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ASEAN, ROK hold commemorative summit to mark 30th anniversary of dialogue in Busan



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, second from left, poses for documentary photo together with Korean President Mr Moon Jae-in and other ASEAN leaders at the 2019 ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit in Busan, Republic of Korea. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit in Busan to mark the 30th anniversary of their dialogue relations, the opening ceremony of ASEAN-ROK Startup Summit and Innovation Showcase 2019, bilateral meeting of Myanmar and ROK and signing MoUs in fisheries, vocational trainings and environmental conservation sectors between the two

countries. The State Counsellor arrived at the Busan Exhibition and Convention Center at 9:15 am local time to attend the Summit. She was welcomed by President Mr Moon Jae-in and posed for documentary photos with the President, leaders of ASEAN member countries and heads of government ministries.

At the Summit, the State Counsellor made remarks on ASEAN-ROK collaborations in the

past 30 years and discussed future potentials to promote partner relations between the Southeast Asian bloc and the East Asian nation.

She also attended the opening ceremony of ASEAN-ROK Startup Summit and Innovation Showcase 2019, and opened it together with other leaders before they looked around recent renovations at the event.

The State Counsellor then enjoyed a luncheon of ASEAN-ROK

leaders at the Nurimaru APEC House in Busan to discuss matters related to stability and development of Korean peninsula.

She also attended bilateral meeting of Myanmar and ROK, held at the Westin Chosun Busan Hotel, where both sides discussed fostering relations, developments in implementing agreements made during the recent visit of President of ROK to Myanmar, promoting cooperation in the

sectors of culture, education, agriculture, fisheries, environmental conservation, infrastructure, rural development and people-to-people relations.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President Moon Jae-in witnessed signing MoUs for fishery sector, vocational training programmes and environmental conservation between Myanmar and the ROK.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves merger of two union ministries

THE Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 14th regular session held its eighth-day meeting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday where the Hluttaw approved the merger of Ministry of Industry and Ministry of Planning and Finance as Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry.

Hluttaw discuss report of Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the Constitution

The day's meeting started with Hluttaw representatives discussing a report of Joint Committee on scrutinizing the second bill amending the Constitution on a bill amending the Constitution for the second time signed and submitted by 144 Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives including Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Brig-Gen Maung Maung.

The report was discussed by U Tin Htwe of Waw constituency, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Captain Daw Thazin Hline, U Khin Maung Thi of Loilem constituency, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Thaug Htike Soe, U Soe Thein of Kayah State constituency 9, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Colonel Maung San, U Aung Myo Latt of Mandalay Region constituency 5, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Zin Myo Latt, U Maung Myint of Mingin constituency, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Captain Daw Than Than Win, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Colonel Myo Min Aung, U Khin Maung Myint of Yaksawk con-



Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe. PHOTO: MNA

stituency, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Captain Daw Win Thiri Swe, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Colonel Soe Moe Aung and U Zaw Hein of Taninthayi Region constituency 7.

Joint Committee on Scrutinizing Constitution amendment bill submit report

Following this secretary of Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the second bill amending the Constitution Dr Myat Nyana Soe read the committee report on the committee's findings and comments on a bill amending the Constitution for the second time signed and submitted by 145 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives including U Sai Than Naing of Kayin State constituency 5.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe said that in addition to this present bill, there were a total of five bills to amend the Constitution that were submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The committee found that the five bills were not to amend the entire 2008 Constitution but to amend certain provisions only.



Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win. PHOTO: MNA

A Joint Committee on Amending the 2018 Constitution made up of political party groups in the Hluttaw and independent Hluttaw representatives proportionately was formed with an assignment to draw up a bill amending the Constitution and submit to the Hluttaw.

Once this committee submits the bill, it would be appropriate for the Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the second bill amending the Constitution formed with all members of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw bill committees to study this bill together with the five bills. This was the finding and comments of the majority of the members of the Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the second bill amending the Constitution.

However, some Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the second bill amending the Constitution members Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye, Brig-Gen Maung Maung and Brig-Gen Tint Lwin suggested on separately discussing the bills in the Hluttaw.

After the report was read, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced for Hluttaw

representatives who want to discuss the matter to register their names.

Hluttaw explained about Myanmar acceding to ILO Convention C 138

Next, Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe explained to the Hluttaw about Myanmar acceding to International Labour

approval on the matter after Hluttaw voted 349 for, 222 against with two abstaining.

Myanmar to become member of WCO Revised Kyoto Convention

As a final agenda of the day U San Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3, U Myo Zaw Aung of Kawlin constituency and U Bo Gyi of Chauk consti-



MP U San Myint. PHOTO: MNA



MP U Tin Htwe. PHOTO: MNA

Organization (ILO) Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment C 138 sent by the President.

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

Hluttaw approves merger of two Union ministries

Afterwards Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win explained the merger of Ministry of Industry and Ministry of Planning and Finance as Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then announced the Hluttaw's

cy discussed and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win explained Myanmar becoming member of World Customs Organization (WCO) Revised Kyoto Convention sent by the President.

Following the discussion and explanation, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw's approval of the matter after the decision of the Hluttaw was obtained.

The ninth-day meeting of the 14th regular session of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is scheduled to be held on 28 November.—Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 61/2019

MEETING 61/2019 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, 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 representative and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

The Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution convenes at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw building in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA



ASEAN, ROK hold commemorative summit to mark 30th anniversary of dialogue in Busan



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit in Busan yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President of Korea Mr. Moon Jae-in hold the bilateral meeting between Myanmar and ROK at the Westin Chosun Busan Hotel yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi looks around the cultural exhibitions of Myanmar together with President Moon Jae-in and the First Lady Kim Jung-sook, leaders of ASEAN countries. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President Moon Jae-in witness the signing ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and RoK. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President Moon Jae-in witness the signing ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and RoK. **PHOTO: MNA**

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The State Counsellor then proceeded to the ASEAN Cultural House in Busan, and looked around the cultural exhibitions of Cambodia, Laos, Viet Nam, Thailand and

Myanmar, together with President Moon Jae-in and the First Lady Kim Jung-sook, leaders of ASEAN countries and heads of government ministries.

The State Counsellor attended a welcoming dinner

hosted by the ROK President and the First Lady to honour the leaders from Mekong region countries after posing for documentary photos together with the attendees.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

VP U Henry Van Thio addresses NWRC coord meeting 3/2019

VICE President U Henry Van Thio, who is the Chairman of the National Water Resources Committee (NWRC) attended and addressed the NWRC coordination meeting 3/2019 held at Ministry of Transport and Communications meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The meeting was attended by Union Ministers U Thant Sin Maung, U Ohn Win and U Win Khaing, Deputy Ministers U Tin Myint, U Kyaw Myo and U Soe Aung, NWRC members, Permanent Secretaries, directors general, advisory group members, experts and officials.

In addressing the meeting the Vice President said that after NWRC was formed coordination meetings were held to develop water and related sectors, effectively manage and use water resources, support effective and beneficial cooperation with international organizations and coordinating on future works and this was the eleventh such meeting.

Through the meetings, coordination works between water related ministerial departments and organizations, effective coordination in implementing the committee's work processes and resolution of water related problems were conducted.

Kayin, Mon and Taninthayi were the states and region where flooding and inundation occurred during 2018. Short, mid and long term programmes were observed to be drawn up and implemented by committees to mitigate flooding and inundation formed in these states and regions. In this monsoon season, Kayin, Mon and Taninthayi faced flooding and inundation again while a landslide occurred in Mon State's Paung Township. The Netherlands was contacted through bilateral joint coordinating committee for assistance on flooding and inundation and in mid-September the Disaster Risk Reduction Team consisting of experts from the Netherlands came and conducted a study in Kayin and Mon states where natural disasters occurred. A report will be sent by the study team and once this was received,



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the National Water Resources Committee (NWRC) coordination meeting 3/2019 at Ministry of Transport and Communications meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

it will be distributed to related State/Region governments and ministerial departments.

