set to "expand the global acceptance of UnionPay as a digital pay-

ment method across all channels," according to Wirecard. "As the world's largest card scheme in terms of card issuance, UnionPay will be one of our key alliances in Asia," said Georg von Waldenfels, executive vice president of Wirecard's business development division. According to the Nilson Report, a US publication that tracks the global credit card industry, UnionPay has issued a to-

tal of 7.59 billion payment cards, accounting for 57.6 per cent of all cards in circulation worldwide.

Wirecard announced that the partnership was envisaging a number of projects, such as payout products, fast digital payment services for businesses as well as consumer-oriented products like digital wallets for tourists in China.

In a first step, Wirecard and UnionPay are plan-

ning to launch additional projects in markets where the two companies already work together, such as in the Asia-Pacific region, Europe as well as the United States, according to Wirecard. "Through our global strategic partnership with Wirecard, we plan to continue driving our international expansion forward," noted Larry Wang, vice president at UnionPay International.—Xinhua ■

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To whom it may concern

The manufacturer of Map Pacific Pte. Ltd., (Singapore) has registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar.

Sr. No	Name of Product	A.I	Type	Regis; No.
1.	Map OK	2-4-D Dimethyl Amine Salt SL	Full	F2009-205
2.	Map Cleanup	Glyphosate 480 g/l SI	Full	F2009-245

Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Aventine Ltd.," to new distributor name "Map Pacific Co. Ltd".

If there has any objection on the changing of distributor name, it can be objected to the Co-Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Department, Gyogone (West), Insein, Yangon within 2 weeks.

Map Pacific Pte. Ltd., (Yangon Branch)
No. 29, Room - 203, 2nd Floor,
38th Street (Lower Block),
Kyauktada Township, Yangon.
Ph: 01-392168

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE
M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0180-510W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0180-510W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE
M.V KOTA HADIAH VOY. NO. (KHAD 0128 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KOTA HADIAH VOY. NO. (KHAD 0128 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE
M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (031 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (031 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE
M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY. NO. (1917 W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY. NO. (1917 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE
M.V AREZOO VOY. NO. (SCY1066)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V AREZOO VOY. NO. (SCY1066) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S LAND AND SEA INTERMODAL LOGISTICS SDN BHD LINE

Phone No: 2301185

Myanmar attracts FDI worth US\$ 4.1 bln in 11 months

By Kyaw Htike Soe

THE foreign direct investment in Myanmar during this fiscal year totaled more than US\$ 4.1 billion in the current fiscal year, according to a source from the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC). The MIC green-lighted 252 foreigner-invested projects that are valued at over US\$ 2.55 billion and can create 135,000 job opportunities for Myanmar citizens from 1 October 2018 to 5 September 2019.

“The foreign investment permitted by the MIC in the financial year 2018-2019 under the Special Economic Zone Law reached US\$ 223.680 million. So the MIC approved foreign investment projects worth US\$ 4.1 billion during the period from 1 October 2018 to 5 September this year”, said UThant Sin Lwin, Acting Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration under the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations. Similarly, the MIC gave the green light to 152 Myanmar citizen-invested projects valued at more than Ks. 1,116,619 million and US\$ 335.834 million, creating more than 17,000 job



An aerial photo shows PEB Steel Myanmar's steel plant together with other industries in Thilawa Special Economic Zone. **PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG SOE**



Buildings under construction at Tharkayta Industrial Park. **PHOTO: PHOEKHWAR**

opportunities for Myanmar people. Hence the investment volume by Myanmar citizens saw Ks. 1,373,619 million and US\$ 425.501 million.

The majority of the foreign investment flowed to manufacturing, transport, communications, tourism, agriculture, electricity generation, and industrial sectors.

The government believes that the foreign direct investment is a key drive for economic growth and is committed to an open, fair and clean investment policy.

The DICA has been cooperating with NGOs and INGOs so as to lure foreign direct investments to the country by organizing seminars, investment and business forums under the Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan (MIPP) which aims

to attract FDI worth US\$ 200 billion over the next 20 years. Arrangements are being made to attract more foreign direct investments in the industrial sector that can create more job opportunities for Myanmar citizens under the MIPP.

