

**NATIONAL**

Ceremony of donation for Eternal Peace Pagoda held in Yangon

PAGE-4

**NATIONAL**

Senior General attends closing ceremony of ADMM-Plus (VIP Program) in PRC

PAGE-6

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## State Counsellor addresses UMFCCI Centennial Celebration at MICC-II

**S**TATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi addressed the Centennial Celebration of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre II (MICC-II) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

In addressing the event State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said UMFCCI had 75 sister organizations and was established all over the country in states and regions covering all business sectors. In international relations, it has signed 167 MoUs with chambers of commerce of various countries and business organizations cooperating for development of trade and investment.

In implementing UMFCCI's aims and work processes it not only works hand in hand with development partners but also cooperates and works closely in public-private cooperation programmes for national economic development. The Government on its part had selected UMFCCI for its size, representation and international contacts as an organization representing the private sector. It was expected to participate and work

effectively in the country's economic development processes.

As the private sector has been determined to be the main driving force in the socio-economic development of the country, a Private Sector Development Committee led by Vice President U Myint Swe was formed in October 2016 to support the private sector in all work sectors. At the moment five work committees have been formed with relevant union ministerial departments and state/region governments to coordinate the works and resolve difficulties faced by private businesses.

Setting aims and goals in all sectors for a country to develop economically would require financial investments, technical knowhow, human resources and basic infrastructures.

There are limitations and constraints for the country's government and private sector in jointly cooperating and fulfilling these requirements. Especially developing countries like Myanmar need a lot of investments and technical knowhow.

**SEE PAGE-3**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi addresses the Centennial Celebration of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



## PYITHU HLUTTAW

Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 14<sup>th</sup> regular session holds sixth-day meeting

The Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 14<sup>th</sup> regular session held its sixth-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting asterisk marked questions raised were answered by Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Ye Myint Swe while Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat informed the Hluttaw of receipt of three bills. Reports on the bills were also read and explained.

Asterisk marked questions

In the asterisk marked question and answer session, questions raised by Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency on arrangements made to prevent habitats for elephants from being destroyed from permitting of coal mining in the area;



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

Dr Tun Lin Maw of Kyangin constituency on providing a water bowser truck to water saplings of a forest reserve in Kyangin Township and to construct a

17,000 ft. long road; Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency on a plan for relevant ministry to conduct enquiry on the reason for a landslide in Paung Town-

ship; U Tun Tun Naing of Kani constituency on the issue of 17 farmers' land included in an application for a mining right by a company; U Phone Myint Aung of DaikU constituency on a plan to upgrade timber extraction road in DaikU Township to a concrete road; U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency on status of state/region wise bamboo planting and the government's support toward those who want to plant bamboo; and U Thant Zin Tun of Dekkhinathiri constituency on arrangements made to develop gem sale shop area were answered by Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Ye Myint Swe.

Receipt of bills and report on bills

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced

the receipts of a bill amending Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law for the fifth time, a bill amending Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law for the fifth time and a bill amending State/Region Hluttaw Election Law for the fifth time. After the announcement of the receipt of each bill, Bill Committee members U Aung Sein, U Zaw Win and U Sai Tun Aye separately read and explained the committee's report on each bill. And after each bill was read and explained, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to table amendment motions to register their names.

The seventh-day meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> regular session of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw will be held on 25 November.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Zaw Min)

## AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw convenes 6<sup>th</sup> day meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> regular session

THE second Amyotha Hluttaw held its 6<sup>th</sup> day meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> regular session yesterday, with raising asterisk questions and tabling a motion.

MP U Han Win Thein from Taninthayi constituency 4 asked about upgrading the road between Khawzar town in Ye Township in Mon State and Paukpingwin village of Yebyu Township of Taninthayi into an inter-regional road.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Than Htut replied the road is only 6-ft wide and perennial plants such as rubber are grown by the locals along both sides of the road, and that there would need some negotiation with the owners of these plants for expansion of the road.

The local governments also need to submit details collected by the local officials on proposed projects to the Ministry of Border Affairs.

MP Dr Win Myint from Bago Region constituency 11 asked about the possible ban of low variety breeds of swine. Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw replied that a coordination meeting to discuss imports of swine is held quarterly in a year, and that the resolution of coordination meetings to



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

import only under-20 kilogram swine will be scrutinized to prevent both the risks of public health and the interest of local swine breeders.

MP Naw Christ Tun (a) Dr Ar Kar Moe from Kayin State constituency 7 asked to review opaque and unfair selection of trainees for the University for the Development of the National Races of the Union and the colleges of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree. He also asked to favour under-developed ethnic areas in selections.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Than Htut replied the query.

MP U Khin Myo Win from Taninthayi Region constituency 12 asked about taking back unused empty lands permitted to an oil palm company in Bokpyin Township in Taninthayi Region, and to provide legal assistance to the farmers who are facing lawsuits although they already have land use permits.

U Aung Myo from Sagaing Region constituency 2 asked about reviewing on providing cash assistance to from the President's special funds to the farmers who lost their crops due to natural disasters in 2019.

These two queries were replied by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Ir-

rigation U Hla Kyaw.

**Bill for amendment of Farm Land Law**

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee Daw Kyein Ngaik Man read out to explain a bill for amendment of Farm Land Law sent back by the Pyithu Hluttaw with recommendations.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than approved the bill in the version of Amyotha Hluttaw bill committee.

U Ba Myo Thein from Yangon Region constituency 5 submitted a proposal to debate the controversies on the bill between the two Hluttaws at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced to submit the controversial bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Then, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced for enlisting the names of MPs who like to discuss the Myanmar Insolvency Bill sent back by the Pyithu Hluttaw with recommendations.

**Reforestation programme**

U Sa Khin Zaw Linn from Ayeyawady Region constituency 2 suggested the Union Government for training pro-

grammes and providing modern facilities and equipment for on capacity buildings for forest staff in States/Regions and promoting their functions and ethics with the financial and technical assistance of international organizations such as World Bank, Asian Development Band, World Wildlife Fund for reforestation in Myanmar.

The motion was discussed by the MPs.

MP Daw Shar Mu from the Kayah State constituency 5 highlighted the importance of forest management, reforestation and environmental conservation.

MP U Soe Thein also discussed providing equipment and facilities to the forest staff, including road constructions in the forests, drones, installation of CCTVs, and establishment of public knowledge sharing centers near forest reserves.

The motion was also discussed by MP Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Latt from Bago Region constituency 3 and Daw Lwei Zar from Kayah State constituency 6.

