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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Vice President U Myint Swe attends 3<sup>rd</sup> coordination meeting for organizing 72<sup>nd</sup> Independence Day



Vice President U Myint Swe delivers the address at the 3<sup>rd</sup> coordination meeting for holding the 72<sup>nd</sup> Independence Day ceremony to be held on 4 January 2020 in Nay Pyi Taw.

PHOTO: MNA

**V**ICE President U Myint Swe delivered a speech at the 3<sup>rd</sup> coordination meeting for holding the 72<sup>nd</sup> Independence Day on 4 January 2020.

The meeting was held at the Union Government Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Vice President, in his capacity as the chairman of organizing committee, first talked about 10 sub-committees under a central committee for successful countrywide celebration of the annual event in line with the

five national objectives.

The central committee held its first and second coordination meetings on 10 October and 7 November this year, and the relevant sub-committees are implementing a total of 40 resolutions adopted in these meetings.

The 72<sup>nd</sup> Independence Day will be organized in two sessions in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, with flag-raising ceremony in the early morning, and a state dinner in the evening.

Vice President U Myint

Swe also advised systemic and thorough preparations for the event which will be attended by senior government officials, Union Ministers, diplomats and representatives from local and international NGOs.

He also reminded about safety measures in shooting fireworks, distribution of commemorative postcards, and budget expenditure of sub-committees, as well as additional plans for unexpected weather conditions.

Simulated debates and sports contests will also be held

in accordance with the five national objectives to mark the 72<sup>nd</sup> Independence Day.

U Zaw Than Thin, the secretary of central committee, and the heads of sub-committees briefed on developments in preparations for the event, followed by coordination of the Vice President on the discussions.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint, Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Union Minister for

International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung, Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Maw, Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Than Htut and U Khin Maung Win, Vice Adjutant General Major General Zin Min Htet, Brig-Gen Tun Tun Naing from the Office of Director of Ordnance services, permanent secretaries, the Chief of Myanmar Police Force, the Directors-General and officials.—MNA ■

Translated by Aung Khin

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## Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw convenes 11<sup>th</sup> day meeting, approves bills, presents annual reports

THE 14<sup>th</sup> regular session of second Pyithu Hluttaw held its 11<sup>th</sup> day meeting with answers to asterisk questions, approval of three bills and three annual reports.

MP U Saw Thalay Saw from Shwegyin constituency asked about monitoring and controlling of the Supreme Court on the documentation of daily records at the courts.

Union Supreme Court Judge U Myo Tint explained the directive of public judges panel for checking the records of proceedings at the High Courts of States/Regions, district courts and township courts, and the Union Supreme Court reviewed the reports on records.

MP U Kyaw Aung Lwin from Sedoktara constituency asked about development programmes to be taken in his constituency with poor transportation, health-care services, education and economy.

Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win replied that Hluttaw representatives have submitted requests for development programmes in respective areas, and township committees are also carrying out developing programmes in collaboration with civil communities, social organizations and relevant departments.



MP U Saw Thalay Saw.  
PHOTO: MNA

He added that the government will also implement these programmes in this constituency according to the list of priorities.

MP U Maung Myint from Mingin constituency asked to open a new police station for the areas of Kyway village and upstream of river.

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Thu turned down the request as he assured the area already has enough security, good transportation and lower criminal rates, however, a police station can be run there, if it is needed, with the approval of Union government.

MP U Ba Shein from Kyaukpyu constituency asked about a court proceeding of trespassing case at the Kyaukpyu district court.



MP U Myo Tint.  
PHOTO: MNA

Union Supreme Court Judge U Myo Tint replied to the question.

MP U Kan Myint from Thayet constituency asked about the process of other accounts (OA) at state-owned enterprises. Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win answered it.

MP U Khin Maung Myint from Yaksawk constituency asked possible opening of local fire station and deployment of fire engines for Kyaukgu village in Intaw Town of his constituency.

MP Dr Khin Maung Maung from Dagon Myothit (North) constituency asked about compensations for the owners whose 68 shops were removed from the compound of traffic police training school 17 years ago.

These two questions were



MP U Kyaw Aung Lwin.  
PHOTO: MNA

answered by Maj-Gen Aung Thu.

Fifth amendment bills on Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, State/Region Election Laws

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced approval of three provisions agreed by the bill committee and the two provisions amended by the bill committee despite amendments of Amyotha Hluttaw, in the fifth amendment bill on Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law sent back by the Amyotha Hluttaw with the recommendations of Union Election Commission and the agreements of the Hluttaw.

The motion on amending the bill tabled by Tatmadaw representative Lt-Col Htin Linn Oo was approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw

Speaker with the decisions of bill committee and UEC.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then announced the whole fifth amendment bill and the amendments of paragraphs on Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law.

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## Amyotha Hluttaw

## Amyotha Hluttaw to discuss properly regulating tissue-culture banana plantations

THE 11<sup>th</sup> day meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw was held at Amyotha Hluttaw building yesterday morning where Hluttaw agreed to discuss a motion on properly regulating tissue-culture banana plantations.

Earlier in the meeting questions raised were answered and Hluttaw representatives discussed a bill.

## Question and answer session

The meeting starts with a question and answer session where Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun responded to a question by U Khin Maung Latt of Rakhine State constituency 3 on a plan to construct a new two-storey building for Yathedaung Township Pyuchaung Village basic education sub-high school. Questions raised by Dr Zaw Lin Htut of Mon State constituency 9 on



Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun.  
PHOTO: MNA

conducting major renovation of historical Aung San Stadium and adjusting the rental rates of shops around the stadium and U Lal Min Htan of Chin State constituency 10 on upgrading a Sal Htaung sub rural health centre to a rural health centre in Chin State Matupi Township were answered by Deputy Min-



MP U Khin Maung Latt.  
PHOTO: MNA

ister for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein.

Hluttaw discuss Animal Health and Livestock Breeding Development Bill

Next, Animal Health and Livestock Breeding Development Bill was discussed by Dr



MP Dr Zaw Lin Htut.  
PHOTO: MNA

Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency 11, U Hla San of Magway Region constituency 1, Dr Win Myint of Bago Region constituency 11 and Naw Chris Tun (a) Dr Arkar Moe of Kayin State constituency 7.

Hluttaw to discuss motion on properly regulating tis-

sue-culture banana plantations

As a final agenda of the day Dr Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency 11 tabled and explained a motion on properly regulating tissue-culture banana plantations in Myanmar. The motion was supported by U Myo Htat (a) Salai Myo Htike of Chin State constituency 12.

Afterwards Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced Hluttaw's agreement to accept and discuss the motion after obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw. Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker also announced further for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the motion to register their names.

The 12<sup>th</sup> day meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> regular session of Second Amyotha Hluttaw is scheduled to be held on 6 December.—Aung Ye Thwin

(Translated by Zaw Min)

## VP U Henry Van Thio highlights progress on implementing PLWD rights



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the fifth meeting of the National Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE fifth meeting of the National Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was held at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday and National Committee Chairman Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivered a speech.

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye, Deputy Ministers Rear-Admiral Myint Nwe, U Aung Hla Tun and U Tin Myint, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aung Myin Tun, regional and state ministers for social affairs, permanent secretaries, directors-general, officials from the Myanmar Federation of Persons with Disabilities, representatives from organizations affiliated with persons living with disabilities (PLWDs), and other officials.

### Purpose of National Committee

The Vice President first delivered a speech. He said people living with disabilities are not disabled, should get the same rights as all citizens and society should evolve into an inclusive environment, which is why, in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Myanmar has enacted The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law (2015) and its related by-law (2017).

He said the National Committee was formed on 14 September 2017 to better enforce the law and bylaw and has reached its second and a half

year in 2019. He said all this time, the committee has been working in coherence with directives from the Union Government to ensure the rights of disabled persons in line with international standards and current situations.

### Forming subcommittees

The Vice President said this is why there is sustainable evident improvement and success regarding rehabilitation, development and rights of PLWDs. He said they are working on forming nine subcommittees to assist the National Committee and working committee and they will focus on education, health, labour affairs, research, monitoring and evaluation, affairs of disabled women and children, smooth transmission of information, natural disasters and other emergency situations, and judicial rights.

The Vice President said these subcommittees need to draft policies and action plans that incorporate inclusive development of all society in each sector and to draft the strategic plan (2020-2025). He hopes the six areas of the strategic plan will fully support the development of PLWDs. The six areas are healthcare, education, employment, social protection, natural disasters and other emergency situation management, and ease of access.

### National index

The Vice President said

the Union Government is working to implement a disability index and PLWD identity registration system in order to provide sustainable solutions in meeting the needs of PLWDs. He said in doing so, the Union Government has marked the start of the eight month long pilot project in September 2019 and is implementing the first phase of forming the disability index by the different levels and forms of disability, regis-

Disabilities, and is chaired by the Deputy Minister for Health and Sports. He said they are also cooperating with relevant ministries and organizations.