The MIC expects that the country will receive more foreign direct investment in the years to come. Under the Myanmar Investment Law, foreign investors can lease land from the government for 50 years.

FDI inflows to the country contribute to the creation of job opportunities for local people, help their income increase and promote their socioeconomic status.

The MIC OK'd the investment projects worth more than US\$ 200 million and Ks. 25 billion during its monthly meeting held in Yangon on 31 August. The meeting was attended by the Chairman of the MIC and Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun and nine commission members. The MIC approved six projects in the real estate sector, livestock and fisheries sector and agricultural sector during in the meeting.

The investment projects permitted by the MIC during the meeting including the amount of increased investment were valued at US\$ 214.223 million and Ks. 25,733 million, creating 374 job opportunities for Myanmar citizens.

The Yangon Region Investment Committee also gave the green light to 10 foreign investment projects from China, Hong Kong and British Virgin Islands on 28 August. These investment projects are worth US\$ 10.655 million and come to the industrial sector, creating 4268 job opportunities for Myanmar people.

A total of 1,779 foreign enterprises from 50 countries around the world were allowed to invest in 12 sectors, with the total amount of US\$ 81,249.193 million during the period from 1988 to the end of July 2019.

Singapore and China were the largest foreign investors in Myanmar, with both countries channeling more than US\$ 1.3 billion and around US\$ 350 million into the projects in the Southeast Asia country.

The largest sector was oil and gas sector, accounting for 27.5 per cent of the total foreign investments, followed by the power sector with 26.07 per cent and the manufacturing sector with 13.94 per cent.

Four Myanmar youths awarded with Telenor MBA Scholarships

By Zaw Min (GNLM)

OUT of the more than 400 applicants for Telenor MBA Scholarship, four were awarded with a full scholarship grants from Telenor for their studies in 'Strategic ICT Management' on top of a general MBA programme. The scholarship grant was a partnership between Telenor Myanmar and Myanmar Metropolitan College (MMC) which is affiliated with the University of Business and International Studies in Switzerland.

The winners were Paing Yarzar Soe, Thae Thae Yu Khine, Ye Thiha and Ye Naing Oo, who have educational backgrounds in engineering and business studies. These successful recipients will start their MBA course on 7th September.

"All the winners are truly

deserving. I believe they will use this privilege to bring benefits not only for themselves but also for the country. Telenor Myanmar is strongly supportive with Myanmar's digital journey. With a strong confidence, these MBA candidates will be great assets to Myanmar's society," said Min Thu, Head of Business Sustainability and Special Projects of Telenor Myanmar.

The Telenor MBA programme began its first ever fully-granted scholarships in 2018 with aims to equip the students with practical and up-to-date knowledge and skills, relevant to the telecom industry and to enable for talent development in Myanmar. It is delivered by Telenor senior experts who have had several years of experience in various markets and other

countries. Telenor Myanmar is proud to mention that the five winners of the 2018 Telenor MBA Scholarships have finished their first-year term at MMC.

Paing Yarzar Soe, one of the talented youths of the Telenor MBA Scholarships who studied Mechanical Engineering said, "Taking MBA studies can be very costly for an ordinary people like me. I am very grateful to receive a scholarship from Telenor which has an aim to benefit the development of people in Myanmar. I can say that now my dreams have become true."

Telenor Myanmar and Myanmar Metropolitan College signed an agreement in June 2018 to grant MBA scholarships to Myanmar students.

The scholarship is open to all Myanmar citizens who have

graduated with strong academic merit, with financial needs, and are passionate to contribute to the improvement of a business, social or public organization using ICT/technology as sustainable solution can apply the Telenor MBA Scholarship.

Since its inception in 2014, Telenor Myanmar has run 11 social responsibility initiatives ranging from digital education in online safety and digital literacy as well as other social impact projects, benefitting over one-million people to date.

Recently, Telenor Myanmar has launched Myanmar's first nationwide Digital Literacy, Online Safety and Resilience Project which aims to educate 740,000 youth aged 10 to 18 in collaboration with Plan International Myanmar. ■

JustLogin provides Myanmar with world-class HR automation

JUSTLOGIN, Singapore's top cloud-based Human Resources (HR) Software, has come to Myanmar to assist companies with automation of HR functions such as payroll, leave, attendance, and expenses.

