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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Daw Khin Kyi Foundation hands over mobile libraries, equipment, publications to MoI

STATE COUNSELLOR Daw Aung San Suu Kyi observed a ceremony to hand over mobile libraries, equipment, books and publications donated by Daw Khin Kyi Foundation to the Ministry of Information, and to sign memorandum of understanding for cooperation with community centers at Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The ceremony was also attended by former President U Htin Kyaw and wife Daw Su Su Lwin, Union Ministers Dr Pe Myint, U Min Thu, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Dr Win Myat Aye, U Ohn Maung, Nai Thet Lwin; Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung and its members, state/region ministers, deputy ministers, local and foreign donors, invited guests, officers and staff members of MoI and officials.

In delivering a speech at the ceremony, Chairperson of Daw Khin Kyi Foundation and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said that the mobile library was introduced by the foundation in the country. The idea had been developed since the foundation was set up. She said the first person she needed to thank was her great Dr Ohn Mar Moe Myint. The country needed many libraries. People needed to read a lot. However, it would take time to build libraries in every town, and it would not be pragmatic. After a brief argument about this idea, Dr Ohn Mar Moe Myint decided to give in and agreed to implement the mobile library project.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, former President U Htin Kyaw and wife, and dignitaries looking at documentary photos on activities of community centres displayed at the ceremony to hand over mobile libraries of Daw Khin Kyi Foundation to Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

She devoted herself entirely to the project, and never expressed her reluctance although she resisted the idea. She brought this project to a successful conclusion. Donors from Japan, Taiwan and other countries helped in the project.

Although she thought the

project would not be successful, all the books on a mobile library were borrowed by the readers within two hours in the first day. It was very encouraging to see a long queue of children. It was also understood that the project has a great potential for success. Then, the mobile library project

was expanded across the country. The State Counsellor also remarked that Myanmar people loved reading, but they had no books to read. The mobile libraries were mainly targeted for the children with the use of attractive and colorful designs. Actually, the (state-owned) li-

braries in many towns failed to attract both children and adults. For example, most of the books and publications at these libraries were outdated and discarded books donated by private donors. Thus, these uninteresting books could not attract readers.

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## UEC Chair meets with Swedish Amb, Int'l IDEA delegation separately



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein meets with Swedish Ambassador Mr Staffan Herrstorm in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.  
**PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein first received Swedish Ambassador Mr Staffan Herrstorm at the UEC office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they openly discussed the implementation of the strategic plan (2019-2022) for successfully organizing the 2020 General Elections, ensuring inclusivity for 18-year-olds voting for the first time, ensuring domestic migrant workers and IDPs can exercise their right to vote, conducting electoral education programmes, organizing advanced voting processes and right to vote for citizens working abroad, and increasing female participation in the election process.

Afterwards, the UEC Chair-

man received a delegation from the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), led by Executive Director (Headquarters, Stockholm) Ms Fiona Rowley, around 2 p.m.

There they discussed preparations to make the upcoming general elections free, fair, transparent, reliable, and trustworthy, implementation of STEP Democracy with the support of International IDEA, plans to distribute a guide to election ethics for media personnel, conducting electoral education programmes with social media, and inviting domestic and international monitoring groups.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 40/2019

THE Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution held its meeting 40/ 2019 at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

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

the Joint Committee Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Aye Tha Aung, Joint Committee Secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe, Joint Committee members who were Hluttaw representatives from political parties and Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)



Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution holds its 40/ 2019 meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.  
**PHOTO: MNA**

## Co-leader of Myanmar Delegation to 74<sup>th</sup> Session of United Nations General Assembly, Union Minister U Kyaw Tin meets Foreign Minister of Australia

U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation, who is currently in New York to attend the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, met with Australian Foreign Minister The Hon Marise Payne at the United Nations Headquarters on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019. At the meeting, bilateral relations between the two countries and the issue in Rakhine State in-

cluding repatriation of displaced persons from Rakhine State were discussed.—MNA ■

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin meets with The Hon Marise Payne, Foreign Minister of Australia, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. **PHOTO: MNA**



# Daw Khin Kyi Foundation hands over mobile libraries, equipment, publications to MoI

## FROM PAGE-1

The books in mobile libraries looked attractive with many pictures and brilliant colours. The pictures were eye-catching and known easily. In the rural areas, the adults also hired these books.

The foundation handed over 17 vehicles for mobile libraries, 346 sets of computer and equipment, over 110,000 books and 27 skilled personnel.

The Daw Khin Kyi Foundation has invested over K 1 billion until now since it established the mobile library project. It would be extended by signing the MoU. As the project had grown dramatically, it has become impossible for the Foundation to handle it alone.

explained that different matters were almost in the same degree of importance to be known like own experiences.

She also suggested that it was necessary to avoid seeing the world in a narrow scope as both personal and global views were important. Someone could compare own experiences with those of others.

She also said that it was necessary to know the dos and don'ts by taking lessons from others as reading was good for all ages and that it was necessary to take time for reading every day.

The mobile library project was started in Kawhmu township, and the success of this project had required more infrastruc-

were set up for the public. The State Counsellor also appreciated the displays of cultural items in the mini museums at these centres.

She remarked that as the number of libraries was very restricted in the past, Myanmar has started to enjoy library culture at present with the increasing number of mobile libraries.

She also gave an example of museum culture with understanding about their value, accessibility and objectives. She compared the museums with the books in giving knowledge, culture, global issues and the country's history. She remarked that the subject of culture should be intended for mutual under-



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the handover ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

It had developed into a State project. It had been proven that the mobile libraries could reach many corners of the country, and the project is therefore handed over to the government.

The State Counsellor also expressed her satisfaction for the success of this project and thanked all persons concerned with the project, including from the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation.

She emphasized the importance of reading which could help us look into thoughts and feelings of others. Different ideas and beliefs could be understood by reading.

She also recounted her experience in a literary talk with university students that a student insisted their real lives do not seem to relate with the message in the books. The State Council

ture such as parking spaces for mobile library cars, the storage of books, and accommodation for staff members. After discussing with the Information Minister, it was decided to base the mobile libraries in the community centres. These centres were being used for public discussions, reading and computer training courses.

The Information Minister has expected more people to use these centres as these facilities

standing among each other.

She said that reading was for understanding others, and quoted a researcher's appraisal of writing as a greatest revolution for human beings as reading and writing could develop human lives by sharing knowledge for the following generations.

She also said reading and writing could develop human history and culture. She then expressed her appreciation to the

Information Ministry for taking over the responsibility and leading role to manage and maintain the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation and the mobile libraries.

### Union Minister Dr Pe Myint's speech

Next, Union Minister Dr Pe Myint delivered a speech.

The library of the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD), more commonly

known as the IPRD office, were working under certain limitations. From that situation, the mobile library began lending new books in Kawmhu Township. Training courses for computer skills, English proficiency and other skills essential for youths were given in conjunction with the mobile library, and that this became interesting prospect for us, said Union Minister Dr Pe Myint.

The Union Minister went on to say that if the overlooked IPRD libraries could be transformed into community centres then they would become livelier and vibrant and the staff assigned there would become more self-confident. Furthermore, these places would become more essential for their community and that this was a vision that was clearly emerging, said Dr Pe Myint.

He then said that this was the reason why they decided to transform the IPRD offices and libraries into community centres and they wished to thank the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation for giving them the necessary support and motivation to initiate that objective. The Union Minister said the IPRD offices were usually located in the centre of towns or districts but the books would be old and the buildings decrepit. He said renovation would be costly but they strived to achieve that while seeking assistance from interested persons. He said that while renovation had yet to begin, they initiated whatever activities of a community centre were possible in those old buildings.

