

**NATIONAL**

Independent Lawyers' Association of Myanmar-ILAM issues statement

PAGE-4

**NATIONAL**

Myanmar Writers Club issues statement dated 23 November, 2019

PAGE-4

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VI, No. 233, 10<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Nadaw 1381 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Friday, 6 December 2019

## Farmer rights leading committee to double down on promoting agricultural industries



**V**ICE President U Henry Van Thio, in his capacity as the chairman of the Leading Committee for Farmer Rights Protection and Enhancement of their Benefits, asked committee members to help local farmers, who are witnessing a decline in markets for crops and fisheries products.

The meeting was held at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Agriculture in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The Vice President also said local paddy farmers are suffering a downturn in foreign demand, and that the recommendation committee for rice market has fixed the floor price of paddy for 2019-2020 financial year.

Under the article 23 of the

Law of Protection of the Farmer Rights and Enhancement of their Benefits, the leading body has announced the price at K0.5 million per 100 baskets on 15 October 2019 with the approval of the Union government to be able to subsidize the farmers if the market paddy price declined under this rate by using the K15 billion operating budget of the State. The Vice President also urged the Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council and the chief ministers of State/Regions need to facilitate the working groups in purchasing paddy/rice.

The government has permitted export 0.2 million tonnes of Lone Thwel paddy from October to December 2019 to address the excess stockpile of paddy in the

local market, and the volume of export would be increased to 0.5 million tonnes by 31 January 2020.

He also advised the sugar-cane farmers who are suffering from the impact of freezing sugar market by preventing re-export sugar, illegal import and controlling import sugar for the actual need. A decline of price and excess stockpile of sugar in the local market have pulled down the price of sugar-canes by K2,000 to K5,000 per tonne.

The Vice President added Myanmar has seen a positive trend in export of livestock products, with over 40 countries of destination, and the EU could help export of fishery products from 24 processing factories.

**SEE PAGE-3**



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the meeting of Leading Committee for Farmer Rights Protection and Enhancement of their Benefits in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

INSIDE TODAY

**PARLIAMENT**

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw discusses one report, approves another by committee scrutinizing the Constitution

**PAGE-2**



**NATIONAL**

2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Development Effectiveness Roundtable Opening Ceremony held

**PAGE-7**



**NATIONAL**

ASEAN-Korea Tourism Capacity Building Workshop held in Nay Pyi Taw

**PAGE-5**

## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

# Pyidaungsu Hluttaw discusses one report, approves another by committee scrutinizing the Constitution

**T**HE eleventh-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 14<sup>th</sup> regular session was held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning where the Hluttaw discusses one report and approves another report of Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the second bill amending the Constitution. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw also approves Myanmar Insolvency Bill while Hluttaw's approval was requested for commercial tax exemption on importing six Bullet Proof Toyota Landcruiser vehicles.

## Discussion on a report of Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the Constitution

The 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 145 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives including U Sai Than Naing of Kayin State constituency 5.

The matter was discussed by U Myat Lay Oo of Htilin constituency, U Tin Htwe of Waw constituency, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Chit Nyi Nyi, U Soe Thein of Kayah State constituency 9, U Win Myint of Magway Region constituency 8, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Aung Kyaw Hnin, Daw Htu May of Rakhine State constituency 11, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Ye Tun, Daw



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

Ei Ei Pyone of Ayeyawady Region constituency 8, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Lt-Col Myo Tun Aung, U Maung Myint of Mingin constituency, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Captain Daw Tin Mar Swe, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Captain Daw Myint Myint Nwe, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Major Aung Naing Oo, Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency and U Maung Latt of Sagaing Region constituency 9.

## Hluttaw approves Myanmar Insolvency Bill

Next, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the Hluttaw putting on record the Myanmar Insolvency Bill considered as approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

## Hluttaw approves another report of Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the Constitution

Afterwards, secretary of the Joint Committee on Scrutinizing the second bill amending the Constitution Dr Myat Nyana Soe responded to the discussion of Hluttaw representatives regarding



Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win.

the committee report on a bill amending the Constitution for the second time signed and submitted by 144 Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives including Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Brig-Gen Aung San Chit.

The committee secretary said the committee has no separate explanation to make as the comments and suggestions of the majority of the joint committee members as well as separate comments and suggestion of three joint committee members were included in the report. The committee secretary requested the Hluttaw to approve the report.

After the Hluttaw voted 347 for, 197 against and 4 abstaining, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw approving the report of the 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 in-

cluding Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Brig-Gen Aung San Chit.

## Commercial tax exemption on importing six Bullet Proof Toyota Landcruiser vehicles

As a final agenda of the day Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win explained to the Hluttaw on the matter of commercial tax exemption on importing six Bullet Proof Toyota Landcruiser vehicles sent by the President.

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

The 12<sup>th</sup> day meeting the 14<sup>th</sup> regular session of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is scheduled to be held on 9 December. — Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Zaw Min)



MP Dr Myat Nyana Soe.



MP U Tin Htwe of Waw constituency.



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than meets Ambassador of the Czech Republic Mrs Hana Mottlova in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

## Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than receives Czech Ambassador

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than received Ambassador of the Czech Republic Mrs Hana Mottlova at the guest hall of Amyotha Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In the meeting, they cordially discussed promoting bilateral friendship relations and coop-

eration between Myanmar and the Czech Republic, strengthening the relationship between parliaments and promoting the development of the capacity of Hluttaw representatives including regions and states Hluttaws. — MNA

(Translated by TTN)

## Farmer rights leading committee to double down on promoting ...

FROM PAGE-1

Myanmar started implementing the National Residue Monitoring Plan (NRMP) in 2014-2015, and the 17 factories under this programme are exporting farm fishery products.

The Emerald Village (Fishery Sector) programme is providing K30 million to each village for creating job opportunities, promoting family incomes of rural people and alleviation of poverty.

The Vice President continued the updated version of Farmland Law 2012 which will be published which will come into effect with the approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in near future.

In accordance with the objectives of the Law of Protection of the Farmer Rights and Enhancement of their Benefits, mentioning 'to provide aids as much as possible for loss and damage caused by any natural disaster', the government has already given over K7.32 billion for the damaged crop acres 379,964.14 from the emergency budget, and K3.02 billion for the 302,315 acres is being released to the farmers.

In his conclusion, the Vice President suggested cooperation of work committees and groups, together with the private sector, to promote the benefits of farmers.

Union Minister Dr Aung

The Vice President added Myanmar has seen a positive trend in export of livestock products, with over 40 countries of destination, and the EU could help export of fishery products from 24 processing factories.

Thu, the secretary of Leading Committee, presented the committee's works in 2019 future plans for 2020.

The members of the Leading Committee also discussed purchasing of paddy at the floor price in respective states and regions, preparations for natural disasters, markets and rehabilitation programmes.

Union Minister Dr Aung Thu coordinated on the discussions for making future plans.

Finally, Vice President U Henry Van Thio made a conclusion remark on the meeting.

The meeting was also attended by Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing, Union Minis-

ter for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr Myo Aung, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, chief ministers of States/Regions, Deputy Ministers, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Social Development Committee, members of State/Region government, departmental heads, Vice Chairman of Myanmar Rice Federation, Chairman of Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association, the invited guests and officials. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

## Union MOEE Minister receives German Ambassador



Union Minister U Win Khaing meets with German Ambassador Mr Thomas Neisinger in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing received German Ambassador Mr Thomas Neisinger at his office

in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They discussed cooperation in the electricity and energy sector between Myanmar

and Germany, cooperation with German companies, increasing cooperation in renewable energy sources, assistance for technology and human resource development, increasing technical and financial assistance from Germany in MoEE's current and future projects, assistance in upgrading power plants and fertilizer factories, the formation of the National Renewable Energy Committee and its objective and ongoing processes, and assistance in elevating skills of the policy, technology and financial management sectors.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Union NREC Minister attends climate change-themed event



Union Minister U Ohn Win addresses the event on reducing carbon emissions and preserving natural forests to limit climate change in Spain. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environment Conservation U Ohn Win attended an event on reducing carbon emissions and preserving natural forests to limit climate change organized by the Korea Forest Service, a South Korean government agency specializing in forestry, at Feria de Madrid's exhibition centre in Spain on 4 December.