The second Amyotha Hluttaw's 14<sup>th</sup> regular session will convene its 7<sup>th</sup> day meeting on 25 November.—Aung Ye Thwin

(Translated by Aung Khin)



# State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi urges private sector to exploit technology, create conducive investment climate



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for a commemorative group photo together with local business persons, ambassadors and representatives of international business organizations at the UMFCFI Centennial Celebration in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

## FROM PAGE-1

That was why every country was competing in inviting foreign investments that would bring in investments and technical know-how.

In the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Index for 2020 published on 24 October 2019, Myanmar obtained 46.8 points. This was an increase of 3.3 points from last year's 43.5. The ranking has also increased 6 positions from last year's 171. Myanmar's inclusion in the top 20 progressing countries in Ease of Doing Business Index for 2020 was a significant result. Yet Myanmar would continue to strive harder. There was progress in five indices and this was the outcome of cooperation between the government and the private sector. These good results need to be maintained while efforts were required to be made in making it easier to do things in other work sectors and various other types of business.

Myanmar established a Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) 2018-2030 in the year 2018. Goal 3 of MSDP was job creation and private sector-led growth. Policies and regulations were set for good businesses to develop and to include and use in a good administrative system. In addition to this, work processes to remove administrative sluggishness and bottlenecks are being implemented to increase the pace of reforms."

Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) play a main role in creating jobs, national innovation, prosperity, poverty reduction and human resources development. For such an important sector to develop, works

were conducted to assure its sustainable existence, participation and quality development. MSMEs on their part need to create a conducive environment for investment to enter in order to change according to time and era, manage and face difficulties and to use new technologies.

... work processes to remove administrative sluggishness and bottlenecks are being implemented to increase the pace of reforms.

Together with the MSDP, regional value chains for ASEAN integration, effective use of Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar 4.0 to use modern systems including non-cash payment systems, education for all and in obtaining news and information. As smart phone usage had passed 100 per cent in Myanmar, smart phones can be used in various works in our daily life. It was very satisfying to know of UMFCFI's active participation in MSMEs development and establishment and development of Myanmar 4.0. As public-private cooperation was required for economic development of the State, reform, development in digital economy and Myanmar businesses expanding internationally, UMFCFI was expected to continue leading the private sector.

In conclusion, may the

UMFCFI centennial ceremony create a bright future of all businesses in all of Myanmar. May UMFCFI's relentless efforts and future work processes bring forth success. May it provide better and effective work plans to the State. May it strengthen the private sector required for national economic development. Although it has been termed government and private sector, in the end it was all the people of Myanmar. Whatever works would not be successful without the people's participation. UMFCFI was believed to continue its effort toward the development of the country and all the people living in it, said the State Counsellor.

Afterwards, the State Counsellor, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker, Amyotha Hluttaw Depu-

ty Speaker, Union Ministers, Union Attorney General, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman, UMFCFI patron, president and vice presidents, CEC member, EC members, advisers, local business persons, ambassadors and representatives of international business organizations took a commemorative group photo.

UMFCFI was first established in 1919 during the colonial period. After the country gained independence in 1948, it became Union of Burma Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UBCCI) until 1988. As the country moved towards market economic system in 1989, it became the UMCCI and worked towards development of local businesses.

By 2014, as the State gave priority to the private sector for the country's economic development, the UMFCFI became an organization that led the private sector.

Also present at the event were Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Union Ministers, Union Attorney General, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman, Deputy Ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, Hluttaw representatives, Permanent Secretaries, heads of department, UMFCFI Patron U Chit Khaing, President U Zaw Min Win and Vice Presidents, members and invited guests. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi observes the booth displayed at the UMFCFI Centennial exhibition in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**





Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko accepts cash donation for the Eternal Peace Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Ceremony of donation for Eternal Peace Pagoda held in Yangon

A CEREMONY of cash donation for All-round Renovation of Eternal Peace Pagoda, currently under construction, near Gangaw flower roundabout, Yaza Thingaha Road, Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw was held at the Yangon office of Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture yesterday.

The donation of K 20 million by Sihasudhamatheingi Daw Khin Nyunt who lives in Dharmayon Street, No13 Word, Yankin Township was accepted by Union

Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, and he returned an Honour of certification for donation and expressed words of gratitude.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Kyi Min, Director-General of Department of Religious Affairs and officials.

The well-wishers of Myanmar citizens are urged to donate for Eternal Peace Pagoda's all-round maintenance. — MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)

## Union Planning, Finance Minister receives Chinese business leaders



Union Minister U Soe Win meets with President of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) Mr Gu Shu in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister U Soe Win meets with Vice President of the China Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC) Mr Wang Wenzhong in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win separately received the President of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), Mr Gu Shu, and the Vice President of the China Railway Construction

Corporation (CRCC), Mr Wang Wenzhong, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting with the ICBC President, the Union Minister discussed China-Myanmar economic cooperation,

ICBC's financial support to Myanmar's state-owned banks, opening ICBC branches in Yangon and other major cities, and gathering ICBC's support for developing the bond market in Myanmar's economy and in-

vestments.

During the meeting with the CRCC Vice President, the Union Minister discussed CRCC's involvement in developing Myanmar's infrastructure, constructing the Yangon-Dala

Bridge project and the water treatment plant for distributing water from Paunglaung Dam to Nay Pyi Taw and the surrounding area. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Second part of UMFCCI Centennial Celebration, talks and panel discussion

SECOND part of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) Centennial Celebration was continued with talks and panel discussion at Myanmar International Convention Centre II (MICC-ID) yesterday morning.

The second part of UMFCCI Centennial Celebration was continued with a speech delivered by UMFCCI President U Zaw Min Win.

Next, talks on Global Economy and Mega-Trends, Myanmar Economy and Future Prospects, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution

4.0 and Business were conducted by McKinsey & Company Managing Partner Mr Kaushik-Das, the World Bank Group Myanmar Head Economist Mr Hans Beck and the World Economic Forum Head of Asia Pacific and member of the Executive Committee Mr Justin Wood respectively.

During the afternoon session panel discussions on the subjects "Building a Competitive Myanmar Economy" and "A Strategic Investment for the Future" was held. In the first panel discussion Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism delivered an opening

remark. UMFCCI Vice President U Wai Phyo chaired the panel discussion while Thai Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade of Thailand Chairman Mr Kalin Sarasin, Serge Pun & Associate Ltd Chairman Mr Serge Pun and MyanShwePyi Tractors Ltd Chairman U Khin Maung Win participated in the discussion.