"Now that the rainy season is over, there's a likelihood of shortfalls in potable and irrigation waters, and ministerial departments and organizations

"Now that the rainy season is over, there's a likelihood of shortfalls in potable and irrigation waters, and ministerial departments and organizations are to cooperate with state and regional government departments to make preparations" ...

are to cooperate with state and regional government departments to make preparations". To mitigate the long term water shortfall problem, immediate short terms as well as long term solutions were to be drawn up, submitted and conducted. Coordination needs to be conducted to provide potable and irrigation water, generate electricity, mitigate flooding and inundation and to preserve the natural environment through dams and reservoirs.

Laws, rules, orders and

notices were made to prevent and mitigate contamination of water resources from extraction of natural resources. It was an important work for relevant ministerial departments and organizations to place great emphasis on ensuring that these

laws, rules, orders and notices were abided by. The momentum of annual monsoon tree planting work was to be increased yearly for greening regions and to preserve the natural environment.

The NWRC and water related ministerial departments and organizations were enthusiastically conducting works for water sector development and were participating in the best way in international and regional cooperation works.

The NWRC and water related ministerial departments and

organizations cooperating and working together with international and regional organizations for water sector development. The projects and studies conducted need to be truly effective and beneficial to our country and the majority of the people. Necessary coordination between related ministerial departments and organizations were to be conducted.

Massive amount of funds were used annually by the State for development in water as well as in all sectors and the effective usage of the funds need to be systematically managed according to laws, financial regulations, instructions and guidelines.

Emphasis must be placed toward drawing up in a timely manner the National Water Law that was interconnected to prevailing laws and rules. Requirements and coordination required between ministerial departments and organizations were to be discussed openly.

Committee members and representatives from ministerial departments and organizations were to discuss and suggest on conducting water related works, cooperating with international

organizations and coordinating with ministerial departments and organizations. Relevant ministerial departments and organizations were required to successfully implement an all-round water resource management system that was beneficial for the country and the people and to successfully implement the duty and responsibility and future work processes of the committee, said the Vice President.

Next, committee Vice Chairman Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung explained drawing up National Water Law, preparation status for overcoming water shortfall and maintenance of waterways.

Afterwards committee joint secretary Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems acting Director-General U Win Hlaing explained works conducted by the committee and implementation of decisions made at NWRC coordination meeting 2/2019.

The meeting came to a close with concluding remarks by the Vice President. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Mandalay to host alms-giving ceremony for 30,000 Myanmar, Thai monks

A CEREMONY offering donations to 30,000 Members of Sangha from Myanmar and Thailand will be held at former

Chanmyathazi Airport in Mandalay at 6 am on 8 December.

The former Chanmyathazi Airport where the ceremony

will take place is located between Theik Pan Road and Myawaddy Min Gyi Road in Chanmyathazi Township, Man-

dalay. Each Member of Sangha will be donated K 30,000, and any well-wisher can join the event and donate as they wish,

according to the committee on organizing the alms-giving ceremony. — Maung Lu Maw ■
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Third batch of electoral capacity enhancement training opens

THE third batch of the “Training to Enhance Electoral Capacity” for the 2020 General Election was held at the Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the opening of the three-day training, UEC Chairman U Hla Thein said it was the third batch of the training. The first batch with 104 trainees and the second batch with 93 have been successfully held.

The commission is working to ensure the 2020 General Election are conducted in accordance with the five norms of being free, fair, transparent, credible and reflecting the will of the people, he added.

The UEC Chairman then spoke about the needs of higher quality and capacity for the chairpersons and members of the sub-commissions and staff, so that they may perform their tasks better and in accordance with

laws, bylaws and regulations.

The course comprises of ten chapters that are important for the election process. While the compilation of the nationwide primary voters’ list is completed, ensuring it is always accurate and comprehensive requires updating the list regularly in accordance with its work procedures.

As there is only about a year remaining to hold the 2020 General Election, there are continuous tasks to be done. If the tasks are performed in a punctual manner, the whole process will be much smoother, said the chairman.

U Hla Thein also urged the trainees to systematically learn the lessons as it is a training of trainers course, and note their practical experiences and knowledge to later redeliver the lessons they learned without difficulties to the election sub-commissions and members of polling stations



Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein and trainees of the electoral capacity enhancement training pose for a documentary photo at the Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

in their local places.

Afterwards, Mr Manfred Berhard, the Programme Manager of International IDEA, delivered a few remarks. The first day of the course then commenced after commemorative photos had been taken. A total

of 98 trainees from the region/state, district and township level sub-commissions attended the first day of the training jointly organized by Union Election Commission (UEC) and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

(International IDEA).

Also present at the opening event were UEC members and officials from the UEC office, officials from the International IDEA. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor Press Statement

(15th Waning of Tazaungmon 1381 ME)
(26th November 2019)

The Government formed a Special Unit on International Criminal Justice

The Office of the President of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar formed a Special Unit on International Criminal Justice in order to strengthen internal capacity and expertise, and provide legal opinion to relevant Ministries on issues related to international criminal law.

The Special Unit will be led by the Union Attorney General’s Office and comprised of legal experts from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Union Attorney General’s Office and the Office of the Judge Advocate General, it is learnt.

U Aung Kyaw Moe appointed as Ambassador of Myanmar to People’s Republic of Bangladesh

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Aung Kyaw Moe, Minister of the Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Dhaka, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh.

Shan State Investment Forum 2019 held in Taunggyi, Shan State



Union Minister U Thaung Tun, government officials and foreign dignitaries pose for a documentary photo at the Shan State Investment Forum 2019 in Taunggyi. PHOTO: MNA

Shan State Investment Forum 2019 was held at the Royal Taunggyi Hotel in Taunggyi, Shan State on 26th November, 2019. It was organized by the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations (MIFER), the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) and the Shan State Investment Committee (SSIC) in cooperation with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) with the aim of promoting the agriculture sector.

The forum was attended Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC), U Thaung Tun, Chief Minister of Shan State Government Dr. Linn Htut, the Ambassador of Germany to Myanmar H.E Mr. Thomas Neisinger, Ministers of

Shan State Government, as well as departmental officials and representatives of embassies, international organizations, foreign investors, local businesses and the media.

A total of 92 foreign investors from China, Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States, Australia, Russia, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia and Cambodia joined the forum interested to invest in the Shan State. An exhibition was also organized together with the forum. Union Minister U Thaung Tun, Chief Minister Dr. Linn Htut and Ambassador Thomas Neisinger, opened the Investment Forum and delivered opening remarks.

In his keynote address, the Union Minister highlighted that Myanmar as an agricultural country considered the agri-

culture sector to be important to achieve sustainable development. He also stressed that agricultural growth was critical for inclusive development and for food security. He said that efforts were being made to raise agriculture productivity to ensure national growth. He stated that his conviction that the forum would enable many agro-businesses to thrive and flourish in the Shan State.

Following the opening session, a panel discussion on “Opportunities for Investing Agriculture in Shan State” was convened. A business matching session was held in the afternoon.