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The Daw Khin Kyi Foundation has invested over K 1 billion until now since it established the mobile library project. It would be extended by signing the MoU. As the project had grown dramatically, it has become impossible for the Foundation to handle it alone. It had developed into a State project. It had been proven that the mobile libraries could reach many corners of the country, and the project is therefore handed over to the government.

# Daw Khin Kyi Foundation hands over mobile libraries, equipment, publications to MoI

## FROM PAGE-3

The Union Minister highlighted the fact that the space could be used as a meeting place for two people, a reading spot, or a venue for discussion between four or five individuals. He said from there, the community centre could invite people to discuss on community matters or other affairs.

He said eventually this would make the centre indispensable among the people and urged everyone to make it so that the public could not imagine a community without a community centre. He said this would make the officials managing the centre more valuable in and out of the centre. The objective should be create a tradition so that a person would most likely answer they were going to the community centre when asked where they would be spending their time, said the Union Minister

He expressed his gratitude for handing over the materials and duties of the community centre and for believing that it was done with the utmost trust. He said they would strive to meet that level of trust with appropriate results.

The Union Minister said they would ensure that the mechanisms and procedures instilled by Daw Khin Kyi Foundation were maintained and requested advice be given during the transition period as appropriate.

He then highlighted the people who helped and donated to the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation, which included regular donors from both home and abroad. He said a portion of that donation would go to the community centres.

The Union Minister said even though the mobile libraries had already been handed over to the Ministry of Information, the duties related to it were not over yet. He said his ministry had the

human resources and accompanying service potential to take the work processes to a higher level.

Which was why the ministry would warmly welcome further donations to the mobile libraries in order to expand its reach and activities, said the Union Minister, adding his modest request for continued patronage.

Next, a video clip on the activities of mobile libraries under the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation was shown.

U Ye Naing, the Director General of IPRD, and Dr Thant Thaw Kaung, Executive Committee Member of Daw Khin Kyi Foundation signed MoUs in the presence of Chairperson of the foundation and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Su Kyi and Union Minister U Pe Myint for the handover of mobile libraries and equipment of the foundation at the Community Centres, and the cooperation in community centres between the department and the foundation.

The State Counsellor and the attendees posed for documentary photos before closing the ceremony. After greeting those present at the ceremony, they looked around the displays of documentary photos about inauguration ceremonies of community centres, their



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint delivers the speech at the handover ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

activities, public talks and the activities at the centres funded by state/region governments, Hluttaws and private donors, as well as the photos for Chairperson of the foundation and the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the community centres, mobile libraries and the vehicles of mobile libraries. The IPRD and the foundation signed an MoU in 2013 to develop an office and a libraries of IPRD's office in Kawhmu Township, Yangon Region, into a community centre and to collaborate in the mobile library project. A three-year MoU was signed in the 2016-2017 fiscal year

to expand the project across the country, which has set up a total of 16 community centres in Kawhmu, Insein, Myaungmya, Natmawk, Dekkina district, Pyinmana, Myitkyina, Mandalay, Hpa-an, Dawei, Loikaw, Sagaing, Mawlamyine, Thandwe, Hakha, Taungoo and Kalaw.

The foundation handed over K1 billion worth of 17 vehicles for mobile libraries, 346 sets of computers and accessories, 110,000 copies of publications and 28 skilled staff members to the department.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin/  
Zaw Htet Oo)

...even though the mobile library had already been handed over to the Ministry of Information, the duties related to it were not over yet.

## Ministries discuss cooperation in disaster responses

A COORDINATION meeting for discussing more effective responses to natural disasters and better cooperation of the relevant ministries and states/regions was held at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting was taken part by Union Minister for Government Office U Min Thu, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun, Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein and officials.

At the meeting, Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye said all the countries, including Myanmar, are suffering from the global climate change, and that it is important to set up mechanisms for disaster management and response among the ministries and states/regions governments.

He also advised the previous plans to be reviewed in accordance with the changing types of natural disasters and modern technologies.

After 2008 Cyclone Nargis, Myanmar adopted plans to address the nine natural disasters under the categories of urban fire, forest fire, flood, earthquake, storms, tsunami, drought, landslide and frost.

The Union Minister asked the relevant agencies to update the plans in line with the 2013 Natural Disaster Management Law and 2015 Disaster Management Regulations to meet the needs of respective areas in attracting public participation.

Union Minister U Min Thu then said the State Counsellor has instructed the relevant ministries to review the appropriateness of existing short and long-term plans with the ongoing



Union Ministers U Min Thu and Dr Win Myat Aye attend the coordination meeting for discussing more effective responses to natural disasters and better cooperation of the relevant ministries and states/regions in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

situations.

He also remarked better coordination is needed among the relevant government agencies, social communities and NGOs during the recent disasters happened in Mon and Kayin states.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung explained the disaster management laws and regulations for preparations, emergency responses and rehabilitation works.

At the meeting, the senior officials of relevant ministries discussed the existing disaster management works and the Union Ministers coordinated the requirements.—MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

# VP U Myint Swe receives Vietnamese military delegation

VICE PRESIDENT U MYINT SWE received Senior Lieutenant General Phan Van Giang, the Chief of the General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Army at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday afternoon.

The meeting focused on promotion of bilateral relations, trade, investment, tourism, friendship ties be-

tween the two militaries and exchange visits of senior officers.

The call was also attended by Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Soe Han, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Luan Thuy Duong and officials.—MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Vice President U Myint Swe meets with Senior Lieutenant General Phan Van Giang, the Chief of the General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Army in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe attends 74th Session of United Nations General Assembly held in New York on 24 September 2019. PHOTO: MNA

## Myanmar delegation attends 74th Session of United Nations General Assembly

THE MYANMAR delegation led by U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, attended the opening session of the General Debate of the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the United States of America on 24th September 2019. The Myanmar delegation also comprises Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to UN U Hau Do Suan and Myanmar Ambassador to US U Aung Lin.

Leaders from 193 United Nations member states including Heads of States, Heads of Governments, ministerial level rep-

resentatives, UN Secretary-General Mr Antonio Guterres and the chair of the assembly Mr Tijjani Muhammad-Bande attended the session.

The session opened with statements by UN Secretary-General and the chair of the assembly. Leaders from 37 countries, including US President Mr Donald Trump, delivered statements on the first day of the assembly.

The General Debate will be held from 24 to 30 September 2019 and Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe is scheduled to deliver a statement at annual General Debate on 28 September 2019.—MNA ■

## Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr CHHOUK Bunna as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mr CHHOUK Bunna was born on 5th October 1985 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. He studied at the Royal University of Phnom Penh from 2002 to 2006 and obtained Bachelor of Education. He also studied at the Royal University of Law and Economics from 2003 to 2007 and obtained Bachelor of Economics (Rural Economic Development).

He joined General Department of ASEAN of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia in 2007. And he has served various capacities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia and currently, he is serving as the Deputy Director General of the General Department of ASEAN of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia.

Mr CHHOUK Bunna is married and has two children.—MNA ■

## New stamp to commemorate 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi

MYANMAR Post under the Ministry of Transport and Communications will launch a special postage stamp of K100 denomination to commemorate the 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. The special stamp will go on sale at 9.30 a.m. from 2 October (fourth waxing of Thadingyut 1381 ME) at all post offices in the states and regions. As a special programme, the Central Post Office of Nay Pyi Taw, the Yangon General Post Office, and the Mandalay General Post Office will stamp the postmark and date on the commemorative stamps and First Day Covers purchased on 2 October.—MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)



## Senior General receives Chief of General Staff of Viet Nam People's Army

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF DEFENCE SERVICES Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomed the Chief of the General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Army, Senior Lieutenant General Phan Van Giang, with an honour guard at the Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Senior General and the Chief of the General Staff took the salute of the Guard of Honour and inspected it. They then introduced each other to the senior military officers from their respective countries. The two leaders then held a meeting at the meeting hall of the Zeyathiri Beikman.