JustLogin has provided HR Solutions for 20 years, and it has been used by a number of Myanmar companies for close to two years. It is now seeking to ramp up its activity and significantly expand its Myanmar client base, for which it has created a localized payroll system to meet Myanmar regulations.

"We look forward to expanding our services in Myanmar," said JustLogin CEO Kwa Kim Chiong.

"JustLogin makes HR management easy to use, so managers and HR professionals can avoid messy paperwork and increase their productivity, which allows them to devote more time and effort to employee welfare and the direction of their business.

By providing an HR solution that is scalable and comprehen-

sive yet easy to use, setup, and maintain, we believe that we can be a great asset to Myanmar businesses regardless of their size or industry."

To serve its clients' needs, JustLogin offers a fully integrated system of software modules, including Just Payroll, Just Leave, Just Clock, Just Expense, Just Benefit and Just People. The software performs regular backups to cloud-based servers so that up-to-date information is always available. It is also highly secure, with regular software updates and ISO27001-certified encryption on all servers to ensure the safety of sensitive business and employee information.

Used well, automation eliminates the need for constant oversight and increases efficiency by improving the productivity of various routine functions which have traditionally been done manually. JustLogin's enhanced efficiency stems from its electronic submission and processing of data and automated workflows, so that HR enquiries by employees can be handled through self-service,

payroll and other calculations can be automatically calculated and real-time reports can be generated with a click of a button.

"JustLogin is a one stop solution for all the HR functions we need," said Mr Jody Cheong, HR Executive at JustLogin customer Kotobuki. "Its seamless integration and the flexibility of its system allow for efficient completion of what would otherwise be tedious administrative duties."

Smartphones and mobile internet have spread rapidly in Southeast Asia, and nowhere faster than Myanmar, where 33 million people — 66 per cent of the population — are now mobile internet users.

This newly connected populace creates a receptive environment for convenient mobile apps that enhance people's daily lives and work experience, as well as accelerating the development of SMEs and the country's journey towards a digital economy.

With these goals in mind, JustLogin has developed a mobile app which uses the Cloud to interface with its desktop software. The app allows employees

to conveniently perform tasks like clocking in to work, viewing itemized pay slips, and applying for leave anytime and anywhere using only their smartphones, while management can use it to better track their workforce and respond to requests.

"We welcome the rising trend of smartphone use in Myanmar, and we are pleased that it has increased online accessibility here," said JustLogin Marketing Manager Kwa Yi Ting "Now that Myanmar people are more familiar with cloud services, we feel that the time is right for JustLogin to show what the Cloud can do for HR." "Many SMEs find JustLogin's products and services essential," she added. "They do not have the financial resources and manpower to set up a system and team to manage these basic HR functions, so we are able to provide an affordable and effective solution that enables them to operate.

If you and your company believe that Human Resources should be about managing people and not paperwork, just join JustLogin." — GNLM ■



Pre-match press conference held for 2020 AFC U-16 Championship Qualifiers

A pre-match press conference was held yesterday ahead of the Group K matches for the 2020 AFC U-16 Championship Qualifiers at the Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon.

The chief coaches of host Myanmar, Thailand, South Korea, and Chinese Taipei teams were present at the press meet and answered questions raised by attendees.

U Min Thu, the Myanmar chief coach, said his team had prepared to their best for the opening match. "However, the result can be known only after the match, as the result of a football match is unpredictable. The improvement in the players is satisfactory. The opening match against Thailand would be a good match," he said.

Mr Choi Young Joon, the South Korean chief coach, said his team got over four months' preparation time. "So, the team hopes to qualify for the championship by emerging as the group winner and winning all matches," he added.

Mr Salvador Valero Garcia, the Thailand chief coach, said the opening match was important. "Host Myanmar is a good team that has improved under its new coach. Though it will be a tough match, my team would do their best," he said.

Mr Wu Chun Hsien, the Chinese Taipei chief coach, said all teams in the group are strong. His team would play to their best after learning from opponent teams, he added.

The Group K matches will be held on 18, 20, and 22 September at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

On 18 September, South Korea will play Chinese Taipei at 3 pm (local time), while Thailand will face Myanmar at 6 pm.

