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State Counsellor arrives in Tokyo to attend emperor's enthronement



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrives at the Haneda International Airport in Japan yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrived in Tokyo yesterday to attend Japanese Emperor Naruhito's enthronement ceremony which will be held on 22 October.

Before they left Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by a special flight, they were seen off by Union Minister for Office of Union Government U Min Thu, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung and wife, Japanese

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Ichiro Maruyama and officials.

Her entourage included Union Minister for Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

First, the State Counsellor and party arrived in Bangkok at 10:20 am local time. They were welcomed by Myanmar Amba-

sador to Thailand U Myo Myint Than and wife, Myanmar Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air) Brigadier General Khin Zaw, and officials at the Suvarnabhumi International Airport.

They took another flight in the afternoon and arrived in Japan at 9: 50 pm local time. They were welcomed by Special Advisor to Prime Minister of Japan Mr Hiroto Izumi, Chief Protocol of Japan Mr Kiminori Iwama,

Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Myint Thu, Myanmar Military Attaché Colonel Tin Soe, officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan and the members of Myanmar diplomatic families at the Haneda International Airport.

The State Counsellor and the entourage proceeded to the Imperial Hotel for their night halt in Tokyo. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

IDPs at Kachin State camp get aid before returning home

THE working committee on resettlement of internally displaced persons in Kachin State yesterday disbursed aid to IDPs from the Jarmaingkaung RC Camp in Myitkyina, who will return to their homes soon.

Over 310 IDPs from the camp will return to Tarlawgyi Village, 173 IDPs to Kanpaingyan Ward in Chibwe Township, and 64 IDPs to Yitjaw Village.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung, in his capacity as the chairman of the working committee, met with the IDPs at the Jarmaingkaung Camp yesterday.

At the meeting, the administrators of Myitkyina and Chibwe townships asked the committee to help in security and landmine clearance, construction of houses, and ensure water and power supply, education, health, and livelihoods at the villages where the IDPs plan to resettle.

The deputy minister also pledged to continue the committee's assistance to the IDPs, in accordance with the guidelines of the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre.

He also sought the participation of the IDPs to accelerate resettlement efforts.

Following the meeting, the deputy minister went to the Mongnar camp and presented cash assistance to IDPs. The delegation from the working committee also visited the Tarlawgyi Village, Nansanyan Village where IDPs have resettled. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

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Vice President U Henry Van Thio attends swearing-in ceremony of Indonesian President Joko Widodo in Jakarta



Vice President U Henry Van Thio attends the swearing-in ceremony of Indonesian government, together with the heads and senior officials of ASEAN and its partner countries. **PHOTO: MNA**

VICE President U Henry Van Thio attended the inauguration ceremony of the Indonesian government yesterday at 3:30 pm local time as President Joko Widodo was sworn in for a second and final term in office.

The oath-taking ceremony was held at the People's Consultative Assembly at the Parliament building in Jakarta.

President Joko Widodo and new Vice-President Ma'ruf Amin recited their oaths of office in front of the Speaker and members of the People's Consultative Assembly.

The President then made an inauguration address.

The President and the Vice President greeted the heads of ASEAN member countries, senior government officials and the leaders of ASEAN partner countries.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio made congratulatory remarks to both President and Vice President of Indonesia.

The oath-taking ceremony was also attended by Hassan al Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah of Brunei Darussalam, Prime Minister of Singapore Lee

Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Malaysia Mahathir Mohamad, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Vice President of PR China Mr Wang Qishan, Vice President of Viet Nam Mrs Dang Thi Ngoc Thinh, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Wissanu Krea-ngam, the heads and representatives of ASEAN and partner countries, ministers and deputy ministers of the bloc, senior officers, international diplomats, parliamentarians of Indonesia, officials and invited guests.

In the morning, Vice President U Henry Van Thio and party visited Taman Mini cultural park in Jakarta. After looking around cultural exhibitions of Indonesian ethnic people, the Vice President signed the visitors' book and exchanged gifts with the officer of the park.

The Taman Mini cultural park was first established in 1975 to display traditional cultures, dresses and musical instruments of Indonesian ethnic people.

They proceed to West Sumatra Museum, and viewed tradi-

tional items of ethnic people in Sumatra and their traditional dances.

They also arrived at Aceh Museum and looked around the Dakota RI-001 Seulawah plane which was used during independence efforts of Indonesia before they exchanged gifts with museum officials.

The Vice President also enjoyed a lunch hosted by Permanent Representative of Myanmar to ASEAN Ambassador U Min Lwin.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Mass cycling event in Mandalay marks 2019 World Polio Day

THE mass cycling event to mark World Polio Day was held at the Palace Moat in Mandalay yesterday.

The event cycling around the moat one time was participated by Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung, cabinet members and Hluttaw representatives, Ministry of Health and Sports' heads and officials, representatives from WHO, Gavi, Unicef and Rotary Club, and the public.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe said extra vaccinations were given in August and October to protect children against polio.

He then urged parents, relatives and neighbors of children to go and get the children vaccinated at the places where vaccinations are given as they are the future of the nation.

He also added to share the

advantages of vaccination and to get children vaccinated.

World Health Organization-WHO has announced Myanmar as polio free country on 27 March 2014, however, the polio disease was found again in the country as it failed to give vaccination to the children, particularly, the children in the remote areas, the Union Minister said.

People who suffer from polio get declining their living standard and become a burden for their family, and it is also a loss of valuable human resources for the country.

The Union Minister then expressed thanks employees and supported organizations for trying together for developing people's health standard and eradicating children's diseases, urging the public to get children vaccinated.

Afterwards, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung said the cycling event



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe and the bicyclists taking part in the mass cycling event in Mandalay yesterday to mark 2019 World Polio Day. **PHOTO: MNA**

that marks 2019 World Polio Day aimed at increasing awareness of polio eradication among the public in Mandalay Region, as well as across the country and the

world. The Union Minister, the Mandalay Region Chief Minister and officials opened the event by cutting ceremonial ribbons.

The cycling ride then began

with Mandalay Mayor Dr Ye Lwin firing a starting gun. A total of nearly 800 cyclists participated in the event.—MNA *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*

Alumini Batch of 1965-85 pay respect to teachers at BEHS No.1 Latha



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presents offertories to the teacher at the respect paying ceremony at the Basic Education High School No.1 Latha in Yangon yesterday.

PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES

THE alumni of 1965 to 1985 at the Basic Education High School No.1 Latha, formally Central High School, paid respect to their teachers at the Baho Sanpya Hall of the school in Latha Township, Yangon yesterday.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, was one of the former students paying respect to fifty teachers at the ceremony.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing first paid respects to the teachers and offered them gifts. He then caught up with the other alumni and conferred monetary awards to students who achieved outstanding academic performances.

With the striking of the school bell 27 times, everyone began singing the song 'High School Kyaung Taw Gyi'.

The old alumni then paid respect to their teachers in the traditional manner, and on behalf

of the teachers, Sayagyi U Kaung and Sayamagyi Daw Phyu Phyu delivered Ovada speeches.

Afterwards, Headmaster U Tin Maung Aye, the Respect Paying Organizing Committee Chairman U Tin Maung Myint and patron of health and providing care committee U Khin Maung Sein gave greeting remarks.

Next, the doctors and nurses who took care of the aged teachers and the people who aided for the respect paying ceremony were presented with gifts.

On behalf of the old students, U Zaw Lwin expressed gratitude. This was followed by the students presenting their teachers with homage gifts.

Afterwards, the teachers and students took commemorative photos, according to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. — MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun) ■

Union Minister U Ohn Maung attends tourism forum, exhibition in China

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung and Myanmar delegation attended the Global Tourism Economy Forum for 2019 in Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) of the People's Republic of China at the invitation of its government.

The forum was jointly organized by the World Tourism Cities Federation (WTCF) and the Social Affairs and Culture of Macao from 13 to 15 October.

On 14 October morning, the Union Minister and party met with Mar Edmund Ho Hau Wah, the Vice Chairman of The National Committee of The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and the former Chief Executive of the Macao Special Administrative Region.

During the meeting with Dr Alexis Tam Chon Weng, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Union Minister U Ohn Maung discussed systematic management in spending of Chinese tourists, establishment a tourism academy with the assistance of WTCF, training programmes, standards and norms for hotels, attractions to Chinese and European tourists to Myanmar and cooperation in tourism investments.