During the meeting, they discussed the need for unity, cooperation and strengthened relations among the militaries of ASEAN member nations in order to ensure sustainable development and stability within the region.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Senior Lieutenant General Phan Van Giang pose for a group photo together with senior military officers of both countries in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

They also discussed matters related to promoting bilateral economic relations, trade and tourism, organizing goodwill vis-

its between the two militaries, training and medical cooperation, working together on technical, cultural, sports and other

sectors, fighting drug trafficking, information exchange, and the progress of Myanmar's peace process, according to news re-

leased by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. —MNA  
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

## Ministry of Information to develop community centres

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint attended the meeting on development of community centers, at Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Present at the meeting were, Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council, ministers of regions and states, officials of Ministry of Information and executive member Dr Thant Thaw Kaung from Daw Khin Kyi

Foundation.

At the meeting, they discussed community based mobile libraries, computer courses, children's reading rooms, mini museums, public talks, reading sessions and contests which are conducted in collaboration with Daw Khin Kyi Foundation. They also discussed funds for the activities.—MNA ■(Translated by Alphonsus)



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint addresses the meeting on development of community centers in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



## Myanmar Delegation attends United Nations Climate Action Summit 2019

U OHN WIN, Union Minister for National Resources and Environmental Conservation and U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation attended the United Nations Climate Action Summit 2019 which was held at UN Headquarters in New York, the United States of America on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.

Union Ministers U Ohn Win and U Kyaw Tin attend the United Nations Climate Action Summit 2019 held at UN Headquarters in New York on 23 September 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Summit was attended by the Heads of States/ Heads of Governments and Ministers from many states, private sector, civil society and other international organizations to enhance ambitious solutions in six areas including a global transition to renewable energy; sustainable and resilient infrastructures and cities; sustainable agriculture and management of forests and oceans; resilience and adaptation to climate impacts; and alignment of public and private finance with a net zero economy.—MNA ■

## Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe meets US Under Secretary of States for Political Affairs Mr David Hale, President of ICRC in New York separately



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe meets US Under Secretary of States for Political Affairs Mr David Hale in New York on 23 September. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor who is currently in New York attending the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, met with US Under Secretary of States for Political Affairs Mr David Hale at the United Nations Headquarters on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

At the meeting, they discussed ways to strengthen bi-

lateral relations, progress of democratic transformation, peace and national reconciliation processes in Myanmar and developments in Rakhine State including the preparation for the repatriation work of displaced persons.

On the sideline of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Union Minister of the Office of the State Counsellor, U Kyaw Tint Swe

met Mr Peter Maurer, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.

During the meeting, they discussed emergency aid and humanitarian assistance provided by ICRC to people affected by the conflict in Myanmar including ensuring the people's access to basic services in those areas. —MNA ■

## Officials provide rice to displaced people at IDP camps in MraukU Township

OFFICIALS from Disaster Management Department of Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement yesterday provided rice bags for a month to the displaced people at two IDP camps in MraukU Township, Rakhine State. Officials led by U Aung Zan

Hein, Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department, and Daw Nan Moe Nwe, Head of District Disaster Management Department, provided 27 rice bags for one month to 93 displaced people of 27 households at Naratsar Ordination Hall in

Myothit, Aung Tat Ward.

The officials also went to Tein Nyo Village and provided 852.5 bags of rice for one month to 2,842 displaced people of 712 households at the village's IDP camp.—MraukU (IPRD) ■  
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Officials from Disaster Management Department distribute rice bags to displaced people at IDP camps in MraukU Township, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MRAUKU (IPRD)**

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 186/2019

12<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tawthalin, 1381 ME  
25 September, 2019

#### Permission to register as a political party

Naga National Party (NNP), headquartered at Zeephyugone Ward, Khamti Town in Sagaing Region, has been permitted to register as a political party in accordance with Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 25 September 2019.

The registration number of Naga National Party (NNP) is 120.

(Hla Thein)  
Chairman  
Union Election Commission

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 187/2019

12<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tawthalin, 1381 ME  
25 September, 2019

#### Permission to register as a political party

The People's Power Party, headquartered at No 143/A, Sittaung Street, Ward 6, Shwepyitha Town in Yangon Region, has been permitted to register as a political party in accordance with Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 25 September 2019.

The registration number of the People's Power Party is 121.

(Hla Thein)  
Chairman  
Union Election Commission

## Public announcement for remonstrations

DANU National Democracy Party, headquartered near the Office of the Immigration & National Registration Department, Ba Htoo Road, Zaytan Ward in Ywangan Township in Shan State, is a political party already allowed to be registered as a political party in accord with the Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law. In their application they mention that they will use the emblem as described here under:

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

Union Election Commission

Emblem of Danu National Democracy Party



## Base price for rice will safeguard farmers' interest

**T**HE Rice Market and Price Assessment and Advising Working Committee has been assigned the task of suggesting a base price for summer and monsoon paddy to the Steering Committee for Protection of Rights and Enhancing Economic Welfare of Farmers, after taking the actual production costs of crops into consideration.

Supply and demand dictates the price of commodities, as is in the case of markets, and moving away from the two parameters would only lead to instability, which can further spread to other sectors.

It is the State's duty to ensure fair price and equal market share to prevent farmers from being exploited. The law has also made provisions for this.

The weaknesses and strengths of the announcement of the base price made in the previous years must be studied and reviewed. The government, on its part, must strive towards ensuring that the price does not fall below the base price.

In our country, too, even if a base price cannot be announced for all crops, it must be announced for main crops like peanuts, sesame, and corn, which are widely cultivated by farmers.

The weaknesses and strengths of the announcement of the base price made in the previous years must be studied and reviewed. The government, on its part, must strive towards ensuring that the price does not fall below the base price.

A base price for rice is one of the five essential aims in the farmer's law, which has made provisions for helping farmers find suitable loans, assistance during production, investment and technology to increase production, suitable prices for their agricultural products in the market, and which protects the rights and interests of farmers who own small plots, and offers support for grievances and losses caused by natural disasters as far as possible.

A base price is a very basic price, and the market price must not fall below it. The work of announcing a base price must be conducted as part of long-term cooperation between the government, traders, and farmers.



# Natural disaster or man-made?

By Ko Ko Aung

**D**IFFERENT kinds of dangers occur daily in different parts of the world; floods, fire, storm, earthquake and landslide have caused a lot of dangers, pushing millions of people to flee their shelters with loss of their properties and collapses of their houses and buildings.

People have faced a lot of problems—injuries, illnesses, loss of lives, destruction of crops, mental disorders and social ills such as continuation of education and a crisis of survival.

Disaster should be viewed with three categories of natural disaster, man-made disaster and disaster caused by human involvement. Natural disasters have begun since the beginning of our planet earth. Such disasters do not involve human activities nor conditions done by human beings. Emergence of earthquakes, tsunami, volcanic eruptions are good examples of natural disasters. Man-made disasters came after social civilization; fire, collapses of bridges and buildings, dams, radiation and chemical poisons are man-made disasters.

The third one involves creating human activities for their own advantages. For instant, raising the level of sea water, global warming, emergence of extreme climates, disorderly weather, severe drought and abnormal flooding are disasters caused by human involvement. The emergence of storms, landslides, collapses of mountains could occur due to either natural phenomena or human deeds. Such disasters are normally named natural disasters, but they could happen because of industrialization, excessive carbon emissions, deforestation, mining and explosions of quarries.