### Cooperation between concerned entities

The Vice President said the committees formed on different levels to implement the objectives of the National Committee in Nay Pyi Taw Council and the states and regions

The Vice President said an important sector for PLWDs is natural disasters and other emergency situations. He said while implementing these efforts, PLWDs should not be left out and should be allowed to cooperate so that their needs can be accurately addressed.

tration, awareness training, and field conduct in the project areas of Hlinethayar, Yangon Region, Hpa-an, Kayin State, and Nyaung Lay Pin, Bago Region.

The Vice President said they have already formed a technical group for designating the second and third phases of forming the disability index with medical specialists from the Ministry of Health and Sports, medical specialists from different fields and members from the Myanmar Federation of Persons with

and the state/regional PLWD organizations need to cooperate with the focal ministry, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and government departments and affiliated organizations.

The Vice President said there must be systematic records of PLWD men and women lists, PLWD demographics, needs of the different demographics, and the needs of their education, healthcare and employment sectors. He said the SWRR Ministry and Central Statistics Organiza-

tion must lead the designing of comprehensive tables.

The Vice President said an important sector for PLWDs is natural disasters and other emergency situations. He said while implementing these efforts, PLWDs should not be left out and should be allowed to cooperate so that their needs can be accurately addressed.

### PLWD sustainability

The Vice President said they are cooperating with Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) to collect information on the number of PLWDs, and is working in line with The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bylaw's Article 67 to compile a PLWD census, by conducting four technical trainings with 100 trainees each time, and is providing technical assistance to the SWRR Ministry from October to December for the Washington questions on PLWD information.

The Vice President said creating an obstacle-free world for PLWDs is fulfilling the sustainable development of PLWDs and in line with that thought, 'The Future We Wish to See in Yangon Seminar' was held from 10 to 11 September 2019 in Yangon City Hall. He said the seminar produced results such as better awareness on disabilities, creating new perspectives for accessibility for all in city development matters, raising awareness on national building code, and an accessible Yangon City through the media. **SEE PAGE-5**

## Pyithu Hluttaw convenes 11<sup>th</sup> day meeting,...

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The motion on amending the bill tabled by Tatmadaw representative Major Zin Linn was approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker with the decisions of bill committee and UEC.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then announced the whole fifth amendment bill and the amendments of paragraphs on State Hluttaw/Regional Hluttaw Election Law.



MP Major Zin Linn.  
**PHOEO: MNA**

Annual reports of Pyithu Hluttaw committees

Annual report of Pyithu Hluttaw Farmers and Workers Affairs Committee was presented by its member Daw Ni Ni May Myint, and the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker invited to submit the names of MP who want to discuss the report.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Electricity and Energy Development Committee's annual report was explained by U Soe Myint, the

secretary of committee, saying the committee's works on development of electricity and energy sector in cooperation with local and international organizations, coordination with the ministry and sharing experiences from oversea study tours.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker invited to submit the names of MPs who want to discuss the report.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Public



MP Daw Ni Ni May Myint.  
**PHOEO: MNA**

Affairs Management Committee's annual report was presented by Daw Khin Than Nu, the member of committee. The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker invited to submit the names of MPs who want to discuss the report.

The 14th regular session of second Pyithu Hluttaw will convene its 12th day meeting on 6 December.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Aung Khin)

## Shan State Progress Party-SSPP issued a statement dated 1 December. Following is the full text of the statement.

Statement of the Shan State Progress Party (SSPP) concerning State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi representing the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to respond to The Gambia's lawsuit.

1. The SSPP positively views the leadership of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in representing the Republic of the Union of Myanmar before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to respond to The Gambia's lawsuit.

2. The SSPP states its position that the government should respond to the lawsuit at the ICJ by comprehensively examining the hard evidence relevant to the case that exists in the country.

Central Committee  
Shan State Progress Party (SSPP)  
December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

## Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko revives Norwegian Ambassador

UNION Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko received a delegation led by Norwegian Ambassador Ms Tone Tinnes at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to cooperation between Myanmar and Norway on religious affairs and culture, and promoting ongoing bilateral co-

operation on these sectors.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko meets with Norwegian Ambassador Ms Tone Tinnes at the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

**PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister U Soe Win holds talks with a delegation led by German Ambassador Mr Thomas Karl Neisinger at the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Union Minister U Soe Win receives German Ambassador

UNION Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win received German Ambassador Mr Thomas Karl Neisinger at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to bilateral economic and financial cooperation, investment and technical assistances in industrial sector, development

of small and medium-sized enterprises and loan insurance, and conducting capacity building trainings for staff.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry Dr Min Ye Paing Hein and departmental officers.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin)

**FROM PAGE-3**  
**Pilot project, funding**

The Vice President said they are implementing accessibility for PLWDs and a barrier-free environment in Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market and Water Fountain Park through the cooperation of SWRR Ministry, Ministry of Construction and Nay Pyi Taw Council. He said this pilot project will be done as a role model to draw standards to, and they will continue to implement similar projects in other states and regions.

The Vice President said the initial outlay fund of K3 billion for the rights of PLWDs will be available as capital, and to increase and sustain this fund systematically, they will form fund

management, budget sourcing and fund preservation groups.

**Myanmar delegation to CRPD Session**

The Vice President said a Myanmar delegation attended the 22nd Session of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in Geneva, Switzerland from 28 to 29 August 2019. He said they discussed forming an Independence Monitoring Mechanism, enabling full rights of ethnic people with disabilities, freedom from violence, and reviewing the PLWD law as seen fit. He said National Committee members must cooperate to fulfill these recommendations.

The Vice President con-

cluded his speech by urging the attendees to cooperate in their respective sectors to ensure more effectiveness in the implementation of the assigned tasks of the National Committee.

**Dr Win Myat Aye's speech**

Next, National Committee Vice Chairman Dr Win Myat Aye explained ensuring adherence to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, completed tasks related to rights of PLWDs, protection of mental and physical aspects of PLWDs, equal rights for PLWDs, increasing awareness raising on dangers of explosive mines, cooperation on technological and information access for PLWDs, setting a strategic plan for PLWD health

protection, generating more employment for PLWDs, formulating more ways for PLWDs to be involved, increasing cooperation in PLWD rights matters for Nay Pyi Taw Council and states and regions.

**General discussions**

Next, National Committee member and Director-General of Rehabilitation Department U Win Naing Tun explained the completed and ongoing implementation of the decisions made during the fourth meeting of the National Committee.

This was followed by National Committee members Deputy Minister Rear-Admiral Myint Nwe, U Aung Hla Tun and U

Tin Myint, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aung Myin Tun, regional and state ministers and meeting attendees explaining and providing suggestions on the implementation of PLWD rights in relevant areas and departments.

Afterwards, National Committee Joint Secretary and General-Secretary of the Myanmar Federation of Persons with Disabilities U Myat Thu Win spoke words of gratitude and Vice President U Henry Van Thio provided coordination where necessary. He then took a documentary photo with all in attendance and concluded the meeting.—MNA

*(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

## Union Minister Dr Aung Thu receives Vietnamese Ambassador

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu received Vietnamese Ambassador Dr Luan Thuy Duong at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to cooperation between Myanmar and Viet Nam on agriculture, meat and fish and rural development sectors, jointly conducted trainings and workshops on various levels of crop cultivation and production, implementation of the memorandum of understanding on

livestock sector cooperation signed in 2017, establishment of fishery task force and meetings to be alternatively hosted by the two countries from 2020.

Being the members of ASEAN countries, Myanmar and Viet Nam are closely cooperating with other regional countries in promoting on agricultural and rural development sectors, Livestock breeding sector, doing researches and holding academic conferences.—MNA

*(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*



Union Minister Dr Aung Thu meets with Vietnamese Ambassador Dr Luan Thuy Duong in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Development Effectiveness Roundtable held in Nay Pyi Taw

WITH the title of “Partnerships for Realizing the MSDP: Aligning Resources, Coordination and Information Systems and Civic Action”, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Development Effectiveness Roundtable was launched at the Myanmar International Convention Center- II in Nay Pyi Taw.

The two-day talk was started yesterday, with an opening remark of Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaug Tun, and was attended by Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of States/Regions, Deputy Ministers, Hluttaw representatives, permanent secretaries, directors-general, ambassadors to Myanmar, representatives from the development partner countries and organizations, UN agencies, local and foreign civil organizations and the invited guests.

