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State Counsellor returns after attending ASEAN summits in BKK



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomed by Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Min Thu, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs. Suphatra Srimaitrephithak and officials at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and delegation arrived back home yesterday morning after attending the 35th ASEAN Summits and Related Summits in Bangkok, Thailand, from 2 to 4 November.

They were seen off at the Don Mueang International Airport by the Deputy Prime Min-

ister of Thailand, Public Health Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Myo Myint Than and wife, Military Attaché Brigadier-General Khin Zaw and officials.

The delegation headed by the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi including Union

Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, landed at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport at 10:45 am by special flight. They were welcomed back by Union Minister from the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint

Swe, Union Minister from the Office of the Union Government U Min Thu, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr Myo Aung and wife Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Suphatra Srimaitrephithak and officials. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Vice President U Myint Swe calls for conservation of coastal areas for socioeconomic development

VICE President U Myint Swe stressed the need to focus on environmental conservation for socioeconomic development of the country, to take measures for reducing climate change and to conserve coastal areas with abundant natural resources.

He made these remarks in his capacity as chairman of the central committee at the 7th Meeting of National Level Central Committee for the Administration and Management of Natural Resources in Coastal Areas, held at the headquarters of the Forest Department in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Vice President first of all acknowledged the implementation of 38 resolutions and 9 ongoing resolutions approved in the six meetings of the central committee thanks to the relevant committees.

He also said that global warming has caused climatic changes which caused various natural disasters, and it has reached the highest records in the previous four consecutive years. The higher global temperatures resulted in thermal expansion of seawater and melting of glaciers and ice sheets, the rise of sea level and large storms, affecting on socio-economy and health of people.

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 14th regular session convenes second day meetingUnion Minister for Education
Dr Myo Thein Gyi. PHOTO: MNAMP U Aye Maung Sein.
PHOTO: MNAMP U Zaw Min Thein.
PHOTO: MNA

MP U Thaug Aye. PHOTO: MNA

MP U Khin Maung Thein.
PHOTO: MNA

THE Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 14th regular session held its second-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday, where a Hluttaw representative who had passed away was remembered, a question and answer session held and the Hluttaw was informed of a receipt of National Records and Archive Bill.

Remembering a passed away Hluttaw representative

U Zaw Min Thein of Laymyethna constituency first tabled a motion of sorrow on the passing away of Dr Aye Kyu of Labutta constituency, who was also a member of Pyithu Hluttaw

Judicial and Legal Affairs committee, on 20 September 2019.

Hluttaw observed a minute silence for Dr Aye Kyu, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the Hluttaw donating one day allowance of Hluttaw representatives totaling K 8.64 million to the family of Dr Aye Kyu and Hluttaw putting on record a motion of sorrow on the passing away of Dr Aye Kyu.

Question and answer session

In the question and answer session that follows questions raised by seven Hluttaw representatives were answered by Nay Pyi Taw Council member

U Aye Maung Sein and Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi.

Questions raised by U Thaug Aye of Pyawbwe constituency on legality of local regional orders on peaceful assembly and procession and U Kyaw Soe Lin of Pyigyidagun constituency on a plan to return confiscated farm land to original owners were answered by Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aye Maung Sein.

Questions raised by U Khin Maung Thein, Sagaing constituency on a plan to construct a government technical science school in Sagaing Township; U Aye Naing, Dagon Myothit

(South) constituency on a plan to construct a new building for Dagon Myothit (South) Township Education head office; U Myat Lay Oo of Htilin constituency on a plan for Ministry of Education Basic Education Department to change policy in providing new school buildings to required schools; U Min Thein of Taungdwingyi constituency on a plan to build a new school building in Shwe Oo Ward 2, Taungdwingyi Town; and U Sai Thiha Kyaw of Mongyai constituency on a plan to print text book in ethnic national languages for use in schools where necessary was answered by Union Minister for

Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi. **Receipt of National Records and Archive Bill**

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker informed the Hluttaw of the receipt of National Records and Archive Bill returned with amendment by Amyotha Hluttaw and announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to table amendment motions to register their names.

The third-day meeting of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 14th regular session will be held on 7 November.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Amyotha Hluttaw

Second Amyotha Hluttaw's 14th regular session holds second day meeting

Justice U Myo Tint. PHOTO: MNA

Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw.
PHOTO: MNAMP U Khin Myo Win.
PHOTO: MNAMP Naw Chris Tun @
Dr. Arkar Moe. PHOTO: MNAMP Daw Thiri Yadana.
PHOTO: MNA

The 14th regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw held its second-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning, where asterisk-marked questions were answered and a bill discussed by five Hluttaw representatives.

Asterisk-marked questions

In the asterisk-marked question session, a question raised by U Bwe Khane of Chin State constituency 3 on a plan to con-

struct a new market building in Chin State Thantlang Town was answered by Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Nyi Tun.

A question raised by U Tun Tun Oo of Mandalay Region constituency 2 on reducing numbers of cases of avoiding warrants was answered by Justice U Myo Tint of the Supreme Court of the Union while questions raised by Daw Thiri Yadana, Mon State constituency 12 on a type of Master Plan

set up to provide water for Mon State Bilin Township from purifying Bilin River water, U Khin Myo Win of Taninthayi Region constituency 12 on legal action to be taken against palm oil plantation companies conducting illegal plantation of palm oils in Taninthayi Region Kawthoung District and U Kyaw Than of Rakhine State constituency 10 on delays in obtaining permission to conduct agriculture works on

vacant, fallow and virgin lands were answered and explained by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw.

Bill amending Farmland Law

Following the asterisk-marked question session, bill amending Farmland Law approved and sent by Amyotha Hluttaw returned with amendment by Pyithu Hluttaw was discussed by Naw Chris Tun @ Dr. Arkar

Moe of Kayin State constituency 7, U Hla San of Magway Region constituency 1, U Ba Myo Thein of Yangon Region constituency 5, U Soe Win of Rakhine State constituency 12 and U Khin Win of Magway Region constituency 2.

The third day meeting of the 14th regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw will be held on 7 November, it is learnt. —Aung Ye Thwin, Michael Htan

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Press Release

State Counsellor visits Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre and held bilateral meetings with Prime Minister of India, Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Special Envoy of the US President, Managing Director of IMF and President of FIFA on the sidelines of the 35th ASEAN Summit and related Summits

1. State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi visited the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre in King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital and held bilateral meetings with H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, H.E. Mr. Dmitry Medvedev, Prime Minister of the Russian Federation and H.E. Mr. Robert O'Brien, Special Envoy of the President of the United States, National Security Advisor, and received Ms. Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of International Monetary Funds (IMF) and Mr. Gianni Infantino, President of FIFA separately on the sidelines of 35th ASEAN Summit and related Summits held in Bangkok.

2. State Counsellor visited the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre on 2-11-2019 where she was apprised of HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns, health services provided for HIV victims and prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV. She also exchanged views with HRH Princess Soamsawali Korm Muen Suddhanarinatha and HRH Princess Bjarakitiyabha Narendrabhavati on possible collaboration to transfer some useful technologies and medicines to Myanmar on bilateral or trilateral basis. Later, the State Counsellor toured the exhibits relating to the endeavours of the Thai Red Cross on prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS in Thailand.