The emergence of a storm depends of three fundamental factors; the factor is low pressure area followed by the second factor of high temperatures on the sea water and third one is the acidity rate high on low pressure area. The earth rotates at a sloping 23 degree centigrade around its own axis and completes one revolution around the sun about 365 days, thus making the wind move quickly here and there as the



Photo shows an aerial view of the area of deadly landslide that struck a village in Paung Township in August, 2019. PHOTO: KO ZAW MIN

result of natural forces on earth. As a consequence, low pressure area and high pressure area occur all over the world.

Although low pressure area is a natural phenomenon on the sea water, the high temperature and high acidity rate are consequences relating to human deeds. Excessive carbon dioxide emissions cause high temperatures on land and sea areas; trees and sea and ocean water absorb continuously carbon dioxide produced on earth, thus raising acidity rate in the sea water. The storm is fundamentally natural phenomenon. It frequently occurs due to human deeds, causing more dangers and loss of lives.

Similarly, landslides and collapse of mountains are natural phenomena of geological movements of underground water currents due to human deeds. Earth-digging, mining and explosions of quarries, extension of land areas, transportation of earth and rocks from the mountain sides in order to pave the roads, creation of mountain-top pond and lake,

Based on the field trips made to these areas in Thephugon village and the foot of the Malat Mountain in Paung township, we can conclude that the disasters were perhaps the result of human activity rather than any geological processes.

creation of a new cultivation after clearing natural weeds and that of artificial waterfalls on the mountain sides. Creation of spring gates and felling of perennial trees, construction of buildings on the mountain sides and river banks without systematic construction of earth walls and installations of towers of human deeds cause landslides, collapses of mountain edges and river banks.

The Social Security and Rescue and Rehabilitation Ministry, headed by Vice-Pres-

ident U Henry Van Thio as Chairman and the Ministry's Deputy Minister as Secretary, was composed of Union Ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, States and Regions Prime Ministers; an advisory committee was formed to give valuable advice to the Ministry. As I am a professional analyst for disasters, I usually submit an advice on disasters at meetings at main committee and the advisory committee.

Personal field trips to the States for analysis were made

of the State visited the sites of landslides and collapses of the mountains in Paung township which caused loss of lives and also to 12 sites where landslides and collapses of mountains could probably occur. Based on the field trips made to these areas in Thephugon village and the foot of the Malat Mountain in Paung township, we can conclude that the disasters were perhaps the result of human activity rather than any geological processes. Extension of land areas after the explosions of the mountains, earth-digging and its transportation according to the local populace who speak about these activities from an eyewitness account.

Because of these activities, Malat Mountain and nearby mountains where earth and rocks stand solid; heavy rainfalls occur in these mountains due to seeping water into the soil and rocks on the top and sides of the mountains. The pebble formation of Malat mountain is not similar to those of nearby mountains, collapsing at the rapid rate within a period of seconds, leading to loss of properties and lives.

Among the 12 sites inspected by our group, reoccurrence of the sites during the rainy season and all-season collapsible are found and precautionary measures should be taken against them, by submitting the suggestions to the State Government. During the field trips to Paung township, Mon State, as the delegates of Mon State Government and those from Immigration and Manpower Ministry are hereby highly praised for their active participation. However, reoccurrence of dangers in Paung township could not be done without the participation of the service personnel, to the disappointment of our group upon the State Government.

In last August, the field trips to Paung township, Mon State were made to enquire the landslides and the collapses of the mountains in order to submit the findings, considerations and suggestions under the given duties of the management committee on natural disasters from 27-30 August; these trips were also made to Mawlamyine township, Mon State, Zengyaik and Kwaychan villages. I was accompanied by Dr. Soe Lwin Nyein, an advisor for public health, irrigation expert U Victor and U Ye Htwe, a management expert on natural disasters.

Upon arrival in Mawlamyine township, Mon State, we discussed with the State Government officials, headed by the State Prime Minister about the programs on the field trips at a meeting room of the State Government Office. On 28th August, our group of experts together with the Minister for the Immigration and Manpower Ministry

Translated by Arakan Sein

MYANMAR GAZETTE

### Appointment of Permanent Secretary

The Union Government has appointed Director-General U Soe Han, Union Minister's Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Permanent Secretary.

### Daw Kay Thi Soe presents Credentials to President of the Czech Republic

Daw Kay Thi Soe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Czech Republic, presented her Credentials to His Excellency Mr Miloš Zeman, President of the Czech Republic on 19 September 2019, in Prague.—MNA ■

### Public announcement for remonstrations

DAWEI Nationalities Party (DNP), headquartered No. 578, Yeyekiktha Street, Myaukywa Ward, Dawei in Taninthayi Region, is a political party already allowed to be registered as political party in accord with the Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law. In their application they mention that they will use the flag and the emblem as described hereunder.

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

Union Election Commission

Flag of Dawei Nationalities Party



Emblem of Dawei Nationalities Party



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

## 13<sup>th</sup> Tachilek-Chiang Rai border cooperation on anti-trafficking meeting held in Thailand

THE 13<sup>th</sup> Tachilek-Chiangrai Border Cooperation on Aganist Trafficking in Person meeting was held on Tuesday at the Wan Kan Hotel in the Chiang Rai province of Thailand.

At the meeting, the Chiang Rai province administrator delivered the opening speech, while anti-trafficking in person office and Head of Tachilek district Police Lt-Col Paw Tun, and observer from Laos Pol Lt-Col Norkhama Dalavong gave welcoming speeches.

Then, they discussed the migrant labor issue, types of trafficking cases, and language barriers faced in managing the cases.

They also reached five decisions: to cooperate in respect of border issues such as anti-trafficking problems, language problems being faced during investigations into the migrant or trafficking-in-per-



Laos Pol Lt-Col Norkhama Dalavong delivers welcoming speeches at the 13<sup>th</sup> Tachilek-Chiang Rai border cooperation on anti-trafficking meeting in Thailand. **PHOTO: MYINT MOH (TACHILEK)**

sons issues; to cooperate with Laos when young women from Laos are forced to marry Chinese men; to cooperate in the identification or verification of fake passports and fraudulent visas found in the hands of Myanmar migrant laborers;

and, to assign contact persons for four anti-human trafficking sectors: policy and cooperation, prevention, prosecution, and protection.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Tachilek-Chiang Rai border cooperation on anti-trafficking meeting was at-

tended by 20 representatives from Thailand, 15 representatives from Myanmar, and 15 representatives from Laos on observer status.—Myint Moh (Tachilek)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

## 109 migrant workers repatriated to Myanmar

MYANMAR received 109 migrant workers — 101 men and 9 women — on the evening of 25 September at the Kawthoung border gate. They were handed over by officials from Thailand's Ranong Immigration Department.

The workers were repatriated to Myanmar after paying penalties and facing action under Thai law for holding expired visas and working in Thailand without proper documentation. Officials from the Kawthoung District and

Township General Administration Department, the Labour, Immigration and Population Department, the Anti-Trafficking in Person Police Force, the Labour Department, and the Disaster Management Department received the migrant workers. The Township Public Health Department provided the necessary healthcare to the workers and thereafter, they were sent back to their native towns. —Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)

(Translated by La Wonn)



Township Public Health Department staff provide healthcare to the workers in Kawthoung. **PHOTO: KYAW SOE (KAWTHOUNG)**

## 13 injured after bus overturns in Mahlaing Township



A passenger bus carrying 45 passengers turned over in Mahlaing Township. **PHOTO: THEIN MYINT KYAW (MEIKTILA)**

A PASSENGER bus overturned on the morning of 25 September near Thapyaypin village in Mahlaing Township after the driver lost control of the vehicle while trying to avoid a head-on collision with a car. Thirteen passengers were injured in the accident.

The mishap occurred between mileposts 10/7 and 11/0 of the Meiktila-Mahlaing road in Mahlaing Township. Wai Phyo Aung, who was driving the passenger bus, swerved to avoid an approaching car, but

lost control of the vehicle, and the bus overturned. The driver of the car has been identified as U Tun Zaw Oo.

