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State Counsellor attends ASEAN Plus Three Summit, Related Summits in Bangkok



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for a commemorative photo with leaders from the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, at the 22nd ASEAN Plus Three Summit in Bangkok, Thailand on 4 November 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the 22nd ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit, the Special Lunch on Sustainable Development, the 14th East Asia Summit, the 22nd ASEAN-Japan Summit, the 3rd Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Summit, and the closing ceremonies of the 35th ASEAN Summit and

Related Summits, the handover ceremony of ASEAN Chairmanship for 2020 and the 11th Mekong-Japan Summit yesterday.

At 8:45 am local time, the State Counsellor attended the 22nd ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit at Sapphire 204 of Impact Exhibition and Convention Center for discussion on APT activities and future plans. The

meeting was attended by Union Ministers U Thaung Tun and U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Permanent Representative to ASEAN U Min Lwin, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Myo Myint Than and officials.

At 11: 45 am local time, the State Counsellor joined the Special Lunch on Sustainable Development at the Grand Diamond.

At 1: 30 pm, she attended the 14th East Asia Summit to discuss cooperation among the member countries and future objectives. They also exchanged views on regional and international affairs. The meeting was also attended by Union Ministers U Thaung Tun and U Kyaw Tin. At 5 pm, the State Counsellor attended the 22nd ASEAN-Japan Summit at

Sapphire 203 to exchange views on cooperation between ASEAN and Japan, plans for upcoming years, and matters related to regional and international affairs.

At 6: 15 pm, she also took part in the 3rd Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Summit to exchange views on coordination.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

14th regular session of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw commences

THE Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw began the first day of its 14th regular session at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker address

The first day sessions started with an address by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat.

He said the 14th regular session will continue the Constitution amendment process and conduct other Hluttaw works including discussions and debates on bills. Of the 325 townships permitted to conduct works in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 with Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Development Fund, 309 town-



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

ships had submitted work completion reports and the remaining townships were urged to submit their reports systematically and in a timely manner. Furthermore members are to systematically

select constituency wise works benefiting the public to be conducted in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and to draw up and submit Work Proposal Form 1 to the central committee in a timely manner.

Commenting on a letter submitted by a Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative who was a member of Joint Committee on amending the 2008 Constitution on the matter of two joint committee members changing party representation and three joint committee members resigning on their own volition, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said notification announced by the committee was in accordance to the procedure.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker urged all to fulfill their duties and responsibilities for the Hluttaw to be well regarded not only by the citizens but also internationally.

Matters put on record by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Following his speech to the Hluttaw, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw putting on record the official overseas trips conducted by Hluttaw representatives and the appointment of Dr Soe Win as Ayeyawady Region minister for immigration and human resources sent by the President.

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Pyithu Hluttaw

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's 14th regular session holds 1st-day meeting

AT the first-day meeting of the second Pyithu Hluttaw's 14th regular session held at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday morning Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat delivered an opening remark, overseas trips of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and Pyithu Hluttaw representatives were put on record, asterisk marked questions were raised and answered and a receipt of a bill announced.

Opening remark of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker

In his opening remark, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat said there were 16 bills to be discussed in the 14th regular session. As for motions, there



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

were five including one that was tabled in the 13th regular session. There were a total of 165 asterisk marked questions and 108 asterisk marked questions from earlier sessions were also moved to

the 14th regular session.

Hluttaw representatives need to raise their roles and perform the legislative duties more diligently to strengthen the Hluttaw and to increase the people's reliance on it. Hluttaw representatives represent the people and are to conduct the Hluttaw work processes according to democracy norms and standards. Check and balance on administrative and judiciary sectors were to be conducted and all are urged to work together toward establishing a true federal union and to strengthen democracy in the country. All were welcomed back and urged to work for the country in unity

with good spirit and mind said the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.

Overseas trips while Hluttaw in recess put on record

Next, the Hluttaw was informed about following trips made by Hluttaw representatives while the Hluttaw was in recess between the 13th and 14th regular session.

1. A Myanmar delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat visiting Republic of Korea

2. A Myanmar delegation led by U Yi Mon (a) U Tin Thit of Pobbathiri constituency conducting a study visit of People's Republic of China

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Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw discusses infrastructure, housing for civil servants

THE Second Amyotha Hluttaw held the first day meeting of its 14th regular session yesterday. Deputy Construction Minister U Kyaw Lin replied to starred questions from five MPs during the session.

Firstly, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than addressed the assembly. He greeted the Hluttaw representatives with well wishes and urged them to continue their duty of implementing the hopes and aspirations of their constituents. U Kyaw Lin then answered to MPs' questions.

Road construction processes

MP U Hla Oo of Sagaing Region constituency (4) asked in which financial year will the budget to frame the edges of the



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

Phote Gon-Nay Yar Khin-Ywar Thit-Kaing road in Ayardaw Township, Monywa District, be included. The Deputy Minister replied that the 2.2 miles road is a Class B-priority one rank and thus will be included in the 2020-2021 Union fund proposal.

Next, MP U Saw Moe Myint (a) Samuel of Kayin State constituency (1) asked whether there are plans to construct a Thand-aunggyi-Papun road to facilitate easier traveling to the south of Kayin State. The Deputy Minister replied that while they have the necessary road designs included in their Arterial Road Network Master Plan, his ministry is unable to conduct the needed survey in the area. He said they will begin work on the roads once they have taken the required survey.

Next, MP Daw May Than Nwe of Ayeyawady Region constituency (11) asked for the names of government departments handling sections of the Bogale-Satsan-Htawpina-Amar

road and canals. Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin replied that the road is under the administration of the Department of Roads but two sections of the road, from mileposts 18/1 to 19/3 and mileposts 19/7 to 26/2, belong to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

He said the agriculture ministry raised the borders along the road by a metre to gain the Design Authority Crest Level (A.C.L) but they were damaged by the construction ministry during an excavation project. He said the Road/Airport Design and Printing Sub-department will continue mapping a new route in the open season.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) leaders pose for a commemorative photo together with leaders from East Asian countries at the 14th East Asia Summit in Bangkok, Thailand, on 4 November 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor attends ASEAN Plus Three Summit...

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The summits were also attended by Union Ministers U Thaung Tun and U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Permanent Representative to ASEAN U Min Lwin, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Myo Myint Than and officials.

At 7:30 pm, she attended the closing ceremony of the 35th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits and the handover of ASEAN Chairmanship for 2020 at the Grand Diamond.

The ceremony was also attended by Thai Prime Minister, retired General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Brunei's Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Philippines President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, Indonesian President Mr Joko Widodo, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Thongloun Sisoulith, Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, state leaders and senior government officials of East Asia Summit Member Countries, the UN Secretary General and the Secretary-General of ASEAN and dignitaries.

The Prime Minister of Thailand delivered a closing speech at the ceremony and handed over the rotating ASEAN Chairmanship to the Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, followed by the screening of the Incoming ASEAN video presentation.

At 8:30 pm, the State Counsellor joined the 11th Mekong-Japan Summit Working Dinner at Sapphire 20 at the same venue. — MNA ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand (Retd) General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Shinzo Abe and Leaders from Mekong countries pose for a photo at the 11th Mekong-Japan Summit in Bangkok. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends the 22nd ASEAN-Japan Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand, on Monday. **PHOTO: MNA**

(Translated by Aung Khin)

State Counsellor meets with Russian PM, US National Security Advisor



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talks with United States National Security Advisor Mr Robert Charles O'Brien at the Impact Exhibition and Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand, yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Dmitry Medvedev. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held separate talks with Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Dmitry Medvedev and United States National Security Advisor Mr Robert Charles O'Brien at the Impact Exhibition and Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand, yesterday.

At 2: 40 pm local time, the State Counsellor met with the Russian Prime Minister at the Sapphire 111 of the Impact Center. They discussed fostering bilateral relations between the two countries, increasing cooperation in the sectors of energy, industry, civil aviation and education, organizing a joint commis-

sion meeting for bilateral trade and economic cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw, exchange of visits of senior official and close cooperation in the international arena.

At 9:30 am local time, the State Counsellor received the United States National Security Advisor at the Sapphire 104 of the same venue about promoting

bilateral relations, fighting narcotic drugs, trafficking in persons, prevention and combating of illegal trading in wildlife, continued promotion of bilateral cooperation including consular matters, efforts being made to accept the displaced persons from Rakhine State in accordance with the bilateral agreement, and cooperation

with UNHCR and UNDP which are UN agencies.

They also exchanged views in an open and cordial manner on areas of mutual interest in regional and international affairs. These meetings were attended by Union Ministers U Thaug Tun and U Kyaw Tin.— MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

ASEAN meeting discusses rural development, eliminating poverty

THE Sixteenth Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication of ASEAN member countries was initiated at Horizon Lake View Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The main topic of discussion centred on the success of the sustainable development goals and establishing communities with quick and effective response mechanisms.

Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw spoke at the opening ceremony. He said his ministry has developed the agricultural development strategic plan to develop agriculture, food security, income generation and rural development in tandem with the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP). He said they reduced poverty to 24.8 per cent in 2017.