On that afternoon, the Union Minister and party attended

a luncheon at the Grand Hyatt Macao, together with the ministers and deputy minister from Argentina, Brazil and Cambodia.

Union Minister U Ohn Maung attended the opening ceremony of the 'Global Tourism Economy Forum' held at MGM Cotai Hotel. He took part in a panel discussion of 'Face To Face - Ministers And Private Sector Ceos: How Tourism, Leisure And Sports Lead To A Beautiful Life' to promote the tourism industry of Myanmar.

On 15 October afternoon, he held meetings with the members of Macao-Myanmar Overseas Chinese Association and Macao-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce, and then attended the closing ceremony of 2019 GTEF.

On 16 October morning, the Union Minister and party proceed to Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region to attend 2019 China-ASEAN Expo Tourism Exhibition from 18 to 20 October.

On 17 October evening, the Union Minister and party held talks with Mr Zhao Lequin, the Vice Chairman of Guangxi Regional People's Congress; Secretary of the CPC Guilin Committee; Chairman of Guilin People's Congress, and Mr Bal Songtao, its Deputy Secretary,

about bilateral cooperation in development of tourism sector and systematic arrangements for Chinese tourists to Myanmar.

On 18 October morning, the Union Minister and party attended opening ceremony of 2019 China-ASEAN Expo Tourism Exhibition, where he said that he represented Myanmar as a Guest of Honor Country, for the exhibition, as he believed tourism business could create

business opportunities and promote friendly relationships among the relevant countries.

He also added Myanmar has enacted a new version of tourism law and relaxed visa restrictions for some countries to attract more tourists, while the country has formed the Foreign Visitor's Observation Team to help the inbound visitors.

He also welcomed investments in the tourism industry

and other business sectors of Myanmar.

The Union Minister and party then looked around the booths of participating countries, including Myanmar, at the exhibition and explained tourism sector and tourist destinations of the country.

On that afternoon, the Myanmar delegation visited significant places and hotels in Guilin.—MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister U Ohn Maung and other dignitaries pose for a documentary photo at the opening ceremony of the 2019 China-ASEAN Expo Tourism Exhibition at Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, China on 18 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

Press Release on the State Visit of the Rt. Hon. Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari, President of Nepal to Myanmar

ATTHE invitation of U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Right Honourable Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari, President of Nepal, paid a State Visit to Myanmar from 16 to 20 October 2019.

The delegation led by President Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari arrived at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by special flight in the evening of 16 October 2019. The Right Honourable Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari, President of Nepal was accorded a ceremonial welcome by President U Win Myint at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw at 1000 a.m. on 17 October, 2019.

Following the ceremony, President U Win Myint and President Mrs. Bhandari held a meeting at the Credential Hall of the Presidential Palace. During the meeting, both leaders had cordial discussions and exchanged views on matters pertaining to the strengthening of bilateral relations and cooperation and promoting trade and investment as well as collaborating closely at the regional and multilateral fora. The two leaders also gladly recalled the participation of the Myanmar President at the 4th BIMSTEC Summit following his State Visit to Nepal in August 2018. The two leaders agreed to enhance tourism cooperation aiming to foster people-to-people contacts between Myanmar and Nepal.

Subsequently, President Mrs. Bhandari also held bilateral discussions with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the same day at the Presidential Palace. They exchanged views in a friendly atmosphere on bilateral, regional and multilateral issues of common interest.

During the meetings, the leaders extolled the commonalities, culture and traditions which have established close affinities between the two peoples and countries. Both sides discussed matters related to the further enhancement of bilateral cooperation, particularly in the areas of tourism, trade and investment, transportation, communications and culture, cooperation between the two countries in the regional and international fora, participation of a high-level Myanmar delegation at the International Climate Change Conference namely "Sagarmatha Dialogue", scheduled to be held in Nepal in April 2020. Noting the existing potential for investment, the two sides agreed to work in unison to facilitate the promotion of bilateral trade and investments between the two countries.



President U Win Myint welcomes Nepali President Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari.
PHOTO: MNA

During the meetings, Myanmar reaffirmed its readiness to render support for the success of the Nepali Government's "Visit Nepal Year (2020)" and for the National objective of "Prosperous Nepal, Happy Nepali".

In addition, bearing in mind that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries will mark the 60th anniversary in 2020, both sides agreed to hold a series of events in both countries in commemorating the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Myanmar and Nepal.

The leaders also acknowledged with great pleasure the role of Nepali diasporas in Myanmar in forging the existing traditional bonds of friendship between Myanmar and Nepal by integrating well into Myanmar society as well as sharing peaceful, happy and harmonious lives.

Moreover, the two sides reaffirmed their commitments to work closely, not only in bilateral context but also in regional and multilateral fora, including BIMSTEC and the United Nations, based on shared views on issues of common interest.

Following the meetings, State

Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President Mrs. Bhandari witnessed the signing of the Memoranda of Understanding between Myanmar and Nepal. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of Nepal on Cultural Cooperation was signed by Thura U Aung Ko, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture of Myanmar and the Honourable Mr. Pradeep Kumar Gyawali, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of Nepal on Tourism Cooperation was signed by U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation of Myanmar and the Honourable Mr. Pradeep Kumar Gawayi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal.

On the same day, in the afternoon, the President of Nepal received Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services, Senior-General Min Aung Hlaing at the M-Gallery by Sofitel Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

In the evening, President U Win Myint hosted a State Banquet in hon-

our of the visiting Nepali President and her entourage.

On 18 October 2019, Nepali President, the Right Honourable Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari departed Nay Pyi Taw for Pyin Oo Lwin by special flight. In Pyin Oo Lwin, President Mrs. Bhandari visited Sree Durga Devi Temple, and held a meeting with the people of Nepali origin in Myanmar at the town hall. On the same day, the delegation led by the Nepali President left Pyin Oo Lwin for Nyaung Oo by special flight. While in Bagan, they visited the Ananda Temple, Thatbyinnyu, Alo-daw Pyae and Shwezigon Pagodas. Later in the evening, the delegation led by the Nepali President departed Nyaung Oo for Yangon by special flight.

While in Yangon, on 19 October 2019, President Mrs. Bhandari paid homage to the Shwedagon Pagoda and attended the opening ceremony of the Nepal-Myanmar Friendship Lumbini Photo Exhibition. She also visited the Sitagu International Buddhist Academy and the Bogyoke Aung San Museum. In the afternoon, the Nepali President attended the Talk Programme entitled "Myanmar-Nepal Friendship and Business Opportunities" jointly organized by Myanmar-Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Myanmar-Nepal Friendship Association at the Chatrium Hotel. In the evening, she attended the dinner hosted by the Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar at the Wyndham Grand Hotel.

The Nepali President and her entourage left Yangon by air in the morning of 20 October 2019.

A Joint Statement was issued at the conclusion of the State Visit to Myanmar by the Right Honourable Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari, President of Nepal.

This visit, the first by a Head of State of Nepal to Myanmar in the past 39 years, reinforces the bonds of friendship and the tradition of high-level interaction between leaders of the two countries. It is also a historic and important milestone in the bilateral relations reflecting the hallmark of the close and friendly ties between the two countries. The two MoUs on Cultural and Tourism Cooperation signed during the visit also further deepen bilateral cooperation in these areas and constitute stronger bonds of friendship and partnership between the two peoples and countries.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
20 October 2019

Nepali President concludes Myanmar visit

A delegation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, led by President Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari, concluded their five-day state visit to Myanmar yesterday afternoon.

At the Yangon International Airport, they were seen off by Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and his

cabinet members, Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bhim Krishna Udas, Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal Thiri Pyanchi U Tun Nay Lin and officials.

The Nepali President also received video record and soft-copies of photos taken their visit from Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko sees off President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Private donors hand over new school building in Pakokku

A family of well-wishers donated a new school building, desks and chairs, amounted to K150 million

in total, at Nyaungbin village tract in Pakokku Township, Magway Region. Two-storey RC Danubyu

School Building with 100-ft length and 30-ft width, along with other facilities, were donated by the

family of U Kyaw Sithu and wife Daw Mya Thida.

Magway Region Chief Minister Dr Aung Moe Nyo, his cabinet members, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Pike Ko, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Mya Min Swe, Director General of Department of Basic Education U Ko Lay Win and the donor family cut the ceremonial ribbon to launch the handover ceremony at the Basic High School (Sub) of that village.

Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Magway Region Chief Minister Dr Aung Moe Nyo and officials opened the curtain of new school signboard and sprayed with scented water on the plaque of the new school.