3. During the meeting with the Indian Prime Minister on 3 November 2019, they cordially exchanged views on consolidation of bilateral relations and expansion of bilateral cooperation in sectors including trade, transportation, earliest operation of Sittwe Seaport under Kaladan Multi-modal Transit Transport



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Indian Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi in Bangkok. **PHOTO: MNA**

Project, signing of motor vehicular agreement between the two countries, upgradation of Women's Police Training Centre in Yamethin, capacity enhancement programmes for civil servants and human resources development, exchange of high level visits between the two countries, extending continued constructive support to Myanmar in solving the Rakhine issue and ASEAN-India cooperation on issues of mutual interests.

4. At the meeting with the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation on 4 November 2019, they cordially exchanged views on strengthening of the existing Myanmar-Russia bilateral relations; promoting bilateral cooperation between the two countries particularly in energy, industry, civil aviation, education sectors; convening of Myanmar-Russia Inter-Gov-

ernmental Commission for Trade and Economic Cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw; exchange of high level visits and collaborating closely in multilateral fora. The State Counsellor in her discussions with the Russian Prime Minister emphasized for provision of more scholarships for Myanmar students, enhancement of people-to-people contacts between the two countries, promotion of trade and investment for mutual benefit and closer coordination between the two Foreign Ministries.

5. During the State Counsellor's meeting with the Special Envoy of the President of the United States, National Security Advisor on 4 November 2019, they candidly exchanged views on strengthening of Myanmar-US relations, enhancing bilateral cooperation including

on combating illegal drugs, human and wild life trafficking and consular matters, Myanmar's efforts for repatriation of verified displaced persons from Rakhine in accordance with bilateral agreement and cooperation with the UNDP and UNHCR as well as on regional and international matters of mutual interest.

6. At the meeting between the State Counsellor and Managing Director of International Monetary Funds (IMF), they exchanged views on matters pertaining to the IMF's continued financial and monetary technical assistance to Myanmar; development of market-oriented economy and banking sectors, capacity enhancement of banking services in Myanmar; sharing of best practices and experiences related to monetary and financial matters of other countries in transition and challenges faced by Myanmar in its democratic transition.

7. At the meeting with the President of FIFA, they candidly exchanged views on promotion of football sport among youths in Myanmar; football trainings and skills enhancement for Myanmar women and men footballers, development of football academies in Myanmar and closer collaboration between FIFA and Ministry of Sports and Health of Myanmar. The State Counsellor sought FIFA's cooperation to promote sport awareness, healthy lifestyles and team spirits among Myanmar youths as well as revamping the standard of Myanmar football team to restore its former status as one of Asia's top.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
Dated: 5 November 2019**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talks with Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Dmitry Medvedev in Bangkok, Thailand. **PHOTO: MNA**



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

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends the 35th ASEAN Summit and related Summits

ASEAN supports the proposal to establish an Ad-Hoc Support Team of the ASEAN Secretariat to facilitate implementation of projects under the recommendations of the Preliminary Needs Assessment



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and leaders from the ASEAN countries pose for a documentary photo in ASEAN way at the opening ceremony of the 35th ASEAN Summit and related summits in Bangkok on 3 November. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Myanmar delegation led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, arrived back Nay Pyi Taw International Airport today after attending the 35th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits held in Bangkok, Thailand from 2 to 4 November 2019.

On 2 November 2019, the State Counsellor delivered a keynote speech at the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit under the theme “Empowering ASEAN 4.0”. In the afternoon, the State Counsellor attended Plenary Session of the 35th ASEAN Summit and witnessed signing ceremony of the MOU between ASEAN and FIFA.

On 3 November 2019, the State Counsellor attended the Opening Ceremony of the 35th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits, 22nd ASEAN-China Summit and 16th ASEAN-India Summit. Later in the evening, the State Counsellor attended the 10th ASEAN-UN Summit, and Gala Dinner hosted by General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.), Prime Minister of Thailand.

On 4 November 2019, the State Counsellor attended the 22nd ASEAN Plus Three Summit, and Special Lunch on Sustainable Development hosted by General Prayut-Chan-o-cha. Later in the afternoon, the State Counsellor attended the 14th East Asia Summit, 22nd ASEAN-Japan Summit, 3rd RCEP Summit, Closing Ceremony of the 35th ASEAN Summits and Related Summits and 11th Mekong-Japan Summit Working Dinner.

At the Closing Ceremony, Thailand handed over the ASEAN Chairmanship for 2020 to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

At the 35th ASEAN Summit, the ASEAN Leaders discussed and exchanged views on matters relating to advancing partnership for sustainability, ASEAN’s external relations and future direction as well as regional and international issues including the issues of South China Sea and Korea Peninsula.

On the issue of Rakhine, the ASEAN Chair stressed that ASEAN needs to continue its support to Myanmar in addressing the complex issue. He added that the role of ASEAN should be enhanced through the work of the Secretary-General of ASEAN by cooperating with friends with whom Myanmar is comfortable with in working on the specific areas such as capacity building and sustainable development projects beneficial to local communities so as to create a conducive environment for the repatriation. He also expressed his support to the proposal to establish Ad Hoc Support Team of the ASEAN Secretariat to support the Secretary-General of ASEAN in implementing the recommendations of the Preliminary Needs Assessment.

The State Counsellor stated that Myanmar understands very much the concern of the ASEAN friends with regard to the situation in Rakhine State. She stressed that Myanmar has always worked very closely with the ASEAN Secretariat, and is very much ready to further cooperate with them, The 7 prioritized projects identified at the Sec-

ond Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting will be implemented as soon as possible. She added that Myanmar agrees with the Secretary-General of ASEAN to form a team to work on the early implementation of the prioritized projects. She emphasized that Myanmar has always worked closely with friends who have been consistent in supporting Myanmar to create a situation which will provide enduring security for all there, and hoped that they will continue to help Myanmar in creating a situation to which the displaced persons can return in safety and dignity.

At the end of the ASEAN Summit, Chairman’s Statement of the 35th ASEAN Summit was issued in which the ASEAN Leaders welcomed the outcomes of the 2nd Technical Working Group Meeting held on 29 October 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw and the identification at that Meeting of the prioritized projects to implement the recommendations of the Preliminary Needs Assessment on enhancing capacity of Reception and Transit Centres, strengthening of information dissemination and support to the provision of basic services in Rakhine State as the first step. The ASEAN Leaders supported the implementation of the three points reached at the informal Foreign Ministers’ Meeting among Myanmar, Bangladesh, and China in New York and proposal of the Secretary-General of ASEAN to establish an Ad-Hoc Support Team of the ASEAN Secretariat to focus on implementing the recommendation of the Preliminary Needs Assessment. They

reaffirmed their support in providing humanitarian assistance, facilitating the repatriation process, and promoting sustainable development in Rakhine State. They also expressed their continued support for Myanmar’s efforts to bring peace, stability, the rule of law, to promote harmony and reconciliation among the various communities, as well as to ensure sustainable and equitable development in Rakhine State.

At the 35th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits, the Leaders issued, adopted and noted (44) documents which include, among others, ASEAN Declaration on Industrial Transformation to Industry 4.0, ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to the 25th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 25), ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration, Bangkok Declaration on Advancing Partnership in Education for 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in ASEAN, ASEAN Statement on Promotion of Good Governance and Acceleration of an Agile Civil Service in a Digital Economy, ASEAN Plus Three Leaders’ Statement on Connecting the Connectivities Initiative and East Asia Summit Leaders’ Statement on Cooperation to Combat Transnational Crime.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
Date: 5 November 2019

VP U Myint Swe calls for conservation of coastal areas ...