Union Minister U Thaug



Union Minister U Thaug Tun participates in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Development Effectiveness Roundtable discussion in Nay Pyi Taw on 4 December 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

Tun, in his capacity as the vice chairman of Development Assistance Coordination Unit (DACU), reaffirmed that Myanmar government will con-

tinue cooperation with the development partners, local and international civil organizations and private sectors for ensuring transparency and

effectiveness of development assistance.

He added the development assistance can fulfill the needs of all people through quality

investments for sustainable economic development of the country. The assistance will help in economic development, employment opportunities, transfer of technologies and promotion of private investments.

The Union Minister continued multi-sector cooperation of development partners play crucial role in implementing the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan and the UN Millennium Development Goals.

The Union Minister, Deputy Ministers and the Vice Governor of Myanmar Central Bank participated in the first day of roundtable discussions.

The Union Minister hosted a dinner to attendees of the talks at MICC-II, and the second day of the event will convene on 5 December.—MNA

*(Translated by Aung Khin)*

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## 734 children reunited with families, get rehabilitation support

MORE than 700 out of 2,000 street children in Myanmar have been reunited with their families and will get rehabilitation support, according to aid agencies.

Out of 2,000 street children, 734 have been returned to their families, with 136 children completing vocational training courses and 66 establishing their own small businesses, according to World Vision.

To support street children in Myanmar, a fund-raising event was held on 4 December at the Kafe in Town on Pansodan Road, Yangon. The event was jointly held by World Vision and TODAY Ogilvy.

"People need to know that there are children suffering woes from having to live on the road in Myanmar. This being so, everyone needs to know and be concerned about their development. This event was held to help people learn about the woes of street children, who are being exploited, and support them," said Dr Thar Tun Oo, chairman



Traditional puppet show at a Fundraising Event for street children programme held in Yangon on 4 December.  
**PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG SOE**

of TODAY Ogilvy.

At the fundraiser, famous puppet masters performed acts describing the life of street children as well as the protection services offered by World Vision. At the ceremony, TOSHI-BA VSK International donated US\$10,000. Some other organi-

zations also made contributions. The funds collected at the ceremony will be used to ensure education, health, nutrition, livelihood, and protection of street children.

World Vision has been offering child support services in 12 regions since 1997. The

organization is also arranging family reunions, implementing a vocational training programme, supplying food to street children, and providing them temporary shelters to attend training courses in Yangon and Mandalay regions.—Myint Maung Soe  
(Translated by Hay Mar)

## 11 patients with congenital heart defects to get free surgery in China

UNDER a programme for promoting friendly ties between Myanmar and China, 11 Myanmar patients who have congenital heart defects will undergo free surgery in China, according to the Yankin Children Hospital.

The free heart surgeries will be conducted jointly by the Yangon Yankin Children Hospital and Phoo Wai Special Heart Surgery Hospital in Kunming, Yunnan Province, China.

"The free heart surgeries will be conducted with the aim of promoting friendly relations between the two countries, alleviate the suffering of patients with congenital heart defects, and reduce the number of patients who are waiting for surgery," said Dr. Myint Myint Khine, Medical Superintendent



Children diagnosed with congenital heart defects and their families seen at the Yangon International Airport before departing for China.  
**PHOTO: AYE MI THU**

of the 550-bed Yankin Children Hospital.

"This is the third free heart surgery programme for us. The first time, 12 children received free surgery in Beijing, China in April, 2017, while the second time, 14 children underwent surgery in Kun-

ming in Yunnan Province in October, 2018. This time, we will operate on 11 children in Kunming," she added.

"The cost of the operation will be high if we pay for it ourselves. Now, we have a good chance to receive treatment because of the programme. I

am very glad about that. I want to say thanks to the authorities for this precious arrangement," said Daw Than Than Aye, the mother of a congenital heart defect patient from Patheingyi Town.

For the third free heart surgery, eight of the 11 children diagnosed with congenital heart defects and their families left for China by China Eastern Airlines from Yangon International Airport. They were accompanied by Dr Myint Myint Khine, Dr Than Oo, radiologist at the Yankin Children Hospital, Pediatric Cardiologist Dr. Hnin Lae Phyu, nurse Daw Lae Lae Win, and Daw Mya Thein, head of administration at the hospital.—Aye Min Thu  
(Translated by Hay Mar)

## Nine killed, 91 hurt in highway accidents in November

NINE persons were killed and 91 others injured in 37 road accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway in November, according to the Nay Pyi Taw Highway Police. "Altogether, 37 vehicular accidents happened on the highway in November, killing two men and seven women, and injuring 51 men and 40 women," said a Highway Police official.

Negligent reckless driving, over-speeding, defective vehicles, and inclement weather were identified as the main causes of accidents on the highway. A total of 37 accidents were reported on the highway, with 25 cases attributed to reckless driving, three to reckless road crossing, eight to defective vehicles, and one to inclement weather, ac-

ording to statistics provided by the Highway Police.

Between January and November this year, a total of 479 traffic accidents have been reported on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway. The accidents led to the loss of 98 lives and left 925 persons injured.

With the high number of road accidents on the highway,

the police have announced that speed measuring devices are being installed at the mile posts so legal action can be initiated against those found flouting the speed limit. Moreover, the highway police are urging people to comply with traffic rules and to cooperate with them in carrying out road safety measures.—Aye Cho  
(Translated by Hay Mar)

### Write for us

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

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

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Danu National Day celebrated in Nawngkhio, Shan State



Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin delivers the speech at the celebration for 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Danu National Day in Nawngkhio, Shan State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE 2<sup>nd</sup> Danu National Day was commemorated in Shan State's Nawngkhio Town yesterday morning.

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs and Culture Nai Thet Lwin, Shan State Chief Minister Dr Lin Thut, State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Saw Aung Myat, Chairman U Arkar Lin of the Leading Body of Danu Self-Administered Zone, state ministers, Hluttaw representatives, chairman and members of the Danu Ethnic Literature and Culture Association, Danu ethnic people and local people attended the event.

Firstly, the National Flag of Myanmar and the Danu National Flag were saluted and the Danu ethnic people performed the song 'Kyo-so-par-del Danu-mayay'.

Next, members of the Danu

National Day Organizing Committee read messages from Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than.

This was followed by an address from U Tun Tun Hein, where he said the Danu National Conference chose the 8<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Nadaw as Danu National and it was a practical aspiration filled with essence. He said the motive behind designating National Day for ethnic races focuses on unity, preserving race, language, literature, culture and customs, developing friendly relations and to implement discussions.

Next, Chief Minister Dr Lin Htut delivered an address, handed over funding from the state government for the event, and received a certificate of honour from the organizing committee in return.

Next, Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin said the ministry is working in line with The Ethnic Rights Protection Law for ethnic races to freely celebrate their special days, in addition to ensuring no loss of ethnic rights, equality, and preserving language, literature and customs, and Danu ethnic people can submit to do so in accordance with existing laws. He handed over funding for the event and the Organizing Committee handed over certificates of honour in return.

This was followed by State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker, Danu Ethnic Affairs Association Patron U Sao Aung Myat and Chairman U Arkar Lin of the Leading Body of Danu Self-Administered Zone delivering separate speeches. They then handed over donations for the event and to construct the Danu religious building in Nay

Pyi Taw and awards to outstanding students and photography contest winners.

Next, Danu Ethnic Affairs Central Association Rotating Chairman U Nay Myo Kyaw delivered an address and Nawngkhio Township Danu Ethnic Affairs Association Chairman U Nyunt Hlaing handed over certificates of honour to donors who donated K500,000 and above. The Danu National Day Organizing Steering Committee Chairman then spoke words of gratitude.

There are 33 ethnic races in Shan State, including the Danu people who mostly live in Pindaya, Pwayhla, YeU, Ywangan, Bawsai, Yaksawk, Kyaukhtet,

Kalaw and Aungban of Southern Shan State. They also moderately populate Pyinmana, Yamethin, Tharsi and hilly regions linking to them. Danu National Day came about when Danu representatives from ten townships mostly populated by Danu people in Shan State and from all across the nation held a Danu National Conference in Pindaya on the 8<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Nadaw in 1380 ME and became the first conference where five decisions were reached unanimously, thereby chosen to be commemorated as a special day.—MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin presents certificate of honour to Organizing Committee member at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Danu National Day ceremony. **PHOTO: MNA**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Children Literary Festival of Ayeyawady Region opens in Myaungmya



Ayeyawady Region Government officials observe children participating in the competitions during children literary festival in Myaungmya yesterday. **PHOTO: AUNG MIN, WIN KYAING, WIN KYAW MYINT**

ORGANIZED by the Ayeyawady Region Government, the ninth Children Literary Festival of the Region was opened at the Basic Education High School No.1 (Myaungmya) in Myaungmya

yesterday.