After making a commemora-

tive speech of the Chief Minister, Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi said the budget for Ministry of Education in 2019-2020 fiscal year has increased 10 times compared to that of 2011-2012.

The Ministry has planned to appoint more teachers at 4,392 schools, with a total number of 755,483 students in Magway Region. More school buildings will also be constructed, and the school furniture, including classroom tables, will also be provided.

Then, Dr. Khin Maung Aye, the Minister for Social Affairs of Magway Region, expressed thanks. U Kyaw Sithu explained about the donation and presented documents of the school to the ministry.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi delivers the speech at the donation ceremony of new school building in Nyaungbin village, Pakokku Township yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Construction Minister inaugurates upgraded Sagaing-Monywa road

THE Monywa District section of the Sagaing-Monywa 4-lane concrete road was inaugurated with a small ceremony yesterday morning.

Shwe Taung Highway Co Ltd built the road under the B.O.T. system with supervision from the Ministry of Construction.

Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw spoke a few words at the inauguration ceremony. He said since the B.O.T. system does not require the Union Government to take funding out of their budget, it can be used for other areas such as education, healthcare and society.

He said the BOT system was first employed for the Lashio-Muse highway in 1996 and has since grown to 25 ethnic-owned

BOT companies upgrading 3,025 miles of roads. He urged the public to adhere to rules such as driving permitted weight classes of vehicles and paying taxes and fees on their travel.

Next, Sagaing Region Chief Minister Dr Myint Naing and U Aung Zaw Naing from Shwe Taung Highway explained the regional transportation development process and BOT systems respectively. Then a video clip on the Sagaing-Monywa road upgradation was played.

This was followed by the Union Minister, Chief Minister and officials cutting ribbons to formally open the road and observing its state by walking along it.

From there, the Union Minister inspected the Monywa-Amyint road being upgrad-

ed to concrete, a pilot project by the Monywa District Rural Road Development Department. The road is 4 miles and 4 furlongs in length and will connect to the Sagaing-Monywa Highway, al-

lowing rural products to reach urban areas in a shorter and more efficient amount of time, directly aiding the development of the 76 villages connected to it.

Afterwards, the Union

Minister inspected the site for building a new bridge near Nyaungpin Wun Bridge on the Allakapwa-Taw ChaungU, Sagaing-Monywa road.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Minister U Han Zaw and other dignitaries open the Sagaing-Monywa four lane concrete road yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

ACTING CHIEF EDITOR

Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS

Zaw Min
Zaw Htet Oo
Aung Khin

INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR

Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

LOCAL NEWS EDITORS

Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com

TRANSLATORS

Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun

REPORTER

Nyein Nyein Ei,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar
Kyaw Zeya

COMPUTER TEAM

Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Ye Naing Soe, Hnin Pwint,
Kay Khaing Win, Sanda Hnin,
Thein Htwe, Nyi Lin Thu

EDITORIAL SECTION

(+95) (01) 8604529,
Fax - (+95) (01) 8604305

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
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Myanmar will test avocado shipment in foreign markets next month



Pulpy green fruits of Myanmar get ready to sell in foreign markets. PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MAHN SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)

MYANMAR Avocado Producer and Exporter Association will begin exporting sample shipments of their systematically homegrown avocados to China, India and Thailand on 3 November.

Association Chairman U Myo Nyunt said they don't have

a sizeable systematically grown plantation big enough to supply large exports. That's why they will only send avocados during their peak season to the three foreign nations, as part of a test import strategy.

The peak season for avocado in Myanmar is from No-

vember to January when they produce fruits with the highest quality.

U Kyaw Soe Min, the association's secretary, said avocados shouldn't be plucked when they are still tender. He said there are too many tender avocados in the local market

and most of them are not suitable for consumption. He said the avocados begin to ripen in November and that's when they should be harvested.

The avocado association will be providing cultivators with trainings on when to harvest avocados, how to select good seeds for planting, and using proper methods to grow the best quality avocados for the domestic and foreign markets.

The avocado tree can be planted in any region that is between 3,00 to 4,000 feet above sea level. There are two varieties of avocados available in Myanmar; domestic and foreign. Planting 100 domestic variety trees in an acre would cost around K800,000 while the foreign variety would cost about K1.5 million.

Avocado trees have an average lifespan of 50 years and are cultivated the most in Mogok and PynOoLwin, Mandalay Region. Nationwide, there are currently only 600 acres of avocado plantations combined.—Min Htet Aung (Mahn Sub-printing House)

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Realme 5 & 5 Pro introduced in Yangon

THE middle two handsets in the range come in the form of the Realme 5 and the Realme 5 Pro have arrived on the scene.

Realme has launched the new quad camera Realme 5 and Realme 5 Pro in Yangon on 17 October.

Both phones share a similar quad-camera array to the Realme XT, with ultra wide-angle, portrait, and macro lenses, although the primary camera is a 12MP for the regular 5

and 48MP for the 5 Pro, rather than the 64MP one found in the XT.

The Realme 5 is actually the larger of the two handsets, with a 6.5-inch HD+ (720 x 1,600) display and massive 5,000mAh battery that promises almost 30 days of standby battery life.

By comparison, the 5 Pro has a 4,035mAh battery (which is still rather large), a 6.3-inch FHD+ (1,080 x 2,340) display,



Realme launches the new quad camera Realme 5 and Realme 5 Pro in Yangon on 17 October. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

twice the RAM at 8GB, and bumps up the processor from

a Snapdragon 665 to a 712. —GNLM

Write for us

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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.

One killed after train derails in Natogyi Township

THE engine of a down train running on the Mandalay-Bagan route derailed on 20 October in Natogyi Township, leaving the secondman dead on the spot.

The highway train (DD-1214) left Mandalay station at 9 p.m. on 19 October, and it

derailed and the engine overturned at the 398/20-22-mile post. The driver's assistant, identified as U Kyaw Oo, was killed on the spot. No passengers or other railway staff were injured in the mishap.

A team led by Sub-Inspec-

tor Aung Aung Naing and comprising members of civil service organizations and a volunteer group rushed to the spot and took the driver, U Aung Naing, to the Natogyi Township General Hospital. They also ensured the safety of passengers.

Myanma Railways ensured there was no delay in transportation, and it arranged for the passengers to continue their trip to Bagan station on another train.—Ye Win Naing (Nyaung-U) (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

MFF seeks to restrict mixed farming of poultry, fish

THE Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) President Daw Toe Nandar Tin and Vice President U Win Kyaing asked the government to issue a directive to restrict integrated poultry and fish farming at the 30th regular meeting of Vice President U Myint Swe with private entrepreneurs, held on Saturday at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

According to MFF officials, about 80 per cent of such mixed farming is being conducted with the help of foreigners. This kind of integrated poultry and fish farming is not in line with Good Aquaculture Practices, Good Manufacturing Practices, and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), and it can harm the export of farm-raised fish, they said.

“Moreover, it poses food safety risks and is not suitable for consumption. Furthermore, it can harm the country’s National Aquaculture Development Plan to build a sustainable aquaculture sector in Myanmar,” they added.

Daw Toe Nandar Tin said the federation has asked the government to tackle problems faced in the export of farm-raised fish and prawns through G2G pacts and ensure smooth freight movement between countries to bolster exports.

According to the MFF, inte-

grated poultry and fish farming cannot ensure food safety, which is a requirement for export. Therefore, the federation has asked for the formulation of a law to restrict that kind of mixed farming. Fish farming must be conducted on a large-scale to get access to Project Bank loans, according to the MFF.

“Additionally, offshore oil and gas companies are required to adhere to the prescribed rules and regulations, so they do not affect offshore aquaculture. The loss of fish resources could damage offshore and inshore fishing businesses and the livelihood of marine workers. Therefore, those businesses should be issued permits only after careful and systematic assessment by international experts of their environmental impact,” according to the MFF.

Export earnings from the fisheries sector in the period from 1 October to 30 September in the 2018-2019 financial year crossed US\$731.9 million, according to statistics released by the Commerce Ministry.

This year, fishery exports have risen, but the price offered is much lower than that during the same period in the previous fiscal, said an official from the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar exports fisheries products, such as fish, prawns, and crabs, to markets in 40 countries, including China, Saudi Ara-



Fish breeding farm workers catching fish using the net in Twante Township in Yangon Region.

PHOTO: THAN HTIKE

bia, the US, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, and countries in the European Union.