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The 2019 UN Climate Action Summit held at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York City in September adopted the action portfolios in the six prioritized areas of energy transition, climate finance and carbon pricing, industry transition, natural-based solutions, cities and local action, and resilience adaptation.

The Vice President detailed about the natural-based solutions as this portfolio was directly or indirectly related with the activities of central committee, saying that the 2,832 km long Myanmar coastal areas had abundant mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass beds, archipelagoes and delta regions. These were the resources for biodiversity to produce food.

The blue carbon was the carbon stored and sequestered in coastal ecosystems such as mangrove forests, seagrass meadows or intertidal saltmarshes.

Mangroves and coastal ecosystems could absorb a massive amounts of greenhouse gas, and these carbons were known as the blue carbon.

As the climate change and conservation of natural resources were directly related to each other, devastation of the latter would cause more carbon emission to affect climate change and devastate natural resources.

Moreover, mangrove deforestation along the coastal



Vice President U Myint Swe delivers the opening speech at the 7th Meeting of National Level Central Committee for the Administration and Management of Natural Resources in Coastal Areas in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

areas could cause landslide and sediments damaging habitats of marine lives. Mangrove forestation was better than concrete structure in landslide prevention.

The Vice President also emphasized the ways with least impacts on green economy covering maritime transport, offshore and inland fishing, offshore oil and natural gas exploration.

He added Myanmar was focusing on environmental conservation works in line with the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (2018-2030) that included three pillars and five goals. The third pillar was about the people

and planet, while the fifth goal was concerned with natural resources and the environment for prosperity for the nation.

Myanmar signed the Paris Agreement, which was a convention on climate change, to establish 30 per cent of the country as forest area and 10 per cent as protected areas for environmental conservation.

He also said natural resources were the underlying foundations for socioeconomic development of the country, and that Myanmar was focusing on it through environmental conservation, while the nature-based

resolutions were aimed to alleviate climate changes.

In his conclusion, the Vice President called for discussions on the implementation of meeting resolutions, challenges and future plans.

Finally, the Vice President gave comments and suggestions to ensure coordination based on discussions made by the members of central committee. The meeting came to a close after his concluding remarks.

The meeting was also attended by the members of central committee Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irri-

gation Dr Aung Thu, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win, chiefs ministers of Regions/ States U Myint Maung, U Nyi Pu, U Phyo Min Thein and U Hla Moe Aung, Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Ye Myint Swe, Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint, Regions/ States Ministers Dr Saw Nyo Win and Dr Min Kyi Win, Commodore Naval Staff Commodore Zaw Zaw Latt, permanent secretaries, directors-general and officials. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung receives Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association Chairman

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung received Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association Mr Hideo Watanabe at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to peace, stability and development in border regions, development of the ethnic youths in border areas, and implementation of the social economic development of the people in the border area.

They also discussed matters related to not only the two nations' cooperation but also

cooperation with the United Nations, NGOs and INGOs in implementing the border area development and human resource development, cooperation between the ministry and the Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association on human resources development and conducting Japanese Language courses for creating job opportunities.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Than Htut and officials.

— MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung holds talks with Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association Mr Hideo Watanabe at the Office of the Ministry of Border Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Plan to speed e-governance through cooperation: Govt

VICE President U Myint Swe in his capacity as Chairman of the e-Government Steering Committee addressed the fourth coordination meeting held at Ministry of Transport and Communications in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In his address the Vice President said that the e-Government Steering Committee had been formed with Presidential order number 14/2018 issued on 23 January 2018 for the successful implementation of an e-Government system in Myanmar. The committee with State Counsellor as the patron has set five key objectives while the e-Government Implementation Working Committee led by the Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government was also formed with five objectives.

Steering Committee formed an e-ID System Working Committee on 12 June 2018 to successfully implement the directions and instructions of the Steering Committee and to coordinate among the departments. Six sub-committees, Nay Pyi Taw Council Region and State/Region Steering Group and various levels of work groups at Nay Pyi Taw Council Region, State/Region, Self-Administered Division, Self-Administered Region, district, township, ward/village tract levels were formed and works implemented. Eight sub-committees required under the Implementation Working Committee were also formed, duties and responsibilities assigned.

The first meeting of the e-Government Steering Committee was held on 4 April 2018 where five decisions were made of which two were completed while three were still being implemented. It was necessary to set a time limit and coordinate towards completing the ongoing works. The three keys for a rapid progress and success of the e-Government system were expertise, investment and cooperation. Of the three, the first to start off was cooperation and success will be achieved only through cooperation of all government departments. It was necessary to place special emphasis on the guidance provided by the patron of the Steering Committee.

The second meeting of the e-Government Steering Committee was held on 27 June 2018 where 21 decisions were made. Out of this 11 were accomplished while 10 were still being implemented. Of the ongoing decisions,



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the 4th coordination meeting of the e-Government Steering Committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

loan agreement for US\$ 93.779 million from Republic of Korea's Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) to construct e-GIDC (e-Government Integrated Data Center) was signed on 3 September 2019 and implementation work processes would be conducted stage wise for at least three years.

Another long term work process was for relevant committees to submit to the Steering Committee and obtain permission for assistance and support that local and foreign organizations and companies wanted to provide.

Privacy and data policy matters were required to be thoroughly coordinated to be in accord with local and regional situations and this would take some time. Five decisions were related to implementing e-ID system. Ways, means and Public Private Partnership (PPP) formats were to be prepared and submitted by the Procurement and Public-Private Cooperation Sub-Committee.

The third meeting of the e-Government Steering Committee was held on 27 February 2019 where 13 decisions were made of which 10 were completed and three were still be worked on. Difficulties faced and coordination required for the three ongoing works were to be submitted. The three were exchanging experience and information between departments that were starting to use the e-Government system and departments that had not use it yet; and placing emphasis on e-Government works and making timely monthly progress reports without fail were matters to be conducted continuously while rental rates for Data Center rent were to be submitted to the

nearest budget upon completion of discussions.

In the three meetings of the e-Government Steering Committee, a total of 39 decisions were made of which 23 were completed while 16 were still being implemented. Of these, the short term works were to be completed before the next meeting and decisions on long term works also need to be completed as soon as possible.

A Myanmar e-Government National Portal that represented the nation was launched in September 2018 combining websites and e-services posted by each government entity of Myanmar to provide good services to the people through a Single Window.

A Myanmar Unicode standard system that was accordance with the International Standard Organization (ISO) was used by all government organizations on 1 April 2019 and throughout the whole country on 1 October 2019. The momentum towards migrating and using the Myanmar Unicode system needed to be maintained.

Myanmar owned satellite system MyanmarSat-2 was an opportunity to obtain government's service throughout the whole country. It was launched on 7 August 2019 and it has been in use starting from 15 October 2019.

Central organizations, Union ministerial departments, Nay Pyi Taw Council, State/Region governments had conducted surveys and assessment works on current IT and e-Government related works and were learnt to have enabled the effective and beneficial usage of computer License Software.

Fourth meetings of e-Government Steering Committee

and e-ID System Working Committee were learnt to be held on 31 October 2019 and 1 November 2019 respectively. Matters that require the decisions of the Steering Committee were to be submitted by the work committees.

Due to the leadership and management of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of e-Government Implementation Working Committee and efforts of each sub-committee, works were believed to be conducted without losing momentum. Furthermore preparations on laws, rules and procedures required for e-ID works were to be made. Arrangements were to be made to effectively connect to the e-Government work processes once the e-ID system was implemented.