In the second panel discussion Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung delivered an opening remark. Sandanila Investments Managing Partner Daw Thiri Thet Mon chaired the panel discus-



UMFCCI President U Zaw Min Win delivers the speech at the second part of UMFCCI Centennial Celebration in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

sion while Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Permanent Secretary U Aung Naing Oo, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Myanmar-Marubeni Corporation Vice Chairman Mr Kunio Negishi,

China Enterprises for Chamber of Commerce in Myanmar Vice Chairman Mr. Gong Jingtao and YGA Capital Ltd Managing Director U Thura Ko Ko participated in the discussion. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Swiss ambassador



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat meets with Swiss Ambassador Mr Tim Enderlin in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

PYITHU HLUTTAW Speaker U T Khun Myat received Swiss Ambassador Mr Tim Enderlin at the Pyithu Hluttaw building yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed promoting friendly relations between Myanmar and Switzerland, cooperation between domestic election-oriented

organizations and international assistance groups for the 2020 General Elections, assistance provided to Myanmar's democratic transition, domestic peace efforts and economic development, and attracting more investments to Myanmar. —MNA

*(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives NDI President



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat meets with President of the National Democratic Institute (NDI) Mr Derek Mitchell in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

PYITHU HLUTTAW Speaker U T Khun Myat received the President of the National Democratic Institute (NDI), Mr Derek Mitchell, at the Pyithu Hluttaw building yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed strengthening Hluttaw processes in My-

anmar's democratic transition, promoting the skills of Hluttaw committees, MPs and Hluttaw office staff, and exchanging experiences in technical and technological aspects. Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein and officials were also present at the meeting.—MNA

*(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

## Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives Swiss Ambassador

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than received Ambassador of Switzerland Mr Tim Enderlin at the guest hall of Amyotha Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to promoting bilateral friendship relations and cooperation between Myanmar and Switzerland, electoral process, providing assistance for Myanmar's internal peace and democratic reforms process.

Also present at the meeting were Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung and officials from the Amyotha Hluttaw office.—MNA

*(Translated by TTN)*



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than shakes hands with Swiss Ambassador Mr Tim Enderlin. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives President of NDI



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than meets with National Democratic Institute - NDI President Mr Derek Mitcheel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than received National Democratic Institute - NDI President Mr Derek Mitcheel at the guest hall of Amyotha Hluttaw building yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to status performance of NDI, Hluttaw law making

processes, promoting capacities building of Hluttaw's representatives and staff and ongoing assistance.

The meeting was attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung and officials from Amyotha Hluttaw office. — MNA

*(Translated by TTN)*

## UEC to release electoral information every Wednesday

WITH the UEC's Notification No. 64/2019 dated 14 November 2019, Union Election Commission has set up an electoral information team to promote election-related process

transparently.

The team will release election-related news every Wednesday's 2 pm starting from 27 November at UEC Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

Media agencies that want to gather information can contact with the UEC office at 067- 404407/ 404313. — MNA

*(Translated by TTN)*



## Senior General attends closing ceremony of ADMM-Plus (VIP Program) in PRC

A Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended a closing ceremony of a joint counter-terrorism actual-troop drill at Fenglin Training Field in Guilin, People's Republic of China on the morning of 21 November.

The Tatmadaw delegation led by the Senior General together with other attending chiefs of armed forces and officials of defence ministries were first welcomed by participants in the troop drill, combat vehicles used in the troop drill and People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China military band.

Next, outstanding participants in the joint counter-terrorism actual-troop drill were presented with documents of honor by member of Central Military Commission (CMC) and Chief of the Joint Staff Department of the CMC of the PLA General Li Zocheng and Joint Chairman of the troop drill Chief of Defence

Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Pornpipat Benyasri.

Afterwards Joint Chairman Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces, CMC member and Chief of Joint Staff Department of the CMC delivered closing speeches of ADMM-Plus (VIP Program) and took a commemorative group photo together with attendees.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing then cordially greeted Myanmar Tatmadaw personnel who participated in the drill and presented cash presents.

Later in the day Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and delegation members together with chiefs of armed forces of respective countries and officials from defence ministries left for Guilin Port by cars and cruised along Li jiang River on a cruise ship.

Following this, accompanied



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing poses for a commemorative group photo together with attendees at the closing ceremony of ADMM-Plus (VIP Program) in Guilin, People's Republic of China. **PHOTO: C-IN-C'S OFFICE**

by Chinese Military Attaché to Myanmar Senior Colonel Xiong Shaowei, Myanmar Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air Force) Brig-Gen Zaw Oo and

delegation members, the Senior General visited the Trunk Mountain and Park situated at the junction of Taohua River and Li jiang River according to infor-

mation released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

## UEC Chair meets NDP President

UNION Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein received the President of National Democratic Institute (NDI), and former US Ambassador, Mr Derek Mitchell at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed preparations for ensuring the 2020 General Elections are in accord with the five norms, organizing capacity-building courses for the chairpersons, members and staff of election sub-commissions, pre-

paring the Code of Conduct for political parties and Hluttaw representatives to be coherent with current times, forming security management committees and negotiation committees for the upcoming election, plans to prevent hate speech and fake news from spreading on social media, election monitoring activities, and forming an information unit to ensure correct election news is disseminated.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein meets with President of National Democratic Institute and former US Ambassador, Mr Derek Mitchell in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint holds talks with Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Zhang Guohua in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Union Commerce Minister meets Yunnan Vice-Governor

UNION Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint received the Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province, Mr Zhang Guohua, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, both sides discussed promoting bilateral trade and investment between Myanmar and China, creating good investment environments and attracting more investors from China, increasing exports of agricultural products, livestock and fishery products to China, ensuring more

domestic products reach set quality standards, technological cooperation for increasing both countries' production sector, cooperating on developing the support transportation and communication sector and basic infrastructure, reciprocating invitations to expos and co-organizing them, and swiftly implementing the Myanmar-China Border Economic Cooperation Zone.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



# 47-member leading committee meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee concludes

The third meeting of the 47-member leading committee of the 8th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee concluded at the Wizaya Mingalar Dhammathabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon yesterday.

The second-day meeting was attended by the member sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee led by Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maharattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhamo Sayadaw Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for Reli-

gious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Deputy Minister U Kyi Min and officials of the ministry. Bhamo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa presided over the meeting and Sayadaw Joint Secretary Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sehtila acted as the master of the ceremonies.

At the meeting, members of the 8th committee discussed the measures taken during the first period of the duty taken by the first branch of the 8th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and made resolutions.

