

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VI, No. 275, 8th Waning of Pyatho 1381 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Friday, 17 January 2020

Resume of the President of the People's Republic of China H.E. Mr. Xi Jinping



MR. Xi Jinping was born in June 1953, is an ethnic Han from Fuping, Shaanxi Province. He graduated from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Tsinghua University with a major in political education, has an in-service postgraduate education and holds the degree of Doctor of Laws. He entered the workforce in January 1969 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in January 1974. He is currently General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission, President of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission.

From 1969 to 1975, he spent as an educated youth and Party branch secretary of Liangjiahe Brigade at Wen'anyi Commune, Yanchuan County, Shaanxi Province. From 1975 to 1979, he was a student of Chemical Engineering, Tsinghua University. From 1979 to 1982, he was the Secretary, General

Office, State Council and Central Military Commission (AD); 1982-1983, he served as Deputy Secretary, CPC Zhengding County Committee, Hebei Province; 1983-1985, he was Secretary, CPC Zhengding County Committee, Hebei Province; concurrently First Commissar and Party Committee First Secretary, Zhengding County, Military Affairs Department.

From 1985 to 1988, he was the Member, Standing Committee, CPC Xiamen Municipal Committee, Fujian Province; and Vice Mayor, Xiamen; 1988-1990, he was the Secretary, CPC Ningde Prefectural Committee, Fujian Province; 1990-1993, Secretary, CPC Fuzhou Municipal Committee, Fujian Province; Chairman, Standing Committee, Fuzhou Municipal People's Congress; and concurrently First Secretary, Party Committee, Fuzhou Military Sub-region; 1993-1995, Member, Standing Committee, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; Secretary, CPC Fuzhou Municipal Committee;

SEE PAGE-3

VP U Henry Van Thio attends stake-driving ceremony for All Chin Society-Yangon Community Hall

THE stake-driving ceremony for constructing a community hall in the compound of the All Chin Society-Yangon (ACSY) in Ward 15 of Dagon Myothit East Township, Yangon, was held at 10 am yesterday.

Firstly, Rev Dr Yawl Bway gave blessings and Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivered a speech.

In his speech, the Vice President said the ACSY was formed with the aim of unifying the Chin nationals on future paths. He said Chin leaders held a meeting for the first time at Novotel Hotel on 10 May 2016 and held a congratulatory ceremony for him and the Chin State Chief Minister on 29 May.

SEE PAGE-2



Vice President U Henry Van Thio unveils the ACSY logo and founding member memorial at the stake-driving for constructing a community hall at the All Chin Society-Yangon (ACSY). **PHOTO: MNA**

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

Hluttaw organizing central committee, work committees prepare for 15th regular session

PAGE-4

NATIONAL

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives PNO delegation

PAGE-5

NATIONAL

Wild elephant found dead in Bokeypin

PAGE-4

LOCAL NEWS

National Archive Department preserves mural paintings at Bagan temple

PAGE-6



VP U Henry Van Thio attends stake-driving ceremony for All Chin Society-Yangon Community Hall



Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivers the address at the stake driving ceremony for constructing a community hall at the All Chin Society-Yangon (ACSY). **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-1

The Vice President said he gave directions to create a unified costume for all ethnic Chin after the meeting so as to promote unity and solidarity. He said he is delighted that the idea has come to fruition and thanked everyone involved. He said this unified costume will unite Chin nationals and from there also assist in uniting all Union nationals.

The Vice President said

the Committee for Creating a Unified Chin National Costume tried to form the All Chin Society-Yangon from the meeting held on 29 January 2017 for the social affairs of Chin nationals living in Yangon Region and received Registration Certificate No.1/Domestic/0537 from the Ministry of Home Affairs on 19 September 2017.

He added that the ACSY was formed with four missions; to promote friendly relations and unity among the Chin na-

tionals, to preserve and elevate Chin literature, traditions, culture and customs and raise national spirit, enable individuals and groups to cooperate in social affairs of Chin nationals, and to enable Chin youths to have well-rounded education.

He added further that the formation of this group with good intentions will provide help to Chin nationals facing difficult living conditions in Yangon Region and provide medical care to those who need it. He

said it will also fulfill the health requirements of Chin nationals within and outside of Chin State, assistance in social affairs, accommodation for unexpected arrivals in Chin State, sanctuary for those facing hardships, and the use of the main hall for special celebrations and other social affairs.