Next, Deputy Secre-

tary-General Mr Kung Phaok of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, ASEAN Secretary-General Office, explained the processes of the rural development

and poverty eradication group. The 16th high-level meeting and related meetings will continue to 8 November.— MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw delivers the speech at the opening ceremony of Sixteenth Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication of ASEAN. **PHOTO: MNA**

AA abducts five Indian nationals, five locals

Five Indian nationals working in EPI Company and RPP Company and five locals including Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Whey Tin travelling by two speed boats from Chin State Paletwa to Sittway was abducted by AA group in Chin State Paletwa Township on the morning of 3 November.

EPI Company and RPP Company are constructing India-Myanmar road and the five Indian citizens employed by the two companies were travelling on two speed boats driven by two local boat drivers when the incident happened. They were accompanied by two interpreters and the Amyotha Hluttaw representative. On arrival near Kyauk Tan Village, two motor boats with about 10 AA members fired warning shots and forced the two speed boats to dock at Kyauk Tan Village.

There were about 40 more

AA personnel with a boat at the village and the five Indian citizens and the five locals were taken by boats to Kun Phay Village. The detainees were then forced to walk about 4 hours to the west of the village and at about 4:20 pm Indian citizen Mr Vinoo Gopal passed away, according to the detainees who were released yesterday. Yesterday morning, all the detainees, except U Whey Tin was released and arrived back to Kyauktaw Town. From there the India Consul General Dr Kumar Praveen took the freed detainees by two cars to Sittway. Mr Vinoo-Gopal's remain was carried by Phyu Sin Myitta Funeral Service.

Tatmadaw columns were conducting security operations near the area where the incident occurred, according to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.— MNA

14th regular session of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw commences

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Reading of reports

Next, Joint Bill Committee member U Nay Myo Tun read and explained the joint committee report on the Basic Education Bill that the two caused a controversy between the two Hluttaws. Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Chairman U Win Mra also read and explained the commission's work report for January to 24 September 2019. After each report was read and explained, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the bill and the report to register their names.

Explanations on signing

agreements

Afterwards, Myanmar acceding to an agreement on establishing ASEAN centre for the aged; Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims, 1976 (LLMC 1976), Protocol of 1996 to amend the Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime claims, 1976 (LLMC PROT 1996); International Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules of Law Relating to Bills of Lading ("Hague Rules") Hague Visby Rules and SDR Protocol sent by the President were explained by Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe and Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications.



Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe.

After each explanation was made, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the matter to register their names.



U Win Win of Minbu constituency.

Hluttaw discuss US\$100 million loan from World Bank IDA

As a final agenda of the day U Win Win of Minbu constituency, Dr Tin Tin Win of Bago Region

constituency 5, Naw Chris Tun (a) Dr Arr Kar Moe of Kayin State constituency 7, Daw Nwe Nwe Aung of Mon State constituency 2, U Thet Naung of Lahe constituency and U Aung Myo of Sagaing Region constituency 2 discussed the US\$ 100 million loan from World Bank International Development Association (IDA) to implement Ministry of Education's all inclusive quality education program that was sent by the President.

Second day meeting of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 14th regular session will be held on 6 November.—Myo Thu Hein, Gyaing Law

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Information Minister receives French Ambassador



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint holds talks with French Ambassador Mr. Christian Lechery in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint received French Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Christian Lechery at the former's office in Nay

Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. The meeting focused on bilateral cooperation in press, film and television, centenary celebration of Myanmar Motion

Picture, and participation of France in this celebration.— (MNA)
(Translated by Aung Khin)

T&C Union Minister receives Malaysian Ambassador

UNION Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung received Malaysian Ambassador Mr Zahairi Baharim at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to the works on port and railway sectors, e-government procedures and promoting bilateral transport and communications cooperation between the two nations. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung meets with Malaysian Ambassador Mr Zahairi Baharim in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Notification 204/2019**

8th Waxing of Tazaungmon, 1381ME
(4 November 2019)

**Six Defence Services Personnel
representatives from Region and State
Hluttaws Substituted**

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Law to substitute six Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following six Region Hluttaw and State Hluttaw representatives shown on the left column under the Notification 3/2016 of the commission dated 18-1-2016, the Notification 28/2016 of the commission dated 14-11-2016, the Notification 26/2017 of the commission dated 30-10-2017, the Notification 63/2018 of the commission dated 15-5-2018 with those shown on the right column.

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

Taninthayi Region Hluttaw

(1) BC 30668	BC 36461
Major Hla Tun	Major Htet Naing Oo

Mon State Hluttaw

(2) BC 21384	BC 33523
Major Soe Thura	Major Hlaing Aung Min

Rakhine State Hluttaw

(3) BC 38783	BC 32418
Major Thet Oo Maung	Major Ko Ko Oo
(4) BC 40172	BC 30804
Major Ye Naung Oo	Major Aung Myo Zaw

Yangon Region Hluttaw

(5) BC 34651	BC 42937
Major Nay Lin Aung	Major Gaday Phyo Aung
Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw	
(6) BC 48373	BC 60159
Captain Zin Linn	Captain Zaw Lin Tun

(Hla Thein)
Chairman

Union Election Commission

MEngC, CAST sign mutual recognition agreement



The signing ceremony between MEngC and the CAST witnessed by Union Minister U Han Zaw and Chinese Ambassador Mr Chen Hai in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Myanmar Engineering Council (MEngC) and the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) signed a mutual recognition agreement (MRA) yesterday afternoon, as part of a programme conducted by Myanmar to expand such agreement with other foreign engineering associations.

The signing ceremony was held at the Function Hall of MEngC Headquarters in Yangon, attended by Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw, with making a remark

on the MRA.

He said that Myanmar and China are cooperating in engineering works in both Union and private levels, and that the registration of Chinese engineers will benefit the country and engineering community as many engineers from non-ASEAN member countries are working in Myanmar.

Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai, MEngC President Dr Charlie Than and CAST Vice President Mr Mang Qingnai explained bilateral co-

operation, the works of MEngC and technical cooperation.

The Union Minister and the Chinese Ambassador witnessed signing of MRA between the MEngC and the CAST.

The ceremony was also attended by Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, patrons of the MEngC, chairpersons and members of the Myanmar Engineering Society and the Myanmar Architect Council, and officials from relevant organizations.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Incident Handling & CSIRT Management Course conducted at MOI



Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun delivers the opening address at the Incident Handling & CSIRT Management Course in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

MINISTRY of Information is hosting the Incident Handling & Computer Security Incident Response Team Management Course, while cyber security issue has been crucial for the ministries while the country is developing an e-Government system.

Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun made an opening remark at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, with emphasis on importance of

the course amidst an increasing trend of the Fourth Industrial Revolution that has caused dramatic changes in lifestyles, including access to information, thanks to developing technologies.

He also suggested all social media users, including civil service staff, to have knowledge of scrutinizing fake news, rumours, and hoax news going viral on social media.

The Deputy Minister also

advised the trainees to reapply cyber security knowledge from this course for the country.

U Ye Naing Moe, the Director of Department of Information Technology and Cyber Security under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, explained the course and its subjects for 18 trainees from the Ministry of Information.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 202/2019

8th Waxing of Tazaungmon, 1381ME
(4 November 2019)

Defence Services Personnel representative substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute one Defence Services Personnel Representative who is a parliamentarian, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following Pyithu Hluttaw representative shown on the left column under the Notification 8/2016 of the commission dated 17-5-2016 with the one shown on the right column. The Defence Services Personnel Representative of the Pyithu Hluttaw to be substituted was nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

BC 17340

Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw Nyein

BC 18841

Brig-Gen Tint San

(Hla Thein)

Chairman

Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 203/2019

8th Waxing of Tazaungmon, 1381ME
(4 November 2019)

Four Defence Services Personnel representatives substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute four Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following four Amyotha Hluttaw representatives shown on the left column under the Notification 2/2016 of the commission dated 18-1-2016, the Notification 20/2017 of the commission dated 21-8-2017, and the Notification 25/2017 of the commission dated 30-10-2017 with those shown on the right column.

The Defence Services Personnel Representative of Amyotha Hluttaw to be substituted was nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

(1) BC 38340

Major Pyae Phyoo Han

(2) BC 34042

Major Aung Ko Min

(3) BC 17517

Col Htein Lin

(4) BC 26771

Col Soe Shwe

BC 27365

Major Kyaw Soe Thant

BC 32432

Major Pyay Tun

BC 20368

Col Than Naing Win

BC 20203

Brig-Gen Aung Zaw Oo

(Hla Thein)

Chairman

Union Election Commission

Bago, Ayeyawady regions to get K13 bln for purchasing paddy at basic price

By Nyein Nyein

THE government has pledged K13 billion to the Bago and Ayeyawady regions to allow them to purchase paddy at the basic price, said U Aung Htoo, the Deputy Minister for Commerce.