In successfully implementing the e-Government system all were urged to cooperate, set and conduct mid and long term work processes as well as drawing up and simultaneously implementing short term work processes for Quick Win Services that provide tangible and concrete results for the people.

Attendees were urged to openly discuss and suggest on status of works completed and difficulties faced when conducting the works, said the Vice President. Next, Steering Committee Secretary Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Tha Oo explained about the decisions and implementations made at the e-Government Steering Committee third work coordination meeting.

This was followed by meeting attendees explaining about works conducted at various levels, stages and sub-committees while Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Thant Sin Maung,

U Min Thu, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, U Soe Win and Dr Myint Htwe, Union Civil Service Board Chairman Dr Win Thein and Magway Region Chief Minister Dr Aung Moe Nyo participated in the discussions, made suggestions and gave explanations on status of sector wise works conducted for successful implementation of the e-Government system.

Vice President U Myint Swe gave comments and suggestions to ensure coordination based on the discussions. The meeting then came to a close after a closing speech by him.

Present at the meeting were e-Government Steering Committee Vice Chairmen Union Minister for Office of the Union Government U Min Thu and Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung; committee members Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Sein Win, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Kyaw Tint Swe, Dr Pe Myint, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr Aung Thu, U Ohn Win, U Win Khaing, U Thein Swe, Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Dr Myint Htwe, U Soe Win, U Han Zaw, Dr Win Myat Aye and Nai Thet Lwin, Union Civil Service Board Chairman Dr Win Thein, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung, State/Region Chief Ministers Dr Khet Aung, U L Phaung Sho, U Salai Lian Luai, Dr Myint Naing, U Myint Maung, Dr Aung Moe Nyo, U Nyi Pu, U Phyo Min Thein, Dr Linn Htut and U Hla Moe Aung; deputy ministers, Deputy Attorney General, state/region ministers, Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor, Myanmar Computer Federation patron, experts, technicians, departmental heads and officials. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Bicentenary of U Naw Baptism celebrated in Yangon

CELEBRATION of the 200th anniversary of U Naw Baptism is in progress with praising and worshipping at the France Auditorium of Christian Church in Ahlon Township, Yangon.

The ceremony was organized by the Myanmar Baptist Churches Union, and the opening ceremony was attended by Vice President U Henry Van Thio, wife Dr Anna Sui Hluan, Yangon City Development Committee Member Daw Than Myint Aung, officials from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, and the members of MBCU, Baptist woman missionaries.

General Secretary of MBCU Rev Saw Htoo El and the secretary cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the ceremony. Then, secretary of the central organizing committee Rev Sayar U Nyan Wai Tun performed the usual rituals of reading biblical texts, asking for blessings and singing hymns.

Then, Chairman of the MBCU Rev U Lin Sein gave a welcoming speech.

In his opening speech Vice President U Henry Van Thio re-



Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivers the speech at the opening ceremony of the 200th anniversary of U Naw Baptism in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



counted that U Naw, an ethnic national of Myanmar was baptized by Sayar Judson on 27 June 1819, and that day has been marked for praising and worshipping of Baptists.

American missionaries also baptized many Myanmar national people starting with U Thar Hla and U Byar.

The scheduled date for baptizing was postponed as it coincided with the period of en-

thronement of King Bagyidaw to substitute the late King Bodawpaya.

On 20 January 1821, Daw Min Hla (a) Daw Min Lay established a school at Nan Taw Gone Ward, and it was later tuned into the first Christian school for Baptists in Myanmar.

The MBCU is one of the branches of the Myanmar Baptist Convention, comprising many ethnic races. The 150th anniver-

sary of U Naw Baptism was also organized in 1969.

Although the majority of Myanmar people are Buddhists, the country recognized other faiths such as Christianity, Islam, and Hindu which focus on loving kindness. The Vice President also emphasized the importance of unity in both religious and political organizations, and urged for the contribution of all citizens, regardless of faiths, in state build-

ing tasks for peace and stability.

Then, the Vice President accepted the commemorative gift presented by the Chairman of MBCU. Daw Than Myint Aung, a member of the YCDC extended a message of greetings. At the ceremony, members of Kachin Baptist Convention sang hymns, gave blessings and then messages sent by member associations of MBC were read out.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

MOEE signs power purchase agreement with joint venture company

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing yesterday attended a signing ceremony of power purchase agreement between the Electric Power Generation Enterprise and the Kyauk Phyu Electric Power Co Ltd, which is a joint-venture Chinese company in BOT system with Myanmar.

The ceremony was held at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw, and Union Minister U Win Khaing explained the annual increasing demand for electricity and possible supplies from the planned projects.

Under the agreement, the ministry will purchase electricity from the Kyauk Phyu 135-MW Combined Cycle Power Plant of Kyauk Phyu Electric Power Co Ltd, which is one of the four projects to which the notice of proceed was awarded to begin the works in 2018, and to generate 3,111 MW on completion.

Myanmar's power demand is increasing by 1,000 MW each year.

Out of the four projects, the newly signed 135 MW project and the remaining two with the total capacity of 826 MW are expected to generate 961 MW in 2022.

As these long-term projects would take at least three years to begin generation, the ministry is also implementing seven short-term projects with the total power output of 1,166 MW to meet the demand in 2020. At the ceremony, Commercial Counsellor Mr Tan Shu Fu from the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar, Mr Sheng Yuming from the Kyauk Phyu Electric Power Co Ltd and Chairman Dr Sein Myint from the Supreme Group of Companies expressed thanks for the agreement.

U Than Naing Oo, the Managing Director of Electric Power Generation Enterprise, and Mr Sheng Yuming of the Kyauk Phyu Electric Power Co Ltd signed the power purchase agreement.

The power plant is located in the compound of 230 KV Main Power Distribution Station in Kyaukphyu Township, Rakhine State. Its installation capacity is 146 MW, and the annual power output is estimated at 1,005 million units to supply power demand of Rakhine State and the national grid.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat shakes hands with Malaysian Ambassador Mr Zahairi Baharim in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Malaysian Ambassador

SPEAKER of Pyithu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat received Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Zahairi Baharim at his office in the Pyithu Hluttaw Building, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to bilateral relations and cooper-

ation between the parliaments and peoples of Malaysia and Myanmar, cooperation on transportation, education, industry and e-Government sectors, increasing investments and parliamentary legislative processes.—MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Minister U Win Khaing attends the power purchase agreement signing ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Promote ethical investment to ensure positive impact of business on society

THERE are over 50 industrial zones in Myanmar, and 29 zones with 3,560 factories are reportedly located in Yangon Region alone.

Industrial zones and factories are sine qua non for economic development. They are the driving force for the development of a country. But, we need to focus on their impact to ensure the sustainability of the natural environment. When an investment is proposed, we need to consider how it will affect the natural environment and the living creatures that rely on it.

In Myanmar, river pollution is getting worse. Factory wastewater is the main cause of pollution in the rivers. It makes the water toxic and harms aquatic creatures. Among the factories that discharge untreated wastewater into rivers

through ditches, creeks, and streams, textile factories and distilleries have the worst record. About 60 per cent of private investment companies are in the food and beverages sector. The capacity of the smallest distilleries is 4,000 gallons a day and the largest factory has been producing 30,000 gallons a day. Wastewater discharge from those factories amounts to 4 million gallons per day. Out of those distilleries, only a few factories have completed building wastewater treatment systems, according to a survey. In some instances, untreated water dumped by factories has killed fish and damaged crops. In a recent incident, villagers complained against a factory for discharging untreated water into a river on which they

rely for bathing and household use after adults and children suffered skin diseases.