The bus was carrying 45 passengers — 31 men and 14 women. Thirteen passengers were injured in the mishap and were taken to the Meiktila People's Hospital.

The Mahlaing Township Police have filed a case of reckless driving against U Tun Zaw Oo under Sections 338 and 337 of the Penal Code. —Thein Myint Kyaw (Meiktila)

(Translated by La Wonn)



Merchants inspect jewellery at Mid-year Myanmar emporium in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: KYAW YESWE

## 2019 Mid Year Myanmar Gems Emporium concludes, fetches Euro 506.913 mln

THE 2019 Mid Year Myanmar Gems Emporium was held for ten days and concluded yesterday, earning a total of 506.913 million euro.

Over 5,845 jade lots and 40 gem lots were sold at 506,535,417 euro and 378,889 euro respectively.

General Manager of Myanmar Gems Enterprise, U Min Thu said “ At the event, 40 gem lots were sold out of 481 displayed. Some 5845 jades lots were sold out of over 7811 displayed. The jade lot which earned the highest was sold at

16.3 million euro and the lowest one was 5000 euro. Most of the jade merchants were from China and gem merchants were from Thailand.

The 55<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Gems Emporium in 2018 sold 5,259 jade lots out of 6,795 displayed, but the payments were made for only 4260 lots.

In 56<sup>th</sup> event of 2019, some 5263 jade lots were sold out of 6973 displayed, but the payments were made for only 4,339 lots.

The General Manager said “Merchants have to pay 10

per cent deposit on the price. For example, if they want to buy 100,000 euro worth of jade lot they must pay 10,000 euro in advance for the deal. If they failed to make the payment, they will lose the deposit, instead we blacklisted them.

The 2019 Mid Year Myanmar Gems Emporium was held from 16 to 25 September at Mani Yada Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw. About 5,000 local and international merchants from 3,325 gem companies attended the emporium.—Kyaw Thu Htet (MNA) ■  
(Translated by Alphonsus)

## Trade at Muse slides by \$1.3 bln as of 13 September

THE value of Sino-Myanmar border trade through the Muse gate plunged by US\$1.3 billion between 1 October, 2018 and 13 September, 2019 in the current financial year from \$5.94 billion recorded in the year-ago period, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce.

In the eleven-and-a-half month period, exports through the Muse gate dropped significantly to \$2.95 billion, while imports were valued at \$1.6 billion, totaling \$4.62 billion.

Exports through Muse gate have declined owing to tight confiscation and trade suspension by China since October, 2018, coupled with the closure of the Mandalay-Muse road, a major trading route, due to fighting in August.

Muse is an important border gate in Myanmar and handles the largest trade volume, but it has seen a steep drop as trade in agricultural products has been halted on account of China clamping down on illegal goods.

Myanmar merchants find it difficult to export goods to

China through the legitimate channel as they find the tax levied by China too high. Therefore, rice confiscation and price manipulation often occur.

“We need to convert the government-to-government (G2G) agreement into a sustainable pact. Myanmar requires G2G or business-to-business (B2B) agreements for trade of pulses and beans, corn, sesame, fish, and shrimp to grab a share of the Chinese market. The government and the private sector also need to move forward in harmony through public private partnerships (PPP),” according to U Ye Min Aung, the President of the Myanmar Rice Federation.

Myanmar exports rice, sugar, pulses, sesame seeds, corn, dried tea leaves, fishery products, minerals, and animal products to China, while it imports agricultural machinery, electrical appliances, iron and steel-related materials, raw industrial goods, and consumer goods from the neighbouring country. — GNLM ■ (Translated by EMM)

## Gold price soars to K1.246 mln on back of gains in global market

THE price of gold in the domestic market has touched a high of K1.246 million per tical (0.578 ounce or, 0.016 kilogram) due to a price surge in the global market, according to traders.

On 25 September, gold opened at K1,246,000 per tical in the domestic market, according to the Yangon Gold Entrepreneurs Association. Gold is currently priced at US\$1,528 per ounce in the global market.

Meanwhile, the Kyat exchange rate against the dollar has also weakened to K1,530, according to the local forex market.

The domestic gold price is positively linked to global gold prices. With global gold prices

soaring, the price of gold in the local market has been on the rise. But, gold trading has cooled in the market, said gold traders.

With prices on the rise, the Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association has warned members of legal action if any fraudulent case is detected against them. Traders have also been asked to clear payments at once, according to the association.

With global gold prices on the uptick, the domestic price has hit fresh highs this year, reaching K1,050,000 per tical between 17 and 29 January, crossing K1,060,000 (30 January-7 February), climbing to 1,070,000 (8-18 February), and then K1,080,000

(19-21 February) to reach a fresh peak of K1,110,000 on 21 June. Thereafter, the price gradually increased, and hit a new record of K1,200,000 on 7 August.

According to gold traders, the lowest price for gold in May was K1,035,200 (2 May) and the highest was K1,059,200 (14 May). In June, gold prices touched the lowest level of K1,055,000 on 1 June and the highest level of K1,125,500 on 25 June.

The prices moved in the range of K1,099,000 (1 July) and 1,149,400 (31 July) in July. Last month, the prices ranged between K1,141,5000 and K1,263,000.—GNLM ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



Gold jewelry seen at shop in downtown Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

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## ‘Media is lying’ about Amazon devastation, says Brazil’s Bolsonaro



Jair Bolsonaro, President of Brazil, tells the UN General Assembly that the Amazon rainforest is sovereign territory. **PHOTO: AFP**

UNITED NATIONS—Brazil’s President Jair Bolsonaro said Tuesday it was a lie that the Amazon was being devastated by fire and accused countries critical of him of having a “colonialist spirit.” Speaking first at this year’s UN General Assembly, the far-right leader also heaped praise on

his American counterpart Donald Trump for respecting his country’s sovereignty.

The speech came a week after a Human Rights Watch report that accused Bolsonaro of giving a “green light” to illegal loggers and failing to protect those defending the world’s largest rainforest. “The Amazon is not being devastated or consumed by fire. The media is lying,” said Bolsonaro, whose 32-minute speech went more than double his allotted time. “It is a fallacy to say that the Amazon is the heritage of humankind, and a misconception confirmed by scientists to say that our Amazon forests are the lungs of the world,” he said.

Bolsonaro also hit out at his detractors, saying that while every country had problems, sensational reporting in the international media “aroused our patriotic sentiments.”

“Using and resorting to

these fallacies, certain countries, instead of helping... behaved in a disrespectful manner and with a colonialist spirit,” he said.

“They even called into question that which we hold as a most sacred value, our sovereignty.”

Making a clear reference to France, he said: “One of these countries during the recent G7 meeting dared suggest applying sanctions to Brazil without consulting or even listening to Brazil.” France and Ireland have threatened to block a trade deal between the EU and South American countries including Brazil because of Bolsonaro’s environmental policies.