“The Bago Region government has asked for K8 billion to purchase paddy. To set the rules and regulations regarding that we will call a meeting soon. Afterwards, we will pay the subsidy to them. However, we will figure out a way so they can repay it. No report has been submitted by the Ayeyawady Region. The regional government has sought around K5 billion. The existing fund is adequate to make the allocations. It is available so they can buy paddy, if the market price falls below the basic price,” said U Aung Htoo.

At present, the Bago, Ayeyawady, and Yangon region



Workers loading the truck with sacks of rice at Botahtaung Jetty in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOEHKHAR

governments have requested the leading group on protecting the rights and enhancing the economic welfare of farmers to buy the paddy at the set floor price, he said.

On 15 October, the govern-

ment fixed the basic price of paddy (low-quality variety) at K500,000 per 100 baskets (one basket is equivalent to 46 pounds) for this year's monsoon paddy and the 2020 summer paddy. The government has pledged K15 bil-

lion for purchasing paddy, in case the market price falls below the basic price.

Therefore, the concerned region and state governments are preparing plans to purchase the paddy if the price drops below

the basic price.

“The related region and state governments will buy the paddy. They had to submit a report to the Union government to seek a purchase permit. They all have forwarded the respective reports and will take action on this,” said U Aung Htoo.

Additionally, to pay off the funds allocated under the government purchase plan, rules, regulations, and payment terms will be discussed, he added.

The agricultural management group and paddy purchase groups formed by the leading group will initiate the purchase plans in remote places, where it is hard to trade paddy at the basic price. The plans are being drafted at present. The Myanmar Rice Federation and warehouse businesses will also cooperate in the plans.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Stock trades on YSX drop by half in Oct

THE value of stocks traded on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) last month was registered at K1.36 billion, nearly half the value recorded in September.

The value of stocks traded on the exchange had reached a peak this year in September at K2.47 billion.

The volume of shares traded also plunged in October. A total of 259,245 shares were traded on the exchange last month compared to 421,358 shares in September, according to the monthly report of the YSX.

At present, shares of five listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), and TMH Telecom Public Co Ltd. — are being traded on the stock exchange.

In January, 89,576 shares worth K526 million were traded on the exchange, and the trade value slid to K409 million and K396 million in February and March as share prices fell. In April, 102,682 shares worth K506 million were traded on the YSX. Starting from May, the value of shares traded crossed K1 million. It touched a new peak of K1.4 billion, with 275,325 shares traded, in May; K1.32 billion, with 233,994 shares traded, in June; K1.22 billion,

with 256,241 shares traded, in July, and K1.9 billion, with 322,176 shares traded, in August. It reached a record-high in September and then plunged nearly 50 per cent in October.

In October, the shares of FMI closed at K12,000, MTSH at K3,950, MCB at K8,300, FPB at K23,000, and TMH at K3,000.

The YSX was launched three years ago to improve the private business sector. It disseminates rules and regulations regarding the stock exchange and knowledge of share trading through stock investment seminars.

The YSX has doubled its stock trade matching time from two to four per day. In addition to this, it held a promotional event to attract new investors and encourage existing investors to trade more actively. The YSX has also sought the government's support to get more public companies to participate in the stock market and to help more institutional investors, such as financing companies, investment banks, and insurance companies, to emerge.

Meanwhile, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar, under the Ministry of Planning and Finance, issued a press statement on 12 July, announcing that foreigners would be allowed to invest in shares listed on the

YSX within a few months and currently, they are making preparations for this.

With the aim of increasing the number of individual investors in Myanmar's financial market, support the growth of business enterprises, develop the ecosystem of the Myanmar capital market, and improve financial literacy among people, the YSX Expo 2019 was held on 1 September at the Novotel Yangon Max Hotel, according to the YSX.

In 2016, shares of only three companies were traded on the YSX — First Myanmar Investment, Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings, and Myanmar Citizens Bank. One more public company, First Private Bank, was listed on the YSX in 2017. Last year, TMH Telecom Public Co Ltd debuted on the exchange.

More than 2.5 million shares of three listed companies were traded on the YSX in 2016, and their value was estimated at K70 billion. In 2017, despite an increase in the stock trading volume to 2.6 million shares, the trade value was only K22 billion. In 2018, 2.3 million shares of five companies, worth K11.5 billion, were traded on the exchange, according to the annual report of the YSX. — GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Sorghum price rises due to demand from China

IN spite of the huge harvest of Myanmar sorghum this season, the price has been increasing gradually due to a large demand from China, according to the Mandalay Commodity Depot.

“Sorghum is generally harvested during Thadingyunt, and the market opened at K28,000 per basket this season. Although sorghum is currently being sent to local markets, the price has gradually climbed to K30,000 per basket, instead of declining,” said U Soe Win Myint from Soe Win Myint Depot in Mandalay.

“The price of sorghum has been rising on account of a large demand, despite the high yield this year. Earlier, the price stood at K28,000 per basket. In China, sorghum is used to make alcohol. The Chinese consider sorghum alcohol healthy. So, they prefer sorghum over corns. Sorghum is selling well among the Leeshaw

ethnic people in Momeik and Mogok, who also use it to brew alcohol. Miners in these regions consume sorghum alcohol for its health benefits,” he added.

“Moreover, growers in Myingyan tried cultivating sorghum of Chinese origin on an experimental basis, like watermelons. But, the cultivation failed due to differences in geography and land quality,” he added.

Sorghums are mostly cultivated in the central regions of Myanmar, including Kyaukse, Thetaw, Wundwin, Myitthar, Myingyan, and Monywa towns, and Magway Region. More farmers must choose to grow sorghum because the input costs are not very high and it has already grabbed a share of the foreign market, said U Soe Win Myint. —Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

(Translated by La Wonn)



Photo shows plot of sorghum. PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)

Healthy lifestyle, food can help prevent NCDs

CARDIOVASCULAR diseases and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs) remain an important reason for substantial morbidity and mortality in countries, especially low-income and middle-income nations, including Myanmar.

A rise in unhealthy lifestyles alongside poverty, inequality, and conflict has increased the burden of NCDs on countries.

In Myanmar, over 30 per cent of the population above the age of 18 has hypertension. That is a very high percentage.

This also means that our younger generation can play a crucial role in curbing NCDs and reducing the burden caused by the four main types of non-communicable diseases. More than two-thirds of preventable and premature deaths in adults attributed to NCDs are associated with risk behavior that started during adolescence.

Now, non-contagious diseases which can just as easily afflict us are posing a threat to our daily lives. According to a health survey conducted in 2016-2017, 75 per cent of deaths in Myanmar can be attributed to hypertension, diabetes, or some form of non-contagious disease.

Now, non-contagious diseases which can just as easily afflict us are posing a threat to our daily lives. According to a health survey conducted in 2016-2017, 75 per cent of deaths in Myanmar can be attributed to hypertension, diabetes, or some form of non-contagious disease.

The 2014 WHO STEPS Survey reveals that 26.4 per cent of adults in Myanmar (between the age of 25 and 64) have hypertension, 10.5 per cent have diabetes, and 22.4 per cent are obese. Likewise, the National Survey on Causes of Death using verbal autopsy (2016-2017) shows that 75 per cent of all deaths can be attributed to hypertension, diabetes and other non-contagious diseases. As a result, there is now a greater need to administer healthcare for these diseases in rural areas where the majority of our citizens live.

If proper preventive measures are not put in place now, the situation may develop into a public health crisis in the next five years.

Rural and township health departments across Myanmar run diabetes-hypertension treatment clinics every Wednesday, which offer medical examinations, treatments, and health awareness programs.

Self-care is better than cure. NCDs can be remedied by a healthy lifestyle and eating nutritious food.

Mass Rapid Transport (MRT)

By Ko Ko Aung

DEVELOPED and developing countries have implemented Mass Rapid Transport systems, which can be abbreviated as Ma-Hta-Tha in Myanmar language. An effective transport system can help take a large number of people to any destination in a short time.

Good foundation for mass rapid transport Good foundations are required to transport a lot of people en masse to a destination. Building enough modern and latest model buses, a lot of bus routes, main roads, branch roads, shortcuts and ring roads cannot be seen comprehensively. Comprehensive developments for rapid public transport and sustainable and comprehensive systems depend 100% on good foundations. Among them, security of smooth transportations should be prioritized. For secure and smooth transportation, there are two parts: security and smoothness.

In security sector, safe driving involves systematically built main roads, branch roads, ring roads, two-tiered roads, causeways and flyovers by means of modern engineering; in smooth sector, road signals, junction traffic and signal lights, circles, warning signboards, zebra crossings, overpasses and lampposts are included.

When roads, two-tiered roads, causeways and flyovers are built by means of modern engineering, safe driving depends of modern technology. The system-



PHOTO: PHOEH KHWAR

atic arrangement of road signs, traffic lights, circles, warning signboards, zebra crossings and overpasses is in place; vehicular control system and actions taken have made traffic flows quick and smooth; it is very important and must base on technical systems.