In some cases, local people have protested against factories for emitting ash with sparks and foul smell, causing air pollution.

Such incidents have given rise to concerns about businessmen making investments only for production, without regard to waste treatment.

If companies violate health, safety, employment, and environmental standards, then law enforcement and regulating agencies that are charged with designing and enforcing these rules should take action as soon as possible to ensure the situation does not get worse.

However much we wish exemplary behavior among factories, what we want to see is these companies acknowledging the importance of issues such as climate change, human rights, and social responsibility for sustainability.

Ethical investment deserves our patience. But there is an urgent need for law enforcement to ensure responsible investment that has a positive impact on society and the environment.

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EVERY “semester” the call to Distance Education students goes out from the two Distance Education Universities, one in Yangon and the other in Mandalay, and the 32 regional administrative centres under them, to attend the 600 or so “Learning Centres” mostly located in the Universities, Colleges and other learning facilities under the Ministry of Education. The “semesters” are for a period (about two months or so), of learning and assessment towards a three/four-year course of study leading to a degree in the liberal Arts or Science. It is said that there are a total of some 500,000 “students” enrolled under the higher education “Distance Education” programs. Every year some 60% of all Matriculates, mostly those who do not enter the regular “Day” Universities for some reason or the other, enrol in the Distance Education Universities.

It seems that many who go to their respective “learning centres” to answer the call, are in fact working in places far away from them, mostly in the large cities where they have landed jobs. Many are in fact employed in the public or private sector industries and establishments. At every call, thousands of these “working students”, ask for “leave of absence” to answer the call and where ever they may be, go in droves to their designated learning centres; because of their desire to get a university degree. This results in temporary understaffing in many offices, establishments, industries. Taking leave of absence is acceptable if there



Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi delivers the opening speech at the ceremony to launch the 3rd Residential School by TIDE at Yangon University in Yangon on May 20, 2019. PHOTO: MNA

is not much affect on the workplace. After all it is the right of the “working students” to acquire higher education which might

help them in the long run. If the Distance Education can further their status in their occupations, so much the better.

Among those who respond to the call and go to attend the sessions at these learning centres, are “workers” like care givers/nurse aids, sales persons, semi-skilled and skilled workers from hotels, tourism, manufacturing, social services, offices and establishments, companies, business and so on; in short those already in employment. These “working students” would benefit much from higher education if degrees could be awarded in their respective “occupation groups” or “fields” through Distance or Open University courses of study. Being already in employment, they are familiar with, and are

in fact practising the hands-on aspect of the occupation. It would be good if the higher education degree they are after could help them to retain and advance in their present occupation.

Towards this end, by way of a suggestion, the Distance Education Universities could perhaps, in addition to the present 19 courses (seven were later additions) offer “vocational courses” leading to Bachelor degrees in the fields like Hotel and Tourism, Good Manufacturing Practises, Culinary Arts, Aged Care, Child Care, Marketing and Retailing, Fashion Design, Office Administration, Logistic Operations,

Leadership and Management and so on. Accredited private universities and colleges could also take part in holding such courses within their capacity under public private partnership arrangements with UDE. As I understand it, the UK based Transformation by Innovation in Distance Education (TIDE) is assisting the Myanmar UDE in Training their staff to improve quality of distance education. Perhaps TIDE could help the UDE to link up with the appropriate UK Universities to come up with the new distance education courses mentioned above or similar ones for that matter.

Distance Education Universities in many countries, offer degree courses in the “vocational stream”. They are “skills oriented” Bachelor degree courses such as B.Tech or B.Tech (Honors). Some countries in fact carry forward the vocational stream to higher levels of education relating to “Management” courses leading to BVoc or MVoc Degrees.

Arrangements for obtaining qualifications in the “vocational field” through Distance Education would enable “working students” to access higher education leading to a degree in the “occupation group” or “field” they are employed in. That way, the chances are that they would remain and advance in their present occupation and at the same time, be able to pursue lifelong learning in their chosen fields.

With Charity to all and Malice to none.



The Call of Distance Education

By Lokethar

As I understand it, the UK based Transformation by Innovation in Distance Education (TIDE) is assisting the Myanmar UDE in Training their staff to improve quality of distance education.



The Deep Sea Port project in Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone

For the implementation of the Deep Sea Port project in Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone, negotiations are ongoing to conclude the Transaction Documents consisting of Concession Agreement and Shareholders Agreement. Coordination meetings are also being held on matters relating to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Social Impact Assessment (SIA), and Geological Topographic (GT)

Survey. To serve as the International Project Management Consultant (PMC), HATCH Pty Ltd. has been selected.

Investment

Facilitating greater participation of the local people in investment activities, the Rakhine State Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) has permitted the registration of companies as follows.

1 Jan - 30 Apr 2018	1 May - 31 Aug 2018	1 Sep - 31 Dec 2018	1 Jan - 30 Apr 2019	1 May - 31 Aug 2019
75	85	73	32	46



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 4:00 pm Tuesday 5th November, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (12:30 hrs M.S.T today, the low pressure area over the North Andaman Sea has intensified into a depression over Eastcentral Bay and adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal. It is centered at about (85) nautical miles West-Northwest of Maya Bandar (Andaman Islands), about (510) nautical miles South-Southeast of Paradip (Odisha), about (125) nautical miles Southwest of Coco Island (Myanmar) and about (290) nautical miles Southwest of Patheingyi (Myanmar). Weather is a few cloud over the North and Westcentral Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 6th November, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions, Shan and Rakhine States, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kayah and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (8-12) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 November, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 November, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 November, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

circulation@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
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Circulation order is in easier way. **HOTLINE 09-974424114**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Office of the President

Press Release 41/2019

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

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

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

Sr	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken
1	Information received of about 50 people from Nanthmaw Village, Phakant Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs, like a bazaar.	On 27 October 2019, police searched the house of Phoe Htoo (a) Kyaw Zin Latt, 41, son of U Kyaw Lwin, who lives in Nanthmaw Village, Phakant Township, and arrested him together with heroin and '88/1' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Phakant) MaYa(pa)223/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Win Tun who lives in Pinbaw Village, Mogaung-Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 30 October 2019, police searched the house of Win Tun, 47, son of U Maung Nyo, who lives in Pinbaw Village, Mogaung Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa(Pinbaw) MaYa(pa)18/2019 under Section 16(c) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of Yazar Aung who lives in Hinthaw Village, Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 27 October 2019, police searched the house of Yazar Aung, 39, son of U Nyunt Aung, who lives in Hinthaw Village, Kanbalu Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Kanbalu) MaYa(pa)14/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Kyi Nyunt who lives in Whei San Aung Shwehmaw, Nantthar Village-tract, Homalin Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 29 October 2019, police searched the house of Kyi Nyunt, 39, son of U Pe Hsein, who lives in Whei San Aung Shwehmaw, Nantthar Village-tract, Homalin Township, and arrested him together with opium. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa(Minekine) MaYa(pa)85/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of Moe Tun who lives in Mouggon Village, Htigyaing Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 30 October 2019, police searched the house of Moe Tun, 38, son of U Po Lay, who lives in Mouggon Village, Htigyaing Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Htigyaing) MaYa(pa)52/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of a group of young people, near Sampan wooden jetty, Thida Nwe Street, Nweaye Ward, Dawbon Township, Yangon Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 29 October 2019, police arrested Aung Ko Linn, 19, son of U Ko Linn, who lives in Thitsar Nwe street, Nweaye Ward, Dawbon Township; Aung Kyaw Phyoo, 22, son of U Maung Kyaw, who lives in Yuzana 1 street; and Win Nyi Nyi Zin, 19, son of U Zaw Win, who lives in Mahabandula Street, No 7 Ward, Pabedan Township, in the building under construction near wooden jetty for Sampan, Thida Nwe Street, Nweaye Ward, Dawbon Township, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa(Dawbon) MaYa(pa)43/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