The participants of the forum are scheduled to tour the Ayethayar industrial zone and places of interest for potential investors. — MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Office of the President

Press Release 43/2019

14th Waning of Tazaungmon, 1381 ME
(25 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 23 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 Ma Kyi Pyar Tun (a) Pont Pont who lives in Lonkhin Village, Phakant Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 17 November 2019, police searched the house of Ma Kyi Pyar Tun (a) Pont Pont, 25, daughter of U Zaw Tun, who lives in Lonkhin Village, Phakant Township, and arrested her together with stimulant tablets and opium block. A case has been opened against her with NaMaSa (Lonkhin) MaYa(pa)73/2019 under Section 19(a) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Phu Myint who lives in Lonkhin Village, Phakant Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 18 November 2019, police searched the house of Phu Myint, 62, son of U Chaung Lin, who lives in Lonkhin Village, Phakant Township, and arrested him together with opium. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Lonkhin) MaYa(pa)74/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of Khaing Moe who lives in Innwaine Village, Phaungpyin Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 21 November 2019, police searched the house of Khaing Moe, 36, son of U Tin Shwe, who lives in Innwaine Village, Phaungpyin Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Phaungpyin) MaYa(pa)176/2019 under Section 19(a) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Daw Nwe who lives in Aungtheikdi Ward, Zigon Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 23 November 2019, police searched the house of Daw Nwe (a) Tin Nwe, 44, daughter of U Shwe, who lives in Aungtheikdi Ward, Zigon Township, and arrested her together with heroin. A case has been opened against her with NaMaSa (Zigon) MaYa(pa)8/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of Maung Naing Oo who lives in Migyaungchaung Village, Bokpyin Township, Taninthayi Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 22 November 2019, police searched the house of Maung Naing Oo, 25, son of U Pe Than, who lives in Migyaungchaung Village, Bokpyin Township, and arrested him together with speciosa powder. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Bokpyin) MaYa(pa)32/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of Daw Aye Aye Kyaing who lived in Ponnagon Ward, Tamway Township, Yangon Region, now lives in Patheinmyay Ward, Dawbon Township, Yangon, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	Police have opened a case and arrested a woman together with stimulant tablets in Tamway Township in the previous week. Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of Daw Aye Aye Kyaing, 52, daughter of U Maung Ko, who lives in No 5 Street, Patheinmyay Ward, Dawbon Township, and arrested her together with 'WY' stimulant tablets and ICE on 17 November 2019. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Dawbon) MaYa(pa)46/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7	Information received of Phoe Thar who lives in No 14 Ward, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 20 November 2019, police searched the house of Phoe Thar (a) Aung Myint Zaw, 20, son of U Thet Khaing, who lives in No 14 Ward, South Okkalapa Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Southokkalapa) MaYa(pa)33/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8	Information received of Daw Yi Yi Soe who lives in No 8 Ward, Hline Township, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 23 November 2019, police searched the house of Daw Yi Yi Soe, 41, daughter of U Myint Soe, who lives in No 8 Ward, Hline Township, and arrested her and her younger brother Hein Lin Aung, 29, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Hline) MaYa(pa)26/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9	Information received of Nay Htoo who lives in Nya Ward, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 23 November 2019, police searched the house of Nay Htoo (a) Htet Naung Lwin, 30, son of U Zaw Lwin, who lives in Nya Ward, North Okkalapa Township, and arrested him together with marijuana. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Weibergi) MaYa(pa)58/2019 under Section 16(c) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
10.	Information received of Ko Sai and Mi Mi Khaing who live in No 2 Ward, Laukkai Township, northern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 18 November 2019, police searched the shophouse of Ko Sai (a) Zin Ko Ko, 24, son of U Klaing Nu, and his wife Mi Mi Khaing, 28, daughter of U Than, who live in No 2 Ward, Laukkai Township, but they absconded from there. Police found Saw Pati (a) Saw Htee, 20, son of U Saw Saywar, and Kaung Win Lat (a) Kaung Myat, 20, son of U Myo Khin, who were hired to sell narcotic drug by Ko Sai (a) Zin Ko Ko. Police arrested them together with 'WY' stimulant tablets and heroin. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Laukkai) MaYa(pa)8/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police arrested Ma Moe Moe Ko, 24, daughter of U Win Hsaung, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets, heroin and ICE. She is also hired by Ko Sai (a) Zin Ko Ko to sell narcotic drug. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Laukkai) MaYa(pa)9/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
11.	Information received of Ma Ei Ei Mon who lives in Nyaungbintha Village, Mabein Township, northern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 19 November 2019, police searched the shophouse of Ma Ei Ei Mon, 31, daughter of U Than Gyaung, who lives in Nyaungbintha Village, Mabein Township, and arrested her together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Mabein) MaYa(pa)93/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

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12	Information received of Soe Naung who lives in Ywargyihtet 2 Village, Nyaungshwe Township, southern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 18 November 2019, police searched the house of Soe Naung, 50, son of U Tu, who lives in Ywargyihtet 2 Village, Nyaungshwe Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Nanpan) MaYa(pa)17/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
13	Information received of Bee Lin and Tin Naing Min who live in Ottatantar Ward, Yaksawk Township, southern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 23 November 2019, police searched the house of Bee Lin (a) Aung Naing Lin, 39, son of U Kyi Aung, who lives in Ottatantar Ward, Yaksawk Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Yaksawk) MaYa(pa)67/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of Tin Naing Min, 46, son of U Kyi Aung, who lives in the same ward, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. Acting on an interrogation, police found that he bought the drugs from Nay Ye Lin (a) Ko Ye, 24, son of U Ngway Thein, who lives in the same ward. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Yaksawk) MaYa(pa)68/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Police continue searched at the house of Nay Ye Lin (a) Ko Ye, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Yaksawk) MaYa(pa)69/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

- Out of the information sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department, so far a total of 865 cases have been opened files as of 23 November 2019. A total of 1320 people, including 1,106 men and 214 women had been arrested with 7,145.2294 g of heroin, 1,347.32 g of ICE, 39,999.61 g of opium, 389.92 g of low-quality opium, 53230.76 g of speciosa powder, 7,833.19 g of speciosa, 2.5 liters of liquid speciosa, 429,745 stimulant tablets, 8,406.52 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 520.28 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.
- 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

Book on gender equality for political parties launched



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein delivers the speech at the exclusive launching ceremony of the book on gender equality for political parties in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE exclusive launching ceremony of “The Guidelines for Political Parties in Myanmar on Gender Equality-A Shortcut to Development and Prosperity” was held at the Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Myanmar School of Politics (MySoP) organized the launching event, and officials from the commission office and Netherlands Embassy in Yangon, political parties and non-governmental organizations, and invited guests attended it.

Speaking at the event, Union Election Chairman U Hla Thein said that the fundamental principle of democracy “equality of every citizen” is being prioritized in democratic countries.

The rights to vote and to be voted are parts of the human rights that are eligible for all gender.

Regarding the wom-

en’s participation in the previous elections, the UEC Chairman said there were 127 women candidates in all 3,069 candidates in the 2010 general election, and the women’s candidates selected in Hluttaw was 1.4 per cent.

In 2015 General Election, the women’s candidacy reached to 800 in all 6,038 candidates and the women selected in Hluttaw 13 per cent, he added.

The UEC Chairman also urged political parties to promote the women’s participation in the general election.

Myanmar signed The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1997, and the UEC was implementing the electoral producers that are included in the CEDAW including the rights to vote and be elected to promote gender equality and women’s role.

Regarding the gender equality, the UEC assigned its duties to 26 per cent of women in regions/states level sub-commissions, 16 per cent in district level and 15 per cent in township level. The employment of women staff at the offices of the commissions and the sub-commissions reached to 58 per cent.

The UEC Chairman then urged political parties to emphasize women’s participation in submitting the lists of parliamentary candidates. The launched book would assist political parties in promoting gender equality, he added.