Construction of roads and upgrading

In road construction sector, wide traffic lanes, two-tiered roads, construction of overpasses and causeways must be carried out by means of modern engineering including the endurance of earthquake intensity.

Upgrading, sustainable development and regular maintenance must be observed for the comprehensive security. Even though constructions are implemented by means of modern engineering on the one hand, upgrading and regular maintenance cannot be carried out on the other hand, thus having no complete security on the road.

Similarly, handing of vivid road signs, traffic islands, obstacle must be clearly seen in day and night. Warning signs could be easily seen hanging during night and day. Practical creations of zebra crossings and overpasses,

phasized for smooth traffic flow.

Control for vehicular routes

Control for vehicular routes must be taken care of as a very important role. In controlling traffic routes, electronic systems and experts go together. Controlling by traffic lights means using electronic systems whereas traffic policemen serve as human experts. Electronic systems serve as the way for automatic traffic lights. During natural disasters and man-made disasters such as fire, collapses of buildings and bridges and cracks in road surfaces happen, experts and traffic police must be called out. The benefits of local traffic systems are vividly found; in addition to going to office during rush hours, the opposite lands are allowed, with traffic police blocking the crosscut routes, thus stranding

this system, people waste about one-and-a-half hours per day on the road, losing man-hours and time. Individual as well as organizational capabilities have been lost on the road to urbanization and development.

Weighing up between traffic systems and policemen

For instance, there six lanes on the main road where cars are stopped for two seconds; it means three vehicles are blocked. Here in this place, if blocked for one minute, there will be 90 vehicles blocked. If blocked for 5 minutes, there will be 450 cars coming to a halt. One could imagine how long a series of cars waiting at the traffic lights. In this way, cars on the main roads are unable to drive on the branch roads nor will those on the latter come forwards the main road. Then the blockage of vehicular routed happens; during the day, long duration of vehicular blockage means traffic blockage will occur many more times. That is why during the normal time, cars should be stopped not more than one minute whereas not more than one and a half minutes during office hours. Therefore, the traffic police should not interfere in controlling the automatic traffic systems. Public transportation system as well as an organization and individual system will go quickly and smoothly.

(Translated by Arakan Sein)

Due to the disadvantages of this system, people waste about one-and-a-half hours per day on the road, losing man-hours and time. Individual as well as organizational capabilities have been lost on the road to urbanization and development.

systematic installations of crossroads, and signal traffic lights for easy traffic flow, avoidance of obstacle on the way must be em-

hundreds of cars on both routes, including those respective branch roads.

Due to the disadvantages of

President's Office continues announcement of illegal drug arrests, seizures acting on tip-offs

The Office of the President issued Press Release No. 41/2019 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs' arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 2 November.

The ministry made the arrests, acting on information, sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President as of 2 November.

The full text of the press release will be reported in the 6 November issue of *The Global New Light of Myanmar*. —GNLM

One more political party applies for registration

REGISTRATION of political parties are being scrutinized by the Union Election Commission (UEC), Inn National League Party came to UEC to register itself as a political party on 4 November 2019. —MNA

(Translated by KZT)

Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs calls in Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar

U Soe Han, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar called in Mr. Manjurul Karim Khan Chowdhury, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar, at 1500 hrs on 4 November 2019 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the Permanent Secretary and the Bangladeshi Ambassador exchanged views on matters pertaining to bilateral relations and repatriation of displaced persons.

Moreover, the Permanent Secretary discussed the matter related to the visit of the Evidence Collection and Verification Team (ECVT) of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) to Bangladesh in November 2019 and handed over the letter addressed to Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, from Mr. Kenzo Oshima, Member of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE), to the Ambassador of Bangladesh.

The Permanent Secretary called to the attention of the Ambassador regarding the Press Release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh on 30 October 2019, and stressed that the contents of the Press Release is in no way contribute to the good neighbourly relations between the two countries and not help the implementation of the repatriation process that is to be conducted in accordance with the bilateral agreements between Myanmar and Bangladesh.—MNA



Report to the people on the progress of the Implementation committee on recommendations on Rakhine State between January and August 2019

This is a report to the people summarizing the implementation of the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State as part of the efforts in various sectors made by the State from multiple approaches for stability, tranquility and development in Rakhine State.

The Economic and Social Development of Rakhine State

Economic Zone



Kanyin Chaung Economic Zone

The construction of Kanyin Chaung Economic Zone-"A" covering an area of 49.58 acres in Maungdaw Town implemented to contribute to the socio-economic development of Rakhine State is now 82% completed.

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ACTING CHIEF EDITORAye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT**

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORSZaw 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,
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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.**Sagaing Yoke Sone Monastery attracts over 200 visitors every day**

MORE THAN 200 local and foreign travellers are visiting the Sagaing Yoke Sone monastery on Sagaing Hill every day. The Yoke Sone, or Ariyawuntha Chaung, monastery is being promoted as a tourism site by the regional government and is well-known for art from the Inwa era.

"The monastery is always crowded with visitors. We get over 200 visitors per day and over 500 visitors on the weekends and fullmoon days. We have one or two foreigners arriving here on motorcycles every single day. Sometimes, the monastery hosts groups of over 40 or 50 foreigners travelling by car. Most people come to explore the wooden sculptures at the monastery and take photos," said the residing Sayadaw of the monastery.

The Sagaing Yoke Sone



Travellers visit the Sagaing Yoke Sone monastery on Sagaing Hill. PHOTO: MYO WIN TUN (MONYWA)

monastery is a fine example of the architecture of the Inwa era. It was built and donated by the second king of Inwa to Ariyawuntha Sayadaw. The monastery has

been renovated by Sitagu Sayadaw over the last 15 years, after the death of the first resident monk, Ariyawuntha Sayadaw.

The Ten Great Birth Stories

of the Buddha are depicted on the walls of the monastery, with magnificent wooden craftwork.

—Myo Win Tun (Monywa)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Migratory birds flock to Indawgyi Lake for winter

Migratory bird species at Indawgyi Lake. PHOTO: WIN NAING

THE population of birds at the Indawgyi Lake has registered an increase with flocks of winged visitors returning to the lake for

the winter season, according to the Environment and Wildlife Conservation Department.

Every year, migratory birds

from Russia, Siberia, and northern China flock to the freshwater lake, where there is abundant food, away from colder regions

with frozen lakes and short food supply that make it difficult for them to survive.

Sarus cranes, ferruginous ducks, and black-headed gulls have mostly returned to the lake. The migratory birds usually arrive in October every year, and they leave the lake by April-end.

A variety of migratory birds can be seen in March, said U Tin Aung, a local resident.

In 2018, the migratory bird population at Indawgyi Lake was registered at over 20,000. This year, the number has reached 30,000. There are about 37-45 migratory bird species at the Indawgyi Wildlife sanctuary during the winter season, according to the department. —Win Naing (Kachin Myay)

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

15 killed, 130 injured in 63 highway accidents in October

FIFTEEN persons were killed and 130 injured in 63 traffic accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway in the month of October, according to a report issued by the Highway Police.

Most of the traffic accidents occurred because of traffic law violations, including reckless driving, and poor traffic awareness among the people. Therefore, traffic education talks are required to reduce traffic accidents on the highway and assist in increasing the livelihoods of residents, according to officials.

Between January and September, there were 386 traffic accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay highway, Myanmar's busiest highway. The mishaps left 74 persons dead and 736 injured.

To make sure the people obey traffic laws and test the hardiness of vehicles, officials from the concerned departments have the responsibility of launching awareness campaigns to bring down the number of accidents in Myanmar.

—Kyaw Kyaw (Mahlaing)

(Translated by La Wonn)



A fatal accident is seen on Yangon-Mandalay Highway. PHOTO: KYAW KYAW (MAHLAING)

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's 14th regular session holds 1st-day meeting

FROM PAGE-2

3. U Sein Bo of Myawady constituency attending 4th Meeting of Speaking of the Eurasian Countries' Parliaments in Republic of Kazakhstan

4. U Htay Win Aung (a) U Pyone Cho of Dawbon constituency conducting a Switzerland and Norway study tour on peace process and democracy reforms

5. Dr Wai Phyo Aung of Thakayta constituency attending a regional meeting in Malaysia on terrorism and extremism that causes it

6. Daw Khin Mo Mo Aung of Latha constituency attending 1st South-East Asia Inter Parliamentary meeting on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and 3rd South-East Asia Forum on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals held in Thailand

7. Dr Khin Sithu of Loikaw constituency conducting a study tour of Indonesia National Com-

mittee on implementing International Humanitarian Law (PAN-TAP) in Indonesia

8. U Myo Zaw Aung of Kawlin constituency attending 141st International Parliamentarian Union Assembly held in Serbia

9. U Khin Maung Win of Lanmadaw constituency conducting a study tour of regional governments and government systems in Singapore and Australia

10. Dr San Shwe Win of Yekyi constituency attending a workshop in Thailand

11. A Myanmar delegation led by Daw Nam Kham Aye of Namtu constituency conducting a study tour to Australia

12. U Wai Hlaing Tun of Patheingyi constituency attending 17th Study Tour to Japan "Mediation"

13. U Zaw Win of Htantabin constituency attending Lisbon Addictions 2019 Conference in Portugal and studying works on reducing the danger of drugs in



Deputy Minister of Electricity and Energy Dr Tun Naing. PHOTO: MNA

Germany

Hluttaw then put the trips on record.