Earlier, only fish caught in the wild were allowed to be exported to the EU market. At present, Myanmar is exporting farmed fish, prawns, and crabs to the EU.

Saudi Arabia’s suspension of fish imports from Myanmar, beginning April last year, has affected rohu fish suppliers. My-

anmar keeps only 25 per cent of rohu fish for local consumption and exports the remaining 75 per cent to Saudi Arabia, the UAE, as well as Bangladesh.

The MFF is making concerted efforts to increase fishery export earnings by developing fish farming lakes which meet international standards and adopting advanced fishing techniques.

There are over 247,000 acres of fish farms and 240,000 prawn

breeding farms across the country. Myanmar exported 340,000 tons of fishery products worth \$530 million in the 2013-2014FY, 330,000 tons worth \$480 million in the 2014-2015FY, 360,000 tons worth \$500 million in the 2015-2016FY, 430,000 tons worth \$600 million in the 2016-2017FY, and 560,000 tons worth \$700 million in the 2017-2018FY, according to the Commerce Ministry.—GNLM (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Supply glut at Muse gate brings down watermelon prices



Fruit dealers engaging in trading at the Muse gate. PHOTO: THANT ZIN (MUSE)

WATERMELONS have been flooding Muse gate in recent days, resulting in a sharp drop in the price of the fruit, according to Khwarnyo Trading Co. Ltd.

On 18 October, about 90 trucks loaded with watermelons entered Muse gate. The number of trucks crossed 110 on 19 October, and yesterday, 145 trucks entered the gate, thereby bringing down the price, said traders.

Earlier, watermelons were fetching 1,200-1,600 Yuan per ton. With the influx of watermelons at Muse gate, the prices have slid to 800-1,400 Yuan per ton.

Watermelons and muskmelons top the list of fruits exported to China, and the export volume is increasing significantly year over year, according

to the Ministry of Commerce. If growers follow GAP guidelines, they can get higher prices.

But, the majority of them are still using pesticides, said officials.

Myanmar currently exports around 800,000 tons of watermelons per year. The volume of watermelon exports was estimated at 500,000 tons in the 2014-2015 fiscal year, over 560,000 in the 2015-2016FY, and over 170,000 tons in the past mini-budget period (from April to September, 2018).

Watermelons and muskmelons are primarily grown in Mandalay and Sagaing regions and Shan State. Myanmar’s watermelons and muskmelons have grabbed a large market share in China.—GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Preserving our tangible, intangible cultural heritage

THE cultural heritage sites spread across our country are something to be proud of. There is evidence of prehistoric civilizations in Myanmar, and the country has a long history and possesses a rich heritage, much of which is yet to be researched.

Our country has existed as a civilized nation since time immemorial, and there is still much evidence of our ancient cultural heritage in the country. Cultural heritage, in fact, serves as evidence of the historical background of a country and its people.

The conservation of cultural heritage does not imply protecting lifeless edifices and items, but preserving things which are connected with the history and culture of our country.

To make conservation efforts of each cultural heritage a success and ensure edifices do not lose their artistic value during restoration, ensuring complete transparency at every step is important.

Gold plates have been offered at the Shwedagon Pagoda since 1899, and restoration started in 1981, with work progressing depending on the damage to the gold plates.

To make conservation efforts of each cultural heritage a success and ensure edifices do not lose their artistic value during restoration, ensuring complete transparency at every step is important.

When it comes to the conservation of a cultural heritage, effectiveness of the work needs to be taken into consideration.

All Myanmar people are obliged to preserve Myanmar's cultural heritage, and thanks to preservation works undertaken by our ancestors, the cultural heritage owned by all indigenous people still exists today.

The duty to conserve our national heritage falls on the shoulders of all the people, and all parties involved in the conservation work have the responsibility to follow the rules prescribed by the UNESCO.

Since the time of our ancestors, our people have enjoyed their right of paying homage to the pagoda as part of their daily life. Besides conservation efforts, limiting the number of high-rise buildings can also help preserve our heritage buildings and our intangible culture.



Chin State attempts to revitalize agriculture with six main crops

By News Team (Chin State IPRD)

THE denizens of Chin State are putting all their efforts into developing their agriculture. They are implementing a three-year project to improve their agricultural practices and produce as they toil away in the harsh weather and steep cliffs of their hometowns. The State Agriculture Department said they managed to elevate all six sectors within the first year of the project's implementation.

Selecting the six crops

Chin State has a lot of vacant, wild plots of land but since they don't have many flatlands the locals mainly plant rice and maize, a staple of the region, and only a handful of oil-producing crops and other crops for household use.

State Agriculture Department head U Lin Myat says they have elevated the agricultural sector since last year. He said the current land status has not brought in many farmers yet. He said they selected six crops suitable for the region and are working towards enabling everyone to plant them and to increase their production.

Hope comes in coffee

Chin State has chosen coffee as its main crop and locals say the famous Hakha Coffee is quite successful. They say consumers love the coffee powder produced from Hakha due to its long-lasting charming aroma and superb taste.

U Lin Myat tells us that Chin State's wine is as well known as its coffee production. He says farmers as far as Tiddim plant coffee but there is a lack of systematic cultivation. Nevertheless, coffee from Hakha and Tiddim draw in a lot of customers and this is why locals are trying harder than ever to increase its production.

Beauty & the avocado

Avocados were once only grown for home consumption but have been selected in the six crop varieties. The Agriculture Department is working to provide farmers with quality avocado seeds, agricultural methods, packaging and distribution systems. They are also enlisting



Traditional hill-side farming is the mainstay of the Chin State's economy. PHOTO: CHIN STATE IPRD (NEWS TEAM)

assistance from agricultural organizations and those that provide help to farmers.

Hakha's Kyaaw Bote Horticultural Garden caretaker U Byat Nawn Mahn says: "Production numbers are still low. Our farmers are not like the ones from the flatlands. We can't predict or make expectations of the weather here so our farmers get tired both physically and mentally more easily. But ever since avocado began to be used as a base in cosmetics, there has been an increase in interested farmers."

Mulberry

The agricultural department is also revamping the mulberry cultivation once prominent in Chin State. They are helping farmers regain good crop seeds and larvae. Chin State was once called the silk capital but due to various reasons, the cultivation of the plants and the silkworms declined.

There is a modern factory in Tiddim and the department is encouraging local farmers to take up the trade once more. They are teaching them how to properly rear the silkworms and produce silk.

Rise of elephant foot yam

Elephant foot yam is known colloquially as 'wa-u' and is mainly exported to China. Farmers are hoping to make production and distribution of the crop a successful business.

Most places have machines to dry the yams but can't produce them as powder grains yet. To address this issue, a public company was formed with farmers as the majority. They have opened a factory and will work towards producing powdered yams. Locals think this will also support the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) sector.

The Agriculture Department has given trainings courses, planting techniques and disease prevention for crops to the farmers, who were formerly employing traditional methods. This has produced good momentum in the project's first year but not quite reached the objective yet.

U Lin Myat explains that elephant foot yam was always cultivated in Chin State but production had significantly increased since last year. He said it's good income, so there can be challenges when everyone is selling it. He says planting a 25 Kyattha (408)

variety produces about a viss to a viss and a half. This can cause the crop to become rare.

U Lin Myat says they are using three methods to ensure good quality breed of elephant foot

quantities. In addition to oranges, mulberries and grapes, Chin State also produced good quality apples. But the weak market economy reduced the prosperous agriculture industry into its current state.

Chin State has chosen coffee as its main crop and locals say the famous Hakha Coffee is quite successful. They say consumers love the coffee powder produced from Hakha due to its long-lasting charming aroma and superb taste.

yams. He said their headquarters has successfully grown elephant foot yams using tissue culture technology. The second method is replanting shoots and the third involves the department planting yams in small acres on their ten farms in Chin State.

Chin grapes, oranges, apples

The grapes in Chin State are grown almost exclusively for wine brewing. Chin oranges used to be quite popular and farmers are attempting to replant them in large

the biggest challenge is training the farmers to be able to produce high-quality finished goods as those are the ones that will penetrate the market.

U Lin Myat said they have signed an MoU with China to export US\$5 million worth of elephant foot yam from Chin State. He said this is only for the dried yams but they will gain additional income if they can produce the powder product.

He said they are also willing to increase the production of mulberry as it produces more than one product, including textiles, wine and silkworms. He said local farmers are making more than just silk as they use the cocoons to make keychains as well. He said they will also try to produce fruit juice from oranges.