Afterwards, Ms Linda van der Horst, the Representative from Embassy of the Netherlands in Myanmar, and former Member of Indonesian Parliament, Ms. Eva Kusuma Sundari, made concluding remarks.

— MNA
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

E& E Ministry receives DCS computerized control systems, instruments

THE Ministry of Electricity and Energy has received the Distributed Control System (DCS) Plant Mod-



Deputy Minister Dr Tun Naing looks around the display of DSC Plant Model System at the handover ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

el and its components and equipment from the Yokogawa Electric Corporation in Japan, which is a partner of local-private company SMART Measurement and Control Co. Ltd, a joint venture company with the ministry.

The handover ceremony of the system and equipment was held at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Deputy Minister Dr Tun Naing expressed thanks for assistance, and

Deputy Managing Director Mr KoJi Koimatsu from the Yokogawa Engineering Asia Pte. Ltd, and Chief Representative Officer Mr Niwat Weeragul from the Yokogawa (Thailand) Ltd explained donation programmes for effective use of knowledge and technologies in industrial automation.

Director General U Than Zaw from the Oil and Gas Planning Department received the documents o donation items presented

by Managing Director Mr Prechai Trannitad from the Yokogawa (Thailand) Ltd.

Then, Deputy Minister Dr Tun Naing and U Khin Maung Win, and officials looked around the display of DSC Plant Model System and its components and instruments.

The amount of assistance is valued at US\$ 150,000 that covers DCS system, its components, equipment and training programmes.

The DCS is a simulation process plant operated by a computerized control system which includes complete range of flowmeters, pressure transmitters, differential pressure transmitters, temperature transmitters, level transmitters and process analyzers which are used in the plants of oil, natural gas, chemicals, paper productions, electricity, steel and industries.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Preserving handicrafts, creating jobs through innovation

A NUMBER of tangible and intangible arts from the 11th century are still being preserved in Myanmar. At present, Myanmar's arts and crafts industry is under threat due to shortage of skilled labor and a drop in demand from home and abroad.

Before 2010, Myanmar lacquerware were produced in abundance, and they had a place in the international market. But in recent years, there has been a significant decline in the export volume of lacquerware. In addition, there has been a rise in lower-priced, fake lacquerware entering Myanmar, which can have a negative impact on the local lacquerware market. Bagan lacquerware products have not been able to enter the international market due to lack of stable demand.

... lifting or waiving the tax imposed on small-scale businesses, working with less than 10 workers, should be considered as one of the options to speed up the efforts as the handicrafts market has been cooling and the burden of taxation has increased.

tax imposed on small-scale businesses, working with less than 10 workers, should be considered as one of the options to speed up the efforts as the handicrafts market has been cooling and the burden of taxation has increased.

At the same time, the organizations concerned need to review the strengths and weaknesses of Myanmar arts and crafts. We need to promote hand-made products, use innovation to produce souvenirs to household utensils, and improve packaging to meet international standards.

Myanmar's bamboo forests, which are the main source of raw materials for hand-made products, are the largest in the world, after China and India.

Holding workshops and conferences and participating in international fairs would help gain market share.

It is a certainty that demand from local and foreign markets would revive production of hand-made goods and create jobs for the people.

While our neighbors have made significant headways in the industry for hand-made products, we need to make efforts to penetrate the international market.

international market due to lack of stable demand.

Likewise, handicrafts made of rattan and bamboo are only being sold in the local market. The industry is facing difficulties when it comes to manufacturing high-end products and penetrating international markets.

Efforts are being made to develop the handicraft industry under a four-year project (from 2018 to 2022) with the aim of drumming up global demand.

In accordance with the basic principle of the small and medium enterprises promotion law, the Union Government is working on establishing the Myanmar Arts and Craft Centre, as part of efforts to find an export market for Myanmar arts and crafts.

In connection with this, lifting or waiving the tax imposed on small-scale businesses, working with less than 10 workers, should be considered as one of the options to speed up the efforts as the handicrafts market has been cooling and the burden of taxation has increased.

Hailing Writers Day

The Pen is mightier than the Sword

By Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaha, Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt



Vice President U Myint Swe and party pose for a documentary photo together with winners at a ceremony to present Lifelong National Literary Award, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award on 8 December, 2018. PHOTO: MNA

TWO great events take place without fail in Myanmar in the month of Nattaw corresponding roughly to December. The first event is the Festivals of Nat-spirits whom Myanmar ethnic peoples believe and propitiate in spite of their religious Buddhism, Hindu Bramahis, Islam and Christianity of all denomination. The word Nattaw itself denotes Nat worship Derived from Pali word Nahta meaning "resplendent beings worthy of worship. So the month is named Nattaw the month of Nat worship festivals. There are 37 Nats in the Myanmar State recognized Pantheon.

Since the 1st Waxing moon of Nattaw month is The Writers' Day celebrated across the country this Day should be heightened first. Though 1st waxing moon of Nattaw was officially celebrated during the Japanese occupation of Myanmar during the Second World War [1941-45].

It has long historical background "The pen is mightier than the sword" [စာပေသည် စစ်ဦးစီးထက် ကောင်းစေတိုက်၏] in Myanmar history both the pen and the sword are mighty in the defence of the country, educational and international progress of the

people, enlarging of their horizons and awakening of their Patriotism. Throughout Myanmar history till today the brain [The pen] and the brown [the sword works to gather Monastic schools were training places for the pen and sword. Kings, Generals, Ministers, Soldiers even ordinary farmers are trained to possess both brain and brown. It was the traditional practices of honouring outstanding pens and swords by the King. Known as Hpyin Htat Pwe [ဖျင်ထပ်ပွဲ] held at the court was the honouring of the outstanding writers and soldiers. Cloth pieces woven with Myanmar fine cotton [white or brown red colour-ဝင်ဖြူ၊ ဝင်နီ] were major items in the royal

Writers and Soldiers Nawade [နဝဒေး] was the highest. Head dress of gold, studded with rubies and letter "Nawade" on the plate were put on the heads of the awardees by Their Majesties at the grand ceremony at the palace in the month of Nattaw. The recipients took the oath of allegiance to the King, the State and Buddhism that they would continue their service to the end of their lives. In Myanmar literary history there were only two "Nawade" awardees Nawade I and Nawade II. There mentioned 3 Nawade awardees who did not get that titles from the King Nawade I and Nawade II were not only outstanding in their literary achievements but also in

Among many honorary titles bestowed upon distinguished Writers and Soldiers Nawade [နဝဒေး] was the highest.

awards in addition to land, cash, jewellery and title. That event took place at the court in early part of Nattaw month.

Among many honorary titles bestowed upon distinguished

headed by Dr. Ba Maw, the Adipati [Head] of State organized a committee of distinguished writers, Professors and historians to choose Writers Day. The committee after research, of Myanmar history, literature and court archives decided to choose 1st Waxing moon of Nattaw as the Writers' Day [စာဆိုတော်များနေ့] Hphin Htat Pwe of Myanmar kings held in Nattaw.

Without fail we have been celebrating this day by the Myanmar Government regardless of civil or military. In addition the Writer's and Journalists' Associations were organized central to the township levels for literary activities. Under the auspices of the Ministry of Informal Pujas and Honour Ceremony is held at the municipal Town hall of Yangon. Veteran and distinguished writers and Journalists are invited to receive cash, kind and honour by ministers and well wishes.

Then follow literary talks, discussion and seminars across the country. Which Myanmar public of all generations including monks attend and participate. The Ministry of Information holds literacy competitions and literary award in different gen-

res and categories prose, verse, drama, translation. Published books of the year, manuscripts unpublished literary works of the year and belle letters of new gen-

have special pages for these literary activities. All TV channels have special programmes for Writer's Day and literary talks. Besides, there are pro-

The most outstanding award is the live-long achievement literary award. တာဝန်တာဝာစာပေဆု highest honour conferred upon outstanding writers of long life.

eration are selected for literary award by various committees.