Joint Secretary Sayadaw



The 47-member leading committee of the 8th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee concludes its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting at the Wizaya Mingalar Dhammathabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

sought the approval for the report of the first branch of the

7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and the meeting

came to an end in the afternoon. — MNA ■

# Union Minister U Kyaw Tin receives Yunnan Province delegation

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin received the delegation led by Mr Zhang Guohua, Vice Governor of the People's Government of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China, on 22 November 2019 at 1 pm at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on the matters relating to strengthening of cooperation between Myanmar and Yunnan Province of China in wide-ranging areas including commerce, investment, agriculture, livestock, tourism and upgrading the border gates. — MNA ■



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin meeting with Mr Zhang Guohua, Vice Governor of the People's Government of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

# Union SWRR Minister addresses 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 meeting on social welfare, development



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye and Ministers from other ASEAN countries pose for a group photo at the 6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development Plus Three in Vientiane, Laos. PHOTO: MNA

THE 6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development Plus Three was held in Vientiane, Laos, yesterday, and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye participated in the discussions.

The 'Plus Three' of the meeting refers to Chin, Japan and South Korea, and Japanese officials said at the meeting that Japan will observe and cooperate in the development of social welfare, protection of the elderly, inclusive community-based projects for disabled persons, organizing training courses for disabled persons to gain better employment opportunities, and the social welfare programmes of nations within the ASEAN region.

Next, Chinese officials said China cooperate with

ASEAN nations on Mekong-Lancang youth development activities, youth observation and experience exchange programmes, and socioeconomic development.

South Korean officials then said ROK will cooperate in elderly protection programmes, youth volunteer programmes, and research on the elderly. ASEAN+3 nations will provide the necessary human resources, technology and financial assistance for implementing the ASEAN Nation Social Welfare and Development Plan for 2020-2025.

Next, Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye said that among the ASEAN+3 nations, China cooperates with Myanmar on Mekong-Lancang Youth Engagement and ASEAN leadership programmes. He said they have signed an MoU on Myanmar-China bilateral

economic cooperation and believes they will cooperate on social matters more in the future.

The Union Minister said Myanmar cooperates with JICA for developing sign language for the deaf, combating human trafficking, and providing technical assistance in elderly protection plans.

He said Myanmar cooperates with KOICA and the Korea University Council for Social Service (KUCSS) in effective youth volunteering in early childhood care and development activities. He said Myanmar has opened a social welfare training school, established a social service news system, and joint training programmes and will continue to do so with the ASEAN+3 nations. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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

Kyaw Myaing

**SENIOR TRANSLATORS**Zaw Min  
Zaw Htet Oo  
Aung Khin**INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**Ye Htut Tin,  
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**LOCAL NEWS EDITORS**Tun Tun Naing (Editor),  
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com  
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),  
nwenwe9131@gmail.com**TRANSLATORS**Hay Mar Tin Win,  
Ei Myat Mon  
Kyaw Zin Lin  
Kyaw Zin Tun**REPORTER**Nyein Nyein Ei,  
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**PHOTOGRAPHER**Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar  
Kyaw Zeya**COMPUTER TEAM**Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,  
Ye Naing Soe, Hnin Pwint,  
Kay Khaing Win, Sanda Hnin,  
Thein Htwe, Nyi Lin Thu**EDITORIAL SECTION**(+95) (01) 8604529,  
Fax - (+95) (01) 8604305**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,  
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marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com  
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# YWB service added with six new vessels

By Nyein Nyein

THE Yangon Water Bus (YWB) service will operate vessels acquired from foreign countries and currently, payment machines are being installed on the vessels, said U Hla Aung, joint-secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

“We bought six new water vessels from abroad for Yangon. Payment machines that allow passengers to use KBZ pay, CB pay, Visa, or Mastercard are being installed on board the vessels. So far, payment machines have been installed on two vessels. The machines remain to be installed on four vessels,” said U Hla Aung.

“In order to operate the six water vessels, payment machines need to be installed on them. The jetties along their operation route are also being upgraded. The upgrade project will take 25 days,” he added.

The previously operated YWB vessels are currently docked in Ayeyarwady Re-



A water bus docked at a jetty in the Yangon River. PHOTO: ZAW GYI

gion—seven of the vessels were locally manufactured, while three were manufactured abroad. According to a report issued by the company, the water vessels will be operational in Ayeyarwady Region, he added.

As part of a major upgrade, the Yangon bus service was suspended from 27 September.

Then, the jetty was upgraded, the water vessels were renovated, water vessels were imported for Nga Moe Yeik creek, permission was sought for construction of the Nga Moe Yeik creek jetty, and the Thanlyin jetty was upgraded, and payment machines were installed on vessels.

Yangon water buses were

launched on October 7, 2017 by Tint Tint Myanmar Company. The company is operating 11 motor vessels from Botahtaung jetty to Insein Jetty, transporting around 100,000 commuters per month. The Yangon water bus service is operated daily for pilgrims and riverine cruise tours. (Translated by Hay Mar)

# Taunggyi celebrates Shan New Year Festival



Shan ethnic people celebrate their Shan New Year in Taunggyi, Shan State. PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG THAN

THE traditional Shan New Year Festival was celebrated at 5 p.m. on 21 November at the

Awayyar fire balloon field in Taunggyi, eastern Shan State. The festival marked the arrival

of the year 2114 on the Shan calendar.

U Sai Tun Mya, chair of

the Shan New Year Celebration Committee, Dr. Lin Htut, Chief Minister of Shan State, U Sai Lone Seng, Speaker of the Shan State Hluttaw, Major General Lin Aung (Eastern Command), and U Kywal Kywal, Chief Justice of the Shan State High Court, opened the ceremony by cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

In addition, performers from the Shan Literature and Culture Association presented traditional Shan dances. The program included performances by different ethnic groups such as Shan, PaO, Inn, Taungyoe, and Lisu.—Maung Maung Than (Taunggyi)

(Translated by La Wonn)

# Double-arm lamp posts erected on Katha streets

DOUBLE-arm street lamp posts are being installed in Katha town of Sagaing region as part of efforts to beautify the city.

A total of 30 street lamp posts will be erected in the town. Out of the 30, 21 lamp posts have been erected and the remaining nine will be placed in front of the office complex. In addition,

11 more lamp posts will be installed between City hall and BOC Gone, according to officials.

The lamp posts have been erected at a distance of 100 feet, they said. The project is being jointly implemented by the government and the public. The cost of each lamp post is K1,800,000, the officials added.

The Sagaing region government has allocated K30 million for the project, while the remaining costs have been borne by the residents of the township.

The lamp posts have been erected with the aim of beautifying the city, ensure road safety, and reduce crime, said U Nyi Nyi Tun, a Hluttaw representative from Sagaing Region.