Speaking at the event, the Union Minister highlighted Myanmar's efforts to reduce climate change by drafting appropriate policies and cooperating with the international community, in addition to signing relevant UN Conventions. He also mentioned Myanmar's 10-year reforestation plan and said he believes it will also raise the socio-economic livelihood of the local residents. He then thanked the ROK agency for providing technical and financial assistance. Next, the

Director of the Yezin Forestry Research Department, under the Forestry Department, explained the facts and experiences of Myanmar's project to reduce carbon emissions from deforestation and forest conservation. Additionally, officials from Cambodia and ROK also explained their REDD+ implementations, experiences and objectives, and experts from CIFOR and Wildlife Works recounted their international experiences. The Union Minister also attended a panel discussion on opportunities in renewable energy sources to reduce climate change at the World Wide Fund for Nature Pavilion, New Zealand's discussion on Impact of Climate Change on Pacific Blue Economics, and England's research paper reading session on climate change and consequences on aquatic life. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Union Minister U Han Zaw receives German Ambassador

UNION Minister for Construction U Han Zaw received Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr Thomas Neisinger at the guest hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to cooperation for urban development and upgrading roads in rural areas in Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were directors-general and deputy directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Construction.—MNA

(Translated by TTN)



Union Minister U Han Zaw meets with Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr Thomas Neisinger at the Ministry of Construction in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

## Independent Lawyers' Association of Myanmar-ILAM issued a statement.

Following is the full-text of the statement.

### Statement of the Independent Lawyers' Association of Myanmar (6/2019)

1. Independent Lawyers' Association of Myanmar (ILAM) supports and welcomes the Union Minister of Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's announcement in her sense of duty to represent and defend Myanmar before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on 10 December 2019.
2. Since ICJ is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, where Myanmar is a member state, we must cooperate with it earnestly.
3. Myanmar values human dignity and is striving to abide by international norms of justice as well as universal human rights norms such as the rights to settlement, identity and life.
4. Myanmar will not tolerate or hide injustice, intimidation, and inhumane acts since Myanmar is a developing country that is aspiring to become a highly dignified and civilized country that does not discriminate based on the color of your skin, race, or religion.
5. Under such circumstances, we fully support the efforts of people's leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who was elected by the people, to shine a light of truth for the benefit of the entire population.

*Independent Lawyers' Association of Myanmar*

## Myanmar Writers Club issued a statement dated 23 November, 2019.

Following is the full-text of the statement.

### Statement of the Myanmar Writers Club

We have learned that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will personally head the delegation to resolve the lawsuit filed by The Gambia on behalf of the 57-member Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) regarding the issue of refugees from Rakhine State.

The Myanmar Writers Club welcomes Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's spirit of accountable leadership in safeguarding Myanmar's national interests.

*Myanmar Writers Club  
23 November 2019*



Union Minister U Thaung Tun hosts dinner for Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Education and Finance of the Republic of Singapore, Ms. Indranee Rajah in Nay Pyi Taw, **PHOTO: MNA**

## Union Minister U Thaung Tun hosts a dinner for Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Education and Finance of the Republic of Singapore, Ms Indranee Rajah

UNION Minister for the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relation U Thaung Tun hosted a dinner for Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Education and Finance of the Republic of Singapore, Ms Indranee Rajah at M. Gallery by Sofitel Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday evening.

Union Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Min Ye Paing Hein were attended the dinner.—MNA

## Union Minister Dr Than Myint attends 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CFC in Netherlands

UNION Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint attended the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) and the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Governing Council in the Netherlands held at The Hague Marriott Hotel on 3 and 4 December.

As a representative of Myanmar for the governing body, on 3 December, the Union Minister took part in the panel discussions on the topics of 'Learning from 30 Years of

Commodity Sector Development', 'Harnessing commodity Value Chains for Development: an interactive debate', 'Investing to Create Positive Dynamics in Commodities', and 'What does impact business expect from impact investors: an Interactive Debate'

On 4 December, Union Minister Dr Than Myint held an exclusive meeting with Mr Parvinder Singh, the Managing Director of CFC, on the assistance of financial resources and

technology from CFC in the development of the agricultural sector of Myanmar and providing help for holding workshops in Myanmar.

The Union Minister also attended the programmes of 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Governing Council, and voted in the election of its managing director. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister Dr Than Myint attends the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) and the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Governing Council in the Netherlands. **PHOTO: MNA**

# ASEAN-Korea Tourism Capacity Building Workshop held in Nay Pyi Taw



Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung delivers the opening address at the ASEAN-Korea Tourism Capacity Building Workshop in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE workshop titled ‘Transforming Tourism Through Digital Marketing’ was held at the M Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung delivered an opening remark at the workshop which aimed for capacity building in tourism industry between ASEAN and the Republic of Korea.

The Union Minister said that the ministry has focused on digital technology in tourism industry of the country since 2018 for promoting the image of the country, expanding tourism market, and using digital marketing for distribut-

ing information to the Korean people.

Secretary General Mr Lee Hyuk from the ASEAN-Korea Centre also extended a greeting.

At the workshop, experts from the Centre and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism discussed topics on developments of digital marketing in the tourism industry in sharing information about the changing trend of technology in the tourism industry, increasing competence of Myanmar tourism industry and updated knowledge in the digital tourism industry.—MNA

*(Translated by Aung Khin)*



Union Minister U Soe Win meets Deputy Assistant Secretary of the US Treasury for Asia Mr Robert Kaproth and US Ambassador Mr Scot Marciel at the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

# Union PFI Minister receives US delegation

UNION Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win received Deputy Assistant Secretary of the US Treasury for Asia Mr Robert Kaproth and US Ambassador Mr Scot Marciel at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed financial cooperation between the two countries, providing technical assistance to develop Myanmar’s finan-

cial sector, Myanmar’s process in countering money laundering and financing of terrorism, assistance to ensure quality projects in implementing public-private partnership projects concerning the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP), and America’s continued assistance in Myanmar’s development trek.—MNA

*(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

# MOEE : 50 pc Myanmar households gain access to national grid

THE Ministry of Electricity and Energy held a press conference yesterday to explain their accomplishment in linking 50 per cent of all households in Myanmar to the national grid and of their future processes.

U Thura Aung Bo, Chief

Engineer of the Electricity supply Enterprise Group, 5,448,706 from a total of 10,877,832 households across the nation are receiving electricity from the power grid as of December this year. He also explained the objectives of the electri-

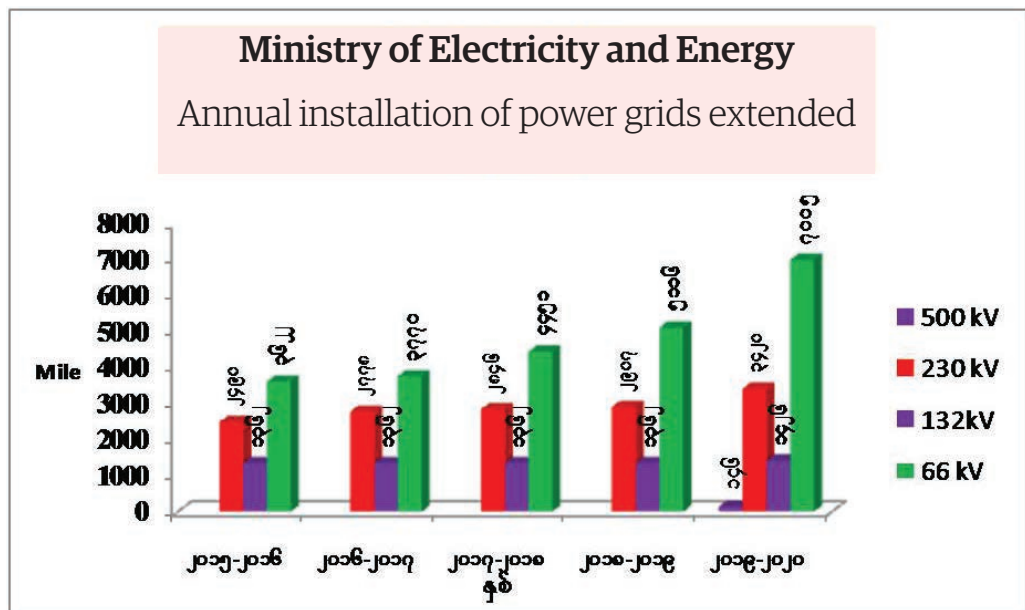
fication plans which aims to provide electricity to 5.98 million households (55% of nationwide number) in 2021-2022 FY, to 8.26 million households (75.95%) in 2025-2026 FY, and to 10.45 million households (96.07%) in 2030-2031 FY. He

said the remaining 0.43 million households (3.93%) will be provided with alternative energy sources.