The most outstanding award is the live-long achievement literary award. တာဝန်တာဝာစာပေဆု highest honour conferred upon outstanding writers of long life. Non-governmental literary foundations also give literary awards. Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award, Htun Foundation Literary Award, Saya Wun Tin Shwe literary Award and Dr. Tin Htun O's Thuta Swezone Literary Award. So the month Nattaw is the month of literary activities all mass media never fail to carry these literary activities. Dailies, Weeklies, Monthlies and Yearlies

grammes of exchange visits of writers with foreign countries - ASEAN member States, East Asia members States, UNESCO, Universities of US, UK, EU, India, China, Japan, South Korea and Australia etc. Myanmar may be economically and technically late in advance but thanks to its monastic education and the above mentioned literary activities, Myanmar is among the top ten of literate countries.

To educate, to inform and to entertain are the three aims of not only Myanmar media but also these of Myanmar Writers. Pujas and Best wishes to all pens and swords.

U Myo Thant Pe presents Credentials to President of the People's Republic of China

U Myo Thant Pe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the People's Republic of China, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, on 22 November 2019 in Beijing.—MNA

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Ly Quoc Tuan as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in succession to Ms Luan Thuy Duong.

Mr Ly Quoc Tuan was born on 12 March 1962 in Ha Nam Province, Viet Nam.

Mr Ly Quoc Tuan obtained Master of International Relations. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in 1985. He has served in various capacities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam and Vietnamese Embassies in Washington, D.C and Prague. Currently, he is serving as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Viet Nam to the Philippines.

Mr Ly Quoc Tuan is married with two children.—MNA

ရတနာတော်တို့သည် သောကြာနေ့ညတွင် ဖြန့်ဖြူးပေးခြင်းဖြင့် သူတို့၏ စိတ်နှလုံးကို အထူးအထူး ဖြည့်စွက်ပေးခြင်းဖြစ်ပြီး ဖြည့်စွက်ပေးခြင်းဖြစ်ပြီး ဖြည့်စွက်ပေးခြင်းဖြစ်ပြီး

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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

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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.

MR vaccines to be administered to over 307,000 children under 5 in Magway

OVER 2,000 healthcare personnel will administer measles and rubella (MR) vaccinations to over 307,000 children under the age of five from 26 to 28 November in Magway Region, according to the regional Public Health Department.

Although the vaccination was given across the country in 2015, only 85 out of 100 children developed resistance to MR. The vaccination is aimed at further reducing the number of fatalities among children under five years old in the country, and eradicating congenital rubella as well as measles and rubella by 2023.

"Under the regular vaccination programme, the vaccines are given to children aged nine months to one and a half years. Those children who missed the vaccination the first time can also receive it under this programme,"



A nurse gives a vaccine shot to a child at Public Health Department in Magway Region. **PHOTO: ZAYYAR TU (MAGWAY)**

said Dr Khin Maung Than, Assistant Director of the Magway Public Health Department.

"The vaccination programme cannot be handled by the health department alone. So, we need greater cooperation

from other related departments, health staff, INGOs, NGOs, and other social organizations," said Dr Aung Moe Nyo, Chief Minister of Magway Region.

Preparations have been made for the vaccination pro-

gram for some months, with the assistance of experts. The health department has also conducted a survey ahead of the vaccination drive. —Zayyar Tu (Magway)

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Travellers from Thailand visit Myanmar by crossing the Myawady-Mae Sot border gate. **PHOTO: HTEIN LIN AUNG (IPRD)**

International visitors enter Myanmar by car via Myawady-Mae Sot gate

FIFTEEN Thai visitors arrived in Myanmar through the Myawady-Maesot border gate on 25 November on two cars and 11 motorbikes. They plan to visit Myawady, Toungoo, Bagan, Haka, Tamu, Gangaw, Magway, and Kyaiktiyo, and will leave for Mae Sot in Thailand on 2 December.

The trip for the group has been arranged by Honey and Happy Co. Ltd under the su-

pervision of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Under the cross-border agreement on tourism cooperation between Myanmar and Thailand, Thai and third country visitors have been allowed to enter Myanmar through the border checkpoints on visas since 28 August, 2013. —Htein Lin Aung (IPRD)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Truck loaded with rice overturns on Minbu-An Road

A SIX-WHEELED truck loaded with rice bags turned over on the Minbu-An Road in Ngaphe Township of Magway Region on 25 November, leaving two persons dead, according to a report.

The mishap occurred around 8:30 pm at milepost 52/3 on the Minbu-An road near Gotegy Village. The truck was being driven by U Ngwe Naing, 45, and had a truck driver helper on board, identified as Ko Zaw Min Htwe, 25. The truck reportedly veered off the road due to a brake failure. The driver help-

er died on the spot, while the driver, who sustained serious injuries, died in the hospital.

The Township Police, the village administrator, and officials from the related departments rushed to the accident spot. The total loss due to the mishap has been estimated at about K5 million.

The Township Police have registered a case against the driver under Section 304/A of the Penal Code. —Zayyar Tu (Magway)

(Translated by La Wonn)



The truck being seen after turning over on the Minbu-An Road in Ngaphe Township, Magway Region. **PHOTO: ZAYYAR TU (MAGWAY)**

Over 500 fuel stations inspected in previous fiscal; action taken against 67

By Nyein Nyein

OVER 500 fuel filling stations were inspected in the previous financial year, and action was taken against 67 under the Petroleum and Petroleum Product Law for dispensing oil of low quality and for inaccuracies in fuel measurement, according to the Ministry of Electricity and Energy.

The ministry has been conducting surprise checks with the use of six mobile fuel labs in Yangon and Mandalay regions and Nay Pyi Taw. In addition, the supervisory sub-committee on petroleum and petroleum product business activities has been carrying out surprise inspections in the regions and states without mobile fuel lab vehicles. After inspections, they



An employee at a fuel station fills a vehicle with petrol. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

are taking fuel oil samples and sending them to the respective lab. If fuel stations are found

acting unscrupulously, action is being taken against them under the law.

On 22 November, a team led by Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy, Dr Tun Naing, and

officials of the sub-committee inspected 360 PETRO, MAX, and Myat Myittar Mon filling stations to check the quality and measurement of fuel oil using mobile fuel lab vehicles.

The lab results have been posted on the official website of the ministry and the Facebook pages of the stations to earn public trust, said Dr. Tun Naing. He also urged inspection teams to check fuel oil quality as per the prescribed norms.

The filling stations have to take fire prevention measures and they need to strictly adhere to the Petroleum and Petroleum Product Law, he added.

As of end-November, there were 2,643 licensed private stations across the country. Yangon Region has 186 stations.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Higher exports drag down trade deficit to nearly \$20 mln

A RISE in exports helped narrow Myanmar's trade deficit to US\$19.98 million between 1 October and 15 November in the current financial year, a significant drop from a trade gap of \$569.95 million registered in the corresponding period of the 2018-2019FY, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce.

During the last one and a half months, Myanmar's external trade soared to \$4.598 billion from \$4 billion recorded in the same period of the previous FY.

While exports were estimated at \$2.289 billion, imports were valued at \$2.309 billion.

Compared to the previous fiscal, exports increased by \$568.9 million, while imports rose slightly by \$18.9 million.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, animal products, minerals, forest products, and finished industrial goods, while it imports capital goods, intermediate goods, CMP raw materials, and consumer goods.