Asterisk marked question and answer session

In the asterisk marked question and answer session, questions raised by

U Khin Maung Myint of Yaksawik constituency on a policy in distributing electricity to villages, U Kyaw Gyi (a) U Ohn Khin of

Minhla constituency on a plan to construct an embankment to prevent river bank erosion of Ayeyawady River in Mihhla Township, U Lagan Zal Jone of Waingmaw constituency on a plan to continue the construction of a train station in Waingmaw Township Ward 4, Dr Daw Khin Soe Soe Kyi of Pyay constituency on plan to resolving overcrowding in youth training schools under Department of Social Welfare, U Htay Min Theing of Gyobingauk constituency on a plan to provide electricity to villages in Gyobingauk Township, U Saw Victor Clyde of Thandaunggyi constituency on a plan to connect a separate 33/11 KV power lines to Thandaung, Thangdaunggyi, Bawgali and Leiktho towns in Kayin State, Dr U Saw Naing of South Okkalapa constituency on a plan to prevent squatters from squatting on the Nga Moe Yeik Creek embankment and U Tin Nu (a) U Tin Nu Aung on a plan

to arrange a landing craft trips linking Manaung and Yanbye were answered by Deputy Minister of Electricity and Energy Dr Tun Naing, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo and Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung.

Receipt of Myanmar Medical Degree, Diploma and Certificate Bill

As a final agenda of the day Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced the receipt of Myanmar Medical Degree, Diploma and Certificate Bill sent with amendments by Amyotha Hluttaw and announced further for Hluttaw representatives who want to table an amendment motion to register their names.

The second-day meeting of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 14th regular session will be held on 5 November; it is learnt.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Amyotha Hluttaw discusses infrastructure, housing for civil servants

FROM PAGE-2

The matter of compensation regarding the land along the route will be discussed between MPs and government department and included in the closest financial year's budget proposal, said the Deputy Minister.

Housing for retired civil servants

Next, MP Daw Thiri Yadanar of Mon State constituency 12 asked for the status of the survey for constructing residential housings for retired civil servants, implementation progress, and when it can be handed over to civil servants.

The Deputy Minister replied that the survey indicates there will be around 20,000 civil servants retiring every year and two-thirds of them answered they wish to purchase housing. This means 13,000 housing units need to be constructed every year.

The survey also asked civil servants who have a year before retiring where they would like to settle afterwards and the results show 10,819 chose Yangon, 3,663 chose Mandalay, 1,125 chose Nay Pyi Taw as the top three options.

The Deputy Minister said the survey shows there should be an option for financially struggling retired civil servants to rent

housing instead. He said K15 billion from the Union budget was used to construct 812 rental units for Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw in 2018-2019 FY and 120 more units will be constructed in the capital this 2019-2020 FY. He said the state and regional governments are also properly addressing the same concerns for their own civil servants. He said 8,416 housing units have been constructed across the nation between 2017 and 2019 for civil servants and citizens with low income.

New road in Mandalay Region

Next, MP U Kyaw Tote of Mandalay Region constituency

7 asked if there were plans to upgrade the dirt road between Nga Ta Yauk Town and Taung Zin-Kan Saunt village to a smooth gravel road. The Deputy Minister replied that 9.2 miles of the 13-mile road between the aforementioned locations in NyaungU Township is not under the authority of the Rural Development Department. He said they are working with the local government on that matter but for now, the 3.6 miles under the ministry's authority has been submitted in the 2020-2021 budget proposal for upgradation.

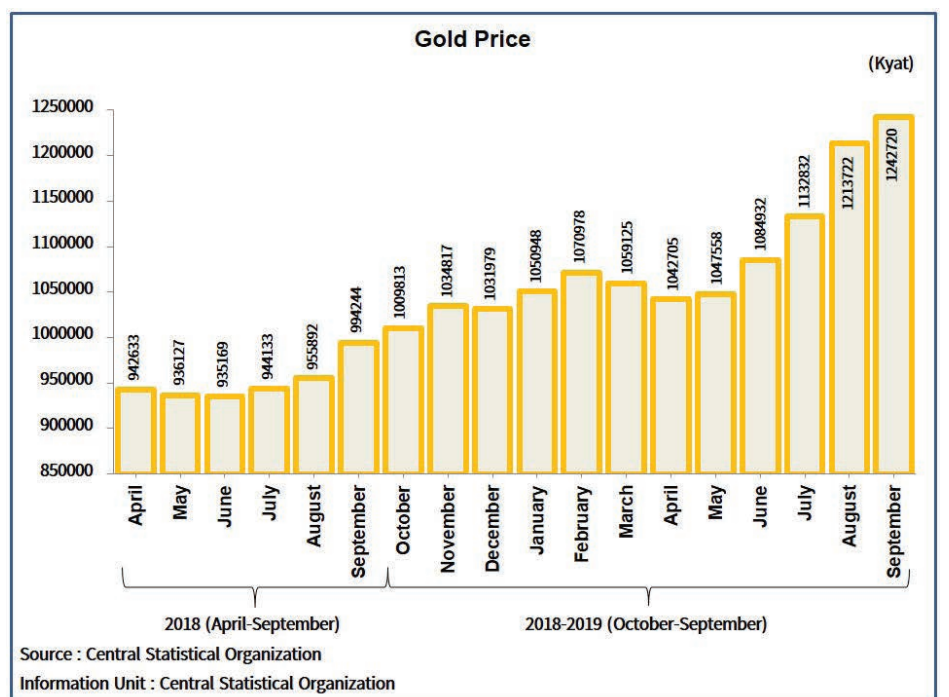
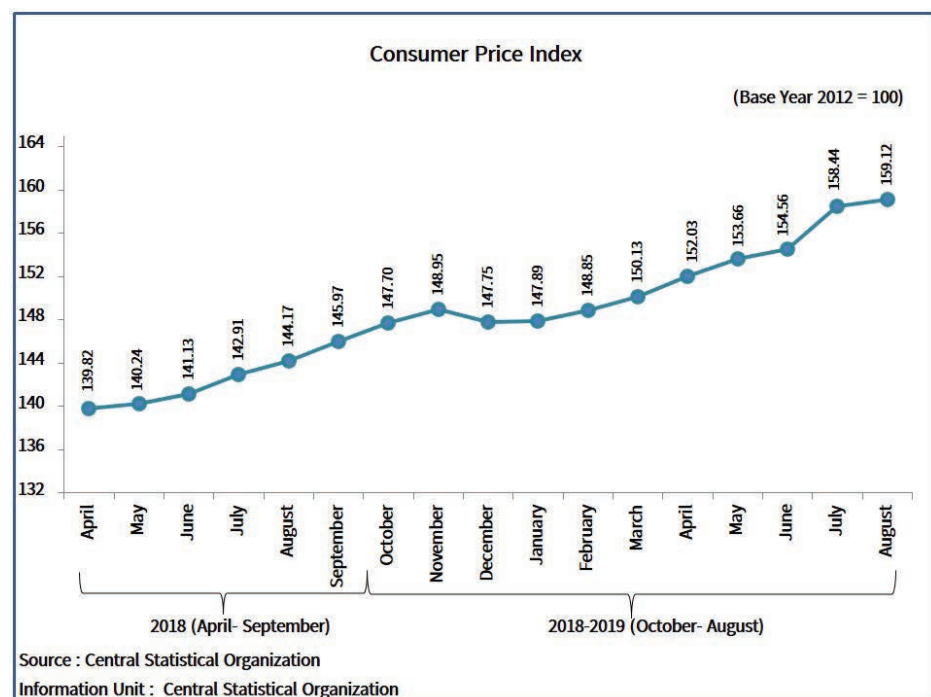
Next, the Speaker called for the deliberation of the Amyotha Hluttaw on The Adaptation of

Expressions Bill sent back with amendments from the Pyithu Hluttaw and gained the assembly's approval.

MP U Min Oo of Bago Region constituency 6 then tabled a motion expressing sorrow for the recent passing of Amyotha Hluttaw MP U Pe Tin of Mon State constituency 6 on 30 October, which was then put on record. The entire assembly observed two minutes of silence for U Pe Tin.

The second-day meeting of the current 14th regular session will convene today.—Aung Ye Twin, Michael Htan

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Min Thu Wun Foundation donates one-storey school to Kungyangon Tsp



Former President U Htin Kyaw addresses the opening ceremony for a new school building in Kungyangon Township in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: TUN TUN SOE (SHWE CHAN MYAY)

THE opening ceremony for a new school building donated by former President U Htin Kyaw, Patron of Min Thu Wun Foundation, and wife Daw Su Su Lwin, on behalf of the foundation, was held in Kan Wine Village, Kungyangon Township, Southern District of Yangon Region, yesterday morning.