Firstly, Regional Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Kyaw Khine, Regional Chief Judge U Than Tun, Regional Deputy Hluttaw Speaker U San Htwe, Minister for

Security and Border Affairs Colonel Kyaw Swa Hlaing, Regional Development Affairs Minister U Kyaw Myint, Regional Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister U Tin Saw, officials, Hluttaw repre-

sentatives, town elder Dr Maung Maung Aung, Luyechun Ma Su Lae Wati and Ma Su Hnin Htut opened the festival by cutting ceremonial ribbon, and then posed for a group photo together.

Next, the students of BEHS No.1 (Myaungmya) sang the festival's theme song at the Pyinya Yadana Hall of the school.

Speaking at the event, Chairman of the Children Literary Festival Organizing Committee and Minister for Development Affairs U Kyaw Myint said that this is the ninth festival to be held in Ayeyawady Region, and urged parents and guardians of the children to establish proper procedures so that the children can improve sustainably.

He also urged children to learn from the festival and strive to become good citizens who can better perform the duties of the country than their previous ones.

Next, Joint Secretary of the organizing committee and head of the regional Information and

Public Relations Department U Hla Myo Aung explained the holding of children literary festival in the region, and was followed by U Zar Ni Tint expressing words of thanks.

Regional Hluttaw Speaker then rewarded the Yein dance troupes who performed at the opening of the festival with K200,000 each. The troupes were also provided with cash rewards by well-wishers.

Participants in the festival then observed the children taking part in the booths, book stalls and competitions, and presented gifts to them. The festival features a total of nine booths including famous Ayeyawadythar booth, famous Myaungmyathar booth, agriculture booth, education booth and the booths from private schools, together with about 30 bookstalls, magic shows, puppet shows and elephant dances. The booths and books stalls open until 9 pm.—District IPRD (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

## Time to act and end violence against women, children

**W**OMEN make up more than 53 per cent of the total population of Myanmar. Meanwhile, children aged under 18 years constitute a significant percentage of our country's population. Therefore, the government, lawmakers, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, and the people have a huge responsibility to help women and children.

There is no doubt that we will face challenges as we address violence against women and children, work on improving gender equality, and women's empowerment.

To help women, creating job opportunities is a must. At the same time, our ultimate responsibility rests in preventing violence against women and children, trafficking in persons, and sexual abuse.

Traditional and social media have reported cases of violence against women, including sexual abuse and rape of minors.

A law on prevention of violence against women, which is crucial for their protection, is still in the process of being enacted.

If the law comes into effect, it would ensure more systematic and effective prevention of violence against women. We hope the bill would be enacted into law as soon as possible through the efforts of the lawmakers and ministries concerned. As the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, which is the focal ministry for prevention of violence against women and children, is planning to submit the bill to the Hluttaw, the bill can be considered to be headed in the right direction towards becoming a law. It

can be said that everyone is working together to fight violence and sexual abuse against women and children.

The ministry has formed four task forces to implement 12 areas of the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women and to increase women's participation in peace processes to at least 30 per cent. At the same time, the ministry has announced that its national-level committee has already drafted a plan for prevention of violence against women in conflicts. Among other achievements, the ministry had established a 24-hour helpline service for women in 2016, and provided K150 million to women for their livelihood, and set up four One Stop Women Support Centres to provide shelter and assistance to victims of violence.

These efforts are not aimed at scoring political points. On the contrary, the willingness of MPs and experts of the ministries concerned to work together on this issue has been a source of optimism.

We need to make sure that we are making progress. The coming International Women's Day must be a time for deeds, not words.



# Measles, German measles vaccines are essential

By Maung Thin Pyant

**D**URING the month of October 2019, measles and German measles vaccination and polio vaccination were given to children in 96 townships where transport was poor in states and regions of the country. During November this year, children between nine months and five and a half years were injected with measles and German measles vaccination in the remaining townships. So, the whole country will be free from measles and German measles in 2023 and wipe out the German measles infection some expectant mothers are facing. Awareness campaign of the supplementary vaccination program was conducted for three days between 26 and 28 November at the gathering points of villages and wards of townships in all states and regions including Yangon Region.

### The essential need

Health is an important sector for the developing human resources of the country. Hence, the government is implementing the task of wiping out the measles and German measles in the whole country to reduce the child mortality rate. So it is essential for parents to have their children injected with the vaccination during the said three days without fail. It is important to eliminate those highly infectious diseases.

Measles infection and deaths due to the disease can be found in the populous areas where vaccination program is weak, areas where transport is poor and accessibility of health workers is not possible, and towns where infection is caused mainly by migrants. Measles broke out in some states and regions in the form of an epidemic for 21 times in 2017. It also occurred in 2018. The government conducted the vaccination injection program between 25 and 29 October this year. During the previous November, it completed its vaccination program in the whole country.

The Ministry of Health and Sports has been conducted its extended vaccination program as a priority. It is giving 11 types of vaccinations to children under



Nurses vaccinate children against measles at a township public healthcare centre in Yangon on 28 November. PHOTO: CHAN THAR (MEIKTILA)

one and a half years under its regular vaccination program to reduce child mortality rate. It is planning to give vaccines against diarrhea and ovarian cancer. Poliovirus (WPV) was last found in Myanmar in 2017. After the government declared Myanmar a polio-free country in 2014, transformed type of poliovirus or vaccine-derived poliovirus was found in 2015 and on 23 June 2019. The child found with the virus is from Hpapon, Kayin State. Hence extra dose of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) was given with the aim of clearing the transformed type of poliovirus in 12 populated townships in Kayn State, Mon State and Bago Region where infection rate could be high.

The Ministry is giving regular anti-measles and German measles drugs for the first time to children when they reach nine months, and when they reach 18 months the vaccine is given for the second time. German measles is not a serious disease. But if it is infected to an expectant mother there is significant risk of miscarriage, child death and child defects such as disabilities, abnormal heart, cataract and deformation.

"It is an important moment. We will give an extra dose of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) against measles and German measles medicine in the whole country from 26 to 28 November. The vaccine will be administered to children between nine months and five and a half years. The

German measles is not a serious disease. But, if contracted by an expectant mother, there is a significant risk of miscarriage, infant mortality, and birth defects such as disabilities, heart abnormalities, cataract, and deformation.

or defects. So people should be protected from both diseases as children who have had not the vaccine are vulnerable to both diseases. Any child who had not yet taken the vaccine is vulnerable to the disease. The vaccination program is conducted in Myanmar to reduce child deaths due to measles" said deputy director general Dr. Tun Myint of Health Department.

### Prevention

There were 1389 measles patients in Myanmar in 2018 (according to the list approved by lab). Of them, 663 was in Yangon Region. In the early 2019, the number of people infected by the disease was 3265, and 1088 were from Yangon Region. Most of the infections were found in Hlaingthaya, Shwepyitha, Insein, Mingaladon, Dagom (East), Da-

ducted at 11 hospitals in Yangon, the rate of inborn German measles is 0.1 per one thousand. So, measles plus German measles vaccination program was launched in Myanmar in January 2015 and it lasted till February. The program was integrated into the regular national vaccination project in March 2016. After three years have passed, the program to provide extra dose of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) was conducted.

### Inclusiveness

The ministry administered extra dose of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) against measles and -German measles to about 570,000 children between nine months and five and a half years from 26 to 28 November. In this way Myanmar can control the occurrence of measles and inborn



The vaccination program has been a major factor in the improvement of health standards. PHOTO: CHAN THAR (MEIKTILA)

vaccination program will cover 574,200 children between the said ages in Yangon Region, and the estimated cost is US\$ 1.4 per child. Measles is a highly infectious disease. Measles may cause normal complications such as ear infections and diarrhea, and serious complications including pneumonia and encephalitis. Another one is German measles which may also cause pregnant women to give birth prematurely, or have a low-birth-weight baby or a baby with birth disabilities

(South) Dagon (Seikkan) townships and there were deaths also. As measles and German measles are infectious, the best prevention method is vaccination. As the measles is not spread through mosquitos, it is preventable through the vaccination program. The anti-measles and -German measles medicine should be given at the designated age, children need to take extra dose of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV).

According to a research con-

German measles. The country has targeted to totally free itself from measles and -German measles in 2023 as a part of its child mortality reduction program. Government departments, maternal and child care societies, NGOs, social organizations, local elders and health workers should make collective efforts to realize the target.

(Translated by TMT)



### Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2019)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea, South Bay and East central Bay and generally fair elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 05<sup>th</sup> December, 2019:** Rain will be isolated in Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Regions and Shan State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4 - 7) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (3 - 5) feet off and along Rakhine Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05<sup>th</sup> December, 2019:** Partly cloudy.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05<sup>th</sup> December, 2019:** Partly cloudy.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05<sup>th</sup> December, 2019:** Partly cloudy.

## Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to [ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com](mailto: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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## NREC Minister attends 25<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference in Spain

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win attended the 25th UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) in Madrid, Spain, on 2 December morning.

The conference which will take place from 2 to 13 December is jointly organized by Chile and Spain.

At the meeting, the Chile's Environment Minister Ms Carolina Schmidt Zaldivar, Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Mr Hoesung Lee, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and Prime Minister of Spain Mr Pedro Sanchez urged for immediate actions on reduction of global

climate change and adaptation, lessening transmission of greenhouse gas and removing global warming gases and international cooperation.

The Union Minister also attended an official luncheon hosted by Spain government in honour of the heads of state and government attending the COP25. In the afternoon, he also attended the meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to discuss a report and information for the conference.

On yesterday morning, the Union Minister took part in the Earth Information day organized



Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win attends the 25<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) in Madrid, Spain, on 2 December. **PHOTO: MNA**

by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at the LAO Plenary in Feria de

Madrid. He also joined the Platform for Science Based Ocean Solutions Plenary held at the

North Convention Center at the same location.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

## UAGO holds anti-money laundering, counter-terrorism financing meeting

THE Office of Union Attorney General organized the 1<sup>st</sup> coordination meeting of Supervising Committee for Implementing Strategic Area (1) in National Strategy on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism, yesterday morning.

Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo presided over the meeting held at the headquarters of UAGO in Nay Pyi Taw.

He explained the works of Supervising Committee to monitor the process of state-departments in implementing the policies, directives and legal frameworks in preventing money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism.

Myanmar has carried out the National Risk Assessment (NRA) in 2015 with the technical assistance of IMF, and adopted



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo addresses the coordination meeting on anti-money laundering, counter-terrorism financing meeting in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

the five strategic areas.

The secretary of Supervising Committee led the members in discussing matters related to the Strategic Area 1 which includes 'strengthening policies,

instructions and legal frameworks on money laundering, terrorism and terrorist financing in line with international standards based on the identified risks'.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)

## ASEAN-Korea FAMF Tour gives business networking luncheon in Yangon

TO mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations and 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-Korea Centre, the ASEAN-Korea Familiarization Tour led by Secretary General of ASEAN-Korea Centre Mr Lee Hyuk gave a business networking luncheon at the Belmond Governor's Residence in Yangon yesterday.

Secretary General of ASEAN-Korea Centre Mr Lee Hyuk met with the officials from ROK's Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and tourism organizations, media, Myanmar's officials from Ministry of Hotels

and Tourism, Myanmar Tourism Federation, Myanmar Restaurant Association and Myanmar Hotelier Association.

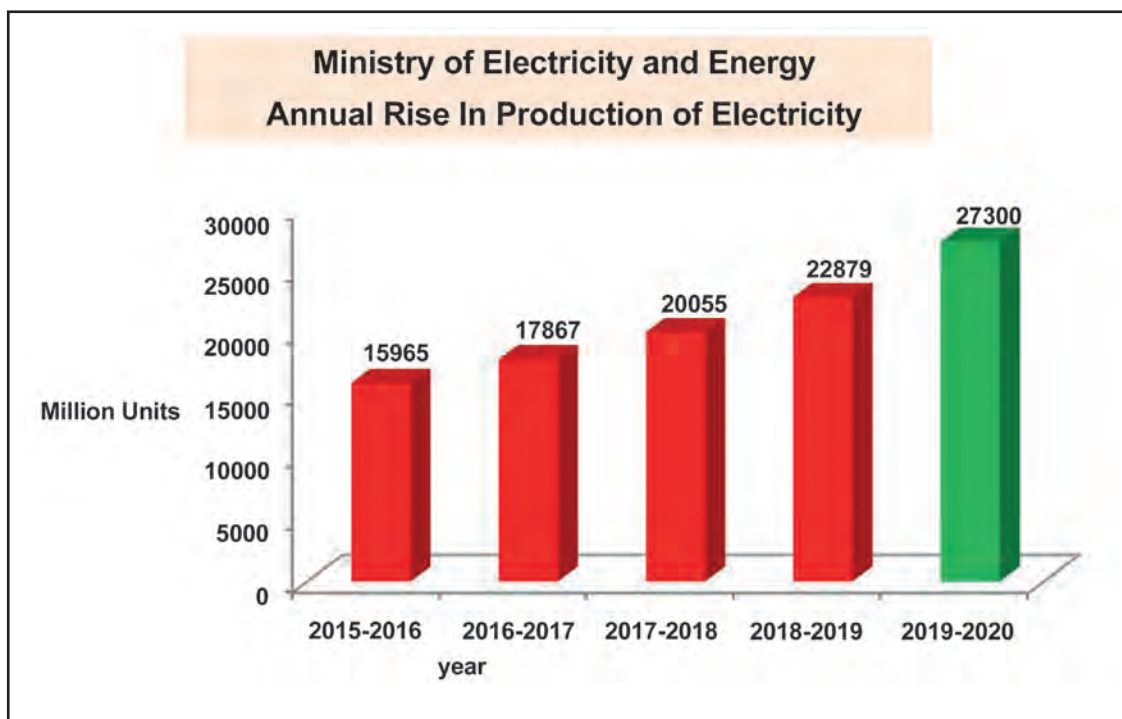
ROK's TV channels and media explained the programmes of developing tourism market for Yangon, Bagan and Inle regions via digital technology. They also answered the queries raised by attendees.

Led by ASEAN-Korea Centre, a tourism capacity building workshop will also be held at M Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw today (5 December).—Thant Zin Win

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Yanolja Company's Head of Global Operations, Lee Sang Jin, speaks at the business networking luncheon marking the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations and 10th anniversary of ASEAN-Korea Centre at Belmond Governor's Residence, Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**



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# YRIC clears 11 foreign proposals; to create over 7,000 jobs

THE Yangon Region Investment Committee, at a meeting held on 3 December, gave the green light to 11 foreign projects, with an estimated capital of US\$17.475 million. The projects will create 7,300 jobs, according to the committee.

The manufacturing sector has attracted the most foreign investments in Yangon Region, with enterprises engaging in the production of pharmaceuticals, vehicles, container boxes, and garments on a Cutting, Making, and Packing (CMP) basis.

Since its establishment, the YRIC has approved more than 200 domestic and foreign projects in the sectors of manufacturing, hotel services, and other services from China, Singapore, Japan, Hong Kong, the Republic of Korea, Viet Nam, India, China

(Taipei), Malaysia, the British Virgin Islands, and Seychelles.

According to statistics released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration,

Yangon Region absorbs 60 per cent of all investments in Myanmar, Mandalay attracts 30 per cent, while the other regions and states get only a small share of investments.

To simplify the verification of investment projects, the Myanmar Investment Law allows the Region and State Investment Committees to grant permissions for local and foreign proposals, where the initial investment does not exceed K6 billion, or \$5 million. —San Kyaw Oo (IPRD)

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein presents the permission to a responsible person of the FDI projects. PHOTO: SUPPLIED



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## Domestic investments cross K600 bln in two months

BY Nyein Nyein  
INVESTMENTS by Myanmar citizens in the country exceeded K600 billion in the first two months of the current fiscal, an increase of K300 billion compared to the corresponding period of the previous FY, said U Thant Sin Lwin, Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Between 1 October and 30 November this year, 24 local enterprises were allowed to invest in the country by the Myanmar Investment Commission and the state and region investment committees. Domestic investments have reached K625.38 billion so far, including expansion of capital by existing enterprises.

Domestic investors pumped

K266.62 billion into 36 projects in the October-November period in the 2018-2019 financial year.

This fiscal year, the number of enterprises permitted was 12 less than the previous year. However, the quantum of investment was larger compared with the year-ago period.

Twelve enterprises invested in the manufacturing sector; four businesses pumped funds into the other services sector; the hotels and tourism sector and the real estate development sector attracted three enterprises each; and, one project was approved for the livestock and fisheries and agriculture sectors each. Since 1988 and as of 30 October, domestic investments of K19,644 billion have been made by 1,649 enterprises in the coun-

try, as per data from the DICA.

To simplify the verification process of investment projects, the Myanmar Investment Law allows the region and state Investment Committees to endorse local and foreign proposals, where the initial investment does not exceed K6 billion, or \$5 million. While some projects no longer need MIC approval, businesses that are strategic to the government require a permit from the commission. In addition, those businesses that have large capital investments exceeding \$5 million and that may have a possible impact on the environment and the local community need to be approved by the MIC's proposal assessment team. (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## FDI crosses \$1.39 bln in Oct-Nov

MYANMAR attracted more than US\$1.39 billion in foreign direct investments between 1 October and 29 November in the current financial year, including expansion of capital by existing enterprises, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. The total figure includes investment of \$15.2 million in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, under the Special Economic Zone Law.