The Chief Engineer said they will commemorate the achievement of supplying electricity to half of the households

in the entire country by 12 and 13 December in Nay Pyi Taw and other states and regions. MoEE officials then replied to questions from the media.—MNA

*(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*



Ministry of Electricity and Energy holds press conference in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 65/2019

THE Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution held meeting 65/2019 at the meeting hall of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

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

Dr Myat Nyana Soe, Joint Secretary of the Joint Committee U Htay Win Aung (a) U Pyone Cho, the Joint Committee's members who are Hluttaw representatives from political parties and Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw office.—MNA

(Translated by TTN)



Meeting 65/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

## Union Minister for IFER receives US delegations



UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, U Thaung Tun received US delegations led by US Department of Treasury Deputy Assistant Secretary for South East Asia Mr Robert Kaproth and US Ambassador to Myanmar

Mr Scot Marciel at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

At the meeting, US Department of Treasury Director for South and Southeast Asia Mr Seth Bleiweis and Regional Treasury Attache for Southeast Asia Mr. Matthew Mohlenkamp were presented and they discussed matters relating to economic relations between the two countries and ways and means to further promotes US investment in Myanmar.—MNA

Union Minister U Thaung Tun meets with the US delegation led by US Department of Treasury Deputy Assistant Secretary for South East Asia Mr Robert Kaproth and US Ambassador Mr. Scot Marciel. PHOTO: MNA

## Union PFI Minister receives Singaporean Minister

UNION Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win received Ms Indranee Rajah, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office of Singapore and Second Minister for Education and Finance, and Singaporean Ambassador Ms Vanessa Chan at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed Singapore-based Infrastructure Asia's process in

developing Myanmar's infrastructure sector, assisting in requirements for technology, investment and experience concerning implementation of Public-Private Partnership projects, Singapore's possible assistance in Myanmar's Project Bank, and prospective private sector investments in Myanmar's industrial sector.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Minister U Soe Win holds talks with Singaporean Minister Ms Indranee Rajah in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

## Court-Martial Assembles at Local Regiment

THE Presiding officer and members of Court-Martial convened in accordance with the Defence Services Act and the Defence Services Rules to conduct the trial on Incident of Gutapyin have assembled at the local regiment in Buthidaung on 26 November 2019 in conformity with the procedure at trial. Examination of military

personnel witnesses and civilian witnesses for prosecution are continuing at trial Arraignment of accused personnel and examination of witnesses for defence will continue at trial in accordance with the procedure at trial according to the Office of the Judge Advocate General according to the Tatmadaw True News Information Team.—MNA



PHOTO: MNA

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Development Effectiveness Roundtable Opening Ceremony held

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 December 2019

**AN** OPENING Ceremony in honor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Development Effectiveness Roundtable took place at the Myanmar International Convention Center in Nay Pyi Taw in this morning. Vice Chair of the Development Assistance Coordination Unit (DACU) and Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, U Thaug Tun, delivered the keynote address.

Union Ministers, Chair of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, Chief Ministers of States and Regions, Deputy Ministers, Hluttaw members, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General, Ambassadors, Development Partners, domestic and international private sector representatives, NGOs, INGOs, and invited guests totaling in excess of 500 people, attended the ceremony.

In his keynote address, the Minister underlined the fact that all stakeholders including the private sector, the public sector, civil society organizations and development partners played an important role in driving Myanmar's development agenda forward. The Minister expressed his appreciation to all development partners including the World Bank, ADB, USAID, JICA, DFID, UNOPS, GIZ, KOICA, Australia, China, EU, France, Germany, Italy and others country partners, UN and INGOs organizations.

The Minister also noted that Myanmar's economic growth was forecast to grow at 6.8 percent in 2020 which places Myanmar amongst the fastest growing economies in both the region and globally, and that growth was leading to increased productivity and improvements to living standard experienced by Myanmar's people.

The Minister also emphasized the implementation of Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan, supported by the establishment of key institutional mechanisms including the Project Bank, the Land Bank, a new Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center,



Union Minister U Thaug Tun delivers the speech at the opening ceremony of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Development Effectiveness Roundtable in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

and Central Transformation Unit. The Minister also warmly acknowledged development partners' support to the development of a MSDP National Indicator Framework.

The Minister went on to highlight a number of key economic reform related achievements under the guidance of the MSDP, including the creation of a more investment enabling environment, increasingly openness of the insurance and banking sectors, the implementation of the legal framework supporting Intellectual Property Right, and the establishment of a Competition Commission. The Minister also underscored Myanmar's remarkable achievement noting that Myanmar was recognized as one of this year's 20 most improved economies on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index.

The Minister explained the government's commitment to achieving universal health coverage by 2030, and National Health Plan (2017-2021) which led to the achievement of a 90 percent reduction in Malaria cases, and with 85 percent of eligible HIV/AIDS patients received the life-saving drugs. Furthermore, monthly cash payments to pregnant women as part of the Government's "1,000 days" are leading directly to

significant health improvements to mother's and their babies.

The Minister also highlighted linkages between the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women 2013-2022, and the newly drafted Prevention and Protection of Violence Against Women Law, and the newly enacted a new Child Rights Law, and the empowerment of Women in Myanmar more broadly.

The Minister concluded his remarks with 3 key messages, the first being the crucial role of partnerships between development partners, the private sector and civil society in order to attain the goals outlined in the MSDP. The second, message noted the need for more systematic and well-structured Strategic Coordination Groups to facilitate MSDP implementation and monitoring. The third message noted that Myanmar must seek to use Official Development Assistance (ODA) wisely and in ways that can draw additional private sector financing for sustainable development.

The opening ceremony was followed by 2 Roundtable Discussions. The first Roundtable Discussion on "Coordinating Assistance in Support of Myanmar's National Development Priorities", was

moderated by Mr. Newin Sinsiri, Asian Development Bank Country Director. Deputy Ministers for Planning, Finance and Industry U Set Aung and U Min Ye Paing Hein, Daw Si Si Pyone, Director General of Treasury Department, and Daw Thway Thway Chit, Director General of Planning Department, shared updates relating to the implementation of MSDP, and the Project Bank online portal and associated project financing mechanisms.

Moderated by U Than Aung Kyaw, Director General of Foreign Economic Relations Department, Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, a second roundtable discussion was continued by the remarks given by the United Nations, USAID, the Myanmar CSO Partnership for Aid and Development Effectiveness, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, AustCham Myanmar, and the INGO Forum. In their remarks, they expressed their commitments to support the future Myanmar's development program and shared experiences, views as to how to strengthen a new set of Strategic Coordination Groups in support of more effective cooperation.

Following that, the sum-

maries of previous day discussions were presented by the co-moderators.

The second Roundtable Discussion focused on "Mainstreaming the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan" moderated by Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Director General, Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry. U Hla Moe Aung, Chief Minister of Ayeyarwady Region and U Saw Bo Bo Wai Maung, Social Affairs Minister of Kayin State, discussed investment opportunities, cooperation programs and future development prospects of their respective States and Regions.

Then, U San Myint, Director General of Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry, U Than Aung Kyaw, Director General of Foreign Economic Relations Department, Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, and Mr. Gordon Johnson, United Nations Development Program Resident Representative, presented a proposed National Indicator Framework to support the financing, monitoring and evaluation of the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan, and revitalizing the new set of Strategic Coordination Groups which development are now being planned.

The sessions were followed by open dialogue between all participants.

Union Minister U Thaug Tun provided remarks during the closing session. In his remarks, the Minister expressed appreciation to all parties including development partners, CSOs, NGOs, INGOs, UMFCCI and the private sector, officials and all concerned person who have continued to support Myanmar's development agenda and reform process, as well for assistance which made possible this most successful event. The Minister committed to continue closely collaborating with development partners in support of Myanmar's development journey.—MNA

# Ensuring safety of workers

**I**N ACCORDANCE with the 1959 Employment Restriction Act and the 2013 Employment and Skills Development Law, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population has granted licenses to local employment agencies registered with the Investment and Companies Administration Department.

Under Section 35 of the 2013 Employment and Skills Development Law, those found guilty of offering employment services illegally or operating without a license can be sentenced to up to three years in prison or fined, or both.

Hence, those who wish to operate local employment agencies should apply to the ministry for a license, in accordance with the set rules.

Meanwhile, the ministry has invited complaints against illegal employment agencies and licensed employment agencies flouting rules set by the government.

Agencies found breaking the rules will be charged in accordance with the 2013 Employment and Skills Development Law.

Local and overseas employment agencies are required to act in an ethical manner, remain transparent, and refrain from committing labour violations when dealing with workers and international employers.

The law prohibits offering of illegal employment services illegally or operating without a license can be sentenced to up to three years in prison or fined, or both.

Under Section 35 of the 2013 Employment and Skills Development Law, those found guilty of offering employment services illegally or operating without a license can be sentenced to up to three years in prison or fined, or both.

Local and overseas employment agencies are required to act in an ethical manner, remain transparent, and refrain from committing labour violations when dealing with workers and international employers.