First, the ceremony was formally opened by the donors, the former President and wife, with Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Min Min, Deputy Director for Office of the

Director of Education (Yangon) U Soe Thike, and Min Thu Wun Foundation Secretary U Aung Kyaw Soe. Thereafter, the donors with their families and invited persons looked around the building.

In the second part of the ceremony, U Htin Kyaw delivered a speech focusing on the purpose of the donation. The school building was then handed over to Ministry of Education by the foundation's Vice Chairman U Myo Myint Aung, which was accepted Deputy Director U Soe Thike

accepted and he gave a certificate of honor in return. Next, Township Education Officer Daw Aye Aye Thike spoke words of gratitude for the donation.

The building is a one-storey structure measuring 60 ft by 30 ft, with a construction cost of K25 million. Former President U Htin Kyaw, wife Daw Su Su Lwin and family made the donation as an act of merit for their parents and on behalf of the Min Thu Wun Foundation. — Tun Tun Soe (Shwe Chan Myay) (Translated by Ba Htoo Kyaw)



The Buddha consecration ceremony of the Eternal Peace Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw will be held on 11 November. PHOTO: MNA

Religious objects to be hoisted atop Eternal Peace Pagoda next week

HOLY Buddhist objects will be hoisted atop Eternal Peace Pagoda in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, on full-moon day morning of Tazaungmone which will fall on 11 November.

Together with Buddha consecration ceremony, a golden umbrella will be installed and other relics will be enshrined on top of the pagoda on that day.

Four companies are constructing the pagoda for its timely completion.

U Zaw Myo Htet, the engineer of San Htaik Tan Myanmar Artefacts Group, said, "We have almost completed Myanmar traditional designs at the pagoda. Some floral designs are quite similar to those at Ananda Pa-

goda in Bagan. However, some of those designs are modified."

The height of Eternal Peace Pagoda is 108 ft, which is surrounded by 80 small stupas on 306 ft wide platform.

To mark the consecration ceremony, Buddhist monks will perform continuous recitation of Patthana Pali texts from 7 to 9 November.

On the fullmoon day of Tazaungmone, the consecration ceremony will be broadcast live from MRTV, and the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture have also invited the general public and well-wishers for merit-makings at the ceremony. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Drugs seized in Kutkai, Kawthoung

OFFICERS from Muse Drug Enforcement Division No(22) arrested 2 people identified as Shi Lauk Paung and Ma Sho Shauk Lint on Kutkai-Kaung Kha road near Loi Khan Village, Kutkai Township, and confiscated 253g of heroin and 2,200 stimulant tablets from their car at 4 pm on 3 November.

At noon on the same day, officers from Maram Police Station searched a house, whose owner is identified as Aung Myint, in Aye Chan Thar Village, Kawthaung Township and confiscated 1,788 stimulant tablets, 0.0001kg of the drug ICE, 7kg of opium, 4 loaded guns and 5,100 in Thai Bhat. They arrested Aung Myint along with two others identified as Htoo Wai Yan (a) Htoo Htoo and Soe Thu Aung.

A similar case also occurred in Aye Nyein District. Officers



Two suspects named Shi Lauk Paung and Ma Sho Shauk Lint seen with seized drugs. PHOTO: MPF

from Kawthoung DED No (34) searched a house owned by a person named Myint Zu Soe Min (a) ZuZu in Myay Ni Street, Aye Nyein District, Kawthoung Township, and found 1,880 stimulant tablets and a handphone. Upon further investigation, the police also searched the room

of a person named Zaw Tun Aung in Anawah District, Kawthoung Township, and confiscated 585 stimulant tablets. All suspects are being charged with the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — GNLM (Translated by Ba Htoo Kyaw)

Police destroy 70 acres of poppy fields in Shan State

POLICE destroyed 24.5 acres of poppy fields 2 miles south-east from Wahlee Village, Pinlaung Township, and 25 acres 2 miles to the south of Latain Village, Pekon Township, yesterday. In the same day, police destroyed 2 acres of poppy fields located 5 miles south-west of Ton Kyine Village, Nansang Township.

Meanwhile in Loilem Town-

ship, police destroyed 13.5 acres of poppy fields about 3 miles south of Naung-Taung Village No.1 and 2 acres south-east of Loi Mang Village. In Le Cha township, police destroyed 2 acres of poppy fields to the east of Nar Yang Village. A total of 69 acres of illegal poppy fields were destroyed yesterday. —Police Information Department (Translated by Ba Htoo Kyaw)



PHOTO: MPF

Asian markets rally on strong US jobs data, trade optimism

HONG KONG (China) — Asian markets rallied Monday following a forecast-busting US jobs report, and on growing optimism that China and the United States will finally sign off on a mini trade pact.

Investors took their lead from another record-breaking close on Wall Street, which came at the end of a strong week for equities thanks to strong earnings and another Federal Reserve interest rate cut.

The Labor Department said the US created 128,000 net new jobs in October, surpassing the 80,000 expected, while the figure for the previous two months was also revised upwards.

Friday's reading came days after data showed the world's top economy slowed slightly in July-September but not as much as projected, suggesting it is stabilising.

The figures helped the S&P 500 to a new all-time high, while the Dow moved to within a whisker of its own record.

Asian investors took up the mantle on Monday, with Hong Kong, Seoul, Bangkok and Taipei each piling on more than one percent, while Shanghai jumped 0.6 per cent.

Sydney was 0.3 per cent up, Singapore added 0.1 per cent, Mumbai edged up 0.3 per cent and Wellington climbed 0.4 per cent. There were also healthy gains in Manila. Tokyo was closed for a public holiday.

In early trade London edged up 0.2 per cent, Paris climbed 0.4 per cent and Frankfurt was 0.5 per cent higher.

The upbeat mood was enhanced by comments from Chinese Vice Premier Liu He that indicated trade talks with Washington were on track.

—AFP ■

Japan to make it easier for troubled banks to get capital boost



File photo shows Japanese banknotes.

PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

TOKYO — Japan's financial watchdog has decided to make it easier for regional banks that have solid financial standing to put money into their struggling peers, with the introduction of a special measure that prevents them from seeing their capital-to-asset ratios being reduced, officials familiar with the matter said Monday.

The measure, which is likely to be carried out by the end of the current fiscal year in March, is aimed at providing an option for survival to troubled regional banks that are finding it hard to increase their earnings amid the Bank of Japan's prolonged low-in-

terest policy but are reluctant to engage in mergers and acquisitions, the officials said.

Under the current system, capital-to-asset ratios of both major and regional banks will be reduced in proportion to the amount of money they invest in other banks that are not consolidated in their earnings results. The rule has been in place to help avert a chain reaction of bankruptcies.

The Financial Services Agency has already presented a plan to revise supervisory guidelines to the Regional Banks Association of Japan to enable regional banks to be subject to the special measure,

according to the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity. The measure is expected to be applied to the investment for regional banks that face the risk of their capital adequacy ratios going below 4 per cent, the minimum level required by law to operate in Japan, they said.

The draft of the plan also showed that the applicability of it will be determined by other criteria such as whether the banks to receive financial assistance have the potential to contribute to the economic development of areas where they provide services.

One of the major benefits for regional banks that provide help is that they can make larger income gains if needy banks restore their financial soundness. At the moment, all regional banks in Japan fulfill the required ratio of 4 per cent. According to the Daiwa Institute of Research, for even the lowest-ratio Japanese bank, it stands at 5.85 per cent.—Kyodo News ■

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"Legal services; providing information relating to laws; Legal counseling services; Agencies for procedures relating to industrial property rights, preparation of expert opinions; Agencies for judicial registration or deposits; Agencies for copyright licensing; Agencies for social insurance; Providing information on newspaper or magazine articles, via the internet" in **Class 45**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw La Min May, H.G.P

On behalf of Mr. Masaki HOSAKA

C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,

Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),

Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,

Botataung Township, Yangon,

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 5th November 2019

lmm@kcyangon.com

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (16 / 2019-2020)

1. Open tenders for 2019-2020 fiscal year are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-153(19-20)	Spares for Volvo Tractor (54) Items	Ks
(b)	DMP/L-154(19-20)	Spares for NAT C-245-125 Torque Converter (25) Items	Ks
(c)	DMP/L-155(19-20)	Spares for Kobelco Excavator (73) Items	Ks
(d)	DMP/L-156(19-20)	Spares for Drilling Rig Drive Group (21) Items	Ks
(e)	DMP/L-157(19-20)	Spares for National C 300-100 (FH) Torque Converter (25) Items	Ks
(f)	DMP/L-158(19-20)	Spares for A 1700 PT Pump Ex USS Oil Well Rig (16) Items	Ks
(g)	DMP/L-159(19-20)	Assorted Sizes of Seamless Steel Casing (3) Items	Ks
(h)	DMP/L-160(19-20)	Assorted Sizes of TRI Cone Bits (10) Items	Ks
(i)	DMP/L-161(19-20)	Air Clutch & Spares for Drawworks and Catworks (6) Groups	Ks
(j)	DMP/L-162(19-20)	Spares for Drawwork and Catwork (6) Groups	Ks
(k)	DMP/L-163(19-20)	Spares of All Swivels (7) Groups	Ks
(l)	DMP/L-164(19-20)	5" Drill Pipe for HDD Rig (1900) M	Ks
(m)	DMP/L-165(19-20)	Hand Tools for BOP & Wellhead (9) Items	Ks
(n)	DMP/L-166(19-20)	Power Tong & Air Winch Spares (4) Groups	Ks
(o)	DMP/L-167(19-20)	Assorted Sizes of Steel Wire Rope (10) Items	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **4 November 2019** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **14:00 pm on 4 December 2019**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time **4-12-2019, 14:00 pm**

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph No. + 95 67 - 411206

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British MPs vote on new speaker after Bercow's departure

LONDON (United Kingdom) — British MPs will on Monday select the new speaker of the House of Commons, once an unremarkable event but one now charged with significance following the previous occupant's role in Brexit.