U Lin Myat said the government is providing a lot of support and they need more investments, technology, and logistics to make their plans come to fruition.

He says the greatest enemy for their crops comes during the cold months of December - frostbite. This is why they need to select crops that are suitable for their region and climate. I always tell the farmers and associations that the fate of Chin State's development rests in our youth's hands, said U Byat Nawn Mahn.

There is usually just one pesticide store in each township and people usually use organic fertilizers such as tobacco and extracted chilli juice. The crops selected for Chin State usually take more than a year to cultivate.

Coffee plants require three years, elephant foot yam requires a year and a half, avocado takes three years and mulberry needs just two years to cultivate their goods.

While the unfavorable terrain and peculiar weather make it somewhat difficult to revamp the agricultural sector, Chin State farmers are hopeful their combined efforts with the government and relevant organizations will help realize their dreams of making the state's agriculture prosperous again.

(Translated by Pen Dali)



Daw Hmway Hmway Khyne appointed as Ambassador of Myanmar to Italian Republic

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Daw Hmway Hmway Khyne, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations in New York, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Italian Republic.—MNA



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 20th October, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is a few cloud over the North Bay and East Central Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 21st October, 2019: Likelihood of rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Taninthayi Region, isolated in Upper Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3-6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of rain or thundershowers in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21st October, 2019: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21st October, 2019: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21st October, 2019: Partly cloudy.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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

Swiss count votes in possible 'green wave' election



Switzerland is electing members of the House of Representatives and the Senate for the next four years. **PHOTO: AFP**

GENEVA—Switzerland was counting votes on Sunday in an election that could see unprecedented gains for parties demanding bold climate action and a possible slip for the anti-immigrant right-wing.

In a country that recently held a funeral march for an iconic glacier that has nearly vanished due to melting, opinion polls indicate that climate change has displaced migration as the top concern among the electorate.

That marks one of the most significant shifts in recent Swiss political history, according to the Sotomo political research institute, which forecast that Sunday's results could generate a "green wave."

The Swiss People's Party (SVP), which has repeatedly been accused of demonising migrants, is poised to remain the largest parliamentary party however, with pre-vote surveys giving it over 27 percent support in the wealthy Alpine nation.

But that is down from the 29 percent the SVP garnered in 2015.

University of Lausanne political scientist Oscar Mazzoleni told AFP that "even a loss of two to three percent would be a failure" for the SVP.

The Green Party, which won a little more than seven percent in 2015, is now backed by nearly 11 percent of voters, according to a poll released this month by public broadcaster RTS. — AFP ■

Egypt unveils trove of ancient coffins excavated in Luxor

CAIRO—Egypt revealed Saturday a rare trove of 30 ancient wooden coffins that have been well-preserved over millennia in the archaeologically rich Valley of the Kings in Luxor.

The antiquities ministry officially unveiled the discovery made at Asasif, a necropolis on the west bank of the Nile River, at a press conference against the backdrop of the Hatshepsut Temple.

"This is the first discovery in Asasif by dedicated Egyptian hands, comprised of archaeologists, conservationists and workers," the head of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, Mostafa al-Waziri, told reporters. The 30 ornately decorated coffins of men, women and children were found only a metre (three feet) underground, stacked in two rows. They are believed to belong to family members of high priests. Waziri explained that excavations of the site in the 19th century had revealed royal tombs, but this latest discovery had yielded a collection of priests' burials.

The sarcophagi date back to the 22nd Dynasty, founded around 3,000 years ago in the 10th century BC. Despite their age, black, green, red and yellow paintings of snakes, birds, lotus flowers and hieroglyphics that cover the coffins are still clearly visible.

A sealed coffin belonging to a young ancient Egyptian child was incomplete and unpainted. — AFP ■



Tourists observe sarcophagi displayed in front of Hatshepsut Temple in Egypt's Valley of the Kings in Luxor. **PHOTO: AFP**

Three arrested after dam collapse in Siberia

MOSCOW—Investigators said Sunday they had arrested three officials after a dam, said to have been built illegally, collapsed at a remote Siberian gold mine, killing 15 people. The Investigative Committee said the director of the gold mining company, Sisim, and the manager and foreman of the mining site in the Krasnoyarsk region had been arrested. The three have been taken to Krasnoyarsk for questioning, it said, adding that the company's offices had been searched.

Fifteen people were killed after the dam on the Seiba River collapsed at the artisanal gold mine on Saturday, unleashing a torrent of icy water that flooded cabins where workers lived. — AFP ■

Spanish shepherds guide hundreds of sheep across Madrid

MADRID—Shepherds guided a flock of around 2,000 sheep through the streets of Madrid on Sunday in defence of ancient

grazing and migration rights increasingly threatened by urban sprawl. Tourists and local residents lined the streets to watch

as the bleating, bell-clanking parade passed the Spanish capital's most emblematic locations, cutting traffic. The herd

was accompanied by musicians and dancers dressed in regional costumes that have been worn by rural workers for centuries. Shepherds halted at the town hall so the chief herdsman could hand local authorities 50 "maravedies" — copper coins first minted in the 11th century — as payment for the crossing. The parade started in the Casa de Campo, a former royal hunting ground that is now Madrid's largest park, then made its way through the Puerta del Sol — the main square — and past the Bank of Spain's headquarters before ending up at the town hall. Every year since 1994 sheep farmers have paraded their livestock through the city along a route that once cut through undeveloped countryside on their way to winter grazing pastures in southern Spain. — AFP ■



Every year since 1994 sheep farmers have paraded their livestock through the city along a route that once cut through undeveloped countryside on their way to winter grazing pastures in southern Spain. **PHOTO: AFP**

Spanish PM under pressure over Catalan protests

BARCELNA —Ahead of next month's general election, Spain's Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez faced sharp criticism Sunday for his handling of violent Catalan separatist protests even as calm returned to Barcelona and other cities overnight.

The centre-right Ciudadanos party, which was born out of opposition to Catalan separatism, held a rally in front of Catalonia's regional government headquarters in Barcelona under the slogan: "That's enough! Justice and coexistence".

"We have had enough of seeing how radicals roam freely and scare millions of Spaniards on their land. The

streets belong to everyone," Ciudadanos leader Alberto Rivera tweeted before the rally began.

He has called on Sanchez to suspend Catalonia's autonomy just as the central government did in 2017 after the Catalan parliament declared independence following a banned secession referendum.

The streets of Barcelona and other Catalan cities have been rocked by protests since Spain's Supreme Court sentenced nine separatist leaders, many of them former regional government ministers, last Monday to jail terms of up to 13 years for sedition over the failed 2017 independence bid.—AFP ■



The centre-right Spanish party Ciudadanos rallied in Barcelona against Catalan separatism. PHOTO: AFP

EU calls for Afghanistan ceasefire

KABUL—European Union officials called Sunday for a ceasefire in Afghanistan, saying the breakdown in talks between the US and the Taliban presented an opportunity to push anew for a truce.

US President Donald Trump last month declared talks with the insurgents "dead", citing a Taliban attack that killed a US soldier.

Negotiations had been in the final stages for a deal that would have seen the US pull troops from Afghanistan after 18 years in return for various Taliban guarantees.

But to the dismay of many Afghans and international observers, the deal included no immediate, comprehensive ceasefire, rather it would supposedly have paved the way for a reduction in violence and later talks between the Taliban and the Afghan government.

Roland Kobia, the EU ambassador to Afghanistan, said the talks' collapse provided a chance to push for a ceasefire which would, in turn, prove a large enough change in Afghanistan for Trump to consider resuming negotiations.

"It's the right moment and the right opportunity to maybe go one step beyond a simple reduction in violence and explore ways in which a ceasefire ... will take place," Kobia told Kabul journalists.—AFP ■

Pelosi leads 'bipartisan' US group for meetings in Jordan



US Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi has led a group of US lawmakers to Jordan for talks with King Abdullah II. PHOTO: AFP

WASHINGTON—House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and a group of US lawmakers arrived in Jordan for talks with King Abdullah II, her office said Saturday, just days after the speaker clashed with President Donald Trump in a meeting on Syria policy.

"With the deepening crisis in Syria after Turkey's incursion, our delegation has engaged in vital discussions about the impact to regional stability, increased

flow of refugees, and the dangerous opening that has been provided to ISIS, Iran and Russia," Pelosi said in a statement.