A total of 50 lamp posts are expected to be erected in the township. The road to the entrance gate of the town is 12,000 feet long. About 70 lamp posts are required to be erected on the road, and the project implementation committee has asked locals to contribute for the lamp posts.—Lu Aung (Katha) (Translated by Hay Mar)

## Write for us

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



### Information Ministry delegation visits Mt. Qingxiu, Li Jaing Bookshop in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint holds talks with writers of the Guangxi Writers Association in Li Jiang Reading Room. PHOTO: MNA

THE Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint visited the Mt. Qingxiu Park and Liqian Reading House in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China, yesterday.

The delegation toured the sightseeing in the mountain which is covered with many kinds of trees.

Mt. Qingxiu Park is established on 4.07 square kilometre and located 289 metres above the sea level. Twelve sites with mature trees are designated in the park.

The park attracts about 2.4 million visitors per year.

Afterwards, the delegation visited the Li Jiang Reading Room and also visited book shops, children reading rooms, observing the arrangement

for comfortable reading.

The reading room has a collection of over 40,000 reading books.

Next, they viewed the 'Good Books in Guangxi' programme, met with Guangxi Writers Association members and discussed translating and distributing translated literature of both countries and exchanging literary culture.

The Guangxi Writers Association is a branch of the China Writers Association, comprised of male and female members and of ethnic minority races as well. Their members have garnered numerous national literary awards and act as a bridge between party, government and the public. In addition, they also help proliferate the literature of ethnic minorities and support literary exchange and training.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister and entourage departed from Nanning by bullet train and arrived in Guilin City, located in the northeastern part of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Afterwards, they attended a dinner reception hosted by Mayor Mr Qin Chuncheng at Yao Hu Hotel. From there they cruised on a boat across Li Zhang River, Tao Hua River, Shan Ye Lake, Gui Lake and Mu Long Lake and also visited Xiao Feng Tower and the historical palace.

Guilin is filled with beautiful scenery and rich cultural heritage that make it a prime travel destination, including efficient transportation, excellent lodging and a wide variety of delicious food.—MNA

(Translated by GNLM)

Karen Development Network (KDN) congratulates its Chairperson, Professor Saw Tun Aung Chain on being honored with the 2018 Lifetime Achievement of the National Literature Award.

### Deputy Minister for Information inspects departments under MoI



Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun observes inside the Sarpay Beikman Building on Merchant Street, Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

DEPUTY MINISTER for Information U Aung Hla Tun inspected Sarpay Beikman, photolithography press, Myanma Alin newspaper and Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) in Yangon yesterday.

First, the Deputy Minister went to Sarpay Beikman book store in Merchant Street, Botahtaung Township and inspected the books displayed, li-

brary services provided for members and the reference library.

Next, the Deputy Minister went to photolithography press in Ngar Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township and inspected the book binding room, press, CTP room and paper store.

From there the Deputy Minister went to News and Periodicals Enterprise Myanma Alin newspaper

and inspected the editorial department, computer department and the press.

Later in the afternoon, the Deputy Minister went to MRTV and inspected the new studio, Sub-Control Room No. 1, outside broadcast (OB) or Digital Satellite News Gathering (DSNG) van, Radio Audio Archive and meeting room.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

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### Deputy Minister for Commerce attend MOU signing between Myanmar-China businesses

DEPUTY MINISTER for Commerce U Aung Htoo attended MOU signing ceremony of nine projects between Myanmar

and China held at Lashio Town indoor stadium in Shan State north.

At the ceremony the Deputy Minister, officials

of People's Republic of China Lincang Town and Shan State north trade association officials delivered speeches and greetings. Afterwards MOU on nine projects to be jointly conducted by businesses of Myanmar and China were

signed.

Later the Deputy Minister and party inspected the Myanmar (Lashio)-China (Lincang) border trade and exhibition.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Deputy Minister U Aung Htoo addresses the MOU signing ceremony of nine projects between Myanmar and China at Lashio indoor stadium, Shan State. PHOTO: MNA



## Government, KNU delegations hopeful for resuming peace talks

A GOVERNMENT delegation and a delegation of the Karen National Union (KNU) held a meeting to coordinate on steps going forward with the peace process, in Chiang Mai, Thailand, yesterday.

The meeting focused on proposals made by the KNU for moving forward with the peace process, organizing the fourth session of the Union Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong in 2020, holding the Joint Ceasefire Implementation Committee Meeting (JCIM), and other matters.

U Hla Maung Shwe, an advisor to the Myanmar Peace Commission (PC), said the KNU were just as keen as them to hold the JCIM and the 2020 conference as well. He said the KNU also hopes the conference will produce steps to move forward.

The Peace Process Steering Team (PPST) will hold their meetings on December 2, 3 and 4 and the government and KNU delegations aim to meet again after them.

The government delegation consisted of PC Secretary Lt-Gen (Retd) Khin Zaw Oo, PC advisory board members U Hla Maung Shwe and U Moe Zaw Oo, Director-General U Zaw Htay of the Ministry of Office of the State Counsellor, and U Kyaw Lin Oo as technical support.

The KNU delegation consisted of the KNU Chairman's military and political advisor Saw Tu Tu Lay, KNU General-Secretary Padoh Saw Tadoh Moo, KNU permanent executive committee members Padoh Saw

Sel Gay and Padoh Saw Taw Nee, KNU Chairman Secretary Padoh Saw Tar Mu Lar, and Policy Advisor Naw May Oo.

After the meetings, Director-General U Zaw Htay and KNU General-Secretary Padoh Saw Tadoh Moo gave an interview to RFA journalist U Aung Moe Myint.

U Zaw Htay said they discussed the meeting between KNU leaders and the government delegation led by the State Counsellor at the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary event of the NCA on 28 October, which agreed on holding separate meetings during the interim period and has led to this meeting in Chiang Mai. He said they will hold the PPST meeting, after which both sides agreed to quickly meet up.

The KNU General-Secretary said the meeting also held an informal consideration of what preparations should be put in place to ensure the peace process continues regardless of which government administration becomes incumbent after the elections next year. He said as working groups from both sides need more contact and meetings, he hopes doing so will facilitate easier communication in future meetings.

When asked of proposals from the government's side, Padoh Saw Tadoh Moo responded that the four proposals are very connected. He said ceasefire and political dialogues are the two main parts of the NCA, and there has been a great improvement on the political front, as well as more familiarity. He said they will continue to discuss the ceasefire side of the agreement.



Representatives from the Myanmar government and Karen National Union (KNU) hold a coordination meeting on peace process in Chiang Mai, Thailand yesterday. **PHOTO: HMS**

When asked of his analysis on the government delegation's journey, U Zaw Htay replied that there was a fundamental point highlighted by the State Counsellor during the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary event of the NCA, which includes three factors to the peace process moving forward. The first is to sign the Union Accord in three phases.