The law prohibits offering of illegal employment services illegally or operating without a license can be sentenced to up to three years in prison or fined, or both.

This shows how the Union Government has not neglected the migrant workers, and continues to protect them. The employment business is not a trade, but involves human beings.

Developing countries like Myanmar are facing shortage of jobs for youths due to the impact of climate change and disasters. Youths and children are leaving schools and working as domestic help, while low employment rates and low salaries in the domestic market have forced young workers in Myanmar to seek jobs overseas.

This situation has alerted governments in developing countries to become more serious about enforcing existing laws to prevent exploitation of workers and to provide them safety and dignity.

The ministry is making concerted efforts to create more employment opportunities for both domestic and overseas job hunters through an online labour exchange management system.

At the same time, all citizens need to refrain from operating illegal businesses to ensure the safety of workers, or face legal action.

As for employment agencies securing domestic jobs, those agencies that do not follow the directives and rules set by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population can get their business license revoked and face legal action, depending on the gravity of their offense.

Agencies found breaking the rules will be charged in accordance with the 2013 Employment and Skills Development Law. Local and overseas employment agencies are required to act in an ethical manner, remain transparent, and refrain from committing labour violations when dealing with workers and international employers.

# Prioritizing Livestock Diseases among ASEAN

By Kaung Htet Thar

**N**OWADAYS, there are many animal diseases which are listed as emerging, endemic, zoonotic, reemerging and pandemic diseases. Some could produce a huge impact on livestock production and productivity; some make harm to human health; some could make a problem to companion animals and its associates. As ASEAN is an official community to combat all issues which arise among the region, it needs to work together to obtain the benefit of the region. The issue of livestock diseases become threatening not only trade but also social-economic aspect. Therefore, Member States of ASEAN agree to categorize the prioritization of livestock diseases in term of the severity, technical, socio-economic aspect and human health.



Veterinary team vaccinating the cattle against foot-and-mouth disease in Depayin Township, Shwebo District, Sagaing Region. PHOTO: WIN OO (ZEYARTINE)

Concerning public health and socio-economic impact, the transboundary animal diseases have been revealed as paramount important livestock diseases in the ASEAN. According to regional tripartite workshop based on individual country priorities, the prioritized diseases are Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS), Classical Swine Fever

(CSF), Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis (BSE) while the recognized major diseases are Rabies, Influenza, Anthrax, Leptospirosis. Based on the consideration of zoonosis and social-economic impact by the ASEAN Member States,

the disease control strategies and the follow-up action plan are aimed to developed for the prevention and control of the diseases among the community. Improving multisectoral coordination networks could strengthen for reducing the risk of those diseases. Being a member state

of ASEAN, Myanmar has also proclaimed the list of prioritized diseases for One Health. These are HPAI, Rabies, Tuberculosis, Foodborne Pathogen, and Japanese encephalitis which is not consistent for the whole region because of different background status, different veterinary in-

frastructure and different social economy status.

ASEAN Veterinary Epidemiology Group was officially urged to review the transboundary animal diseases in 27th Meeting of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock in April 2019. The process included organizing a training of trainers, a facilitator training for disease prioritization workshop. The methodology was provided by the US CDC and the financial support was provided by FAO and US CDC. During the training, a total of 17 facilitators from 7 Member States and two Plus Three countries. Before the disease prioritization workshop, a total of short list of livestock diseases are proposed by the Member States at least two months ahead and 49 diseases out of 90 proposed disease are selected by online voting of Member Countries. During the workshop, voting members representing Member States agree to set five criteria: economic and trade impact; epidemic/pandemic potential/ epidemic in the region; zoonotic potential and public health impact; prevention, control and mitigation and social, ecological, environmental impact in prioritized order. The pre-selected 49 diseases are

prioritized by using the set of criteria and the final result revealed that Anthrax, HPAI, Salmonellosis, Haemorrhagic Septicaemia and Rabies are top five prioritized disease by Member States. It was reported to ASEAN Veterinary Epidemiology Group (AVEG) meeting for further steps. On the prioritized list of the 5 diseases, all except salmonellosis are already on the list of Animal Health and Development Law endorsed by Myanmar Government.

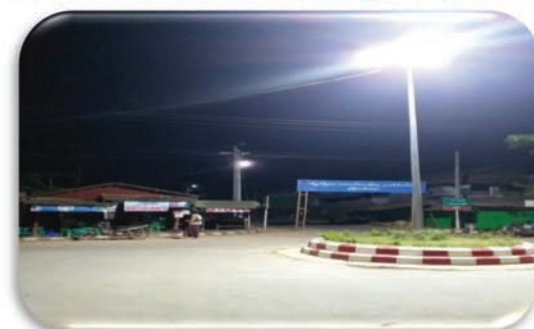
Finally, it is suggested to promote the awareness of livestock industry stakeholders on the transboundary animal disease, and to enhance the collaboration and knowledge sharing in ASEAN for One Health including active participation with immediate reporting on any suspicious. At the same time, the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation especially Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department is crucially important to focus not only for the prevention and control of the livestock diseases but also for the social-economic impact for both national and regional interests with relevant resource expertise and applicable logical approach.



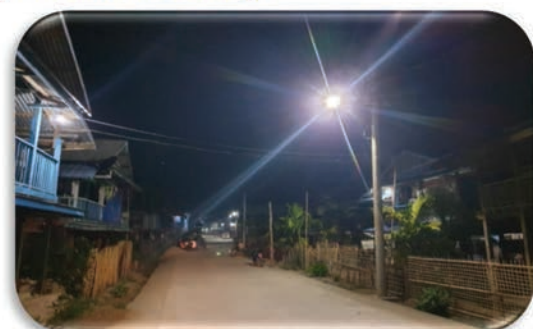
## Electricity Sector

A total of 112,562 households in 22 townships out of 26 in Rakhine State are supplied with electricity from the national grid. Those in remaining 4 towns, namely, Kha Maung Seik, Taung Pyo Let We, Man Aung, and Myin Lut, have alternative sources of electricity (diesel generators).

Electrification in Rakhine State rose from 67.03% in the past to 67.49% in this reporting period, as 1627 households in Kyeintali and surrounding villages and 290 households in Sanè Town and surrounding villages were supplied with electricity.



Electricity Supply to Kyeintali Town from the Grid



Electricity Supply to Sanè Town from the Grid



Construction of Zinchaung-Saneh Electric Power Sub-Station



Construction of Hsat Yoe Kya Electric Power Sub-Station

| No. | Township   | Electrification  | Completion  |
|-----|--|--|---|
| 1   | Electrification of 17 villages including Hsat Yoe Kya Ward in Sittwe Town      | 0.6 miles of 66 KV transmission line, construction of 66/11 KV 20 MVA sub-station  | 80%   |
| 2   | Electrification of 53 villages including Kazu Kain Village in Ann Township     | Construction of 33 KV 5 MVA sub-station, 4.51 miles of 33 KV transmission line   | Agreement signed for procurement of transformer on 17 June 2019                                 |
| 3   | Electrification of 38 villages including Kyauk Kye Village in Thandwe Township | Construction of 66/11 KV 10 MVA sub-station, 16.67 miles of 66 KV transmission line, 36 miles of 11 KV transmission line, 16 miles of 400 Volt line, construction of 44 11/0.4 KV transformers | Agreement signed for procurement of transformer and transmission line equipment on 17 June 2019 |
| 4   | Electrification of 17 villages including Kyein Chaung Village                  | Construction of 66/11 KV 10 MVA sub-station and 66 KV transmission line  | 58% completed   |

## MYANMAR GAZETTE

### Heads of service organizations confirmed and appointed

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names on the expiry of one-year probationary period.

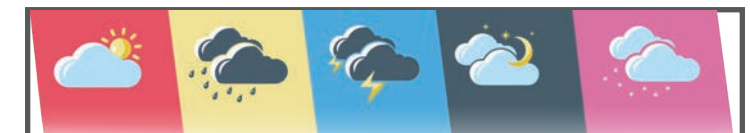
| Name                           | Appointment   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| (1) Professor Dr Thein May Saw | Rector<br>University of Pharmacy (Mandalay)<br>Department of Human Resource for Health<br>Ministry of Health and Sports |
| (2) U Aung Khaing Tun          | Director-General<br>Progress Appraisal and Progress Reporting Department<br>Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry  |

2. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Daw Phyu Mar Wai, Deputy Director-General, Legislative Vetting and Advising Department under the Office of Union Attorney-General as Director-General of the Administration Department under the Office of Union Attorney-General on probation from the date she assumes charge of her duties.

## MYANMAR GAZETTE

### Appointment as Permanent Secretary

THE Union Government has appointed Director-General Dr Daw Thinda Oo from the Legal Advice Department under the Office of Union Attorney-General, to assume the duties of Permanent Secretary concurrently.



## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2019)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Weather is cloudy over the South Bay and a few cloud to partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 06<sup>th</sup> December, 2019:** Light rain are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region and Shan State. Degree of certainty is (60%). Weather will be generally fair in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kayin and Mon States and 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:** Decrease of night temperatures in Kachin, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 06<sup>th</sup> December, 2019:** Generally fair weather.  
**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 06<sup>th</sup> December, 2019:** Generally fair weather.  
**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 06<sup>th</sup> December, 2019:** Generally fair weather.



THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

## ACTING CHIEF EDITOR

Aye Min Soe  
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

## SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

Kyaw Myaing

## SENIOR TRANSLATORS

Zaw Min

Zaw Htet Oo

Aung Khin

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR

Ye Htut Tin,

editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

## LOCAL NEWS EDITORS

Tun Tun Naing (Editor),

intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),

nwenwe9131@gmail.com

## TRANSLATORS

Hay Mar Tin Win,

Ei Myat Mon

Kyaw Zin Lin

Kyaw Zin Tun

## REPORTER

Nyein Nyein Ei,

reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

## PHOTOGRAPHER

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

Kyaw Zeya

## COMPUTER TEAM

Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,

Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,

Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe,

Nyi Lin Thu

## EDITORIAL SECTION

(+95) (01)8604529,

Fax - (+95) (01) 8604305

## CIRCULATION &amp; DISTRIBUTION

San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,

Hotline - 09 974424114

## ADVERTISING &amp; MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,

Hotline - 09 974424848

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

gnlmdaily@gmail.com

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

www.facebook.com/TheGNLM



THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

## 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.

# Over 93,000 tourists visited Mandalay Mahamuni Pagoda in five months

THE Mandalay Mahamuni Pagoda welcomed more than 93,000 tourists from July to November this year, according to statistics provided by the pagoda's board of trustees. The pagoda collected an entrance fee from visitors from 1 July to 30 November.

"We sent Korean tourists to the Mandalay Mahamuni pagoda. They offered flowers and prayers at the pagoda. Then, they looked around the pagoda. In the evenings, we send tour groups to Mandalay Mountain, Kyauktawgyi

pagoda, Kuthodaw Pagoda, and Shwenandaw Kyaung. We also send them to some significant places in Mandalay. The tour groups enjoy visiting Mandalay," said Daw Soe Nyunt Kyaing, a tour guide.

A total of 93,838 tourists visited the Mandalay Mahamuni pagoda in the last five months, including 16,348 in July, 19,020 in August, 14,736 in September, 17,531 in October, and 26,203 in November. — Than Zaw Min (IPRD) (Translated by Hay Mar)



Tourists visit Mahamuni Pagoda in Mandalay. PHOTO: THAN ZAW MIN (IPRD)

## Import slips to be issued to 115 bus owners for de-registering vehicles

By Nyein Nyein

THE applications of 115 out of 156 bus owners who had sought import slips for family-use cars in exchange for de-registration of their buses, manufactured in 1999-2003, have been approved by the Union government, said U Hla Aung, joint secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

"For the first time, the Union government has permitted de-registration of 112 city buses and three mini buses. Concerning those buses, we have conducted de-registration of CNG

and GPS and are checking the vehicle's punishment according to the procedures. Then, the de-registration process will be carried out," said U Hla Aung.

Currently, the YRTA is scrutinizing about 156 buses, for which requests have been received for issue of import permits for family-use cars in return for de-registration. Then, a report will be submitted to the government for processing the applications as special cases, he added.

The Ministry of Transport and Communications has granted the Yangon Region govern-

ment's request to grant import slips and de-register buses from the 1999 to 2003 model years, which are in poor condition in terms of energy efficiency and which do not match the city's features. Bus lines have been informed about this move. Currently, there are more than 700 YBS buses that were manufactured between 1999 and 2003. If the buses are de-registered and the owners are granted import slips, they will have to surrender their Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) purchase permits.

"CNG is being provided for cheaper transportation of pas-

sengers. So, they will have to surrender the CNG permits. And this has been practiced for a long time," said U Hla Aung.

The Union government has been granting the de-registration of old vehicles since 2011. Only buses from the 1999 model year can be de-registered. For the de-registration of 20-year-old vehicles, import slips are being issued depending upon the type of vehicles. For example, if owners de-register buses, bus import permits are issued to them and if they de-register trucks, truck import permits are handed out. (Translated by Hay Mar)

## Wood sculpture competition held

THE 'world's biggest wood sculpture competition' concluded with a presentation ceremony yesterday at the Shwe Pyi Resort in Bago.

The purpose behind holding the eighth edition of the competition was to encourage the next generation of wood sculptors and to improve the Myanmar sculpture industry, said the organizers. This year, 222 sculptors from 20 townships entered 227 wood sculptures for the competition.

The competition was launched in 2008 after KMA Foundation's chairman U Khin Maung Aye and sculptors decided to make sculptures from trees uprooted by Cyclonic Storm Nargis.

Participants compete under two categories at the competition - optional and modern.

In the optional wood sculpture competition, U Pyae Sone

Aung from Darpain Village, which is known for wood sculptors, emerged as the winner. The runners-up U Kyaw Swar and U Myo Zayar Aung were from the same village. Ten consolation prizes were awarded to other participants.

The winners and runners-up of the optional wood sculpture competition were awarded a half-tical of gold each. The winner also received K10 million, the first runner-up K7.5 million, and the second runner-up K5 million. Ten consolation prize winners were awarded K1 million each.

In the modern wood sculpture competition, U Wai Lin Naing from Bago was declared the winner. The first runner-up was U Myo Myin Aung from North Okkalar (Shwe Paukkan) and the second runner-up was U Zayar Hein from Bago. Five consolation prizes were awarded



The first prize winning award in the optional category. PHOTO: AYE MIN THU

to other participants.

The winners and runners-up of the modern wood sculpture competition were awarded a half-tical of gold each. The winner also got K7.5 million,

the first runner-up K5 million, and the second runner-up K3 million. The consolation prize winners were awarded K1 million each.— Aye Min Thu

(Translate by Bahtoo)

## Dollar exchange rate dips to K1,500 on strong export market

THE US dollar has been sliding against the Kyat in the local currency market, with the exchange rate touching a low of K1,500 per dollar on 5 December, a decline of about K30 compared with October-end, said money exchangers.

At the end of October, the rate was pegged at K1,530. While the US dollar index was above 97 in the global market, the exchange rate slipped to K1,503 on 4 December and K1,500 on 5 December in the local forex market.

"It is normal for the dollar to depreciate against the Kyat this time of the year. At present, exports of rice and pulses are increasing, and the demand for the dollar is falling in the market. The dollar rate is likely to remain

cool and it seems it may not climb up," said a money exchanger.

The dollar has depreciated even though the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) has been buying about 3 million dollars per day from private banks to govern the market since 27 November. The CBM had set the reference exchange rate (weighted average market rate) at K1,500.7 per dollar on 5 December.

In October last year, the dollar exchange rate had hit a high of K1,600. Thereafter, the dollar has been falling in the local currency market.

With the Kyat gaining against the dollar in the internal forex market, domestic gold price plunged to K1.185 million

per tical (0.578 ounces, or 0.016 kilograms) on 5 December from a record high of K1.3 million in early September.

This year, the exchange rate stood at K1,540 on 1 January and fell to a low of K1,515 on 15 January. It continued to drop and reached K1,503 on 28 February. Thereafter, it rose to K1,527 on 18 March and K1,538 on 14 May. The rate stood at K1,259 on 1 June and K1,514 on 26 August. Then, the dollar exchange rate hit a peak of K1,565 on 6 September. It was pegged at around K1,528-1,537 in October. Last month, the rate moved in the range of K1,510-1,524. —Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



A man checking US dollar notes at a money changer in Yangon.  
PHOTO: PHOEHKHAR

## FDI up \$900 mln against previous fiscal

By Nyein Nyein

MYANMAR attracted more than US\$1.3 billion in foreign direct investments during the first two months of the current fiscal, an increase of \$900 million compared with 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, FDI of \$1.39 billion flowed into the country, including expansion of capital by existing enterprises. 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.

In the year-ago period, the FDI inflow was recorded at just \$465.9 million from 34 enterprises.

"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 said.

There is investment potential for large businesses, he added.

Moreover, once offshore oil and gas and mining projects are approved in the current FY, heavy enterprises will enter the country, said U Thang Tun, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, at the 30<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Vice President U Myint Swe with private entrepreneurs, held on 19 October at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry office.