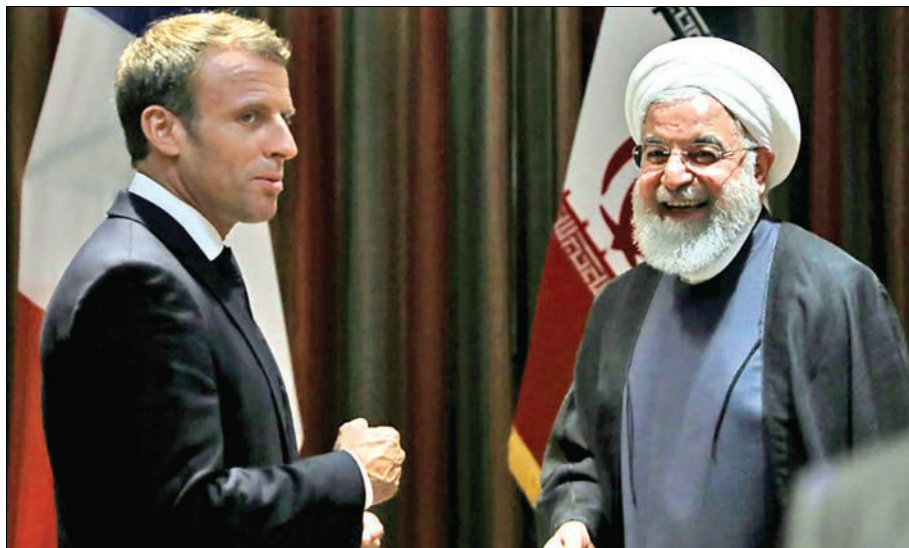
Bolsonaro by contrast said he was grateful to Trump, “who summed up the spirit that should prevail among United Nation member countries: respect for the freedom and sovereignty of each of the member countries.”

—AFP ■

## Europeans see last chance for Iran-US meeting

UNITED NATIONS —US President Donald Trump and his Iranian counterpart Hassan Rouhani face their last chance Wednesday for a historic meeting as European leaders raced to arrange talks aimed at defusing soaring tensions. A meeting between the arch-adversaries would be historic but also come under a political cloud, with Trump’s Democratic rivals on Tuesday announcing an impeachment inquiry against him.

With world leaders gathered in New York for the annual UN General Assembly, French President Emmanuel Macron made a fresh push for Trump to meet Rouhani. Escorting a smiling Rouhani to a meeting with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Macron said that time was running short. “If he leaves the country without meeting with President Trump, honestly this is a lost opportunity because he will not come back in a few months,” Macron said. —AFP ■



French President Emmanuel Macron speaks with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani at the UN General Assembly. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Democrats launch formal Trump impeachment inquiry



Nancy Pelosi, the speaker of the US House of Representatives, had resisted calls for Donald Trump’s impeachment for months, preferring to focus on the 2020 election. **PHOTO: AFP**

WASHINGTON—Top US Democrat Nancy Pelosi Tuesday announced the opening of a formal impeachment inquiry into Pres-

ident Donald Trump, saying he betrayed his oath of office by seeking help from a foreign power to hurt his Democratic rival Joe Biden.

The dramatic move — the first step in a complex process that stands little chance of driving Trump from office — pushed US politics into a perilous new chapter just 14 months before new elections for control of the White House and Congress. Following the bombshell developments from Trump Tower in New York—after addressing the UN General Assembly—the president denounced the inquiry as “Witch Hunt garbage”—while also claiming it would help his re-election

chances in 2020.

“The actions of the Trump presidency revealed the dishonorable facts of the president’s betrayal of his oath of office, betrayal of our national security, and betrayal of the integrity of our elections,” Pelosi told a highly anticipated news conference in the US capital.

“Therefore, today I’m announcing the House of Representatives moving forward with an official impeachment inquiry.”

Pelosi, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and other Democratic Party leaders had resisted taking the step for months, preferring to focus on the coming election fight.—AFP ■

### NEWS In BRIEF

#### Two million children out of school in war-torn Yemen: UN

UNITED NATIONS—Two million children are out of school in war-torn Yemen, a fourth of whom have dropped out since the conflict escalated in March 2015, the UN children’s agency said Wednesday. The education of a further 3.7 million children is at risk as teachers’ salaries have not been paid in more than two years, UNICEF said in a statement. “Violence, displacement and attacks on schools are preventing many children from accessing school,” said Sara Beysolow Nyanti, UNICEF representative in Yemen. One in five schools in the country can no longer be used as a direct result of the conflict that has devastated Yemen’s already fragile education system, the UN agency says.

“Children out of school face increased risks of all forms of exploitation including being forced to join the fighting, child labour and early marriage,” Nyanti said. “They lose the opportunity to develop and grow in a caring and stimulating environment, ultimately becoming trapped in a life of poverty and hardship.”—AFP ■

#### French #MeToo founder faces verdict in defamation suit

PARIS—The woman behind France’s answer to the #MeToo campaign exposing male abusive behaviour on Wednesday faces the verdict in a defamation case brought by a media executive she accused of making lewd and sexist remarks. Sandra Muller started a viral hashtag in French in October 2017, #balancetonporc (“expose your pig”), which called on Frenchwomen to name and shame men in an echo of the #MeToo movement that began in response to allegations that toppled movie producer Harvey Weinstein. In another post sent hours later, the US-based French journalist had accused French TV executive Eric Brion of humiliating her with sexual remarks at a function in the town of Cannes in 2012.—AFP ■

# Stock markets slide on Trump impeachment move, trade fears

UNITED NATIONS—Stock markets slid Wednesday after US Democrats launched formal impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump.

The dollar steadied versus the euro and yen amid renewed trade fears as Trump adopted a hard line on China. The pound meanwhile dropped as British MPs returned to parliament one day after a momentous Supreme Court ruling that Prime Minister Boris Johnson's decision to suspend parliament ahead of Brexit was unlawful. "Markets have taken a bit of tumble on fears US president Trump could be impeached, while the (UK) drama... is just as intoxicating as the Brexit



President Donald Trump used his UN address to hit out at China's trade 'abuses'. PHOTO: AFP

drama rumbles on," noted Neil Wilson, chief market analyst at trading group Markets.com. In a dramatic move Tuesday in the US, House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi launched a formal impeachment in-

quiry. Wall Street closed with sizeable losses ahead of her expected announcement. Democrats accuse Trump of abuse of power in a reported attempt to pressure the newly-installed president of Ukraine to

open a corruption investigation into his lead challenger for the White House, Joe Biden, and Biden's son Hunter.

Focus in Europe meanwhile was on the UK parliament after Tuesday's Supreme Court judgement dented Johnson's authority, prompting calls for his resignation and casting further doubt on his promise to pull Britain out of the European Union on October 31, come what may.

Concerns over US and British political turmoil added to worries over international trade after Trump ripped into China at the UN, declaring that the time of Beijing's "abuses" of the system was "over". —AFP ■

## Vox Media and owner of 'New York' magazine to merge

NEW YORK—Vox Media announced a merger agreement Tuesday with New York Media, home of the prestigious "New York"

magazine and a series of other titles. A joint statement presented the move as a merger, although Jim Bankoff,

the head of Vox will "lead all aspects" of the new company and the New York Times reported that New York Media would be "effectively taking a minority stake" in Vox.

Launched in 1968 New York magazine has become a prominent voice in culture and lifestyle writing in its home city and beyond, winning dozens of National Magazine Awards and a Pulitzer in 2018 for criticism.

The 1977 classic film "Saturday Night Fever" was inspired by an article that appeared in the

magazine, as was 2007's "American Gangster" starring Denzel Washington. New York Media also owns a stable of websites on style (The Cut), food (Grub Street) and pop culture (Vulture). The company was running at a loss before the announcement, according to the New York Times. Vox Media, a child of the internet, was founded in 2005 originally as a network of sports websites. In recent years Vox and New York Media have sought to diversify, into podcasts, video production and event organizing. —AFP ■



Launched in 1968 'New York' magazine has become a prominent voice in culture and lifestyle in its home city and beyond. PHOTO: AFP

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Consignees of cargo carried on M.V PRESIDIO VOY. NO. (026W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/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.

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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.