The statement described the visiting American delegation as "bipartisan," though congressman Mac Thornberry was the only Republican representative listed as being on the trip. The US visit to Jordan comes after Turkey launched an offensive against Kurdish forces

in northeastern Syria on October 9, following President Trump's withdrawal of troops from the area.

Trump has defended his move as "strategically brilliant" but earlier this week 129 members of his Republican Party joined Democrats in the House of Representatives denounced the withdrawal.

On Wednesday, Pelosi and Senate minority leader Charles Schumer walked out of an acrimonious White House meeting with Trump on Syria, a sign of the deteriorating relations as the House conducts an impeachment inquiry.

The administration then brokered a ceasefire between Turkish and Kurdish forces Thursday, but on Saturday the sides accused each other of violating the agreement.

The offensive has already killed more than 500 people, including dozens of civilians, while some 300,000 civilians have been displaced within Syria, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights war monitor.—AFP ■

London insists UK leaving EU on Oct 31, despite delay request

LONDON—A defiant British government doubled down Sunday, insisting it would leave the European Union in 11 days' time despite parliament forcing a reluctant prime minister to request another delay.

In a day of high drama on Saturday, MPs in the House of Commons passed up the chance to decide on the revised withdrawal agreement that Prime Minister Boris Johnson had negotiated with the European Union.

That defeat leaves Johnson under mounting pressure to find a way out of paralysing impasse on when and how Britain would leave the EU bloc after Britons narrowly voted to exit in a 2016 referendum. Late Saturday, Johnson reluctantly sent European Council President Donald Tusk a letter legally imposed on him by parliament requesting an extension -- but refused to sign it.

The Conservative leader sent a second, signed letter insisting he was not seeking an extension to the Brexit deadline, which has



European Council President Donald Tusk said he would begin consulting EU leaders 'on how to react' - a process one diplomat said could take a few days. PHOTO: AFP

already been postponed twice, warning that "a further extension would damage the interests of the UK and our EU partners".

Having failed to back a divorce deal, which Johnson had secured on Thursday, they triggered a law requiring him to write to EU leaders asking to delay Brexit, to avoid the risk that Britain crashes out in less than a fortnight's time.

Senior cabinet minister Michael Gove, the government's

Brexit planning chief, was nonetheless adamant that Britain would leave the EU on schedule.

"Yes. We are going to leave on October 31. We have the means and the ability to do so," he told Sky News television.

EU 'fed up': Raab

The government will bring forward this week the domestic legislation needed to implement the divorce deal, with a first vote as soon as Tuesday.—AFP ■

“Abominable” film will not be shown in Malaysia over map dispute

KUALA LUMPUR—The animated children’s movie “Abominable” will not be released in Malaysia due to a demand from local sensors to cut a scene depicting a map at the center of a regional territorial dispute with China, the distributor said Sunday. “Universal has decided not to make the censor cut required by the Malaysian censor board and as such will not be able to release the film in Malaysia,” a spokeswoman of Universal International Pictures Malaysia told Kyodo News. “Abominable,” a joint production between DreamWorks Animation and Shanghai-based Pearl Studio, was originally slated to open in Malaysia on Nov. 7. The movie is about a Chinese girl who discovers a yeti living on her roof and her quest to reunite the magical creature with its family. It attracted controversy over a scene showing a map of Asia with the so-called nine-dash-line that includes a large swath of territory in the South China Sea, which China claims in near entirety.—Kyodo ■

China talks up tech prowess in face of US rivalry

WUZHEN—China on Sunday said it aims to become a “great power” in the online world and took a swipe at Washington on trade, kicking off its annual conference promoting the Communist Party’s controlled and censored version of the internet.

US-China rivalry is increasingly playing out in the digital sphere, as Beijing pursues dominance in next-generation technology while Washington takes measures to cripple Chinese tech firms like Huawei.

China heavily monitors and censors its internet, with US titans Facebook, Twitter and Google all hidden behind a so-called “Great Firewall” that also blocks politically sensitive content.

At the yearly World Internet Conference, held in the picturesque ancient canal town of Wuzhen since 2014, Chinese officials talked up the country’s tech prowess. “We have become a cyberspace power of 800 million netizens,” the head of the Communist Party’s propaganda

department, Huang Kunming, said in a keynote address.

Huang added that in the future, China “will unceasingly expand the fruits of internet development and forge ahead from a cyberspace ‘big power’ to a cyberspace ‘great power’”.

The propaganda chief also denounced “cyber-hegemony and bullying” by other countries – using language typically reserved for the United States – which he said were behind confrontation in the high-tech world. —AFP ■

Jokowi takes oath for 2nd term as president amid tight security



Indonesia’s President Joko Widodo has been sworn into office for his second and final five-year term on Sunday. **PHOTO: AFP**

JAKARTA —Indonesian President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo on Sunday was sworn in for his second and final term as the country’s leader amid tight security in the capital, 10 days after Muslim militants attempted to assassinate his top security minister.

In contrast to the joyous street parade held after he first took office in 2014, in which he rode in a horse-drawn carriage, this time no public celebration was held, likely for security reasons.

Over 30,000 joint police and military personnel were deployed across the capital amid fears of another attack.

On Oct. 10, Chief Security Minister Wiranto, who like many Indonesian goes by one name, was seriously injured in a knife attack carried out by Islamic militants. In a brief inauguration ceremony before

the 711-member People’s Consultative Assembly, the upper house, Jokowi, 58, took the oath with a copy of the Quran held above his head by a Muslim cleric.

Several foreign dignitaries attended the ceremony, including Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong. Japan and the United States sent special envoys.

Jokowi was reelected in the direct presidential election held in April for another five-year term. The Constitution limits the president to two terms of office. He is expected to announce his Cabinet as soon as possible after his Sunday inauguration, having expressed a wish to immediately get to work.

During the presiden-

tial campaign, he was supported by his Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle chaired by former President Megawati Sukarnoputri, by the former ruling Golkar Party and by smaller parties, which together control 349 of the 575 seats in the House of Representatives.

Just a few days before his inauguration, however, negotiations with some opposition parties, including the Gerindra Party led by his defeated election rival Prabowo Subianto, took place with cadres of the parties expecting to join his coalition government.

Such moves have raised concerns among the public because it may harm the parliament’s ability to act as a “check and balance mechanism” on the administration. There are also worries the new government may be authoritarian.—Kyodo ■

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Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC), Corner of Mahabandoola Road & Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Tsp, Yangon,

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

lmm@kcyangon.com

Dated 21st October 2019

IMF warns of “highly uncertain” global economic outlook

WASHINGTON—The International Monetary Fund warned of the “highly uncertain” global economic outlook amid U.S.-China trade tension and said there was a need to increase “peer pressure” on countries to follow global trade rules as it wrapped up its annual meetings Saturday.

“Growth is projected to pick up next year, but the outlook is highly uncertain and subject to elevated downside risks. These

include trade tensions, policy uncertainty, and geopolitical risks,” the International Monetary and Financial Committee, the policy-setting body of the IMF, said in a communique.

The annual meetings of the IMF and World Bank took place in Washington at a time when concerns have been growing over slowing global growth and weakening trade.

IMF chief Kristalina Geor-

gieva said after the committee’s meeting that actions to resolve the trade disputes between the United States and China, as well as finding a resolution to the talks on the United Kingdom’s planned withdrawal from the European Union, can help reduce the uncertainties that have weighed on the global economy.

She also said members recognized the need to build more “peer pressure for everybody to



Chinese shipping containers are stored beside a US flag after they were unloaded at the Port of Los Angeles in Long Beach, California on May 14, 2019. PHOTO: AFP

Suspected N. Korea smuggling ships made repeated port calls in Japan

TOKYO—Vessels involved in North Korea’s export of coal, which is banned by U.N. resolutions, have made repeated port calls in Japan, possibly as a way of evading the embargo, data obtained by Kyodo News showed Sunday. Such vessels have made over 100 port calls in Japan since the U.N. Security Council banned North Korean coal exports in August 2017 following a

series of ballistic missile tests in violation of earlier resolutions, records from private firms that tracking shipping and the Japan Coast Guard showed. The vessels, many of which are Panamanian-flagged, visited Russia and China before or after they came to ports in northern and northeastern Japan, in a possible attempt to disguise the origin of their cargoes. —Kyodo ■

German airports hit by Eurowings, Germanwings walkouts

FRANKFURT AM MAIN—Cabin crew at four Lufthansa subsidiary airlines staged a day-long strike Sunday, causing dozens of cancellations at German airports in a battle for better pay and conditions.