The country's export sector relies more on the agriculture and manufacturing sectors. While export earnings from the CMP (cut, make, and pack) garment businesses are rising, the country's reliance on natural

resources, such as natural gas and jade, is lessening.

The government is trying to cut the trade deficit by screening luxury import items and boosting exports.

Myanmar's trade deficit was pegged at \$1.14 billion in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, \$1.3 billion in the 2018 mini-budget period, \$3.9 billion in the 2017-2018FY, \$5.3 billion in the 2016-2017FY, and \$5.4 billion in the 2015-2016FY, according to statistics released by the Central Statistical Organization.—Mon Mon

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Regional trade exceeded \$11 bln in previous fiscal: Ministry of Commerce

THE value of Myanmar's regional trade with ASEAN countries through the sea route and border gates was estimated at US\$11.17 billion in the 2018-2019 financial year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The ministry reported that imports surpassed exports in regional trade, with exports reaching \$4.08 billion and imports valued at \$7.09 billion.

Since April, Thailand has been Myanmar's largest trade partner in ASEAN, with trade valued at \$5.4 billion, followed

by Singapore (\$3.48 billion), Indonesia (\$1.04 billion), and Malaysia (\$1 billion). Viet Nam has emerged as the nation's fifth largest trade partner, with bilateral trade estimated at \$852.2 million.

Meanwhile, Myanmar's bilateral trade with the Philippines was \$184.728 million, Cambodia \$15.116 million, and Laos \$1.7 million, while trade with Brunei stood below a million dollars.

Myanmar's main export items include agricultural and fishery products, as well

as minerals, while imports include food and beverages, electronic tools, motor vehicles, and consumer goods.

Apart from its main trade partner China, with which bilateral trade touched \$11.36 billion, Myanmar mostly conducted external trade with regional trade partners. Trade with countries in the European Union, however, remained uncompetitive, compared with regional trade partners.—GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman receives Transparency International Director

ANTI-CORRUPTION Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi received a delegation led by Director of Transparency International-Czech Republic Mr David Ondracka at Mingalar Thiri Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on the good practices and experiences of combating corruptions in other countries, taking back the properties gained after being involved in corruption, legislative infrastructures,



Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi, Director of Transparency International-Czech Republic Mr David Ondracka and officials pose for a photo at the meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

educating, combating lateral cooperation and assisting between the two organizations. Af-

terwards, the meeting over Corruption Perception Index-CPI was held at 3:00pm in which IT expert Mr David Ondrej Cakl explained the basic data of calculating the CPI and discussed the queries raised by attendees. Also present at the meeting were secretary and members of the commission, staff from the commission office, and high-ranking officials from the related union ministries. —MNA
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye attends Mine-Free World Conference in Norway



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye attends the opening ceremony of the Fourth Review Conference on Mine-Free World at Oslo in Norway on 25 November. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Social Welfares, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye attended the opening ceremony of the Fourth Review Conference on Mine-Free World held at Oslo in Norway on 25 November.

The opening ceremony was also attended by over 160 dignitaries, including incumbent President of Mine-Free Convention and Crown Prince of Norway Mr Haakon Magnus, senior officials from the signatory countries and heads of INGOs such as ICRC and UNICEF.

Representatives from 164 signatory countries in the convention and observer countries attend the conference which is aimed to foster measures on eradication of death and disabilities caused by landmines and to review and share experiences on mine clearance for the resettlement programmes.

Myanmar is an observer country in the convention, and the Union Minister attended the conference for the first time to inform international community about mine clearance efforts in Myanmar.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister called on Norwegian Foreign Affairs Minister Ms Ine Eriksen Søreide.

During the meeting, Dr Win Myat Aye expressed thanks for assistance of Norway in democratic transition process of Myanmar for many years and constructive approach of Norway to Myanmar for the mine free convention.

He also explained resettlement of internally displaced persons and national strategic plan for closure of IDP camps, resettlement programmes, importance of mine clearance works, latest situations in Rakhine State, cooperation with

ASEAN, UN agencies and international organizations, the works of UEHRD, implementation of recommendations on Rakhine State issue and preparations of Myanmar for defending at the International Court of Justice.

The Norwegian For-

eign Affairs Minister also agreed to further cooperation in democratic reforms of Myanmar, development programmes and mine clearance works of the country.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR SOLO VOY. NO. (874N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR SOLO VOY. NO. (874N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-11-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE PROCUREMENT OF WORKS

REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT
UNDER THE MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION
FLERP – FLOOD AND LANDSLIDE EMERGENCY RECOVERY PROJECT
Credit No.:5889-MM

Contract Title: SAN KIN – KALOT THAU ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS BY USING CONCRETE PAVEMENT (6.065km) – DANUPHYU TOWNSHIP, AYEYARWADY REGION
Reference No. : C2-W01-3-01 LOT 1

Contract Title: RURAL ROAD REHABILITATION IN AYEYARWADY REGION: CONSTRUCTION OF MULTICELL BOX CULVERTS AND BRIDGES ON SAN KIN TO KALOT THAU ROAD AND SHANZU CHAUNG TO HLE ZEIK ROAD
Reference No. : C2-W01-3-01 LOT 2

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of the Flood and Landslide Emergency Recovery Project (FLERP). The Department of Rural Road Development (DRRD) under the Ministry of Construction, in its role as Implementing Agency of Component 2 of the FLERP, intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract(s) for the procurement of Road Works.

The Department of Rural Roads Development (DRRD) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the following road works in the Ayeeyarwady Region:

C2-W01-3-01 LOT 1:

SAN KIN – KALOT THAU ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS BY USING CONCRETE PAVEMENT (6.065km) – DANUPHYU TOWNSHIP, AYEYARWADY REGION

C2-W01-3-01 LOT 2:

RURAL ROAD REHABILITATION IN AYEYARWADY REGION: CONSTRUCTION OF MULTICELL BOX CULVERTS AND BRIDGES

60 M BRIDGE AT CHAINAGE 4+900 AT PA KON BRIDGE ON SAN KIN TO KALOT THAU ROAD, 30 M BRIDGE AT CHAINAGE 1+900 AT THAN LWIN BRIDGE ON SAN KIN TO KALOT THAU ROAD, 12.5 M MULTICELL BOX CULVERT AT CHAINAGE 1+200 AT KALAW DAIN BRIDGE ON SAN KIN TO KALOT THAU ROAD and 39.0 M BRIDGE AT CHAINAGE 7+025 KYONE KA DWIN RIVER ON SHANZU CHAUNG ZAU TO HLE ZEIK ROAD

The works are scheduled to start on March 2020 with an estimated maximum duration of 365 days.

Bids will be evaluated bid by bid, taking into account discounts offered, if any, for combined bids. The contract(s) will be awarded to the Bidder or Bidders offering the lowest evaluated cost to the Employer for each individual or combined bids, subject to the selected Bidder(s) meeting the required qualification criteria for each lot or a combination of bids as the case may be.

Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in "the World Bank's Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers dated January 2011 and revised in July 2014" (the Procurement Guidelines), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Department of Rural Roads Development (DRRD), Ms. Tin Moe Myint, DRRD Deputy Director General, (flerproject.drrd@gmail.com) and inspect the bidding documents during office hours Monday to Friday from 10.00 to 16.00 Hrs at the address given below.

A complete set of electronic bidding documents in English Language may be obtained free of charge by interested eligible bidders by simple e-mail request to the address below. No printed bidding documents will be made available or sent by DRRD.