7	Information received of Saw Aung, Maung Bwar and Myo Naing who live in Lemar Village, Yaksawk Township, southern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 27 October 2019, police searched the house of Saw Aung (a) Soe Aung, 40, son of U Bo Oo, who lives in Lemar Village, Yaksawk Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Yaksawk) MaYa(pa)55/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Police searched continuously the house of Maung Bwar, 44, son of U Bo Oo, who lives in the same village, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Yaksawk) MaYa(pa)56/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of Myo Naing (a) Naing Linn, 29, son of U Paw Yar, who lives in the same village, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Yaksawk) MaYa(pa)57/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8	Information received of Thet Paing Oo who lives in Oaktantar Ward, Yaksawk Township, southern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 27 October 2019, police searched the house of Thet Paing Oo, 24, son of U Khin Maung Aye, who lives in Oaktantar Ward, Yaksawk Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Yaksawk) MaYa(pa)58/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9	Information received of Hla Myo Aung who lives in Kunchaung Village, Mabein Township, northern Shan State, and Zaw Min Htaik, who lives in Khwayhaungton Village, in the same township, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 28 October 2019, police arrested Hla Myo Aung, 40, son of U Kyi Maung, who lives in Kunchaung Village, Mabein Township, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets and heroin in the forest of Seikpinaik Village, Mabein Township. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Mabein) MaYa(pa)85/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of Zaw Min Htaik, 41, son of U Pauk dee, who lives in Khwayhaungton Village, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Mabein) MaYa(pa)87/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department, so far a total of 825 cases have been opened files as of 2 November 2019. A total of 1272 people, including 1,069 men and 203 women had been arrested with 7,056.6894 g of heroin, 1,341.92 g of ICE, 39,999.61 g of opium, 329.6 g of low-quality opium, 52934.92 g of speciosa powder, 7,833.19 g of speciosa, 2.5 liters of liquid speciosa, 394,506 stimulant tablets, 8,363.22 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 513.26 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 29.15 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 18 firearms, different kinds of 257 cartridges and one grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the department will report on further exposed cases.
4. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President via following contact numbers:

Contacts:

Landline No. — 067-590200

Fax Phone No. — 067-590233

Email Address — antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 55/2019

MEETING 55/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

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

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

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Meeting 55/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution held in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Anti-Money Laundering Central Board organizes 2nd meeting



Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe addresses at the second meeting of Anti-Money Laundering Central Board in 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE second meeting of Anti-Money Laundering Central Board in 2019 was held at the Ministry of Home Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, as the chairman of AMLCB, delivered an opening remark at the meeting.

Its Joint Secretary Police

Brig-Gen Kyaw Win Thein, as the Head of Anti-Financial Crime Division (AFCD) discussed the accomplishment on resolutions in the first meeting of AMLCB, investigations into crimes related with the Anti-Money Laundering Law (AMLL) and property confiscation in 2019, list of priority in practicing technical stand-

ards and immediate results at relevant departments and plans for fighting against money laundering and preventing criminals and terrorists from raising and moving funds in line with the standards of Financial Action Task Force (FATF), according to the Myanmar Police Force. —GNLM

(Translated by Aung Khin)

13 died when bus overturns in Thabeikkyin



PHOTO: SOE WIN NAING (THABEIKKYIN)

TWO mishaps involving two buses cost 13 passengers their lives on the morning of 5 October between mileposts 6/1 and 6/2 on the Mandalay-Bhamo Road near Kyaukgyi Village in Thabeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region.

Three passenger buses left from Shwebo Township for Kachin State on Tuesday morning. One of the buses overturned on a slip road, blocking the road. While attempting to avoid hitting the overturned bus, the driver of the bus traveling immediately behind it collided with a tree.

Thirteen passengers, including 2 monks, a man, and 10 women died on the spot, while 15 passengers were admitted at the Kyaukgyi Hospital with injuries. —Soe Win Naing (Thabeikkyin)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Myanmar, PRC sign MoU on water resources cooperation

UNION Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung received Mr E Jingping, Minister for Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, and party at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on water resources sector cooperation, and also signed the memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the field of water resources between their two ministries.

The MoU includes drawing up strategies, policies and plans for water resource development, water resources management cooperation, flood and

drought management, monitoring and forecasting data related to hydrology, water resources management and conducting technical trainings and cooperation on the agreements on water resources by the two countries.

The Union Minister then hosted a luncheon for the Water Resource Minister of the People's Republic of China and party at the Horizon Lake View Resort Hotel.

The People's Republic of China Water Resource Minister will conduct a study tour along the Yangon River on 6 November. —MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung and Mr E Jingping, Minister for Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, exchange notes of MoU at the signing ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

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MV Azamara Quest cruise ship visits Myanmar

A passenger cruise named MV Azamara Quest arrived at the Thilawa Multi purpose International Terminal from Phuket port of Thailand at 8 am yesterday morning. Ministry of Hotels and Tourism Director U Naing Win, and officials welcomed the cruise with the traditional dance performances of Myanmar national races. The voyage is organized by Myanmar Voyages International Tourism Co., Ltd with the supervision of Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and assisted by Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The cruise sailed from Phuket carrying 649 passengers from 26 western countries onboard mainly from US and UK and 402 vessel crew. The visitors will make sight-seeings in Yangon and Bago. They will also visit Thanlyin by riding bicycles. The tours also include Bagan and Inle areas. Azamara Quest is the first cruise arrived to Myanmar this open



MV Azamara Quest cruise ship docks at Thilawa Port. PHOTO:MNA

season and it is the 132nd cruise organized by the local tour company. A total of 15 cruises have arrived in Myanmar this year. Azamara Quest will depart for

Penang on 7 November.

Cruise tours can help to promote the image of Myanmar by conveying information about the existing peaceful and

attractive situations of the country to the international tourists.—MNA

(Translated by Ba Htoo)

Tourist arrivals at Ngwehsaung up 31% this year

THE number of local and foreign tourists visiting the Ngwehsaung beach in Ayeyawady Region has risen by 31 per cent this year, according to the Ngwehsaung office of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

The number of travellers visiting Ngwehsaung has increased by 40,000 this year. From January to October, the number of tourists crossed 176,000. In comparison, the number of tourists totaled over 134,000 during the same period in 2018.

Ngwehsaung beach saw a 31-per cent increase in the number of tourists this year, said U Soe Win, the Assistant



Visitors enjoy the beautiful sandy beach of Ngwehsaung. PHOTO: MU MU (IPRD)

Director of the Ngwehsaung beach office.