According to a press statement issued by the DICA, 41 foreign enterprises obtained permits from the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC)

and endorsements from regional and state Investment Committees in the current fiscal, bringing in a capital of \$1.35 billion. Those enterprises will execute electricity, manufacturing, livestock and fishery, real estate development, hotels and tourism, and other services businesses.

"As large projects were allowed in the current fiscal, investments grew," said U Thant Sin Lwin. "Infrastructure projects such as industrial parks and urban development projects are bringing investments into the country," he added. The Ministry for Investment and Foreign Eco-

economic Relations is inviting responsible businesses to the country. The Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan (MIPP) was drawn up with the assistance of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and is in the process of being implemented. As per the MIPP, Myanmar aims to receive FDI of \$200 billion in 20 years, said U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations. In the 2018-2019FY, FDI into Myanmar totaled \$4.5 billion, falling short of the \$5.8-billion target by around \$1.3 billion. —GNLM (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

# Pilot of DBE Boxes under way to tackle challenges in basic education

THE Ministry of Education launched the pilot phase of installation of DBE Boxes (K-12 Digital Teaching Resources) yesterday at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw.

The installation of DBE Boxes, which can be accessed without Internet, is part of efforts for tackling the current challenges in the education sector, said Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi at the event held to mark the launch of the boxes.

Dr. Myo Thein Gyi said the ministry has speeded up reforms for the development of the education sector by laying down the national education strategy 2016-2021. But, the ministry is still facing requirements and challenges in some areas, such as the teaching environment, teaching aids, and capacity building of teachers.

“Thanks to the DBE Boxes, teachers from the Department of

Basic Education would be able to easily access books, lessons, teacher’s manuals, and general supplementary textbooks for KG, Grade 1, Grade 2, and Grade 3, and on education policy, law, and reforms,” the minister said.

DBE Boxes include teaching aids with a Creative Commons License and have been designed by international universities and organizations for the purpose of education.

Teachers would be able to study the lessons and teaching sources using smartphones and tablets, said Dr. Myo Thein Gyi. He pledged to install the boxes in schools across the country after reviewing the survey of pilot schools.

“The installation of DBE Boxes is among the reforms based on technology being introduced by the Ministry of Education, and it can be said that the plan will develop educational



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi delivers the speech at the launching ceremony of the pilot phase of installation of DBE Boxes (K-12 Digital Teaching Resources) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

teaching and learning through use of ICTs in accordance with Industry 4.0,” said the Union Minister.

Afterwards, the Union Minister handed out DBE Boxes (K-12 Digital Teaching Resources) to District Education Officers from Yangon, Mandalay, and Nay

Pyi Taw.

Then, U Tin Maung Maung Aye from the Special Projects Working Group of the Ministry of Education provided information on DBE Boxes, and Deputy Director General of Department of Basic Education Dr. Tin Maung Win gave words of thanks.

The installation of DBE Boxes will start with 20 schools in Nay Pyi Taw, 20 schools in Yangon, and 20 schools in Mandalay, and the test installations will take place at Basic Education Primary Schools and Post-Primary Schools.—MNA

(Translated by Ba Htoo)

# International Anti-Corruption Day celebrations to be held nationwide

THE 2019 International Anti-Corruption Day celebrations will be held in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, and in states and regions across Myanmar on 9 December.

International Anti-Corruption Day has been observed annually, on 9 December, since the passage of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, signed by UN member states as UN General Assembly resolution 58/4 on 31 October, 2003

Myanmar officially signed

the Convention and became a member state in 2012. Like other member states, Myanmar organizes International Anti-Corruption Day celebrations annually.

The basic education students’ essay competitions, poem recitation contests and musical performances competitions are organized to mark the International Anti-Corruption Day. The booths displaying anti-corruption activities are also included.

—MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



# “Paris, Texas” film analysis on 8 December, Film Development Center

A FILM analysis for the movie “Paris, Texas” by Director Wim Wenders, a recipient of the Palme d’Or Award at Cannes Film Festival, will be held at the Film Development Center in No.50, Golden Hill Valley Road, Yangon, on 8 December.

Dr Aung Min, member of the center’s managing body, will once again be leading the film analysis, the 31st one held at the center under the Cinematheque Program.

The drama film focuses on Travis Henderson, a man who wandered aimlessly in a desert for four years and his tough reunion with his family and environment. The film received Palme d’Or award at the 1984 Cannes Film Festival.—Nyein Ko (FDC) (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



# Tencent, Nintendo to launch Switch console in China

SHANGHAI — Chinese internet giant Tencent and gaming titan Nintendo on Wednesday announced plans to launch the Japanese company’s popular Switch console in China from next week.

Expectations for the console’s launch in the world’s largest

games market has helped to push up Nintendo’s share price this year.

The console will be sold in China from December 10 for 2,099 yuan (\$297), the companies said at a launch event in Shanghai.

“Nintendo has long hoped to provide Chinese consumers with Nintendo’s games and entertainment, and now this dream has come true,” said Shigeru Miyamoto, the renowned game creator of “Super Mario Bros” and “Donkey Kong”, said in a video message.

Nintendo had said earlier this year that it was working with Tencent — China’s leading online video game company as well as a giant in messaging and myriad other apps — to roll out the Switch in China.

The Switch has become a huge global seller, aided by the release of innovative, family-friendly titles that have been well-received by critics and gamers.

The console will come with “New Super Mario Bros. U Deluxe Edition” pre-installed, with “Mario Kart 8 Deluxe Edition” and “Super Mario Odyssey” also available soon, company officials said. Tencent added that it would work to “enrich” the console’s game line-up, including with titles created by Chinese developers, and that up to 20 games could be available to play on Switch in 2020.

China in 2014 began easing a more than decade-long ban on consoles imposed out of concern over the negative impact gaming may have on children.—AFP ■



The Nintendo Switch is a hugely popular console around the world, helped by family-friendly games. PHOTO: AFP

## NATO unity on the line as Turkey row festers

WATFORD — NATO leaders sought to make a show of unity on Wednesday as they met to conclude their annual summit, but the alliance's chief admitted a festering row with Turkey was still unresolved.

What should have been a celebration of NATO's 70th birthday has been overshadowed by bitter rows about money and the future strategy of the alliance.

Last year, the Western

allies' get-together was derailed by US President Donald Trump's demand for greater European defence spending, but 2019's provocateur was France's Emmanuel Macron.

The French president has called for a renewed strategic dialogue with Moscow and demanded that Turkey explain itself over its assault — backed by Syrian rebels Paris sees as extremists — on Kurdish forces and its purchase

of the Russian S-400 air defence system.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan meanwhile has threatened to hold up NATO efforts to bolster the protection of the Baltic republics against Russia unless the allies brand the Kurdish militias who defeated the IS group in Syria as "terrorists".

Amid fears Erdogan could even veto the summit declaration and with barely two hours to go before the leaders sat down for their sole roundtable, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg admitted a solution to the row with Turkey had still not been found.

"I'm confident that we will be able to find a solution to the issue related to the updating the revised defence plans," he said as he arrived for the summit at a luxury golf hotel in Watford, on the outskirts of London.—AFP ■



US President Donald Trump and France's Emmanuel Macron held a meeting ahead of a NATO summit in London. PHOTO: AFP

## Kuwait to host Gulf defense exhibition

KUWAIT CITY — Kuwait will hold the 5th Gulf Defense and Aerospace Exhibition and Conference on Dec. 10, the organizing committee of the exhibition said on Tuesday.

At a press conference held in Hawalli Governorate, Salah Al-Azmi, chairman of the committee, said that the exhibition aims to support the transformation of Kuwait into a financial and commercial center in the region. It is one of the most important exhibitions in the region, where the arms manufacturers will compete in showing their military equipment, he said. According to the organizing committee, more than 200 leading international defense and armament companies from around 31 countries and regions will participate in the three-day exhibition.—Xinhua ■

### INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports for the supply of Medical Equipment (Total items - 264) for New Yangon Specialist Hospital in the (2019-2020) Budget year.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the Procurement and Supplying Division, Department of Medical Services, Office No (4), Ministry of Health and Sports Commencing from (9.12.2019). Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office, not later than (8-1-2020), 12:00 Noon, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Phone No.067-3411510, 067-3411544, Procurement and Supply Division Office, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports.

Procurement and Supply Division  
Ministry of Health and Sports

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (029N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (029N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of T.M.I.T/M.I.P 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINENTAL SHIPPING  
LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

## UN launches \$29 bn emergency funding appeal

GENEVA — The UN launched a humanitarian appeal for nearly \$29 billion on Wednesday as climate change and increasingly protracted conflicts put tens of millions of people in urgent need of aid.