The walkout, called by the UFO cabin crew union, was initially set to last from 5:00 am until 11:00 am (0300-0900 GMT) but a worsening spat with Lufthansa bosses prompted the union to extend the strike until midnight. The industrial action at Eurowings, Germanwings, Sun-Express and CityLine led to at least 12 departures being scrapped at Hamburg airport, around 10 in Munich and around 15 at Berlin-Tegel, according to DPA news agency.



Cabin crew at Germanwings and Eurowings were joined by colleagues at SunExpress and CityLine during a day-long strike for higher wages and better working conditions. PHOTO: AFP

Frankfurt airport, the country’s busiest, reported “several” cancellations, as did Duesseldorf and Cologne-Bonn. In a statement, UFO said it had ramped up the strike after the Lufthansa group told employees the walk-

outs were “illegal” and “endanger your jobs.” “This is not only wrong, it also signals the next level in the threats against cabin crew colleagues,” UFO said. “This behaviour must be stopped.” —AFP ■

Border closure has mixed impact for Nigeria’s economy

LAGOS—Two months ago, Nigeria slapped restrictions on cross-border trade with its neighbours, but there are mixed signals as to whether the controversial move is benefitting the country.

On August 19, President Muhammadu Buhari dramatically closed Nigeria’s land frontiers to goods traded with Benin, Cameroon, Chad and Niger, saying

its economy needed to be protected from rampant smuggling.

The move has met with howls of pain in Benin especially, and cast a shadow over a newly-minted agreement to scrap restrictions on trade among African economies.

But has it been beneficial for Nigeria, as the government has sought? —AFP ■

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 27th OCTOBER 2019 and 28th OCTOBER 2019 (Deepavali Public Holiday), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

ပို့ဆောင်ရေးနှင့်ဆက်သွယ်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
မြန်မာ့မီးရထား
အိတ်ဖွင့်တင်ဒါ(Open Tender)ခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ မြန်မာ့မီးရထားမှ (၂၀၁၉ ခု ဒီဇင်ဘာလမှ ၂၀၂၀ မေ လ အထိ) (၆)လစာ လိုအပ်သော ဒီဇယ်ဆီ (HSD) (5242200-Gals) အားအောက်ဖော်ပြပါ နေရာများအရောက် မြန်မာ့မီးရထားဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်- တင်ဒါအမှတ် - ၀၉/မမ/၀၀/ဒီဇယ်ဆီ (HSD)(CME/CE) 2019-2020

စဉ်	ပေးပို့ရမည့်နေရာ	အရေအတွက် (ဂါလံ)
၁	ဓနိတော	4930000 - Gals
၂	ဟင်္သာတ	153600 - Gals
၃	ပခုက္ကူ	91200 - Gals
၄	ကလေး	33000 - Gals
၅	စစ်တွေ	4200 - Gals
၆	ဥသျှစ်ပင်	6600 - Gals
၇	ကျောက်တော်	23600 - Gals
	စုစုပေါင်း	5242200 - Gals

တင်ဒါပိတ်မည့် နေ့/အချိန် - (၁၈.၁၁.၂၀၁၉) (တနင်္လာနေ့) (၁၄:၃၀) နာရီ
၂။ တင်ဒါပုံစံများကို အောက်ဖော်ပြပါဌာနတွင် (၁၈.၁၀.၂၀၁၉) ရက်နေ့မှစ၍ ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ကြောင်းနှင့် အသေးစိတ်သိရှိလိုပါက ၎င်းဌာနသို့ မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။
ထောက်ပံ့ဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့မီးရထား၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်းနှင့် ၅၁ လမ်းထိပ်၊
ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း-294352, 291988, 291994

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
MYANMA RAILWAYS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHANGE OF DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO PROVIDE PROJECT ASSURANCE SERVICES FOR LANDMARK PROJECT AND INTERNATIONAL HOTEL PROJECT

1. Myanma Railways (MR) has invited reputable local and/ or international Project Assurance Services Company (PASC) to assist PMU/ PAC of MR and to undertake Project Assurance activities for the implementation of International Hotel Project and Landmark Project respectively, which are located at No. 372, Bogyoke Aung San Road, Pabedan Township, Yangon Region. The submission deadline for the completed proposed EOI Documents was announced as not later than **14:00 hours on 28th October 2019 (Monday)**.
2. As 28th October 2019 (Monday) is a gazetted holiday, this is to announce that the completed proposed EOI Documents shall be submitted to the Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar, Phone; +951291985, 291994 not later than **14:00 hours on 29th October 2019 (Tuesday)**. (Submission by mail, Email or Courier Services shall NOT be entertained.)

Managing Director
Myanma Railways

Myanmar expects over 1 mln tourists through Thai border crossings this year

By Kyaw Htike Soe

TOURIST arrivals to Myanmar via the country's border checkpoints with Thailand have been increasing significantly this year and are expected to reach 1 million soon. The number of day-trippers from Thailand and other countries who visited Myanmar through Tachilek border gate in Eastern Shan State during the period from 1 January to 17 October this year totaled 998,560, according to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (DoHT).

The foreign visitors entered Myanmar via Tachilek to visit well-known destinations in Mongphyat and Kengtung on a one-day visit or overnight trip. The top locations for both day-trippers and



The number of tourists who visit Myanmar via Tachilek border checkpoint reaches 943,831 in total. **PHOTO: DOHT**



Kengtung is one of the popular destinations for globetrotters who enter Myanmar through Tachilek border checkpoint. **PHOTO: DOHT**

visitors in Tachilek are local markets, Bayintnaung Statue, a shrine, a replica of the Shwedagon Pagoda, a religious edifice, Padaung ethnic village, Maha Myatmuni Buddha Image, and the Chinese temple. The Buddha footprint pagoda and an ancient monastery in Mongphyat and Maha Myatmuni Buddha Image, Chinese temples, monasteries, a standing Buddha statue, Thittapintaung (One Tree Hill), Koehtat Waterfall, and Kaba-Aye Pagoda in Kengtung also became popular tourist destinations for overnight trippers. Some globetrotters tour Heho, Yangon, Mandalay, Myitkyina, Lashio and significant attraction sites across the country

by air through Tachilek.

The number of tourists who enter Myanmar via Tachilek border checkpoint so far reached 998,560 including 926,718 day-sightseers and overnight-trippers from Thailand. The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has been making appropriate arrangements for wooing tourists to the country

in a safe and secure manner. The ministry also organizes some travel itineraries for tourists who enter the country through border checkpoints. Under the management of the ministry and a private tour operator, 32 travellers from Thailand visited Myanmar in their own motorcars by crossing the Hteekhi border gate in Tanin-

thayi Region on 27 September. Their travel itinerary took three days and included visits to Maungmakan Beach and the region's capital city Dawei. They returned to Thailand via the Hteekhi border gate on 29 September.

Myanmar is rapidly gaining popularity among Thai visitors thanks to the country's reward to citizens from seven ASEAN countries—Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos and the Philippines—to stay 14 days in the country without any visa. The number of Thai visitors to Myanmar is estimated to reach about 500,000 in one or two years, and about one million in five years, according to the Royal Thai embassy in Yangon. Thai tourists travel to Myanmar through international entry points and border checkpoints to enjoy its natural landscapes, tour attractive tourist destinations and observe a diverse range of cultures and traditions of ethnic tribes. The ease of visa restrictions on Asian tourists has considerably prompted the increase of tourist arrivals in the first nine months of 2019.



Some tourists are very interested in the river cruise tours along Ayeyawady and Chindwin Rivers to enjoy looking at natural sceneries. **PHOTO: DOHT**

A new destination **Kayah** where local and western cuisine readied for visitors

In addition, some restrictions were eased to attract more tourists to the country. With the prevalence of peace and stability coupled with a variety of scenic beauties, ancient cultural heritages, pagodas and natural beaches, tourist arrivals in Myanmar have increased significantly when compared to previous years. Myanmar set a target to attract seven million international visitors by 2020. Myanmar earned US\$ 2 billion from 3.55 foreign visitor arrivals in 2018 and US\$ 1.9 billion from 3.44 million tourist arrivals in 2017. Some tourists are very interested in the river cruise tours along Ayeyawady and Chindwin Rivers to enjoy the natural scenery of riverbed villages, visit elephant camps and observe living style of marine workers and traditional pottery industry.

The open season is about to begin in Myanmar and some globetrotters are continuously flocking to the country by car or motorbike or bicycle in either groups or crossing alone through border checkpoints to visit significant tourist attraction sites in the country.