The Vice President said that while the ACSY is formed with all 53 Chin ethnic races to facilitate support and assistance among each other, it must also work towards increasing relations with other ethnic races within this same nation.

He then thanked the Ministry of Home Affairs for permitting the formation of ACSY, the Yangon Region cabinet, Chin State cabinet, donors, assistance from all sides, and officials from ACSY for the compound and construction of the building.

The Vice President concluded his speech by wishing for the successful completion of the ACSY building, the group's sustainability and carrying benefits for the nation and its people.

Next, Dr Win Myat Aye and ACSY Chairman U Lian Kyone Hnone delivered speeches and Finance Officer Peter Ngun Za Kyone explained about the formation of the ACSY, building construction matters and the ACSY logo.

Afterwards, the stake-driving ceremony commenced with the Vice President, Union Minister, Deputy Minister, Regional Minister, Deputy Mayor, ACSY

Chairman and treasury driving the stakes into the ground at their assigned positions. They then sprinkled scented water and Bishop Dr Andrew Mahn Lone said prayers.

This was followed by the unveiling of the ACSY logo and founding member memorial where Rev Dr Vaughn Khant Paung said prayers and the Vice President unveiled the memorial, sprinkled scented water on it and then took a documentary photo with everyone.

The ACSY compound in Yangon will have a two-storeyed building as an office for township and ethnic race affairs groups, a three-storeyed building for the ACSY office, museum, meeting hall and rooms for patients and other purposes, an auditorium big enough for 15,000 people with a parking lot on the ground floor, and a six-storeyed building to accommodate Chin nationals visiting Yangon.

Those present at the ceremony were Vice President U Henry Van Thio and wife Dr Shwe Hlwun, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Deputy Minister for Office of the Union Government U Tin Myint, Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs U Naing Ngan Linn, the Deputy Mayor, Hluttaw representatives, department officials, the ACSY Chairman, members of Chin social organizations and Chin residents of Yangon.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Vice President U Henry Van Thio and wife Dr Shwe Hlwun, Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye and officials pose for a documentary photo at the stake-driving ceremony for constructing a community hall in the compound of the All Chin Society-Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

Resume of the President of the People's Republic of China

H.E. Mr. Xi Jinping

FROM PAGE-1

Chairman, Standing Committee, Fuzhou Municipal People's Congress; First Secretary, Party Committee, Fuzhou Military Sub-region; 1995-1996, Deputy Secretary, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; Secretary, CPC Fuzhou Municipal Committee; Chairman, Standing Committee, Fuzhou Municipal People's Congress; First Secretary, Party Committee, Fuzhou Military Sub-region; 1996-1999, Deputy Secretary, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; First Commissar, Fujian Provincial Antiaircraft Artillery Reserve Division; 1999-2000, Deputy Secretary, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; Acting Governor, Fujian Province; Deputy Director, National Defense Mobilization Committee, Nanjing Military Area Command; Director, Fujian Provincial National Defense Mobilization Committee; First Commissar, Fujian Provincial Antiaircraft Artillery Reserve Division; 2000-2002, Deputy Secretary, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; Governor, Fujian Province; Deputy Director, National Defense Mobilization Committee, Nanjing Military Area Command; Director, Fujian Provincial National Defense Mobilization Committee; First Commissar, Fujian Provincial Antiaircraft Artillery Reserve Division.

In 2002, he served as Deputy Secretary, CPC Zhejiang Provincial Committee; Acting Governor, Zhejiang Province; 2002-2003 Secretary, CPC Zhejiang Provincial

Committee; Acting Governor, Zhejiang Province; Director, Zhejiang Provincial National Defense Mobilization Committee; 2003-2007, Secretary, CPC Zhejiang Provincial Committee; Chairman, Standing Committee, Zhejiang Provincial People's Congress.

In 2007, he served as Secretary, CPC Shanghai Municipal Committee; First Secretary, Party Committee, Shanghai Garrison Command; 2007-2008, Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau; and Member, Secretariat; of the CPC Central Committee; President, Central Party School; 2008-2010, Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau; and Member, Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee; Vice President, PRC; President, Central Party School; 2010-2012, Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau; and Member, Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee; Vice president, PRC; Vice Chairman, CPC and PRC Central Military Commission; President, Central Party School; 2012-2013, General Secretary, CPC Central Committee; Chairman, CPC Central Military Commission; Vice President, PRC; Vice Chairman, PRC Central Military Commission.