The world body's Glob-

al Humanitarian Overview estimated that 168 million people worldwide will need some form of emergency assistance in 2020, including food, shelter and health-care. That figure marks a "record in the modern era," UN emergency relief coor-

dinator Mark Lowcock told reporters, clarifying that he was referring to the period since World War II.

Needs continue to rise in part because "conflicts are becoming more protracted and intense," Lowcock said.—AFP ■

### Notice to be realized by

#### U Thein Naing Oo (12/La Ma Na (Naing) 119821) and public

It is hereby notified as follows by instruction of Daw Mu Mu San, residing at No. 8 (N), Nguwar 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Mya Kan Thar Housing, (5) Ward, Hlaing Township, Yangon Region and Daw Than Myint (a) Chi Su Lian (13/Ta Kha La (Naing) 026589), residing at No.61/A, Thayaphe Street, Tarlot Ward of Tachileik Township of Shan State as Follows.

Daw Than Myint director of Dana Lin Company assigned U Thein Naing Oo general power to carry the necessary affairs of company on (27.2.2014).

Assigner, Daw Than Myint misunderstand on the performance of assignee, U Thein Naing Oo on (4.10.2019), notification has been published on (19.10.2019) Myanmar Alin newspaper and Kyaymon newspaper and English newspaper on (22.10.2019) that effect to the dignity reputation and moral character of yours.

Therefore these misunderstanding notifications have been revoked and request for you to be known by U Thein Naing Oo and public by this notification.

#### Instructor

Daw Than Myint @ Chi Su Lian  
(13/Ta Kha La (Naing) 026589)

Daw Mu Mu San

#### By instruction

U Thar Thar Aung (LL.B)  
Advocate License No - 3982 (1987)

### PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

We, **INLAY TREASURE TRADING CO., LTD**, would like to change distributor of the following products, (registered by **GRADE LAOJUN CHEMICAL CO., LTD** to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), to **YOON YOON AGRO CO., LTD** If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. **INLAY TREASURE TRADING CO., LTD**. Ph - 09795910179.

Sr.	Trade Name	A.L	Receive No.
1	TRIPLE TWO 5% WDG	Emamectin Benzoate 5% WDG	P2018-4474
2	TRIPLE NINE PLUS 5% EC	Emamectin Benzoate 5% EC	P2018-4475
3	KTTA 20% SL	Acetamiprid 20% SL	P2018-4335
4	Athoxm 25% WDG	Thiamethoxam 25% WDG	P2018-4144
5	YYY 2% EC	Emamectin Benzoate 2% EC	P2018-4473
6	Chloxyl 81% WP	Chlorothalonil 72%+Metalaxyl 9% WP	P2015-2830
7	HYPERMAD 5% SC	Hexaconazole 5% SC	P2018-4148
8	ACO ONE 25% EC	Propiconazole 25% EC	P2018-4147
9	FUNGIDAN 77% WP	Copper Hydroxide 77% WP	P2018-4355
10	KOLUS 80% WDG	Sulphur 80% WDG	P2018-4345
11	DIBIM 32.5% SC	Azoxystrobin 20%+ Difenconazole 12.5% SC	P2018-4321
12	MOON STAR 24% EC	Oxyfluorfen 24% EC	P2018-4327
13	Y-26 20% WP	Bispyribac-Sodium 20% WP	P2018-4326
14	PENGUIN 33% EC	Pendimethalin 33% EC	P2018-4202
15	POUNG SAPAR 40% WP	Bensulfuron Methyl 6%+ Quinlorac 34% WP	P2018-4365

### THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

#### MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY

#### MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE

#### (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)

(24 / 2019-2020)

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

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-023(19-20) (Retender)	Model 8040 D 10 Dual Cell Pressure Size Consistometer (1) Set	Ks
(b)	DMP/L-049(19-20) (Retender)	10 Ton Truck with Crane (1) Unit	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **4 December 2019** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.  
3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **14:00 pm** on **3 January 2020**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time **3-1-2020, 14:00 pm**

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



Mt Paektu has great symbolic significance in the North as both the spiritual birthplace of the Korean nation and, according to Pyongyang's orthodoxy, the birthplace of Kim's father Kim Jong Il. **PHOTO: AFP**

## North Korea's Kim in new horse ride through winter snows

SEOUL — North Korean media published fresh pictures Wednesday of leader Kim Jong Un riding a white horse on a sacred mountain, imagery that experts say is heavy with symbolism and may indicate a policy announcement.

The photos come as nuclear talks with the United States are stalled and with a looming end-of-year deadline set by North Korea for some kind of concession from Washington.

Kim — in a black leather trenchcoat he has worn recently to open a flagship construction project and supervise a weapons

test — was pictured leading a squad of riders in a white forest near Mount Paektu.

The group included his wife Ri Sol Ju as well as several officials, the images released by the official KCNA news agency showed. The mountain — a dormant volcano on the border with China — has great symbolic significance in the North as both the spiritual birthplace of the Korean nation and, according to Pyongyang's orthodoxy, the birthplace of Kim's father Kim Jong Il.

The current leader toured

several historic locations and climbed the mountain, KCNA said, leaving a "sacred trace in the revolutionary battle sites", through "knee-high virgin snow".

The agency also released new images of Kim in a light brown coat with fur collar at the summit of the mountain, to which he previously rode in October.

Analysts say that pictures of Kim at Mount Paektu — a physically dramatic location that is ubiquitous in North Korean imagery — represent assertions of leadership and legitimacy, given the historical background.—AFP

## Japanese doctor who helped Afghans for decades among six killed in attack

KABUL — A Japanese doctor whose long career was dedicated to helping some of Afghanistan's poorest people was among six people killed Wednesday in an attack in the east of the country, officials said.

The armed assault in Jalalabad city, the capital of Nangarhar province, was the second deadly incident involving aid workers in recent days and prompted appalled reaction in Afghanistan and internationally.

Tetsu Nakamura, 73, was the head of Peace Japan Medical Services — known as Peshawar Kai in Japanese — and had been working in the region since the 1980s, when he began treating patients with leprosy in Peshawar in neighbouring Pakistan.

A spokesman for Afghan President Ashraf Ghani called Nakamura "one of the closest friends of Afghanistan".

He "dedicated his life to helping and cooperating with our people", spokesman Sediq Seddiqi said. Attaullah Khogyani, a spokesman for Nangarhar's governor, said Nakamura, who had been shot in the chest, was in the process of being transferred to a hospital in Bagram

near Kabul when he died. Five Afghans were also killed: three of Nakamura's security guards, a driver and another colleague, Khogyani said. The attack comes as humanitarian groups are on high alert just days after an aid worker for the UN was killed in a bombing in Kabul.—AFP ■



Tetsu Nakamura, 73, who headed Peace Japan Medical Services, died from wounds sustained when gunmen attacked his vehicle in Jalalabad. **PHOTO: AFP**

## China condemns US passing Uighur crackdown bill

BEIJING — China on Wednesday came down heavily on the United States after the House of Representatives approved a bill that would require the Trump administration to toughen its response to Beijing's crackdown on its Muslim minority in Xinjiang, mostly ethnic Uighurs, who are being held in re-education camps.

In a statement released shortly after the Uighur Act of 2019 was passed, China's foreign ministry condemned the move, saying the bill "wantonly smears China's efforts to eliminate and combat extremism", Al Jazeera reported. "We urge the US to immediately correct its mistake, to stop the above bill on Xinjiang from becoming law, to stop using Xinjiang as a way to interfere in China's domestic affairs," foreign ministry's spokeswoman, Hua Chunying, said in the statement.

The Uighur Act of 2019 is a stronger version of a bill that

calls on the US President to impose sanctions for the first time on a member of China's powerful politburo, Xinjiang Communist Party Secretary Chen Quanguo, even as Trump tries to reach a deal with Beijing to end the months-long trade war.

The legislation also requires the US president to condemn abuses against Muslims and call for the closure of the camps in Xinjiang. "This is seen as a continuing series of attacks really aimed not so much at freeing anybody or at human rights but at putting pressure on China on these trade negotiations going forward," Beijing-based political analyst and government adviser Einar Tangen told Al Jazeera.

"If you look beneath that, at the Democrat view and the fact that this was bi-partisan, it seems the only thing the people in politics in Washington can agree on is that China is, somehow, an evil empire," he added.—ANI ■



The legislation condemns Beijing's 'gross human rights violations' linked to the crackdown on mainly Muslim Uighurs in Xinjiang. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Malaysia PM says canceled APEC summit need not be relocated to US

CYBERJAYA — Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Wednesday that it is not necessary for the United States to reschedule and host an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum canceled by Chile.

In late October, Chile withdrew from hosting the mid-November meeting after violent street protests rocked the country, prompting the United States

to offer to co-host the event with it on American soil in January.