U Zaw Htay said the journey of the Chairman of the Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) last October prompted them to come to Chiang Mai and meet with the RCSS delegation. He said Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and Lt-Gen Min Naung were present there as well, since they are both NRPC members and leaders of the Tatmadaw Negotiation Team. He said they engaged in serious discussions and produced remarks on how to avoid these types of compli-

cations regarding EAO leaders travelling in the future. He said the RCSS were okay to be on-board with the process and they have overcome an obstacle.

U Zaw Htay said they made numerous agreements in discussing what type of meetings to pursue with the ten EAO signatories to the NCA. He said they discussed in detail the implementation process of the agreements made between the State Counsellor and the KNU leaders. He said they achieved very close results and will hold detailed discussions on that in the future. He said they will meet again as soon as possible in December. He said there are monitoring groups on the peace process and worries concerning it, but both sides are giving it their best efforts.

U Zaw Htay also said they will not step back from the path

based on the NCA. He said there are concerns of the delayed process but both sides are reviewing and coordinating to ensure the path taken by both sides are made better and stronger. He said they are endeavoring to ensure the post-2020 peace process will carry on regardless of which government administration takes office at that time.

Padoh Saw Tadoh Moo spoke of the next proposed meeting with the government delegation as needing to go into detailed discussion to make the proposals by the KNU much clearer. He said it involves thinking carefully for both sides. He said that as there isn't much time, they are discussing the nature of the upcoming meeting. —Ye Kaung Nyunt

(Translated by  
Zaw Htet Oo)

## Nay Pyi Taw hosts 6<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Forum



Myanmar's Foreign Affairs Ministry and a delegation led by the Vice-Governor of Yunnan engage in discussions at the 6<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Cooperation Forum in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE 6<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Cooperation Forum was held at Horizon Lake View Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, as Myanmar promotes relations with Yunnan Province, which plays a pivotal role in increasing existing friendly relations with China and implementing bilateral strategic cooperation framework.

A Myanmar delegation led by Permanent Secretary U Soe Han of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a Chinese delegation led by the Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province, Mr Zhang Guohua, led discussions at the forum.

The forum mainly focused

on intercommunication between Myanmar and China and especially Yunnan Province, and the current processes and progress of areas of cooperation between both sides, including economic, trade, investment, agriculture, livestock, travel, education, healthcare, social communication, and border management sectors.

Furthermore, they openly exchanged views on the challenges and future areas of cooperation in these aspects. They also agreed on increasing cooperation in areas that benefit the citizens of both nations.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



## Myanmar exports over 374,600 tons of rice worth \$108 mln in current fiscal



Farmers plant rice seedlings in a paddy field on the outskirts of Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

THE volume of rice and broken rice exported between 1 October and 8 November in the 2019-2020 financial year has been estimated at over 374,635 metric tons, worth US\$108.58 million, according to an announcement from the Myanmar Rice Federation.

In the current financial year, Myanmar has shipped rice to 37 foreign markets.

China, which accounts for over 36 per cent of the total rice exports, is the main buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by Madagascar and Malaysia. Mozambique is the fourth-largest buyer and Cameroon, the fifth-largest buyer of Myanmar rice. The European Union countries account for over 10 per cent of rice exports, while 39.9 per cent of rice grown in Myanmar goes to African countries.

In the current FY, Myanmar has exported broken rice

mostly to Senegal, followed by Indonesia, Belgium, Mali, and Thailand. Broken rice has been placed in 27 foreign markets.

Earlier, border trade was relatively high compared to sea trade in terms of rice exports. Since the previous financial year, border trade has dropped, and currently, it accounts for just 14.8 per cent of the total rice exports, while maritime trade constitutes 85.13 per cent.

Rice exports through the border gates have generated an estimated \$14.9 million, whereas income from maritime trade touched \$93.67 million as of 8 November in the current FY, as per data from the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar primarily exports rice to China through the border gates. However, trade in agricultural products has been halted on account of

China clamping down on illegal trade. As a result, stocks of rice piled up at the Muse border gate in Q1 of this year, bringing down the price of rice in the export market.

Additionally, the prices of low-quality rice varieties Ngasein and Aemahta were lower compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, according to the local market.

At present, rice is being exported to China through a government-to-government (G2G) agreement and barter system, in exchange for Chinese goods.

Myanmar shipped 3.6 million tons of rice in the 2017-2018 financial year, which was an all-time record in rice exports. The export volume plunged to 2.29 million metric tons, worth \$691 million, in the 2018-2019 FY. —GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Agri bodies discuss exports of rice, tapioca chips to China

THE Agriculture Department, the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), and the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association (MFVP) held a meeting on 19 November to discuss a draft contract sent by China's General Administration of Customs for export of Myanmar's rice and tapioca chips.

Members of the bodies discussed the signing of the agreement, exportation, and plans for disclosing the article of agreements to exporters.

U Aung Kyaw Oo, director of the Agriculture Department and staff, MRF Vice President U Aung Than Oo and executive members, rice millers and trader's body, MFVP consultant Dr Htet Kyu, and officials from the Myanmar Cassava Association attended the meeting and discussed the exportation of rice and tapioca chips. —GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Shareholders ask Yangon government to review dividend policy of transport firm

By Nyein Nyein

A TOTAL of 190 shareholders have asked the Yangon Region government to review the dividend policy of the Yangon Urban Public Transport Public Company, said U Hla Aung, Joint Secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

"Those 190 individuals have reported how they want the annual dividend paid out. We have forwarded their reports to the Yangon Region government through the YRTA. After it is sorted out, we will notify them of further plans. Currently, their request is being processed," said U Hla Aung.

The YRTA has asked the remaining shareholders for their opinions on the share dividend, he said.

At the YUPT's second anniversary general meeting on 30 October at the Gandamar Grand Ballroom, some shareholders had asked for a dividend payment and the removal of some directors

from the board appointed by the regional government.

Following the friction at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the YUPT, regional minister Daw Nilar Kyaw, chair of the YRTA, and members met with bus owners. She asked them whether all shareholders agreed with the complaints and reports.

The YRTA said it will take a decision based on the report of the shareholders for better results. "It will ensure that the shareholders' conflict does not harm the Yangon Bus Service sector, and they will make efforts for the YUPT company to achieve growth, in line with the prescribed rules and regulations," U Hla Aung added.

At present, the YUPT is the biggest service provider in the Yangon Bus Service, providing services to many bus lines. The Yangon Region government has also bought shares in the company, along with more than 200 shareholders.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Domestic gold price likely to fall

By Nyein Nyein

WITH gold prices sliding in the global market and the dollar weakening against the Kyat, the price of gold in the domestic market is likely to continue its decline, said U Myo Myint, chairman of the Yangon Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

"The global gold price and the dollar exchange rate are currently on a downward slide. So, the price of domestic gold is on the decline. The price of gold will continue to drop till December. Gold price usually declines during the months of September, October, November, and December," said U Myo Myint.