Ngwehsaung is about a five-hour drive from the commercial

hub of Yangon. So, visitors from Yangon, Mandalay, Monywa, and Mawlamyine stay there for one or two nights, while people from

nearby areas make day trips to the beach.—Mu Mu (IPRD)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Over 1 mln tourists enter Myanmar via Tachilek border in 10 months

MORE THAN 1 million tourists entered Myanmar through the Tachilek border gate between January and October for day trips and overnight trips, according to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

Most of the tourists who visited Myanmar via the border gate were citizens of Thailand and third country nationals. My-

anmar granted visa-free entry to travellers from China, Japan, and South Korea.

In the 10 months from January, a total of 1,053,236 tourists visited Myanmar. The figure includes 977,801 Thai citizens, 13,982 third country nationals, 338 Thai tourists and four third country nationals who made a day trip to the Lam Taung pago-

da, 9,404 tourists who traveled to Maing Phat and Kengtung, and 51,707 travelers who were granted a visa-free entry.

Between January and September, the number of tourists visiting Myanmar through the international airport, ports, and border gates increased by over 600,000 compared to the same period last year, according to the

Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population.

Tourist arrivals in Myanmar reached 3,144,270 between January and September, an increase of 621,286 from the same period of 2018. Last year, Myanmar received 2,522,984 tourists.—Aye Maung

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

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.

Workshop held for poverty eradication, rural development work plan

A workshop on ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication Work Plan 2021-2025 was held at the Horizon Lake View Resort Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the workshop, the data on the strategy for drawing up the ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication Work Plan 2021-2025 was thoroughly reviewed and discussed.

The workshop also discussed matters related to achievements in the ASEAN rural development and poverty eradication processes, ways of cooperation with partner organizations, and importance of cooperation among the government organizations, rural organizations and civil societies in implementing the ASEAN



A workshop on ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication Work Plan 2021-2025 held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication 2016-2020. Moreover, the workshop attendees discussed, in groups, matters related to the important role of women and youths in reducing poverty, and

solutions to poverty, inequality, food security and climate change challenges.

They also discussed main procedures, goals, challenges, obstacles and important sectors for drawing up the ASEAN Framework Action Plan

on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication Work Plan 2021-2025, reviews on it and suggestions. — Hmwe Kyu Zin (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Xi voices 'high degree of trust' in Hong Kong leader over unrest

BEIJING — Chinese President Xi Jinping has expressed a "high degree of trust" in Hong Kong's unpopular leader Carrie Lam as the two met after months of increasingly violent protests in the semi-autonomous city.

Xi's show of support follows speculation that Beijing was preparing to remove Lam as city authorities struggle to contain pro-democracy demonstrations that have rocked the financial hub.

Their meeting in Shanghai on Monday followed another weekend of violence in Hong Kong that was marked by a knife attack and the vandalising of an office of China's official Xinhua

news agency.

Xi said Lam has "done a lot of hard work" and strived to stabilise the situation in Hong Kong, according to a Xinhua readout of their meeting.

"Xi voiced the central government's high degree of trust in Lam and full acknowledgement of the work of her and her governance team," the state news agency said.

"Ending violence and chaos and restoring order remain the most important task for Hong Kong at present," Xi said.

Xi also called for "effective efforts" to be made in improving people's lives and having dialogue with all sectors of society. —AFP

China may seek mega free trade pact without India if RCEP stalls

BANGKOK — China may seek to drop India from a mega free trade agreement with mainly Asian nations if ongoing negotiations of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership including the two most populous countries remain at a standstill, observers say.

China has recently been keen to bolster economic cooperation

with its neighbors such as Japan and South Korea, with its exports — a key driver of economic growth — shrinking against the backdrop of a tit-for-tat trade dispute with the United States.

But the outlook for the 16-member RCEP negotiations is very uncertain, as India, which has a population of more than 1.3 billion, has been

reluctant to lower its trade barriers, saying it has suffered massive trade deficits with China for many years.

With New Delhi warning that it will pull out of RCEP negotiations, Beijing is likely to aim to accelerate free trade talks with 15 Asia-Pacific countries without India, sources close to the matter said.

Accounting for half of the world's population, RCEP brings together Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand, as well as the 10 Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Originally proposed by ASEAN leaders in 2012, it would be the world's largest free trade zone once realized. —Kyodo News ■

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Map Pacific Pte. Ltd., (Yangon Branch)

No. 29, Room – 203, 2nd Floor,

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Ph: 01-392168

Myanmar aims to draw record FDI in fiscal year 2019-2020

By Kyaw Htike Soe

MYANMAR has been one of the fastest-growing Southeast Asian economies for more than 25 years, with around 5.5 % annual GDP growth since 1992. Economic liberalization and accelerated democratization beginning in 2011 have seen most international sanctions lifted, prompting a wave of foreign investors to enter the country. Myanmar is now on the right track for economic growth and a lot of foreign investors flock to the Asia's last frontier market.

Myanmar is expected to draw a record foreign direct investment volume this fiscal year because the Southeast Asian country received only US\$ 4.4 billion of FDI due to inadequate infrastructure, unstable economic rules and regulations, and political instability although the country set a target to attract US\$ 5.8 billion of FDI in the financial year 2018-2019. The foreign investors are expected to pour their money into My-



Myanmar Investment Commission. PHOTO: YE HTUT TIN (NLM)

anmar's offshore drilling projects and mining industries in the next couple of years, said U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Chair-

man of Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC). "Prospects for Myanmar's economy are looking promising," he added. The Union Minister made the remarks during a regular meet-

ing between Vice-President U Myint Swe and entrepreneurs in Yangon on 19 October.

The Union Minister told businessmen that economic outlooks for Myanmar fore-

cast by the World Bank (WB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) contribute to facilitate the FDI inflow into the country. According to an economic outlook for Myanmar by the ADB, the country's GDP is forecast to grow by 6.6 per cent whereas the WB estimates that Myanmar's economy growth is projected to rise to 6.8 per cent.

In addition Myanmar moved up six places to the 165th on the World Bank's latest report on ease of doing business ranking 2020. "Foreign investors are now very keen to invest in Myanmar thanks to advancing in the ease of doing business ranking 2020 as well as a rapid opening up to foreign investment, technology and tourists. The government has changed its policies, rules and regulations," said U Zaw Min Win, President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

The investment projects worth US\$ 304 million have been greenlighted by the MIC at the beginning of the current fiscal year. "It is a good start for foreign investment sector," said U Thant Zin Lwin, Direc-



An offshore natural gas production project in Mottama Gulf. PHOTO: MNA



Dr Malar Myo Nyunt, Deputy Director General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration met with Mr Deepak Agarwal, Director of Bangalore Polycotters Pvt Ltd and his team on 1st November 2019, in Yangon and cordially discussed matters relating to the investment. **PHOTO: DICA**

Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) under the ministry of Commerce. He made the comments at a press conference held at the DICA office in Yangon on 23 October. "The MIC gave the green light to foreign investment projects valued at US\$ 304.342 million in the hotel, tourism, real estate and industrial sectors during the period from 1 to 21 October. I think this is a very good start," he said. Among the MIC-permitted investment projects, Hong Kong-based Amata Corporation's subsidiary Yangon Amata Smart and Eco City Limited poured US\$ 274 million into a smart city project in Myanmar.

The Yangon Region Investment Committee also approved

11 foreigner-invested projects from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, British Virgin Island and United Kingdom and one Myanmar citizen-invested project, according to Daw Naw Pan Thinzar Myo, Yangon Region Minister for Kayin Ethnic Affairs. The decision was made during the regional investment committee's monthly meeting held on 30 October. The FDI to be channeled into Yangon Region is worth US\$ 22.352 million while the capital of Myanmar citizen-invested venture is valued at Ks. 880 million.