"I hear there was an invitation extended to the APEC countries, but almost every one of us decided it was not necessary," Mahathir told reporters. "If you just call an impromptu meeting, we think it is not necessary."

Malaysia is already set to host the next APEC summit in late 2020.—Kyodo News ■

## UK PM denies dodging Trump in pre-election NATO trip

WATFORD — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson denied on Wednesday he was avoiding being pictured with Donald Trump ahead of a UK election next week, as footage emerged of other leaders mocking the US president.

Johnson met Trump away from the cameras on Tuesday before a two-day NATO summit, avoiding the media fanfare that normally accompanies such talks.

He also failed to publicly greet Trump and his wife Melania on the doorstep of Downing Street before a reception with other NATO leaders.

Johnson's team are wary of what Trump might say during his two-day visit, with Britain set to go to the polls on 12 December.

Johnson's Conservatives are leading opinion polls but the rival Labour party has sought to whip up public opinion against Trump, who is deeply unpopular in Britain.

In a press conference on Tuesday, the president promised to "stay out" of the election cam-



Arriving for the formal NATO talks on Wednesday, Boris Johnson denied he was trying to avoid being seen with Donald Trump. **PHOTO: AFP**

paign and most of his remarks were about divisions within NATO. But he still managed to endorse Johnson as "very capable" and intervene in a row over US interests in Britain's state-run National Health Service (NHS) after Brexit.

Arriving for the formal NATO talks in Watford, north of London, on Wednesday, Johnson denied he was trying to avoid being seen with Trump.

"I'm going to be photographed with every possible leader," he insisted, and later posed

with the president for an official welcome alongside NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg.

Downing Street said Trump and Johnson had discussed the NATO summit and an earlier meeting between Britain, France, Germany and Turkey about the

situation in Syria.

Trump wrote on Twitter that he "enjoyed" the talks, which he said covered "numerous subjects including NATO and trade".

Johnson is campaigning for re-election on a promise to get Britain out of the European Union next month, more than three years after the 2016 Brexit referendum.

He has held up a new US trade deal as one of the prizes of Brexit but has faced accusations from Labour that this will open up the much loved NHS to US firms.

Johnson denies this, and Trump said his country would not be interested in the NHS "if you handed it to us on a silver platter".

### Candid camera

Officials are braced for Trump to become more loquacious in a press conference after the NATO talks later on Wednesday — particularly after footage emerged apparently showing other leaders apparently laughing at him.— AFP ■

## Iran says still ready for talks if US lifts sanctions

TEHRAN — Iran is willing to return to the negotiating table if the United States first drops sanctions, President Hassan Rouhani said Wednesday, after a fuel price hike sparked deadly violence ahead of elections.

European countries have been pushing for talks with Iran to salvage a 2015 nuclear deal that has all but collapsed since the United States withdrew and reimposed sanctions last year.

Rouhani has long demanded the lifting of US sanctions for Iran's return to talks under the auspices of the so-called P5+1 that reached the deal — the five veto-wielding permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany.

His latest statement comes after a shock announcement in mid-November that the price of petrol was going up by as much as 200 percent triggered demonstrations across Iran that turned deadly.

The decision came at a sensitive time ahead of a February parliamentary election.

It is a rise many Iranians can ill afford in a country whose sanctions-hit economy is expected to contract by 9.5 per cent this year.



President Hassan Rouhani has long demanded the lifting of US sanctions in exchange for Iran's return to talks on its nuclear programme. President office. **PHOTO: AFP**

"If they are prepared to put aside the sanctions, we are ready to talk and negotiate, even at the level of heads of the 5+1 countries," Rouhani said in remarks aired live on state television.

"We are under sanctions. This situation... is (because of) incitement by the Zionists and the region's reactionary," he said, referring to Iran's regional rivals Israel and Saudi Arabia.

His remarks came after France and Germany raised the possibility of triggering a mechanism in the deal that could lead to the reimposition of UN sanctions.—AFP ■

## Egypt says new meeting on Nile dam dispute to be held in Washington

CAIRO — Egypt said Tuesday that a new trilateral meeting on the disputed Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) will be held in Washington on 9 December.

Irrigation ministers of Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan will attend the meeting to evaluate the results of the first and second rounds of talks on the dam, the Egyptian Ministry of Irrigation

said in a statement. The statement was issued after a two-day meeting of the irrigation ministers that ended Tuesday in Cairo, during which they discussed solutions to the differences on the filling and operating of the dam, the statement said.

A representative of the World Bank and a US official also attended the Cairo meeting, which was the second of four rounds

of negotiations that will end in Washington on 15 January, 2020.

A meeting was held in Ethiopia on 15-16 November to discuss the outcomes of the first meeting.

Ethiopia started building the GERD in 2011, but Egypt, a downstream country that relies heavily on the Nile for water, is concerned that the dam might affect its share of the water resources.—Xinhua ■



A general view of Ethiopia's Grand Renaissance Dam is seen during a media tour along the river Nile in Benishangul Gumuz Region, Guba Woreda, in Ethiopia 31 March, 2015 - AFP.

## 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games: Myanmar Judo team wins bronze, Sepak takraw team enters semifinal

MYANMAR'S Mai San and Chit Min Ko Ko secured the bronze medal at the Nageno Kata competition of Judo, held yesterday at the Laus Group Event Center in the Philippines.

Meanwhile, in the men's doubles event of Sepak takraw, which was held yesterday at the Subic Bay Gymnasium in the Philippines, team Myanmar won the group stage by beating team Laos by 2-1 and trouncing team Viet Nam by 3-0 to secure a place in the semifinal.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Myanmar Judo athletes Mai San and Chit Min Ko Ko seen with their bronze medals. **PHOTO: SPED**



Myanmar and Laos players compete in the men's doubles Sepak takraw competition at the 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games yesterday at the Subic Bay Gymnasium in the Philippines. **PHOTO: SPED**

### 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games badminton: Thet Htar Thuzar to face Malaysia's Soniia today

MYANMAR badminton icon Thet Htar Thuzar will compete in the 16-round women's singles event in the badminton competition at the 30<sup>th</sup> South East Asian (SEA) Games today in the Philippines.

Thet Htar Thuzar will meet Malaysia's Soniia Cheah Su Ya in today's match.

Thet Htar Thuzar is currently placed 61<sup>st</sup> in the women's singles badminton world ranking, while Soniia Cheah is ranked 32<sup>nd</sup>.

Soniia Cheah is a tough player with a lot of experience, having played in several international tournaments such as YONEX-SUNRISE Hong Kong Open 2019 in Hong Kong and Fuzhou China Open 2019 in China.

Meanwhile, Thet Htar Thuzar has been recognized as one of the most improved players in the world. From a world ranking of only 181 on 12 February, she moved up to 84 on 9 July, and is currently seeded 61. The women's singles event will be held till 9 December, and the final matches will be played on that day.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



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

### 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games women's football semifinal: Myanmar to play Thailand today

THE Myanmar women's national football team will play a decisive semifinal match against the Thailand women's team today at the Rizal Memorial Stadium in Manila, the Philippines.

A pre-press conference for the semifinal match was held yesterday in the Philippines, and it was attended by the head coaches of both teams.

Head coach of the Thailand women's national football team, Naruphol Kaenson, said that the Thai players would do their best in the semifinal. He also said that all ASEAN teams have improved their game and that he would try as far as he could to ensure his team is faultless in the upcoming match against Myanmar. Team Thailand will treat the Myanmar team with respect, the head coach added.

Meanwhile, head coach of the Myanmar women's football team, U Win Thu Moe, said that all players on the team will do their best in the decisive semifinal. He said that he had prepared the team well by showing them videos of team Thailand in the group matches of the 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games. He also said that both teams have a 50-percent chance of winning, and



Thailand head coach Naruphol Kaenson (L) and Myanmar head coach U Win Thu Moe seen at a press conference ahead of today's semifinal match. **PHOTO: MFF**

the game will be a thrilling one as Thailand is one of the best teams in ASEAN.

Team Myanmar will wear white jerseys and team Thailand will wear yellow jerseys for the match, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The match will start at 6.30 p.m. today. It will be broadcast live on Channel 7 free-to-air channel and streamed live on Pyone Play Sports, an online TV channel, said a source with the football federation.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

### 2019 Southeast Asian Games medal tally updated

COUNTRY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
PHILIPPINES	56	41	22	119
VIETNAM	27	32	34	93
MALAYSIA	21	12	22	55
SINGAPORE	18	12	20	50
INDONESIA	17	27	29	73
THAILAND	13	15	22	50
MYANMAR	1	6	21	28
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	1	5	5	11
CAMBODIA	1	3	17	21
LAOS	0	2	6	8
TIMOR-LESTE	0	0	0	0