In early September, the price of pure gold crossed K1,300,000 per tical in the domestic market, and then, it dropped slightly to K1,186,000 on 22 November. Although the price of gold has declined, the sale of gold has not been affected much in the local gold market, he added.

"The sale of gold is normal. The sale of around 50 viss of gold is normal in the Yangon Region market," said U Myo Myint.

The domestic gold price is positively linked to the global gold price. On 22 November, the global gold price reached US\$467

per ounce. The dollar exchange rate also reached K1,518 per dollar, according to the local gold market.

The domestic gold price has remained above K1.2 million per tical since 7 August, rising to a record high of K1.3 million on 5 September, said gold businessmen.

With global gold prices on the uptick, the domestic price has hit fresh highs this year, reaching

K1,000,000 per tical between 17 January and 21 February, crossing K1,100,000 (22 June to 7 August), climbing to K1,200,000 (7 August-4 September), and then reaching a fresh peak of K1,300,000 on 5 September.

The lowest price for gold in July was K1,099,000 (1 July) and the highest was K1,149,400 (31 July). In August, the gold price touched the lowest level of K1,142,000 on 1 August and the highest level of K1,260,500 on 29 August. In September, the price moved in the range of K1,223,800 (14 September) and K1,307,000 (5 September). Last month, it reached a low of K1,211,500 on 1 October and a high of K1,229,000 on 10 October, according to gold traders.

(Translated by Hay Mar)



**S**TUDENTS of Myanmar missed chance of pursuing higher education for many years after the country had lost its independence under the rule of British colonialists. In 1920, British established the Yangon University.

After establishing Yangon University, its related buildings such as the convocation building, the library, university hospital, Dhammayon, lecture halls and student halls emerged as colonial era buildings on the campus of Yangon University. Later, these buildings became historical heritages of Yangon University.

Yangon University in the history

Among ancient buildings of around 100 years old in Yangon City, Yangon University has been famous as a significant educational institution till today.

Yangon University established in Kamayut of Yangon in 1920 was related to incidents of independence struggles in Myanmar. During the 100-year period, the university turned out so many outstanding persons in literature, politics and various arenas and has been nurturing outstanding new generation students.

Before establishment of Yangon University, British opened a college in Yangon of Lower Myanmar, a subordinate of Kolkata



Convocation Building. PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)

# Yangon University and Colonial Era Buildings

By Maung Tha (Archaeology)



PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)

University. Students from the college went to Kolkata University of India to take the examinations for Intermediate of Arts. The university education was initiated at the Yangon Government High School (Now, Latha BEHS No. 1) by giving lectures at university level to those preparing to take the aforesaid examination.

British government transformed Yangon High School into Yangon College in 1884-85. The Myanmar Education Syndicate managed the college headed by Mr. J.H. Gilbert as principal. The government took responsibilities for the Yangon College in 1904, then renamed Yangon Government College. At that time, an

American Missionary set up the Judson College similar to Yangon College. The former was named Judson College (Yudathan College) in honour of American missionary Dr. Judson in 1918.

Motivation to recognize Yangon College as a separate independent university started in 1892. Hence, the Legislative Council of Myanmar approved the bill of Yangon University in September 1920 and then the Yangon University emerged on 1 December 1920. In its establishment, Yangon University was formed with University College and Judson College. Meanwhile, a total of 692 students attended the University College and 137 students, Judson College. The first chancellor of Yangon University was Governor of Myanmar Sir Reginald Craddock.

In 1941, as Yangon University managed six colleges namely University College, Judson College, Medical College, Teacher Training College, Agriculture College and Mandalay Intermediate College, many numbers of buildings were extended. During a decade from 1940 to 1950, Yangon University was famous in Southeast Asia and it was one of the best universities in Asia.

## Convocation Building

Although the first-ever convocation of Yangon University took place on 28 November 1921, the cornerstones of the convocation building was laid by the University Chancellor on 2 December 1922. The convocation building was the first building on the campus of 400-acre Yangon University.

The convocation building was created with colonial and western European architectural works, and the main building was in square shape. The convocation hall was in the centre of the building surrounded by double theatre stairs.

Three crescent shape arches on the front wing of the building became the symbol. A large lion statue was kept on either side of the front wing. The emblem of the Yangon University was created at the head band flanked by fabulous creature on both sides.

## Judson Church

Chancellor of Yangon University Sir Charles Alexander Innes laid cornerstones of Judson Church built on Pyay Road on 27 July 1931. The church aimed to host Christian service ceremonies. The church was in design of



Judson Church. PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)





the crucifix. A 180-step bell tower was constructed on the portico.

Judson Church was 88 feet long and 42 feet wide. A main building of the church was formed with a building on either side. The church built of brick and concrete is in use till today.

#### Universities' Dhammayon

Aletawya Abbot Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kosallabhidhaja of Yangon laid cornerstones for construction of Yangon University Dhammayon on 13th waxing of Tabaung, 1295 ME, (25 February 1934), Sunday. It was renamed Universities' Dham-

mayon in 1964. The Dhammayon in rectangular shape with 140 feet in length, 65 feet in width and 22 feet in height was built in designs mixed with west European and Myanmar architectural works. The building comprising a portico and a side building was decorated with the tier-roofed structures on the roof. A peacock statue was kept under the portico while a beautiful handicraft was decorated on the front wing of the main building.

#### Yangon University Library

Sir Harcourt Butler laid cornerstones for Yangon University Library in the eastern part of the Chancellor Road on 8 December 1927. The library came into operations in 1928. Rao Bahadur S Ramanatha Reddiar and wives donated K 200,000 to the fund of the library.

The two-storey library in L shape with 130 feet in length and 42 feet in width stores a large number of palm-leave inscriptions and folded papers. Names

#### Arts and Science Buildings

Two buildings were constructed on both sides of the Chancellor Road. The arts building is constructed in the western part of the road in 1928 and the science building in the eastern part in 1931.

The arts building comprised the arts hall, four three-storey lecture buildings, the administrative office and the library. The square shape three-storey main

building was decorated with hemisphere shape arches and circular shape concrete windows.

#### Yangon University Hospital

University Hospital is of importance in providing health care services to staff members and students including faculty members. University Hospital, south of current University Avenue, is located at No. 160 on University Avenue.