On 20 September, Chinese Taipei will take on Thailand at 3 pm (local time), while Myanmar will be pitted against South Korea at 6 pm.

On 22 September, South Korea will face Thailand at 3 pm (local time), while Myanmar will come up against Chinese Taipei at 6 pm.

— Kyaw Khin

15th Japan Cup Judo Championship kicks off at Aung San Indoor Stadium

THE 15th Japan Cup Judo Championship 2019 began yesterday at the Aung San Indoor Stadium in Yangon.

The event has been jointly organized by the Myanmar Judo Federation and the Japanese Embassy in Myanmar.

The President of the Myanmar Judo Federation, U Tun Tun Oo, and the Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Ichiro Maruyama, delivered speeches at the start of the championship.

U Nyan Soe, the head coach of the Myanmar Judo Federation, said the event aims to help teams gain success at the 30th SEA Games, which will be held in the Philippines, and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Competition in Japan.

The competition has been divided into two categories, A and B. Each category features



The 15th Japan Cup Judo Championship 2019 kicks off at the Aung San Indoor Stadium in Yangon on 17 September. **PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG**

10 single-weight classes of men and women. The championship also has five-player team competitions. Khata competition

has also been included for the first time in the Japan Cup this year.

A total of 179 players from

12 teams are taking part in the competition, which ends on 21 September. — Myint Maung
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

National football coaches, MFF discuss readiness for international matches



MFF President U Zaw Zaw delivers a speech at the meeting with national football coaches at the Novotel Yangon Max in Yangon on 17 September. **PHOTO: MFF**

MYANMAR Football Federation (MFF) executives, officials, and the chief coaches of the national football teams met yesterday at the Novotel Yangon Max in Yangon to discuss the preparations for international matches.

During the meeting, the chief coaches of the national football teams detailed matters pertaining to the teams' readiness for international matches, including SEA Games, Asian matches, and ASEAN matches.

Miodrag Radulovic, the head coach of the Myanmar national football team, reviewed the strengths and weaknesses of the team against Mongolia and Japan, and detailed the

present condition of the team, and the objectives for the World Cup qualifiers, AFC qualifiers, and AFF Suzuki Cup. Then, the head coach of the Myanmar women's national football team, U Win Thu Moe, spoke about the matches played by the team and the results, efforts to take part in more international competitions, the condition of ASEAN football society, and the current level of the team. U Htay Myint, the head coach of the Myanmar national futsal team, spoke about the team's preparations for the ASEAN Championship, international competitions, and training.

Mr Velizar Popov, the head

coach of the Myanmar U-23 football team, discussed the team's preparation for the SEA Games, the current condition of the team, friendly matches, and training.

Afterwards, U Soe Myat Min, the head coach of the Myanmar U-19 men's team, spoke about the team's preparation for the Chinese Taipei Invitational Cup and aims for the AFC qualifiers. Daw Thet Thet Win, the coach of the Myanmar U-19 women's football team, also detailed the team's preparation for the AFC U-19 Women's Championship. Daw San San Thein, the coach of the Myanmar U-16 women's football team, outlined the strengths and weaknesses of the team and the achievements of the players.

MFF executive U Min Min Hlaing, technical committee chairman U Than Toe Aung, women's football committee chairman Daw Khin Sabel Kyi, and MFF technical director Mr Eric also covered administrative matters at the meeting. Then, MFF President U Zaw Zaw delivered a speech. The meeting concluded after a question-and-answer session. — Kyaw Khin

General Aung San Shield final: First 600 fans to reach stadium to get jerseys

THE first 600 fans to arrive at the Thuwunna Stadium for the final match of the General Aung San Shield 2019 will get jerseys, as part of the 10th anniversary celebrations of the Myanmar National League, according to the General Aung San Shield's Facebook page.

The final match for the competition will take place between Shan United F.C. and Yangon United F.C. at 6 p.m. on 24 September. The General Aung San Shield is organized by the Myanmar National League under the Myanmar Football Federation.

The upcoming match is important for both teams as the winner will not only take home the shield, but also get a chance to participate in the 2020 AFC qualification.

The two teams met in the final of General Aung San Shield 2017. Shan United had beaten Yangon United by 2-1 in that meeting.

Fans are excited to see who will be the winner of the shield this time. — Kyaw Khin