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M.V SOPHIA OCEAN

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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 BAY LINE SHIPPING PTE,**  
**LTD.**

Phone No: 2301928

## Xi announces opening of Beijing Daxing International Airport



The terminal of the new Beijing Daxing International Airport. PHOTO: AFP

BEIJING—Chinese President Xi Jinping on Wednesday announced the official opening of the Beijing Daxing International Airport. Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, attended the operation ceremony of the airport on Wednesday morning.—Xinhua ■

## S Korean leader proposes peace zone buffering North



South Korean President Moon Jae-in laid out his rosy vision for the last Cold War frontier in an address to the UN General Assembly. PHOTO: AFP

NEW YORK—South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Tuesday proposed that the United Nations create an “international peace zone” to replace the peninsula’s divide, saying the idea would both reassure the North and inspire the world.

The left-leaning leader, whose diplomacy paved the way for historic summits between President Donald Trump and North Korean

strongman Kim Jong Un, laid out his rosy vision for the last Cold War frontier in an address to the UN General Assembly.

He asked the international community to commit to designating the international peace area to replace the 250-kilometer (155-mile) Demilitarized Zone that has split the two Koreas for more than 60 years.

Moon said the zone would offer an added incentive for Kim to give up nuclear weap-

ons, the focus of more than a year of on-again, off-again talks between North Korea and the United States.

“The establishment of an international peace zone will provide an institutional and realistic guarantee for North Korea’s security,” Moon said.

“At the same time South Korea will be able to gain permanent peace,” he said.

Moon voiced hope that the zone, which is four kilometers wide, would become the home of UN agencies dedicated to conflict resolution and the environment and eventually be declared a world heritage site by UNESCO, the UN cultural body.

“It can become an international peace zone in name as well as substance,” Moon said.

Despite the intense military buildups on each side of the Demilitarized Zone, “paradoxically it has become a pristine ecological treasure trove,” he said.

“When the DMZ that cuts the midriff of the Korean peninsula is turned into a peace zone, the peninsula will evolve into a bridge nation that connects the continent and the ocean and facilitates peace and prosperity,” he said.—AFP ■

## Toilet controversy: India’s Modi ignores protests to collect Gates award

NEW YORK—Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday brushed aside an outcry from human rights activists to receive an award from the Gates Foundation in New York for his efforts to end open defecation. The decision to honor the Indian leader provoked several withering op-eds and the ire of three Nobel prize winners, citing rising attacks against minorities under Modi’s



The decision to honor Narendra Modi provoked several withering op-eds and the ire of three Nobel prize winners, citing rising attacks against minorities under his tenure. PHOTO: AFP

tenure, while British-Asian actors Jameela Jamil and Riz Ahmed who had been due to attend dropped out. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation said it respected the critics’ views but defended its decision, saying sanitation is a neglected issue and India’s program can serve as a model for other countries.

“I dedicate this award to all those Indians who transformed the ‘Clean India Mission’ into a people’s movement and started giving cleanliness the highest priority in their daily lives,” Modi said after collecting the award from billionaire philanthropist and Microsoft founder Bill Gates. India’s government says it has built more than 100 million toilets under a \$20 billion initiative begun in 2014 to address the issue of open defecation, particularly in rural areas, a major public health issue in the country. Under Modi’s plan, tribal households get \$200 each for building latrines.

But ahead of the ceremony, Nobel Peace Prize winners Mairead Maguire, Tawakkol Abdel-Salam Karman and Shirin Ebadi said that under Modi’s leadership, “India has descended into dangerous and deadly chaos that has consistently undermined human rights, democracy. “This is particularly troubling to us as the stated mission of your foundation is to preserve life and fight inequity,” they wrote, urging the Gates Foundation to change its decision.—AFP ■

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### 7 wounded in presidential campaign office blast in S. Afghanistan

LASHKAR GAH—At least seven people were wounded as a blast ripped through election campaign office of Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani in Lashkar Gah city, capital of southern Helmand province, on Wednesday, a local source said. An improvised explosive device was detonated inside the office of national parliament member Ghulam Wali Afghan roughly at 1:30 pm local time in Police District 1 of the city, a security source told Xinhua. The building also acts as sitting president Ghani’s election campaign office, he said. Meanwhile, a medical source from a surgical hospital in Lashkar Gah told Xinhua that seven people were admitted to the hospital after the explosion. Unofficial sources said lawmaker Wali Afghan also received minor wounds in the incident.—Xinhua ■

#### Death toll in Pakistan quake climbs to 22 as rescuers assess damage

ISLAMABAD—Rescue workers battled on Wednesday to reach people affected by a shallow earthquake that rocked northeast Pakistan a day earlier, killing at least 22 people and injuring hundreds more as it tore roads apart and felled buildings.

The Pakistan military continued to lead search and rescue operations as day broke with fears growing that the death toll may jump again.—AFP ■

## UK MPs return after bombshell court ruling

LONDON—British MPs return to parliament on Wednesday following a momentous Supreme Court ruling that Prime Minister Boris Johnson's decision to suspend the house was unlawful.

The judgement has hit Johnson's authority, prompting calls for his resignation and cast further doubt on his promise to pull Britain out of the EU on October 31, come what may. The Conservative leader landed back in London at around 10:30am (0930 GMT) after his trip to New York, heading straight into a political maelstrom triggered by Tuesday's damning court ruling that his decision to suspend parliament for five weeks was unlawful. Britain's right-wing tabloids reacted angrily to the ruling, with The Sun saying it



Speaker of the House of Commons John Bercow announcing that parliament will return to work on Wednesday. PHOTO: AFP

had been bombarded with letters from readers expressing "fury". The Daily Telegraph said Johnson was "seen as the champion of the people against

an establishment determined to stop Brexit", while for the Daily Mail, "The real political vandals are the out of touch MPs blocking Brexit". The Speaker of

the House of Commons, John Bercow, announced that MPs would reconvene at 11:30 am (1030 GMT) on Wednesday, while the upper House of Lords said it would return later the same day.

Labour opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn called on Johnson to resign but said he would not call a no confidence vote in parliament until the possibility of a no-deal Brexit has been eliminated. "Our first priority is to prevent a no-deal exit from the European Union on October 31," Corbyn told BBC radio. Bercow said there would be no Prime Minister's Questions—a weekly session held on Wednesdays—but there would be "full scope for urgent questions, for ministerial statements, and for applications for emergency debates". —AFP ■

## Netanyahu, Gantz set for new talks on Israel vote deadlock

JERUSALEM—Israel's president meets Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his challenger Benny Gantz on Wednesday as the clock begins ticking on a one-week deadline for him to name someone to form a government.

President Reuven Rivlin will receive official results from Israel's deadlocked September 17 election on Wednesday afternoon, beginning the one-week timeframe, while his three-way meeting is set for 6 pm (1500 GMT). He could name someone to try to form a coalition as early as Wednesday, and speculation has run rampant over whether he will do so or wait until after the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah, which falls on Monday and Tuesday.

In either case, the person selected will face what could turn

out to be an impossible mission: forming a governing coalition when neither man has a clear path to a majority. Gantz's centrist Blue and White and Netanyahu's right-wing Likud have started talks on forming a unity government, but they appear far apart on a range of issues, including who will lead it. Wednesday night's meeting with Rivlin, Netanyahu and Gantz will be their second since the election, and the president has repeatedly made clear he would like to see both of their parties in a unity government. He has pledged to do all he can to avoid yet another election — which would be the third in a year's time after April polls also ended inconclusively.

"I therefore believe that the right path for the state of Israel today is to build as broad a governing coalition as possible," Riv-



The combination picture created on 18 September 2019 shows, Benny Gantz (R) waving to supporters in Tel Aviv early on 18 September 2019, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (L) addressing supporters at his Likud party's electoral campaign headquarters in Tel Aviv early on 18 September 2019. PHOTO: AFP

lin said at a Wednesday reception for foreign diplomats to mark the Jewish new year. "It's my opinion. I'm trying to do my best." A rotation arrangement has been floated, but the question of who

would be premier first remains a major stumbling block.