Interested Bidders that obtained the bidding documents will be invited to attend a Pre-Bid Meeting including an Information Session on the Bidding Documents and Templates on Friday 13 December 2019 1:00 pm.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before Tuesday 14 January 2020 10:00 am Myanmar time. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below on Tuesday 14 January 2020 immediately after the bid submission.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security or a Cash Deposit with a reputable Bank in Myanmar, licensed by and under the supervision of the Central Bank of Myanmar for this activity.

The address referred to above is:

Department of Rural Road Development (DRRD)
Attn: Daw Tin Moe Myint, Deputy Director General
Yanaung (2) Quarter, North of (200) Bedded Hospital, Pyinmana
Nay Pyi Taw, Republic of the Union of Myanmar
For Detailed information please contact:
Ms. Tin Moe Myint +95(0) 24821 (office telephone)
+95(0) 24762 (office fax)
e-mail: flerproject.drrd@gmail.com

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Union Minister for Border Affairs inspects regional development works in Mon State



Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung inspects the development works conducted in Mon State. PHOTO: MNA

ON the afternoon of 25 November, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung accompanied by Mon State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col. Nay Htut Oo inspected regional development

works in Mon State.

Yesterday morning at Mon State Development Affairs Office, the Union Minister was explained by Mon State Development Affairs Director about regional development works

conducted and the Union Minister later inspected road construction work sites.

From Financial Year 2016-2017 to Financial Year 2019-2020, the Ministry of Border Affairs had conducted basic infrastructure works of constructing roads and bridges, water supply works, education, housing construction and energy works with Union government fund K15.052 billion. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

IOM hands over action plan books on disaster management in Rakhine

THE International Organization for Migration (IOM) presented the action plan books on natural disaster management and emergency response in Rakhine State at the office of State General Administration Department in Sittway yesterday morning.

At the ceremony Dr. Chan Thar, the Minister for Social Affairs in Rakhine State, made an opening remark, followed by an explanation of Mr Konrad Clos, the programme manager of IOM, about the programme, and its official discussed disaster reduction plans in Rakhine State.

U Kyaw Min, the Director of Rakhine State Disaster Management Department, said, "The action plans will be useful in responding to natural disasters as the plans were adopted to cover the whole

State." The action plan books were written under the guidelines of Rakhine State government and the Rakhine State Disaster Management Department, with the collaboration of IOM, beginning September 2019. The plans were developed by learning the incidents of 1967 and 1968 Sittway Cyclone, 2010 Cyclone Giri and 2015 Cyclone Komen.

The action plans are aimed to reduce the risks of natural disaster that could hinder sustainable development programmes, to implement disaster reduction plans, to estimate possible losses in the natural disasters and to consider disaster reduction plans in drawing township development programmes.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Minister for Social Affairs in Rakhine State Dr Chan Thar delivers the opening speech at the ceremony in Sittway, Rakhine State yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Gemstone mining training course opens in Nay Pyi Taw

THE opening ceremony for the Attachment Training on Gemstone Mining Experience was held at Nawarat hall of Shwekyarpin Gems Trading and Training Center, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Ye Myint Swe, Permanent Secretary, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Directors-General, Deputy Directors-General, the Chairman of Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association, invited representatives from ASEAN countries, officials and trainees.

Firstly, Deputy Minister Dr Ye Myint Swe delivered a speech.

Myanmar hosted the gem training course under the ASEAN minerals cooperation action plan

and the trainees will conduct a field study about the processes behind mining jade and other gems from November 26 to 18 in Nay Pyi Taw, and from November 29 to December 1 in Mogok, Mandalay.

The training course aims towards sharing

knowledge natural resources and business developments of mining to ASEAN countries, which includes Myanmar, and to share the experiences about extracting gems and jewels. —MNA

(Translated by Ba Htoo)



Deputy Minister Dr Ye Myint Swe observes the processes of examining jade at the gem training course. PHOTO: MNA

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THE URBAN and Housing Development Department-UHDD of Ministry of Construction and the Korea Land and Housing Corporation-LH Corporation signed an Memorandum of Understanding-MoU on building KMIC Industrial Complex in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region. PHOTO: MNA

South Korean enterprises make inroads into Myanmar

By Kyaw Htike Soe

THE Republic of Korea has injected around US\$ 150 million worth investment into Myanmar for construction of two industrial projects in Yangon and Bago Regions this fiscal year, according to a source from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) under the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations. The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) had already given the green light for the establishment of the two industrial zones in Yangon and Bago Regions.

An industrial zone is being set up on 203.6 acres of land in Nyaung Inn Village-tract in Bago Region with an investment volume valued at US\$ 28 million from the Republic of Korea and construction of the project is expected to take three years, according to a senior official from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations. The Urban and Housing Development Department (UHDD) under

စီးပွားရေးဇုန်၊ ကုန်တိုက်များနှင့် အဝေးပြေးယာဉ်ရပ်နားစခန်း (Commercial Zone, Super Market and Rest Camp)
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(122 Acre)

PHOTO: UHDD

the Ministry of Construction of Myanmar and the Korea Land and Housing Corporation from the Republic of Korea sealed a deal to jointly establish an industrial complex in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region on 7 August this year. Under the agreement, an industrial zone named “the Korea-Myanmar Industrial Complex” will be established on 556 acres of land in NyaungHna Bin Village, Hlegu Township at an estimated cost of about US\$ 120 million.

The MIC approved the pro-

ject early this year as a 60/40 partnership between Myanmar and South Korea and the industrial park will be developed in two phases with the first starting from 2019 to 2021 and the second phase from 2022 to 2024, said U Aung Naing Oo, Permanent Secretary of the ministry. The industrial complex is designed to include SMEs, heavy industry and a vocational training school and will support the development of industrial, export and human resource sectors in Myanmar.

ing (MoU) with a consortium from Hong Kong and Taiwan to build a US\$ 500-million industrial zone on 2,200 acres of land in Htantabin Township. Construction of the project started in September this year and is expected to create around 100,000 job prospects. Another South Korean company, GS Engineering and Construction has started building a 4.3-kilometre river crossing bridge connecting downtown Yangon and Dala Township. The estimated cost of the

billion loan to Myanmar.

The two countries also agreed to promote cooperation on trade, technology, infrastructure and rural development.

Currently, over 200 South Korean companies including multinational conglomerate Lotte Group are operating in Myanmar. South Korea was the sixth largest foreign investor in Myanmar with most investment from the East Asian country came to oil and gas, infrastructure, retail, and real

Tourism Authority of Thailand and Visa Myanmar form partnership to promote travel to Thailand

THE Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) and Visa, the world’s leader in digital payments, announced, last week, a partnership to promote tourism between Thailand and Myanmar through “B500 for You” campaign.

The campaign is aimed at encouraging more Myanmar tourists to experience the benefits digital payments when travelling to Thailand until December 2019.

Ms. Lillian Wang, Country Manager for Visa Myanmar said: “Visa is thrilled to be working in partnership with TAT to offer this promotion to Myanmar travelers and leverage this platform to promote Visa’s breath of acceptance, security and the convenience of digital payments.”

According to Visa’s Global Travel Intentions Study, which examines international travel trends and behavior of 17,500 global travellers from 27 countries around the world, cash is the most preferred payment method for global travellers (52 per cent) when making purchases at their destination. Cards, including credit, international debit, charge and prepaid, are the second most preferred method (39 per cent), followed by digital wallets (9 per cent).

Mr. Kulpramote Wannalart, Director, ASEAN, South Asia &

South Pacific Market Division, Tourism Authority of Thailand said: “We are excited to have Visa as our partner to bring more tourists into the country. Tourism is one of Thailand’s key growth engines for economic growth, development and cultural understanding. By working with one of the world’s leading brands, this will bring substantial opportunities to both countries.”