The ministry 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 it is being implemented. As per the MIPP, Myanmar aims to reach an FDI target of \$200 billion in 20 years, said U Thang Tun.

In the current fiscal, the MIC has set an FDI target of \$5.8 billion.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Hong Kong firm to invest \$350 mln in Mindama Complex project

By Nyein Nyein

HONG Kong's Goldman Fortune International Limited will put in more than US\$350 million in the Mindama Complex project, said U That Sin Lwin, Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

"The Mindama Complex project includes commercial shops, serviced apartments, shopping malls, villas, office buildings, condominiums, and hotels. It will be implemented under a BOT system on 20 acres of land held by the Commander-in-Chief (Army), on Mindama Street in Mayangon Township,

Yangon Region," he said.

The project will be implemented as a joint venture between Hong Kong's Goldman Fortune International Company and Myanmar-based Fortune International Company.

"The Myanmar Investment Commission granted permission for this huge real estate development project after scrutinizing the necessary documents as per the Myanmar Investment Law," U That Sin Lwin added.

"We issued the permit only after tight scrutiny. We have asked for permission from the related departments. Moreover, we will review possible social, environmental, and cultural

impacts of the project. Earlier, the MIC did not issue approval to certain business proposals which could potentially affect the environment and cultural heritage," said U Thant Sin Lwin.

Hong Kong topped in the list of investors in the first two months of the current financial year, pumping in over \$1 billion into real estate development, electricity, and garment businesses, according to data from the DICA.

The total foreign direct investment stood at \$1.39 billion as of 29 November in the current financial year.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Singapore-based Green Urban Development Co to use 3% of profit for CSR activities

By Nyein Nyein

SINGAPORE-based Green Urban Development Company will spend three per cent of its profit on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities, said U Thant Sin Lwin, Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

"At present, foreign investors in Myanmar are using only two per cent of their profit for CSR activities. But, Green Urban Development Company has declared that it will allocate

three per cent for CSR measures. We will monitor whether the company follows through with the decision or not," said U Thant Sin Lwin.

The Green Urban Development Company will invest US\$142 million into Yangon urban development businesses, according to the DICA.

Foreign investors in Myanmar have come to prioritize CSR activities. CSR is a self-regulatory business model that involves philanthropic or voluntary activities such as donations for schools and roads.

Additionally, it helps a company be socially accountable to itself, its stakeholders, and the public.

"CSR also helps to produce a positive impact on society. We do not set the amount of contributions," said U Thant Sin Lwin.

The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) is scrutinizing investment proposals taking into consideration the rules and regulations, business responsibility, environmental impact, and social impact.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Trade Mark Ads

Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355, 09974424848

## Head of Hluttaw advisory team receives UK international development delegate

DAW SU SU LWIN, the head of the Pyithu Hluttaw Affairs Capacity Building Advisory Group, received Dr Rurik Marsden, the UK Department for International Development (DFID) at the Hluttaw Building (I-1) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The meeting focused on the capacity buildings of Hluttaw MPs, assistance in development of research and committees of the Hluttaws and the future cooperation plans.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Head of the Pyithu Hluttaw Affairs Capacity Building Advisory Group Daw Su Su Lwin meets a delegate of UK Department for International Development Dr Rurik Marsden. PHOTO: MNA

## Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, legal entities discuss justice council election

THE Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, Union Supreme Court Office, Union Attorney-General Office and the Union Legal Aid Board (ULAB) held a meeting at Zabuthiri Hall of the Pyithu Hluttaw, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman U Khin Maung Win first gave a few remarks and Union Supreme Court Justice U

Mya Han, Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint and ULAB Secretary U Khin Zaw submitted facts on the bylaw related to bar council election and its related laws. Hluttaw representatives discussed the facts and U Khin Maung Win closed the meeting with a concluding speech afterwards.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman U Khin Maung Win gives speech at the meeting in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

## Pyithu Hluttaw committee discusses farmer affairs

PYITHU Hluttaw Farmers and Labour Affairs Com-

mittee Chairman U Kyaw Myint received a group

from Monsoon Rural Development Group led by Executive Director Dr U Thaug Tun at Hluttaw Hall I-6 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. They discussed facts to be added when amending laws related to farmers, confiscated land matters, difficulties farmers are facing, and assisting the hopes of cultivators.—MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



PHOTO: MNA

### MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE EXPORT MARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

1. MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WILL SELL TEAK & HARDWOOD ROUND LOGS AND SAWN TIMBERS BY OPEN TENDERS IN US DOLLARS. PARTICULARS OF THE OPEN TENDER SALES ARE AS FOLLOWS:
  - (a) DATE & TIME
    - (19-12-2019) (09:00)A.M
    - (EX-SITE/YANGON) HARDWOOD LOG ONLY**
    - (20-12-2019) (09:00)A.M
    - YANGON & EX-SITE TEAK/HARDWOOD (LOG AND CONVERSION)**
    - (23-12-2019) (12:00)Noon
    - YANGON TEAK LOG ONLY**
  - (b) COMMODITIES & VOLUME
    - TEAK LOGS ABOUT (1496) TONS
    - THIRD QUALITY & UP TEAK VONVERSION ABOUT (134) TONS (EXPORT MARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT)
    - PYNKADO, IN, KANYIN, SAGAWA, THADI ABOUT (20025) TONS
    - HARDWOOD LOGS **(INCLUDING 2018-2019 EXTRACTION YEAR)**
    - TAW WIN HALL, GYOGONE, INSEIN TOWNSHIP, YANGON.
  - (c) PLACE
2. FOR FURTHER DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE HEAD OFFICE AND ALSO VISIT MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WEB-SITE ([www.mte.com.mm](http://www.mte.com.mm)).

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC MERGUI VOY. NO. (948W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC MERGUI VOY. NO. (948W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/T.M.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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)  
PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SATSUKI VOY. NO. (012W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SATSUKI VOY. NO. (012W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/M.I.T.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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FILOTIMO VOY. NO. (947S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V FILOTIMO VOY. NO. (947S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)  
PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

# Made up: Japan cosmetic giant Shiseido gambles on 'Made in Japan'

TOKYO — On wasteland once used for earthquake drills in the small town of Otawara north of Tokyo, Japanese giant Shiseido has built its first domestic factory in 36 years, hoping to capitalise on a boom for "Made in Japan" cosmetics.

The Japanese cosmetics industry faces huge competition not only from established players such as L'Oreal and Estee Lauder but increasingly also from the "K-beauty" craze coming from South Korea.

Nevertheless, Japan is more than holding its own, with exports nearly quadrupling since 2013 to 546 billion yen (\$5 billion), according to finance ministry figures, nearly two-thirds of that going to China and Hong Kong.



Shiseido relies heavily on human intervention for its high-end products. PHOTO: AFP

The domestic industry is also benefitting from an explosion of inbound tourism in recent years ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics — in particular a relaxing of visa requirements for Chinese tourists who lap

up the latest Japanese cosmetic fads.

Shiseido chief executive Masahiko Uotani told AFP that a focus on the high end of the market and time-honoured attention to detail set them apart from

the foreign brands seeking to dominate globally.

"We are focusing on prestige, premium brands. Consumers in those categories see the value of Japanese culture," said Uotani.—AFP ■

# Artists cash in on China's online sticker craze

BEIJING — When "Silly Piggy" appeared in China's popular WeChat social media app, the sticker became an instant hit, with people sending it more than 30 million times in its first month to express their feelings in text messages.

Stickers like the mischievous cartoon pig and other quirky creatures are all the rage in China, giving the artists behind them a way to make money and win fans — as long as they stay within the bounds of censorship.

The creator of Silly Piggy, River Rui, was able to leave her office job with a design firm and set up as an independent artist thanks to the success of the character.

"Silly Piggy" is more like how I am in my little world, how I interact with

my friends, it's that 'Silly Piggy' kind of style," Rui told AFP.

The pig has many moods: he types furiously at his desk as tears stream down his face. He lays flat on the office floor as his spirit leaves his body.

"Basically anyone who has done overtime will have the same feelings as him," said Rui as she dozzled on a scrap of paper in a Shanghai cafe.

Unlike memes and animated GIFs popular outside China, instant messaging stickers are often original creations of local artists who can see their little characters enjoy spectacular popularity among the country's 847 million mobile internet users and spread offline through commercial licensing deals.—AFP ■

# JTB, Chinese online travel agency to market winter sport tours

TOKYO — JTB Corp. is joining hands with major Chinese online travel

agency Trip.com Group Ltd., to develop and market winter sports pro-

grams in Japan for Chinese tourists.

Under a partnership

agreement signed Tuesday, the two will produce tour programs, such as ski certification trips and snow fight trips, initially in collaboration with about 10 ski resorts in Japan, the Chinese firm said.