Eight MPs are running to replace John Bercow, who placed himself front and centre of the Brexit saga by choosing amendments and introducing procedures that Leave-supporting MPs claimed were designed to frustrate Britain's departure from the European Union.

Bercow also faced accusations that he fostered a culture of bullying within parliament. But his colourful personality and eccentric performances in parliament gave him an international profile and raised the status of the office.

Lindsay Hoyle, Bercow's



Deputy speaker Lindsay Hoyle. PHOTO: AFP

deputy since 2010, is the odds-on favourite to fill his shoes but other political heavyweights are also vying for the job.

Hoyle has been a Labour MP for 22 years and was Bercow's deputy from 2010, since when his

distinctive Lancashire accent has rung out from the speaker's chair.

In a sign that he may follow a different path from Bercow, he recently rejected amendments that would have made it more difficult for Prime Minister Boris Johnson to force a general election, now due on 12 December.

The 62-year-old is as unimpressed as his predecessor by rowdy MPs, once chastising Scottish Nationalists for humming the EU anthem "Ode to Joy" in the chamber.

Hoyle pledged in an interview published in the Sunday Times to repair what he claims has become a "toxic parliament".

"I don't want the abuse of each other and I think we have got to close that down quickly and make sure it is a calmer place to be," he said.—AFP ■

UK airline giant IAG agrees to buy Spain's Air Europa

LONDON (United Kingdom) — British Airways owner IAG agreed Monday to buy Spain's Air Europa for 1.0 billion euros to expand routes to Latin America and the Caribbean, boosting Madrid as a key hub.

The London-listed company said in a statement that it has signed a transaction agreement with Air Europa owner Globalia in a deal worth the equivalent of \$1.2 billion that it aims to complete in the second half of next year. IAG added that Air Europa will complement existing Spanish divisions Iberia and Vueling — and help Madrid take on the four largest air hubs in Europe, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London Heathrow and Paris Charles De Gaulle. The deal, which is subject to regulatory approvals, will further expand IAG's portfolio that also includes Ireland's Aer Lingus and low-cost European carrier Level. The British company added that it will fund the deal with debt, and anticipates that the transaction will generate significant savings in terms of costs and sales.

"Acquiring Air Europa would add a new competitive, cost effective airline to IAG, consolidating Madrid as a leading European

hub and resulting in IAG achieving South Atlantic leadership, therefore generating additional financial value for our shareholders," said IAG Chief Executive Willie Walsh in Monday's statement.

"IAG has a strong track record of successful acquisitions, most recently with the acquisition of Aer Lingus in 2015 and we are convinced Air Europa presents a strong strategic fit for the group."

Iberia boss Luis Gallego added that the move was a boost for Madrid. "This is of strategic importance for the Madrid hub, which in recent years has lagged behind other European hubs," Gallego said. "Following this agreement, Madrid will be able to compete with other European

hubs on equal terms with a better position on Europe to Latin America routes and the possibility to become a gateway between Asia and Latin America."

Air Europa flies to 69 destinations around the world, including the Caribbean, Latin America, North Africa and the United States.

It flew 11.8 million passengers last year, with revenues of 2.1 billion euros and an operating profit of 100 million euros.

IAG meanwhile carries about 113 million passengers per year to a total of 268 destinations.

The company had decided at the start of 2019 not to make a formal bid for low-cost airline Norwegian Air Shuttle, after its informal approaches were rejected as too low.—AFP ■



The acquisition is to help Madrid's airport take on bigger rivals PHOTO: AFP

Trump threatens to withhold emergency aid from fire-hit California

WASHINGTON (United States) — US President Donald Trump threatened once again Sunday to withhold federal aid from California after its Democratic governor criticized his environmental policies.

Over the past two weeks, fires have ravaged nearly 100,000 acres (40,000 hectares) in the sprawling western state, where firefighters on Sunday were battling the Maria Fire, about 60 miles (100 kilometers) northwest of Los Angeles.

Taking a line of attack he first used last year when fires killed 86 people in northern California, Trump blamed Governor Gavin Newsom, saying he had done "a terrible job of forest management."

"Every year, as the fire's (sic) rage & California burns, it is the same thing-and then he comes to the Federal Government for \$\$\$ help. No more. Get your act together Governor," he said on Twitter. Newsom, responding on Twitter, brushed off Trump's criticism in a terse 12 words: "You don't believe in climate change. You are excused from this conversation."

Newsom had offered a fuller critique in a recent interview with *The New York Times*, pointing to Trump's roll-back of environmental protections. "We're waging war against the most destructive fires in our state's history," he said, "and Trump is conducting a full-on assault against the antidote." —AFP ■

Russian scandal clouds WADA summit

KATOWICE (Poland) — Twenty years after its formation, the world anti-doping agency WADA meets for its fifth world conference in the Polish city of Katowice from Tuesday to Thursday.

Officially, the business of the meeting is to adopt a new anti-doping code and to elect a new president.

However, it is the long-running saga over Russian state-backed doping and institutionalised cheating which will dominate proceedings.

AFP Sport looks at the business in hand in Poland.

Shadow of Russia doping

It's the scandal which refuses to die but the burning issue over potential new sanctions for Russia is not even on the agenda of WADA's executive committee on Monday and Thursday in Poland. The affair, which has dominated the global anti-doping fight — as well as creating splits in how to deal with it — for the past five years, reappeared in September due to suspicions of manipulation of the electronic data from the former Moscow laboratory handed over to WADA investigators in early 2019.



WADA president Craig Reedie is stepping down after two terms overshadowed by the Russian doping crisis. PHOTO: AFP

The new revelations could lead to new sanctions such as a ban from the 2020 Tokyo Olympics as the fight against doping is ramped up after Russia was already found guilty of state-sponsored cheating between 2011 and 2015.

Russia's Athletics Federation has been banned from international competition since 2015.

The latest allegations are still under investigation and WADA hopes to reach a decision by the end of the year.

Last month, the picture became even murkier when Microsoft revealed that Russian hackers, Fancy Bears, had tried to attack the computer systems of several global anti-doping agencies.—AFP ■

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Abe urges Moon to stick to bilateral pact over wartime compensation



This picture taken on 4 November 2019 and released by the presidential Blue House via Yonhap shows South Korea's President Moon Jae-in (2nd R) talking with Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (2nd L) during their meeting in Bangkok, on the sidelines of the 35th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit. **PHOTO: AFP**

BANGKOK — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Monday urged South Korean President Moon Jae In to stick to a 1965 bilateral agreement designed to settle all wartime compensation issues amid a lingering dispute over the matter.

Abe and Moon met in Bangkok at a time when bilateral ties have deteriorated to their lowest level in years over wartime labor compensation that has played out in a tit-for-tat trade spat.

It was the first time that the two leaders have held talks since they had a formal one-on-one meeting on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in September last year.

During their 11-minute conversation in a waiting room ahead of a summit involving leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations plus Japan, China and South Korea, Abe and Moon agreed on the need to resolve outstanding bilateral issues through dialogue, the South Korean presidential office said.

They reaffirmed the importance of the two countries' ties in their "very friendly and serious"

face-to-face meeting, it said.

Speaking to reporters, Japanese Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Akihiro Nishimura said Abe conveyed to Moon Tokyo's "basic stance," which means that the issue of compensation was settled by the 1965 agreement, under which it provided Seoul with \$500 million in the form of "economic cooperation."

Moon also expressed hope for "substantial progress" in improving ties and proposed a dialogue involving high-level officials, if necessary, the presidential office said.

In response, Abe suggested that the two neighbors make efforts to explore solutions "through every possible measure," the South Korean side said.

However, Nishimura only said Abe has reiterated his position that outstanding bilateral issues should be settled by "exchanges between diplomatic authorities."

The two leaders also shook hands and chatted with each other during a gala dinner the previous evening.