Kayan girl wearing brass coils around her neck. PHOTO:MEMORIES GROUP

KAYAH State is the smallest state in Myanmar with an area of just a little more than 3,500 square miles.

Among the various indigenous people in the region, the Kayan or Palaung are renowned for their 'long-neck' women who wear brass coils around their necks and are dressed in colourful traditional costumes.

As Myanmar opens up to international tourists, Loikaw has become one of the newest destinations that became accessible. Yangon to Loikaw drive is a considerable drive that locals normally do. For foreign visitors, a flight to Heho from Yangon or Mandalay and by car to Loikaw is a shorter and more enjoyable ride through mountains of Shan State and Kayah State. A trip to Loikaw can also be part of a trip to Inle Lake and towns like Taunggyi, Kalaw and Nyaungshwe etc. in Shan State.

At an elevation of 884 meters above sea level, Loikaw offers a spring time climate with temperature between 26 °C in December and 33 °C in April. Peppered by pagoda-topped hills and stunning natural and rural scenery, Loikaw is tipped as one of

the country's future tourism hotspots.

In January this year, Balloons Over Bagan, an arm of Memories Group, launched hot-air balloon flights in Kayah State. The service recommences in January 2020 under the name Balloon Safaris Loikaw. The hot air balloons will rise high above Loikaw and Kayah's famous landmarks Taung Kwe or Thirimingalar Taung Taw, Ngwe Taung Dam and Seven Step Pond.

Local and western delicacies for visitors

There are a number of local delicacies that visitors can try out when in Loikaw.

Kayah sausage: It is a sausage that does not use any preservatives in any form. Due to this it needs to be consumed within a day or two of purchase. Locals, including the tour guides and hotels should be able to point you out where it can be purchased.

Curry pack: Curry pack, locally known as Hin Tote, is a rice dumpling with chicken, pork or vegetable that was very

popular, more widely available than Kayah sausage. U Tun Ya Curry Pack shop in Mingala Ward was one of the many shops where this was available. However, as it was taken as a breakfast food, it was usually sold out by late in the morning so be early to rise and be the first to take breakfast.

Visitors can also try out other local drinks like Kayah moonshine and delicacies like pork balls and fried termite eggs.

Keinnara Lodge Loikaw, an eco-lodge owned and operated by Myanmar tourism trailblazers Memories Group, has launched what it hopes will be a tasteful introduction to Western cuisine in the remote region of Kayah State.

By Ye Htut Tin

The resort's new menu was unveiled on 1 October by Chef Thu Ra Aung, who previously worked for nine years as a chef de partie and sous chef at Yangon's celebrated Strand Hotel.

"Chef Thu Ra Aung brings a wealth of new culinary ideas and experience to this tranquil corner of Myanmar," said Keinnara Lodge Loikaw's general manager Ko Ko Lay. "Most people in Kayah State as well as many local visitors have never tried Australian beef, couscous, pan-fried salmon or European wines, so we hope these dishes appeal to their taste



Curry pack. PHOTO:THIHA



Fried pork ball. PHOTO:THIHA



Fried termite eggs. PHOTOS: THIHA

buds."

Among the chef's specialties, Thu Ra Aung said that he also intends to unveil a few "Kayah fusion" dishes starting with his very own Kayah Sausage Pizza. But, he said, he will stay faithful to the recipes of traditional local favorites such as Hin Tote.

A remote far-off place Loikaw in Kayah State is welcoming visitors, locals and international alike, with its natural scenic beauty and sites as well local and western foods.





Myanmar badminton star Thet Htar Thuzar seen at the Egypt International Badminton Championship in Cairo.

PHOTO: THET HTAR THUZAR'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Myanmar badminton star Thet Htar Thuzar wins Egypt International 2019

MYANMAR badminton star Thet Htar Thuzar won the Egypt International 2019 tournament yesterday by beating Jordan Hart from Wales with a two-match win in the final of the women's singles event of the tourney at Cairo City, Egypt.

Thet Htar Thuzar dominated the play and won the final by a 2-0 result. The first match ended with a big 21-6 win for Thet Htar Thuzar, and Jordan Hart conceded defeat in the second match which ended with a score of 11-1.

The Egypt International 2019 was held from 17 to 20 October in Cairo and Thet Htar Thuzar won decisive victories throughout the tourney.

In the round of 32 of the

women's singles event, Thet Htar Thuzar beat Egyptian player Jana Hesham Mohamed Abdelkader by 21-4 and 21-7.

Next, in the round of 16, Thet Htar Thuzar beat India's Ritika Thaker by 21-17 and 24-22 to enter the quarter final.

In the quarter final, she beat Indian Kanika Kanwal by 21-14 and 21-17. In the semifinal, she beat Peru's Daniela Macias by 21-8 and 21-13. With the win in Egypt, Thet Htar Thuzar has chalked up seven international titles within a year, and she is currently in a good position for qualifying for the women's badminton singles event in the upcoming 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

AFF Futsal Championship 2019: Myanmar to play Timor-Leste today

THE Myanmar national futsal team will play against the Timor Leste futsal team today in the Group A match of the ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) Futsal Championship 2019 at the Phu Tho Indoor Stadium in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam.

A match cooperation meeting and a pre-press conference for the championship was held yesterday morning at the First Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City.

The press conference was attended by U Kyi Min Thein, the administrator of the Myanmar futsal team, on behalf of team Myanmar head coach U Htay Myint, who was busy supervising the players ahead of the championship.

During the press conference, U Kyi Min Thein said that the team got two months to prepare for the championship. Team Myanmar competed in the four-na-

tion futsal invitational cup in China in September, as part of preparations for the tourney, he said. "And then, we have already played friendly matches with Viet Nam futsal teams here and got so much international match experience. We respect each and every competitor in the tourney. We are aiming for winning the current AFF futsal championship and

also targeting to qualify for the next Asian-level futsal championship. We will do our best," U Kyi Min Thein added.

Myanmar will face Timor Leste today in the opening match of the championship, which is scheduled for 1 p.m. Myanmar Standard Time, according to the Myanmar Football Federation. —Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Myanmar national futsal team administrator U Kyi Min Thein speaking at a pre-press conference yesterday in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, ahead of the AFF Futsal Championship 2019. PHOTO: MFF

MFF to appoint Antoine Hey as head coach of national football team

The football authorities will soon re-appoint Antoine Hey as the head coach of the national football team after terminating the contract with Miodrag Radulović, the current head coach, under a mutual agreement, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

Antoine Hey, 49, is a German football coach and former professional player. He spent most of his professional life in the top two divisions of German football, and also has experience managing a number of national football teams, including Myanmar.

Hey acted as head coach of the Myanmar national men's football team and the U-23 Myanmar

men's football team in 2018, and helped team Myanmar win several international matches.

The MFF has also an-

nounced that it will assign U Kyi Lwin as the assistant head coach of the national football team.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Former head coach of the Myanmar national men's football team, Antoine Hey. PHOTO: MFF

Colsaerts wins French Open to end seven-year title drought

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES — Nicolas Colsaerts held on to seal a gripping one-shot victory over Denmark's Joachim B Hansen at the French Open, claiming his first European Tour title for seven years on Sunday at Le Golf National.

The big-hitting Belgian led by three strokes overnight but made several errors as South African George Coetzee and

Hansen both moved ahead briefly on the back nine.

But Colsaerts recovered and kept his nerve on the final three holes to card a one-over-par fourth round of 72 and win on 12-under for the tournament.

"It's very special. I mean, the French Open for me is very special because I'm French-speaking," said the 36-year-old, who was part of Europe's 2012 Ryder

Cup-winning team in the 'Miracle at Medinah', but has since slipped to 424th in the world rankings.

"I've been coming here for I don't know how many years. It's been a long road.

"So many people have supported me over the years. That's why I get so emotional. I went through ups and downs for so many years now."

It was Colsaerts' third European Tour triumph in total and his first since the Volvo World Match Play Championship in May 2012. The return to the winners' circle also secures his tour card for the next two years, having started the week 114th in the Race to Dubai standings, perilously just inside the top 117 who qualify automatically for next season.

Colsaerts stumbles

Colsaerts got off to a dream start with a birdie on the first as Coetzee made bogey, opening up a five-shot lead over his playing partner.

The Belgian then stumbled as world number 289 Coetzee reeled off three straight birdies around the turn to seize a one-shot advantage. —AFP ■