The approved projects are expected to create up to over 6,200 job opportunities for Myanmar people.

The DICA has been cooperating with NGOs and INGOS

so as to woo foreign direct investments to the country by organizing seminars, investment and business forums under the Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan (MIPP) which aims to attract FDI worth US\$ 200 billion over the next 20 years.

Arrangements are being made to lure more foreign direct investments in the industrial sector that can create more job opportunities for Myanmar citizens under the MIPP.

The MIC expects that the country will receive more foreign direct investment in the years to come. FDI inflows to the country contribute to the creation of job opportunities for local people, help their income increase and promote their socioeconomic status. ■ ■ ■



Ahlon International Port. **PHOTO:PHOE KHWAR**

Sales of OPPO Reno 2/2F kicks off

SALES of OPPO's latest edition Reno 2/2F smartphones kicks off with a 3 days Road Show held in Junction Square Promotion Area from 1 to 3 November 2019. On the second day of the Road Show, Brand Ambassadors actress Wut Hmone Shwe Yi, vocalist Hlwam Paing, actor Shein Tin Htoo were at hand to transfer OPPO Reno 2 and 2Fs to customers who had ordered in advance. Travel bags were also presented to customers who had pre-ordered the phones. Pre-ordered

customers also participated in lucky draws for tickets to attend Myanmar Idol Season 4 while the Brand Ambassadors signed autographs.

As a special program, vocalist Hlwam Paing entertained the visitors and customers with songs while entertainment games programs and presentation of gifts were made.

OPPO Reno 2/2F smartphones were equipped with 5x Hybrid Zoom, 20x Digital Zoom, Ultra Dark Mode and Ultra Steady Video. —GNLM ■



Brand Ambassador actress Wut Hmone Shwe Yi and a Customer. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

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Pre-match press meet held for AFC U19 Championship Qualifiers

A pre-match press conference for the AFC U19 Championship 2020 Qualifiers was held yesterday at the Inya Lake Hotel, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The head coaches of the Myanmar, China PR, South Korea, and Singapore teams attended the press meet.

Speaking at the press meet, U Soe Myat Min, the head coach of team Myanmar, said the opening match against China PR will be a tough one.

"I believe that my players will surely prevail. We will do our best as we play before our fans," he added.

Cheng Yao Dong, the head coach of the China PR team, said he was glad for getting a chance to participate in the competition. He said his team prepared for three months for the competition by playing friendly



From left to right -- South Korean head coach Chung Jung Yong, China PR head coach Cheng Yao Dong, Myanmar head coach U Soe Myat Min and Singapore head coach Mohamed Fadzuhasny Juraimi -- at the pre-match press meet for the AFC U19 Championship Qualifiers in Yangon on 5 November. **PHOTO: MFF**

matches.

"All the teams in the group

are good. However, the team is not worried and would do the

best that they can," he said.

Chung Jung Yong, the

head coach of the South Korea U-19 football team, also said his team was prepared to qualify.

"Some players in the team sustained injuries. It is worry to be worse of the players' wounds. The team would focus on individual teams to qualify in the qualifiers," he said.

Mohamed Fadzuhasny Juraimi, the head coach of the Singapore U-19, said he was glad about getting a chance to participate in the competition. He said he faced difficulties in the preparation for the matches as reliable players got injured and some players were sitting for their exams. "Whatever it is, the team will do their best," he said.

On 6 November, Myanmar will play China PR at 3 pm local time and South Korea will face Singapore at 6 pm at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

— Kyaw Khin

AFC U19 Championship 2020 Qualifiers to be broadcast live

MYANMAR will host the Group-I matches of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) U19 Championship 2020 Qualifiers at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

On 6 November, Myanmar will play against China PR at 3 pm local time and South Korea will play against Singapore at 6 p.m.

On 8 November, China PR will face Singapore at 3 pm and

Myanmar will take on South Korea at 6 pm.

On 10 November, China PR will face South Korea at 3 pm and Myanmar will fight Singapore at 6 pm.

The match between Myanmar and China PR on 6 November will be aired live on Myanmar Radio and the MRTV and MRTV Sports channels from 2:45 p.m. —MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Myanmar women's national football team to train in China

THE Myanmar women's national football team will train with the China PR team from 8 to 15 November in China, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The training will be conducted with 10 coaching team members and 27 players.

The coaching team includes Tin Myint Aung (team manager), Win Thu Moe (head coach), Khin Maung Htwe (assistant coach), Than Than Htwe (assistant coach), Mya Ko Min (goalkeeper coach), Dr. Yu Nanda Tun (team doctor), Htet Nanda Tun (physiotherapist), Aung Thaw Phyto

(media officer), and Myat Soe Thu (video analyst).

The players are goalkeepers May Zin New (Myawady F.C.), May Phoe Ngon (ISPE F.C.), and Thanda Oo (Myawady F.C.); and, defenders Wai Wai Aung (ISPE), Khin Myo Win (ISPE), Ei Yadana Phyto (ISPE), Khin Than Wai (Myawady), Aye Aye Moe (Myawady), Khaing Thazin (Myawaddy), Chit Chit (Thitsar Arman F.C.), May Htet Mon Myint (MFF), and Phyu Phyu Win (MFF). The midfielders selected on the team are Khin Malar Tun (ISPE), Khine Thazin Oo (ISPE),

Thin Thin Yu (ISPE), Khin Mo Mo Tun (Thitsar Arman), Nge Nge Htwe (Thitsar Arman), Le Le Hlaing (Zwekapin United), May Thu Kyaw (Myawady), and Pont Pont Pyae Maung (MFF); and, the forwards are Khin Moe Wai (Thitsar Arman), July Kyaw (Thitsar Arman), Win Theingyi Tun (Myawady), San Thaw Thaw (Zwekapin United), Yee Yee Oo (ISPE), Nu Nu (ISPE), and Myat Noe Khin (MFF).

The final squad for the 30th Southeast Asian Games will be selected after the training tour. — Kyaw Khin

Olympic chief urges focus on cheating athletes' 'entourage'



IOC president Thomas Bach has encouraged governments to tackle the problem of doping. **PHOTO: AFP**

KATOWICE (Poland) —Olympic chief Thomas Bach on Tuesday urged governments to do more to help "drain the doping swamp" by going after the entourage of a cheating athlete.

"The athlete is not the only culprit," the President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) told the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) conference in Katowice.

"The athlete is supported and sometimes even driven to or forced into doping by a secre-

tive network which may include coaches, agents, dealers, managers, officials from government or sport organisations, doctors, physiotherapists or others," he said.

But while sports organisations can punish competitors who test positive they are powerless "to identify and sanction in a deterrent way the athletes' entourage".

As an example he said if the IOC identified a doctor guilty of doping it will banish him from

the Games.

"But after the doctor goes back home, in most cases he can just continue with his nefarious business without any consequences.

"This is not acceptable. This is the wrong signal. This needs to be changed," he told WADA delegates on the opening day of their fifth world conference.

"This is where we need the full support of the government authorities. They have the necessary authority and tools to take

action."

Bach cited state-doping in Russia, the Aderlass blood-doping Operation and the scandal-hit Nike Oregon Project as all highlighting the "urgent need to focus much more on the athletes' entourage".

By holding everybody implicated in a doping case accountable "we can take a major step forward to strengthen justice and credibility for the protection of the clean athletes and to drain the doping swamp." —AFP