Late last month, South Kore-

an Prime Minister Lee Nak Yon handed Abe a private letter from Moon during his visit to Japan to attend Emperor Naruhito's enthronement ceremony. South Korean Foreign Minister Kang Kyung Wha said Moon expressed his openness to talks with Abe in the letter.

But it remains to be seen when the two leaders can hold a formal meeting as Nishimura said Abe and Moon did not touch on the possibility of holding official talks in the future.

Tensions between the neighbors have escalated since October last year when South Korea's top court ordered a Japanese company to pay compensation for forced labor during Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula.

The dispute has spilled over into areas of trade and security.

Japan imposed stricter export controls on some key materials needed by South Korea's tech industry, while Seoul has said it will end a military intelligence-sharing pact with Tokyo, which is scheduled to expire later this month. — Kyodo News ■

Millions in Indian capital endure 'eye-burning' smog

NEW DELHI (India) — Millions of people in India's capital started the week Monday choking through "eye-burning" smog, with schools closed, cars taken off the road and construction halted.

A poisonous haze envelops New Delhi every winter, caused by vehicle fumes, industrial emissions and smoke from agricultural burning in neighbouring states.

But the current crisis has turned into the worst in three years, and New Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal called for a range of measures to fight what he described as "unbearable pollution".

"There is smoke everywhere and people, including youngsters, kids, elderly are finding it difficult to breathe," Kejriwal said in a Twitter video on Sunday.

"Eyes are burning. Pollution is that bad."

Kejriwal's government has ordered half the city's private cars to be taken off the road, based on an odd-even registration plate system. Schools, which were closed on Friday last week, remained shut on Monday, and city-wide construction was halted until Tuesday in Delhi and surrounding areas.

Kejriwal said authorities were also distributing face masks to schoolchildren.

Other parts of the country have also been choked by smog,

the government's Central Pollution Control Board said Sunday.

Authorities brought a van with an air purifier to the Taj Mahal, the country's top tourist site 250 kilometres (150 miles) south of Delhi, with fears the pollution was damaging the 17th-century marble mausoleum, the Press Trust of India reported.

With a state election due in Delhi in early 2020, the pollution crisis has also become a casualty of political bickering, with each side blaming the other for the severe conditions.

Kejriwal, who likened Delhi to a "gas chamber" on Friday, said his city had done its part to curb pollution and that the burning of wheat stubble residue on farms outside the capital was responsible for the smog.

But national environment minister Prakash Javadekar accused Kejriwal of politicising the issue, while an MP from the governing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) dismissed the odd-even car rule as a "stunt" and said he planned to ignore it.

A group of environmentalists wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday urging him to "take leadership" on the issue. The environmentalists said political parties were "intent on fixing the blame while Indians continue to die", PTI reported. —AFP ■



A poisonous haze envelops New Delhi every winter, caused by vehicle fumes, industrial emissions and smoke from agricultural burning in neighbouring states. **PHOTO: AFP**

Cambodian parliament ratifies ASEAN e-commerce pact

PHNOM PENH — The National Assembly of Cambodia on Monday ratified the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Agreement on e-commerce.

Ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP)'s 110 lawmakers

unanimously approved the agreement, which was signed by the ASEAN economic ministers in November 2018 in Singapore.

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet Minister Bin Chhin said the pact is an

importantly legal instrument to facilitate cross-border e-commerce transactions in the ASEAN region and to create an atmosphere of trust and confidence in the use of e-commerce.

"It aims to deepen cooper-

ation among ASEAN member states to further develop and intensify the use of e-commerce to drive economic growth and to reduce development gap in the region," he said.

CPP's senior lawmaker Sok-

Sokan said the pact will encourage cooperation among member states to help businesses, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, overcome obstacles and take advantage of e-commerce. — Xinhua ■

AFC U19 Championship Qualifiers: Media invited for pre-match press meet

A PRE-MATCH press conference for the AFC U19 Championship 2020 Qualifiers will be held at 2 p.m. today at the Inya Lake Hotel, according to the Myanmar Football Federation. The MFF is inviting mediapersons to attend the meet.

Myanmar has been placed in Group-I with South Korea, China PR, and Singapore for the competition.

Myanmar will play against China PR on 6 November; South Korea on 8 November; and Singapore on 10 November.

All the matches will be played at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

Eleven groups — from A to K— are participating at the group stage of the qualifiers.

The four best runners-up across the groups will qualify for the final tournament. If the host of the 2020 AFC U-19 Championship wins in its group or is among the four best runners-up, the fifth best runner-up will also qualify for the final tournament.

A total of 16 qualified teams will play in the final tournament, including Uzbekistan who qualified automatically as hosts.

The AFC U19 Championship Qualifiers will decide the participating teams of the 2020 AFC U-19 Championship which is scheduled to take place between 14 and 31 October 2020. — Kyaw Khin

Four football academies to play friendly matches on home and away format

WITH the aim of helping young footballers gain experience, teams from four Myanmar football academies will play friendly matches from 2 November 2019 to 9 February 2020 on the home and away format, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The U-12, U-13, U-14, and U-15 football teams from the Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay), Pathein Football Academy, National Football Academy (Yangon), and Tatmadaw Football Academy (Nay Pyi Taw) will participate in the friendly matches.

The teams from the Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) are MDY U13 (A), MDY U13 (B), MDY U14 (A), MDY

U14 (B), MDY U15 (A), and MDY U15 (B), while the teams from the National Football Academy (Yangon) are YGN U12 (A), YGN U12 (B), YGN U14 (A) and YGN U14 (B).

The teams from the Pathein Football Academy are PT U13 (A), PT U13 (B), PT U15 (A), and PT U15 (B), and the teams from the Tatmadaw Football Academy (Nay Pyi Taw) are NPT U13 (A) and NPT U13 (B).

The first round of the tourney will take place over three weeks – Week-1, Week-2, and Week-3. Week-4, Week-5, and Week-6 will make up the second round.

Week-1 matches of the tourney have been scheduled for 2 and 3 November. — Kyaw Khin

Lampard calls for ‘open conversation’ on VAR



Chelsea's English head coach Frank Lampard attends a press conference at Chelsea's Cobham training facility in Stoke D'Abernon, southwest of London on 4 November 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Chelsea boss Frank Lampard has called for an “open conversation” on VAR after another weekend of controversy in the Premier League as he prepares his team to face Ajax in the Champions League.

Chelsea, who are fourth in the Premier League, endured a nervy end to their match against Watford on Saturday after their 2-0 lead was halved by a VAR-awarded penalty converted by Gerard Deulofeu.

VAR also confirmed an off-side decision against Liverpool's Roberto Firmino during their 2-1 win at Aston Villa. The forward was flagged because his armpit “was marginally ahead of the last

Villa defender”.

Lampard, speaking ahead of his side's game against the Dutch champions at Stamford Bridge on Tuesday, said tweaks needed to be made over the use of the technology.

“I think the use of the screen on the side of the pitch can be a help because we've seen this weekend in the Premier League decisions that firstly they've taken a long time to get to, which seems to bring in the fact that there's an element of doubt,” he said.

The lack of use of pitchside monitors by referees has been criticised after numerous controversial decisions in the first few months of the season.

“It just feels at the minute in the Premier League, obviously there are things that aren't right with it. I think that's pretty much universally agreed at this point,” said Lampard.

“I don't think it's for the want of trying or anyone having the wrong aims. We all want a better game and better decisions and the right decisions but at the moment we're not quite getting that.”

The Chelsea boss called for input from all sides on VAR.

“I would work with it at the moment and see how we can improve,” he said. “And I think it needs to be a really open conversation — referees, managers, fans.”

Lampard said the system had been positive when it came to “clinical decisions” such as off-side calls but other calls were leading to controversy.

“It's the subjective in-between ones that we really need to decide where we're coming from with this idea of ‘clear and obvious’ because at the weekend there were lots of not clear and obvious and some were overturned and some were not,” he said.

Chelsea are second in Group H of the Champions League, level on six points with Ajax after three games. — AFP

Everton's Gomes expected to make full recovery after ankle surgery

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Everton midfielder Andre Gomes is expected to make a “full recovery” after undergoing surgery to repair a fracture dislocation of his ankle, the Premier League club said on Monday.

The Portugal international suffered the shocking injury when he fell awkwardly following a challenge from Tottenham's Son Heung-min in Sunday's 1-1 draw at Goodison Park.

“Everton Football Club can confirm Andre Gomes underwent surgery to repair a fracture dislocation to his right ankle earlier today and the procedure went extremely well,” a club

statement said.

It added: “The 26-year-old is expected to make a full recovery.”

Tottenham's players were also affected by the incident, with Son — who was sent off by referee Martin Atkinson for his challenge — in tears and Serge Aurier, who collided with Gomes, substituted.

The Premier League said in a statement that Son's red card was for “endangering the safety of a player”, but Spurs are expected to lodge an appeal against Atkinson's decision.

Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino felt the injury led to an over-reaction.—AFP



Everton midfielder Andre Gomes (centre) was injured following a challenge by Tottenham's Son Heung-min (left). **PHOTO: AFP**