The building of the hospital was built by Myanmar architect U Tha Tun in 1927-1928. A one-storey brick building, 103 feet long

and 42 feet wide was extended in 1962. The 12-bed facility with 16 rooms was renamed Universities' Hospital in 1964.

The University Post Office and Gymnasium located at the junction of University Avenue and Thaton Road was built of colonial era works. The square shape post office roofed with brick tiles was 90 feet long, 32 feet wide and 13 feet high, installed with hemisphere arch shape windows. Now, it becomes Kamayut Post Office with postal code 11041.

The University Gymnasium and Open-air Theatre at the corner of Thaton Road was built with K100,000 contribution of Mr Chan Chaw Khaing. It remains colonial era works but it is not in use now. The building was 107 feet long, 42 feet wide and 16 feet high. The brick floor open-air theatre was



Pinya Hostel. PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)



Yangon University Library. PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)



ARCHAEOLOGY)



PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)

building was 971 feet long and 48.5 feet wide. The upstairs of the main building was installed with the hemisphere shape windows.

The E shape science building consisted of the science hall, five three-storey lecture buildings and offices. The science building was in architectural works in early

and 42 feet wide was extended in 1962. The 12-bed facility with 16 rooms was renamed Universities' Hospital in 1964.

#### University Post Office and Gymnasium

The University Post Office located at the junction of Univer-

built behind the gymnasium.

#### University Halls

As hostels for female and male students were built on the campus of Yangon University, Ava (Inwa), Pinya, Sagaing, Thaton and Bago halls were main hostels. The E shape three-storey halls were built in 1928. The halls with 196 feet in length, 82 feet in width and 36 feet in height comprised 148 rooms each.

Inya Hall and Thiri Hall were constructed on the campus of Yangon University in 1928 and Shwebo Hall and Dagon Hall in 1933-1934. All halls were painted in red colour with brick tiles. Two-storey wooden halls namely Pyay, Bagan and Tagaung and two-storey brick hall Nawade were built outside the campus.

Yangon University and Colonial Era Buildings concerning Myanmar education and educational history remain unchanged in their original styles of architectural works till today. In fact, preservation of these buildings means maintenance of Myanmar historical evidences.

Translated by Than Tun Aung  
Reference:  
Colonial era buildings in Yangon Region (Report)





## Popov selects U-22 players for 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games



Myanmar U-22 men's football team pose for a group photo before an international football match. **PHOTO:MFF**

HEAD coach of the Myanmar U-22 men's national football team Velizar Popov yesterday announced the final list of 22 players who will compete in the 30th South East Asian Games.

Two goalkeepers have been selected on the squad: Sann Satt Naing and Soe Arkar. Six defenders have been selected on the team — Ye Min Thu, Thu Rein Soe, Aung Wunna Soe, Ye Yint Aung, Soe Moe Kyaw, and Win Moe Kyaw.

The head coach has chosen 10 midfielders — Lwin Moe Aung, Nay Moe Naing, Zin Min

Tun, Myat Kaung Khant, Aung Naing Win, Kaung Htet Soe, Soe Lwin Lwin, Htet Phyto Wai, Hlaing Bo Bo and Si Thu Aung.

Aung Kaung Mann and Win Naing Tun will be the forward players on the team, while two players — goalkeeper Zin Nyi Nyi Aung and midfielder Hein Htet Aung — have been selected as reserves.

Speaking about the selection of players, head coach Popov said that he wasn't too happy about some key players Phone Thitsar Min, Zeyar Naing, Naing Htike Zaw, and Kyaw Thu Tun being left out

of the list due to injuries, but was hoping the best from the remaining players, including youth stars Win Naing Tun, Lwin Moe Aung, Htet Phyto Wai, and Win Moe Kyaw.

The head coach said that Si Thu Aung and Hlaing Bo Bo are senior players and he believed they would work well with the U-22 players.

Team Myanmar will leave for the Philippines for the men's football event of the SEA Games on 23 November, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

## India International Challenge 2019: Thet Htar Thuzar reaches semifinal

MYANMAR badminton icon Thet Htar Thuzar advanced to the semifinal of the India International Challenge 2019 by beating Thailand's Nuntakarn Aimsaard in the quarterfinal match, played yesterday at the Cricket Club of India in Mumbai.

In the crucial quarterfinal, Thet Htar Thuzar faced tough competition from Nuntakarn Aimsaard, but managed to win with a 2-1 result: 11-21, 21-18, and 21-17.

In the Round 2 match at the same venue yesterday morning,

before the quarterfinal, Thet Htar Thuzar beat India's Tanvi Lad with a decisive 2-0 result: 21-12 and 21-15.

Also, in the Round 1 match on 21 November, Thet Htar Thuzar had dominated over India's Ira Sharma to achieve a 2-1 win: 10-21, 21-9, and 21-10.

The Indian International Challenge 2019 is being sponsored by the INFOSYS Foundation. The tourney started on 20 November, and the final matches and the awarding ceremony will be held on 24 November.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Myanmar badminton star Thet Htar Thuzar. **PHOTO:THET HTAR THUZAR'S FACEBOOK PAGE**

## Zidane urges fans to back under-fire Bale

MADRIDE — Zinedine Zidane has urged Real Madrid fans to get behind Gareth Bale and insists he does not believe the Welshman is happier playing for his country than Real Madrid.

Madrid play Real Sociedad at the Santiago Bernabeu on Saturday, when Bale is likely to feel the frustration of the home supporters.

The 30-year-old sparked outrage in the Spanish press this week after he celebrated Wales' victory over Hungary on Monday with a flag from the crowd that read: "Wales. Golf. Madrid. In that order".

The slogan has been adopted

by Welsh fans after an interview given by former Madrid player Pedja Mijatovic to Cadena Ser

last month, in which he referred to those as Bale's priorities.

It has been interpreted in



Gareth Bale. **PHOTO:AFP**

Spain as a slight against Real Madrid, particularly after Bale played twice for Wales over the international break, having missed the last six matches for his club through injury. But, in a press conference on Friday, Zidane refused to criticise Bale. "When you look at what he has given to the club and the fans, that is what we are all here for: for the club.

"Gareth is one of the team and the fans have to be behind us, always. I will always be behind my players. Outside, things can happen but inside, we should only look at the football."

While on international duty, Bale admitted he feels more ex-

citement representing Wales, with teammates he has grown up with and who speak the same language. Asked if Bale is happier playing for his country than his club, Zidane said: "I don't think so, maybe it's better for him with the language, but he seemed happy when he scored in the Champions League final.

"It's just the language, he said it. Inside the dressing room here, he's good."

Zidane would not comment on whether Bale's celebrations were aimed at Real Madrid or the media's criticism of him for spending too much time playing golf.—AFP