Thailand is ranked among one of the most popular international destinations for travellers from Myanmar. Other top destinations included Indonesia, China, Singapore and South Korea.

“We hope the partnership will be the first step towards encouraging higher exchange of tourists between the two neighboring countries. Ultimately, we hope to leverage the partnership to bring more international tourists into Myanmar.

We believe tourism provides a gateway to economic progress by helping to stimulate consumption, promote job creation, and accelerate infrastructure development. Together with increased adoption of reliable and secure digital payments, every traveler who uses a card to pay or buy goods and services is exponentially contributing to this growth,” concluded Lillian.

—GNLM ■■■



Eco Green City Project. PHOTO: MNA

ject early this year as a 60/40 partnership between Myanmar and South Korea and the industrial park will be developed in two phases with the first starting from 2019 to 2021 and the second phase from 2022 to 2024, said U Aung Naing Oo, Permanent Secretary of the ministry. The industrial complex is designed to include SMEs, heavy industry and a vocational training school and will support the development of industrial, export and human resource sectors in Myanmar.

Many South Korean companies are expected to make investments in the industrial complex which will create 50,000 to 100,000 job opportunities for local people and generate US\$ 10 million in taxes annually.

In addition, the Yangon regional government signed a Memorandum of Understand-

project is more than US\$ 150 million.

The bridge is slated for completion by 2022, and will significantly reduce the travel time for residents of Dala to Yangon.

In addition, HUBS MK Co Ltd from the Republic of Korea and the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization inked a deal for construction of a US\$ 98 million international-standard logistics hub at Shwe Lin Ban Industrial Zone in Hline-thayar Township, Yangon Region in 2018. The two governments also sealed a deal to conduct feasibility study for the development of the Dala Satellite City Project.

Myanmar and South Korea inked the number of deals on economic and infrastructure development during President Moon Jae-in’s visit to Myanmar in September this year, including an agreement for a US\$ 1

estate sectors. South Korea has pumped US\$ 3.9 billion worth of investments into 177 projects in the real estate, agriculture, manufacturing, infrastructure, logistics, and construction sectors in Myanmar, accounting for 4.86 per cent of total foreign direct investments in the Southeast Asian country.

Bilateral trade between Myanmar and South Korea amounted to nearly US\$ 800 million in the financial year 2018-2019.

Bilateral trade between Myanmar and the East Asian country reached 2017- US\$ 866 million in the fiscal year 2016-17, US\$ 657 million in 2015-2016 FY, US\$ 862 million in 2014-2015 FY, US\$ 1.57 billion in 2013-2014 FY, US\$ 623 million in 2012-2013 FY, and US\$ 667 million in 2011-2012 FY, according to the statistics from the DICA.

■■■

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2019 Syed Modi International: ThetHtarThuzar to play against South Korean Sim Y-j

MYANMAR badminton star ThetHtarThuzar will play against South Korean player Sim Y-j in the First Round of the 2019 Syed Modi International at the BabuBanarasi Das Indoor Stadium, Lucknow in India today (around 1pm Myanmar Standard Time), according to her official social

media page.

The 2019 Syed Modi International Badminton Championships is a badminton tournament that is taking place at the BabuBanarasi Das Indoor Stadium in Lucknow, India from 26 November to 1 December 2019 and has a total prize of \$150,000. — GNLM

SEA Games 2019 men's football tournament: Myanmar to play Philippines today

THE Myanmar U-22 national football team will play against the host Philippines team in the Group A match of the men's football tournament at the 2019 Southeast Asian Games, scheduled today at the Rizal Memorial Stadium in the Philippines.

Later in the day, Cambodia and Timor-Leste will face each other at the same stadium. Myanmar will play against Timor-Leste on 29 November

and Cambodia on 2 December.

In yesterday's Group B matches, Indonesia beat Thailand 2-0 and the match between Laos and Singapore ended in a scoreless draw.

Two teams each from the two groups will advance to the semifinals, which will be held on 7 December.

The matches for the bronze and gold medals will be played on 10 December. — Kyaw Khin



Myanmar women's national football player (red) and the Philippines women's national football player (white) vie for the ball at the 2019 Southeast Asian Games at Binan Football Stadium on 26 November. **PHOTO: SPED**

SEA Games 2019 women's football tournament: Myanmar ties Philippines 0-0

THE Myanmar women's national football team tied with the Philippines women's national football team in the Group A match of the women's football tournament at the 2019 Southeast Asian Games at Binan Football Stadium yesterday.

Also, Viet Nam tied with Thailand 1-1 in Group B during another women's match at the same stadium.

The Myanmar women's team

was placed in Group A, together with the Philippines and Malaysia, while Group B includes Viet Nam, Thailand and Indonesia.

Myanmar will play against Malaysia on 2 December, the last day of the group matches.

Two teams each from the two groups will advance to the semifinals, which will be held on 5 December. The matches for the bronze and gold medals is scheduled for 8 December.

2017 Southeast Asian Games

Only five teams participated in the 2017 SEA Games, including Viet Nam, Thailand, Myanmar, the Philippines and host Malaysia. Viet Nam placed first in the 2017 SEA Games, followed by Thailand, with Myanmar in third place and the Philippines in fourth place.

Myanmar's Win Theingi Tun was the top scorer with 6 goals. — Kyaw Khin

Brighton boss Potter signs contract extension

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Brighton manager Graham Potter has signed a contract extension until 2025, the Premier League club announced on Tuesday.

The club, in their third straight season in the English top flight, are currently 12th in the table after four wins in 13 games.

Potter's assistant Billy Reid, first-team coach Bjorn Hamberg and assistant head of recruitment Kyle Macaulay have all also agreed contract extensions until 2025.

The three members of the backroom staff joined Potter in moving from Swansea after he replaced Chris Hughton in May.

"I'm thrilled that the club have liked what they've seen so far, in a relatively short period of time, and have already shown an added confidence in



Brighton's English manager Graham Potter looks on before the English Premier League football match between Brighton and Leicester City at the American Express Community Stadium in Brighton, southern England on 23 November 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

what we are trying to do," said Potter, who initially signed a four-year deal.

"I hope that this is just the start of what will be another successful period in our history, and I'm extreme-

ly grateful that the club have made this long-term commitment." Chairman Tony Bloom said he was delighted that Potter and his staff had committed their futures to the club. — AFP ■

Ex-Liverpool star Alonso acquitted of tax fraud

MADRID (Spain) — Former Liverpool midfielder Xabi Alonso has been acquitted of tax fraud, a Madrid court announced on Tuesday.

The prosecutors had initially demanded for him to face five years in jail before halving their request.

Alonso, a World Cup winner with Spain in 2010, was accused of using a company based on the Portuguese island of Madeira to avoid paying 2 million euros (\$2.2 million) in taxes on his image rights to the Spanish authorities.

Prosecutors said the fraud took place between 2010 and 2012 when he was playing for Real Madrid.

The court added it was impossible to discuss a cover-up as the transfer of the rights had

been 'formalised in the contract' signed in 2009 between Alonso and the Portuguese firm.

Alonso, who retired from playing in 2017 after a stint at Bayern Munich, is one of a string of high-profile footballers to face scrutiny by the Spanish tax authorities over the declaration of income from image rights.

Some have admitted fraud as part of a deal to avoid jail time, including Atletico Madrid striker Diego Costa and Barcelona's Gerard Pique, both of whom paid out after being convicted over the summer.

And earlier this year, the tax authorities caught up with Juventus attacker Cristiano Ronaldo and Tottenham coach Jose Mourinho, both over the management and declaration of image rights. — AFP ■