JTB and Trip.com Group anticipate growing demand for winter trips to Japan as the Chinese government wants to increase its population of skiers and snowboarders to 50 million and that of winter sports practitioners to 300 million by 2025.

— Kyodo News ■



Yasuhiro Tsuboi (2<sup>nd</sup> from r), executive officer of JTB Corp., and Sun Bo (3<sup>rd</sup> from r), chief marketing officer of Trip.com Group, attend a signing ceremony in Tokyo on 3 December, 2019, for winter sports programs in Japan. PHOTO: NNA KYODO NEWS

## THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (26 / 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-029(19-20)<br>(Retender) | 400 KW Gas Engine Generator (Complete Set) (1) No                          | Ks      |
| (b)    | DMP/L-059(19-20)<br>(Retender) | Seismic Acquisition, Data Processing Workstation and Data Center (5) Items | Ks      |

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qtty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **6 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 6 January 2020**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time **6-1-2020, 14:00 pm**  
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph No. + 95 67 - 411206

### 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

### NOTIFICATION

This is to notify that the pilot test run of Risk Based System, utilizing Building Categorization Matrix (BCM) has been initialized in scrutinizing building construction application cases within YCDC area, replacing the current system, since June 2019, with an aim of speeding up the building construction permission procedure for businesses and investors alike. To make the risk based system more effective, pilot testing phase of Yangon Building Permit System, an online system based on internationally accepted ICT Technology, has been initiated on 1<sup>st</sup> July and over 600 architects and engineers have been trained on its use.

To ensure the smooth run of the system on full launch, at the beginning of 2020, the trained engineers and architects are expected to give the feedback on their use. As there are very few online applications in comparison to the number of the trained professionals, the trained professionals' cooperation in utilization of the online submission system will be highly appreciated.

Head of Department (Deputy Director General)  
Engineering Department (Building)  
Building Control Authority  
Yangon City Development Committee

## S Korea's Moon requests China's backing of denuclearization

SEOUL — South Korean President Moon Jae In requested China's active support for denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a meeting Thursday with visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

At the outset of the meeting at the presidential office, Moon said that the peace process has reached a "critical juncture" and asked for Beijing's continued efforts for the peninsula to achieve "complete denuclearization" and a "permanent peace regime."

The request comes amid a stalemate in the denuclearization talks between North Korea and the United States, with Pyongyang having set a year-end

deadline for progress in the negotiations.

"I am very looking forward to deepening conversation and cooperation of the two countries through the holding of the trilateral summit with Japan this month," added Moon.

China will host the three-way summit between Moon, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang in the southern city of Chengdu.

In response, Wang said that the goal of his visit to Seoul was to have "strategic communication" with South Korea, adding that there will be more room for improvement in bilateral ties as China continues to open up.



South Korean President Moon Jae In meets with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Seoul on 5 December, 2019. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Wang, on his first visit to South Korea since 2014, also vowed to do his best to prepare for Moon's upcoming visit.

He said that the current

international situation is "threatened by power politics" in a thinly veiled criticism of the US administration.

—Kyodo News ■

### NEWS In BRIEF

#### Japanese magazine ridiculed for 'Socrates' dating advice

TOKYO — A Japanese magazine that advised women to compliment men on their intelligence by saying "You sound like Socrates" has been ridiculed in the country ranked one of the world's worst for gender parity.

"JJ", a major fashion magazine targeted at young women, encouraged readers to compare men to the classical Greek philosopher when they say something complicated.

A picture of the page sparked mirth when it was shared on Twitter — with some users noting that Socrates did not live happily ever after, as he was sentenced to death by drinking poison.

Users of both genders poured scorn on the technique to attract men, with one saying: "If a woman told me I sound like Socrates, I would wonder if she's sane." —AFP ■

#### India urges countries to act against 'Kashmir cells' set up by Pak in its foreign missions

NEW DELHI — India has urged international community to take up action against the so-called 'Kashmir Desks' or 'Kashmir cells' set up by Pakistan at its embassies and diplomatic missions in different countries to spread falsehood and radicalise the local population, Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan said on Wednesday.

In a written reply to the Parliament on a question pertaining to the matter, Muraleedharan said that Pakistan had announced on August 17 that it would set up "Kashmir Desk/Kashmir cells" at its embassies in different countries.

The minister said that the purpose of the initiative is to incite the local population and radicalise them by spreading falsehood.

"The government has urged foreign countries to realise the dangers posed by these Kashmir cells and take appropriate action in this regard," the statement read. —ANI ■

## Indonesian airline boss to be fired for smuggling Harley parts



A Garuda Indonesia jet is serviced at a flight line at Pudong International Airport in Pudong, China. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

JAKARTA — The Indonesian government decided Thursday to fire the head of national carrier PT Garuda Indonesia over his alleged role in the smuggling of Harley-Davidson motorcycle parts into Indonesia from France.

"As the state-owned enterprises minister, I will fire the Garuda president, but because it's a public company, the process of his dismissal must pass through some procedures," Erick Thohir told a press conference regarding President and CEO I Gusti Ngurah Askhara Danadiputra, also known as Ari Ashkara. The undeclared parts, which

included a complete disassembled motorcycle, were reportedly carried onboard a brand new Airbus A330-900 that departed Nov. 16 from the French city of Toulouse, where it was manufactured, and landed Nov. 17 at Jakarta's Soekarno-Hatta International Airport, where customs officers found them.

In the same press conference, Finance Minister Sri Mulyani said the smuggling of the parts, along with two Brompton foldable bicycles, may have potentially caused state losses up to 1.5 billion rupiah (\$107,000). —Kyodo News ■

## Typhoon Kammuri death toll hits 13 in Philippines

MANILA — The number of people killed by Typhoon Kammuri's pounding of the Philippines this week has hit 13, officials said Thursday, as authorities confirmed reports of storm-related deaths.

Kammuri's fierce winds toppled trees and flattened flimsy homes across a swathe of the nation's north on Tuesday, and forced a rare 12-hour shutdown of Manila's international airport.

Authorities said on Wednesday one person had drowned while three died after being hit by trees and flying objects.

Disaster officials did not offer details on how the other victims died, but local police reports indicated some may have

drowned or been crushed by trees.

Mark Timbal, spokesman for the national disaster agency, said no new bodies have been found but the death toll could rise as reports on the ground are verified.

"There is the possibility of an increase in the number, but we are hoping against it," Timbal told AFP.

Hundreds of thousands of people living in exposed or low-lying areas were evacuated from their homes before Kammuri made landfall late Monday, which authorities said had saved lives.

Still the storm damaged 135 schools and destroyed nearly 1,200 homes, with crop damage in

the hardest hit areas estimated to reach nearly \$16 million.

The Philippines is hit by an average of 20 storms and ty-

phoons each year, killing hundreds and putting people in disaster-prone areas in a state of constant poverty. —AFP ■



Kammuri's fierce winds toppled trees and flattened flimsy homes across a swathe of the nation's north on Tuesday. PHOTO: AFP

## Third general strike keeps pressure on Colombia's Duque

BOGOTA — Thousands of protesters took part in anti-government demonstrations in Colombia's capital Bogota and other cities Wednesday during the country's third general strike in two weeks.

Strike leaders say they intend to maintain pressure on right-wing President Ivan Duque's government, after brushing aside his appeals to cancel the strike on the grounds its effects were crippling the economy.

But crowds were smaller than previous demonstrations as protests took place for a 14th consecutive day.

Some roads were blocked in the capital and in the north-eastern city of Cali, but many businesses remained open.

Around 250,000 people took part in the first demonstration against Duque's 15-month-old government on 21 November, when the initial general strike brought the country to a stand-



Indigenous people and students take part in a protest in Bogota against the government of Colombian President Ivan Duque. PHOTO: AFP

still. Interior Minister Nancy Patricia Gutierrez estimated that 40,000 people took part in demonstrations across the country on Wednesday, but organizers said

the number of participants was much higher.

"The Colombian people have woken up!" shouted Paola Jimenez, a 41-year-old lawyer taking

part in a pot-banging "cacero-lazo" demonstration in Bogota.

"Colombians are finding it more and more difficult financially," she said.—AFP ■

## Stay or go? Four scenarios as Merkel partners debate future



Incoming SPD leaders Norbert Walter-Borjans and Saskia Esken are critical of Merkel's grand right-left coalition. PHOTO: AFP

BERLIN — Headed by a new leftist leadership duo, Germany's struggling Social Democrats are gearing up for a crunch congress from Friday that could decide the future of Chancellor Angela Merkel's fragile coalition government.