Chief negotiators for Likud and Blue and White met Tuesday, but emerged afterward with only vague statements.—AFP ■

## Russian 'advisers' train new Syrian battalion



Russian military support has allowed Syrian government forces to retake large parts of Syria from rebels and jihadists since 2015, and now they control around 60 percent of the country. PHOTO: AFP

YAFUOR (Syria)—Wearing clean bullet-proof vests and knee pads, fighters from a new Syrian army battalion showcase the skills they have learned from Russia's military advisers. In the countryside west of Damascus, the soldiers carry out a mock assault, fire mortar rounds and rockets, perform mine-clearing and first aid exercises. Large clouds of dust rise over the training camp as troops in camouflage fatigue open fire.

In the afternoon sun, top brass from both countries and dozens of journalists, including an AFP team invited from Moscow, are looking on.

"We sacrifice our blood for you Bashar," the soldiers chant in unison, throwing their fists in the air, in praise of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. With military backing from Russia, Assad's forces have retaken large parts of Syria from rebels and jihadists since 2015, and now control around 60 percent of the country.—AFP ■

### NEWS In BRIEF

#### EU backs sanctions on seven more Venezuelans

BRUSSELS—The EU has approved sanctions on seven more Venezuelan officials over torture and other human rights abuses, diplomatic sources told AFP on Tuesday, as the bloc seeks to keep up pressure on President Nicolas Maduro.

Ambassadors from the European Union bloc countries gave their backing to the measures in a meeting on Wednesday, bringing to 25 the number of Venezuelan officials under European travel bans and asset freezes. The EU has had sanctions in place against crisis-wracked Venezuela since 2017, with a ban in place on the export of arms and other equipment that could be used for repression, in addition to the individual measures. "The majority (of the seven) are members of Venezuela's security and intelligence services involved in cases of torture and other human rights violations," one diplomat told AFP ahead of the meeting. The measures will now be formally signed off by ministers from the 28 EU states at a later date.—AFP ■

#### New Zealand Finance Minister says economy "well positioned"

WELLINGTON—New Zealand Finance Minister Grant Robertson said on Wednesday that the country's strong growth potential and resilience has been backed by another international report, saying "we are well positioned". International credit ratings agency Moody's just released its latest opinion on New Zealand on Tuesday, rating New Zealand as one of the few countries with its strongest "AAA" credit rating. "It follows the IMF's report last week which said we had solid rates of growth, particularly in the context of the global economic volatility we are seeing," the finance minister said. In its report, Moody's said New Zealand's economic strength is "very high" and growth remains "robust". It expects New Zealand's economy to grow around its potential rate of 2.5-3 percent in the next few years, in line with the median for Aaa-rated countries.—Xinhua ■

## Myanmar prepares for World Cup qualifiers against Kyrgyzstan

THE Myanmar national football team is currently preparing for the qualifiers for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 against Kyrgyzstan. The match is scheduled to take place on 10 October at the Dolen Omurzakov Stadium in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Myanmar head coach Miodrag Radulovic recently announced the names of 29 players chosen for the upcoming World Cup qualifier match, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

Four goalkeepers have been selected on the team — Kyaw Zin Phyo, Pyae Phyo Aung, Pyae Lian Aung, and Sann Sat Naing.

The ten defenders selected on the squad are Zaw Min Tun, Soe Moe Kyaw, Zaw Lin, Zaw Ye Tun, Pyae Phyo Zaw, David Htan, Kyaw Zin Lwin, Win Moe Kyaw, Nanda Kyaw, and Hein Thiha Zaw.

There are eight midfielders on the team: Yan Aung Kyaw, Lwin Moe Aung, Nyein Chan Aung, Hlaing Bo Bo, Maung Maung Lwin, Kyi Lin, Si Thu Aung, and Suan Lan Mang.

The team also includes seven strikers: Kyaw Ko Ko, Aung Thu, Win Naing Soe, Than Paing, Kaung Sithu, Dway Ko Ko Chit, and Zin Min Tun.

Team Myanmar began



The Myanmar national team (right side) walk into the Mandalay Thiri Football Stadium on 19 March before a FIFA friendly match against Chinese Taipei. **PHOTO: MFF**

their special training session on 25 September and will leave for Kyrgyzstan next month. Myanmar have met Kyrgyzstan twice

at the group stage of the 2017 and 2018 editions of the AFC Asian Cup qualification. In their first meet on 10 October, 2017, Myanmar

played to a 2-2 draw against Kyrgyzstan, and in the second meet, Myanmar lost 5-1 to Kyrgyzstan.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

## Myanmar senior women's team beat junior team 3-2 in friendly football match

IN preparation for the 2019 South East Asian Games, which will be held in the Philippines in November and December this year, the Myanmar women's national football team or the senior team beat the U-19 or junior team by 3-2 in a friendly match yesterday afternoon on the artificial turf in Bahan Township of Yangon.

The match proved to an exciting one, and both teams made all-out efforts to score. U Zaw Zaw, the vice president of the Asian Football Confederation and the president of the Myanmar Football Federation, came to watch the match and afterwards spoke words of encouragement to players from both teams.

The match was a good experience for both teams as players will be chosen from the two



Senior team player Win Theingi Tun (yellow) blocks the ball from junior team player Phyu Phyu Win (green) during a friendly match yesterday on Bahan's artificial turf in Yangon. **PHOTO: MFF**

teams, according to officials.

The women's football event of the 2019 South East Asian Games will take place between 25 November and 9 December at the Binan Football Stadium in Laguna, Philippines, and nation-

al women's football teams from ASEAN countries will participate in the event. The Myanmar women's football team has already collected a bronze medal at the 2013 SEA Games, which took place in Myanmar.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

## Alisson cannot wait to make Liverpool return

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson Becker is back in full training and nearing a return to competitive action after six weeks out with a calf injury.

The Brazilian number one was carried off in Liverpool's 4-1 victory over Norwich on the opening night of the Premier League season on 9 August.

"I'm on a good way, I think we are nearly there," he told the Liverpool website.

"I can go outside to the pitch to do some goalkeeper work and I feel very well.

"I feel confident and I think now it's just about getting all my power, all my confidence to come back and do what I love to do."

Alisson was named men's goalkeeper of the year at FIFA's

annual awards ceremony in Milan on Monday for his role in helping Liverpool win the Champions League last season.

Even without the inspirational goalkeeper, the Reds have also made a brilliant start in their quest to end a 30-year wait to win the Premier League, winning all six of their opening games to take a five-point lead over Manchester City. Stand-in 'keeper Adrian, who only joined the club four days before the Norwich game, has overcome an uncertain start and was pivotal to a 2-1 win at Chelsea on Sunday.

And Alisson admitted the Spaniard's form has allowed him not to rush his recovery.

"I think the boys are doing very well, all the team (and) Adrian especially," he added.—AFP ■

## Bayern Munich president ups stakes in Germany 'keeper row

BERLIN (Germany) — Bayern Munich president Uli Hoeness has threatened to deprive the German national side of Bayern players if Manuel Neuer loses the number one goalkeeper spot, Sport Bild said Wednesday.

Barcelona 'keeper Marc-Andre Ter Stegen, 27, is currently Neuer's understudy

and has voiced frustration at being kept out of the Germany side by the Bayern veteran.

The two players have traded barbed remarks with Ter Stegen last week accusing Neuer of making "inappropriate" comments.

Hoeness, however, has spoken up for Neuer and criticised German coach Joachim Low

and the national federation for not backing the Bayern star more vocally.

"We will never accept that there will be a change," the sports daily quoted Hoeness as saying.

"Before that happens we would prevent any of our players turning out for the national side."—AFP ■



Liverpool's Alisson Becker is nearing a return from a calf injury. **PHOTO: AFP**