As SPD members gather to

discuss their demands for keeping the coalition afloat, here's a look at four possible scenarios for the months ahead.

### 'GroKo' clings on

Incoming SPD leaders Norbert Walter-Borjans and Saskia Esken are critical of Merkel's

grand right-left coalition, known as "GroKo" to Germans.

But the pair have stopped short of calling for a vote on whether to stay in the loveless marriage at the December 6-8 congress. Instead, they want to tweak the hard-fought coalition agreement struck with Merkel's centre-right CDU and its Bavarian CSU sister party after 2017's inconclusive general elections.

The duo are expected to ask SPD members to back a slew of new demands, including a higher minimum wage, more investment in Germany's crumbling infrastructure and more ambitious climate policies.

The other two coalition parties have ruled out renegotiating the coalition accord. But Merkel's spokesman has said the veteran chancellor is "open to talks".

If a compromise is struck

and the SPD secures some concessions, the GroKo could survive until Germany's next election in 2021 — allowing Merkel to complete her fourth and final term as planned.

This scenario is seen as most likely by observers as it would also allow the SPD, weakened by a series of poll setbacks, to sharpen its profile under the new leaders before facing voters again.

### Merkel-led minority government

If it fails to push through its demands, the SPD could pull the plug on the partnership with the CDU/CSU, triggering the coalition's collapse.

Merkel, keen to shape her own political exit after 14 years in power, could then try to head a minority government — a first in postwar Germany.—AFP ■

## Two killed in shooting at Hawaii's Pearl Harbor base

LOS ANGELES — A US sailor fatally shot two people and wounded a third at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in Hawaii on Wednesday before taking his own life, a senior Navy officer said.

The base was locked down for more than an hour after the shooting, according to a statement issued by the facility, while

Navy officials said they were investigating what prompted the attack.

"I can confirm that there were three shooting victims. We have confirmed that two are deceased, one is in stable condition in a local hospital," said Rear Admiral Robert Chadwick.

He added that the shooter --

"tentatively" identified as a sailor assigned to the USS Columbia, a Los Angeles-class attack submarine — had also died after "an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound." One witness told local media he was sitting at his computer when he heard shots fired and rushed to the window, where he saw three victims on

the ground. The witness, who did not want to be identified, said he then saw the gunman, who was wearing a sailor's uniform, shoot himself in the head.

White House spokesman Hogan Gidley said that US President Donald Trump had been briefed on the shooting and was monitoring the situation.—AFP ■

## NEWS In BRIEF

### Chile's lower house passes "anti-looting, anti-roadblock" bill

SANTIAGO — Chile's Chamber of Deputies on Wednesday approved a bill aimed at stamping out violent protests such as looting and roadblocking.

The bill makes it a crime to paralyze or disrupt basic services such as public or emergency transportation, hurl "sharp or cutting" objects such as knives, or destroy or occupy buildings of religious, scientific or social significance. Once enacted, those violating the law could be subject to up to five years in jail, depending on the severity of the crime.

The "anti-looting and anti-roadblock" bill was passed overwhelmingly, with 127 votes in favor, 7 against and 13 abstained. It now goes to the Senate.

"We have to separate peaceful protest, which is a right we have to respect, from the commission of serious crimes by these groups that are causing so much damage in an organized way," Interior Minister Gonzalo Blumel said. Chile has been roiled by anti-government protests since a mid-October hike in subway fares in Santiago.—Xinhua ■

### Floods kill 280 people, affect 2.8 mln others in East Africa: UN

NAIROBI — At least 280 people have been killed and more than 2.8 million others affected by unusually heavy rainfall and flooding in eastern Africa, the UN humanitarian agency said on Thursday.

The UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said homes, infrastructure and livelihoods have been destroyed and damaged in the hardest-hit areas, and the risk of communicable diseases including cholera is rising.

"Primarily driven by the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), the heavy rains are likely to persist into December and to intensify in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda," OCHA said in its latest regional Flash Floods Update. The UN agency said the annual short rains which ordinarily last from October to December have been exceptionally heavy in Kenya and affected more than 160,000 people in 31 of the country's 47 counties.—Xinhua ■



Myanmar billiards star Phone Myint Kyaw seen yesterday at the billiards men's 9-ball pool doubles final at the Manila Hotel, the Philippines. **PHOTO: SPED**

## SEA Games: Myanmar wins gold in men's billiards double

MYANMAR billiard stars Phone Myint Kyaw and Aung Moe Thu secured the gold medal after beating the Singapore team in the final match of the men's 9-ball pool doubles, held yesterday at the Manila Hotel, the Philippines.

Team Myanmar beat the Singapore team by a decisive 9:4 result in the final.

Next, in the women's 10-ball pool competition, Myanmar's A Mi Aung beat her Singapore

counterpart with a big 7-1 margin, while in another match, Myanmar's Thandar Maung secured a win by beating her Indonesian opponent by 7-6, and both of them are now proceeding to the next stage of the competition.

Currently, Myanmar is in the seventh place in the medal tally at the SEA Games, with two gold medals, eight silver medals, and 23 bronze medals. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)

## SEA Games women's football semifinal: Myanmar suffer 0-1 upset to Thailand

THE Myanmar women's national football team suffered a shock 0-1 loss against the Thailand team in the decisive semifinal of the women's football competition at the 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games, held yesterday at the Rizal Memorial Stadium in Manila, the Philippines.

Myanmar launched an open attack from the start and also cre-

ated goal chances thrice, but Myanmar striker Win Theingi Tun could not convert the chances into goals. The winning goal for Thailand was scored by Orapin at 78 minutes, and resulted in a heartbreaking loss for team Myanmar. The single goal by team Thailand was enough for them to secure their entry in the final.

In the final match, which will be held on 8 December, Thailand will play against Viet Nam, which defeated host Philippines by 2-0 in the semifinal.

Myanmar and host Philippines will battle for the bronze medal in the third-place match on 8 December at the Rizal Memorial Stadium.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

## Myanmar to meet Indonesia in 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games men's football semifinal

THE Myanmar U-22 men's football team will take on the Indonesian U-22 team in the semifinal of the 30<sup>th</sup> South East Asian Games in the Philippines.

Team Myanmar secured a place in the semifinal with 10 points from 3 wins and one draw in the Group A matches.

Team Indonesia from Group

B, which had a tough lineup of teams, came second in the group stage finals by beating Laos by 4-0 to secure a spot in the semifinals. Team Indonesia has garnered 12 points from four wins and one loss in the group stage matches.

The Indonesian team will now face Group A winners, team Myanmar.

Defending champion Thailand was eliminated from the 2019 SEA Games men's football competition after conceding a 2-2 draw against Viet Nam in their final Group B tie on Thursday.

Thus, in the second semifinal, Group B winner Viet Nam will be meeting Group A runner up Cambodia.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

## 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games badminton: Thet Htar Thuzar secures place in quarter final



Myanmar's Thet Htar Thuzar seen at the match against Malaysia's Soniia Cheah in the women's singles event at the 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games in the Philippines. **PHOTO: SOENYUNT**

MYANMAR'S Thet Htar Thuzar secured a place in the quarter final of the women's singles event of the badminton competition at the 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games by defeating Malaysia's Soniia Cheah yesterday in a round of 16 match by 2-1: 18-21, 21-15, and 12-5. The Malaysian player conceded the third match.

Thet Htar Thuzar suffered a narrow 18-21 loss in the first match, but she managed to recover and even the score to 1-1 after taking a full point victory

(21-15) in the second match.

The third match saw confident play by Thet Htar Thuzar, who scored 12 points to establish her lead, which forced Malaysia's Soniia to withdraw from the competition.

Meanwhile, in the men's singles event of the badminton tourney, Phone Pyae Naing also entered the quarter finals by beating the Cambodian player by 2-1.—Shine Htet Zaw

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

### 2019 Southeast Asian Games medal tally updated

| COUNTRY           | GOLD | SILVER | BRONZE | TOTAL |
|-------------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| PHILIPPINES       | 65   | 45     | 34     | 144   |
| VIETNAM           | 31   | 35     | 41     | 107   |
| INDONESIA         | 27   | 36     | 39     | 102   |
| SINGAPORE         | 26   | 19     | 29     | 74    |
| MALAYSIA          | 23   | 16     | 24     | 63    |
| THAILAND          | 16   | 22     | 30     | 68    |
| MYANMAR           | 2    | 8      | 23     | 33    |
| CAMBODIA          | 2    | 3      | 17     | 22    |
| BRUNEI DARUSSALAM | 1    | 5      | 5      | 11    |
| LAO               | 0    | 2      | 10     | 12    |
| TIMOR-LESTE       | 0    | 0      | 0      | 0     |