Since 2013, he has been serving as General Secretary, CPC Central Committee; Chairman, CPC Central Military Commission; President, PRC; Chairman,

PRC Central Military Commission. He also served as Alternate member, Fifteenth CPC Central Committee; Member, Sixteenth through Eighteenth CPC Central Committees; Member, Political Bureau and its Standing Committee, and Secretariat, Seventeenth CPC Central Committee; Member, Political Bureau and its Standing Committee, and General Secretary, Eighteenth, Nineteenth CPC Central Committee; elected as Vice President of the PRC at the First Session of the Eleventh National People's Congress (NPC); appointed as a Vice Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission at the Fifth Plenary Session of the Seventeenth CPC Central Committee; appointed as a Vice Chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission at the Seventeenth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Eleventh NPC; appointed as Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission at the First Plenary Session of the Eighteenth CPC Central Committee; elected President of the PRC and Chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission at the First Session of the Twelfth NPC; appointed as Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission at the First Plenary Session of the Nineteenth CPC Central Committee; elected President of the PRC and Chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission at the First Session of the Thirteenth NPC.

Union Attorney General's Office conducts Training Course on International Criminal Law



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, officials and trainees pose for a group photo at the opening ceremony of the Training Course on International Criminal Law in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

U KYAW TINT SWE, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, delivered an opening speech at the Training Course on International Criminal Law conducted by the Union Attorney General's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Union Minister said that the course is aimed at promoting legal and research skills of personnel involved in the affairs of international criminal justice system and criminal law.

He added to settle inter-

national criminal cases in line with international criminal laws, and the importance of human resources for domestic judicial sector, responsibility and accountability for criminal and human rights abuse cases, fair justice, development of judicial pillar with concrete rule of law foundation, the role of internal legal experts and knowledge on the issues of international criminal justice system and criminal law.

Those present at the opening ceremony of the course were Union Attorney-Gener-

al U Tun Tun Oo, Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint, Retired Ambassador U Maung Wai.

A total of 36 trainees from the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Union Attorney-General's Office and the Office of the Judge Advocate General are attending the two-day course from 16 to 17 January.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Chinese actress donates to orphanage in Mingaladon

QIAO XIN, the main actress of the Chinese drama series 'Ode to Joy', and crew made donations to the Andrew Youth Orphanage in Gontalapaung Village, Mingaladon Township, yesterday morning.

The 2016 Chinese drama series is currently airing on MRTV.

During the donation ceremony, the children performed dances and Oh Lian Htan, the founder of the home, first spoke words of gratitude. Qiao Xin then spoke words of encouragement

to the kids and handed over the donations. She then took a documentary photo with everyone.

The donations include school accessories, rice, cooking oil, instant noodles, juice and other foodstuffs for a hundred students.

The Andrew Youth Orphanage was founded in 1995 and currently houses 78 orphans including 6 matriculation students, 12 ninth-graders and 11 eighth-graders. —Zaw Min Latt (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Chinese actress Qiao Xin dances with the children from Andrew Youth Orphanage in Gontalapaung Village, Mingaladon Township, yesterday.

PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT

Hluttaw organizing central committee, work committees prepare for 15th regular session

THE Central Committee and Work Committees for organizing Hluttaw meetings met to prepare for the 15th regular session of the Second Hluttaw yesterday morning.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat presided over the meeting at the Zabuthiri Hall of the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw.

He discussed about successfully organizing the Hluttaw meetings, commencing 27 January, where the Hluttaw representatives will discuss Constitution amendment processes and other bills. Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than made remarks on cooperation of work committees in the previous sessions.

Then Union ministers, permanent secretaries and officials



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat addresses the Central Committee and Work Committees for organizing Hluttaw meetings. **PHOTO:MNA**

from respective committees gave brief reports about their

sector-wise work committees. The Hluttaw Speaker

then made his concluding remarks on the discussions.

—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)



Information Deputy Minister receives Xinhua's Vice President

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun received Xinhua News Agency's Vice President Mr Liu Siyang and party at the minis-

try in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The meeting discussed the important role of media in promoting Myanmar-Sino friendship relations, mutual understanding among people of the two countries and cooperation, the status of Myanmar media and further cooperation in the media industry.—MNA

Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun holds talk with Xinhua News Agency's Vice President Mr Liu Siyang and party. **PHOTO:MNA**

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Wild elephant found dead in Bokpyin

A wild elephant was found dead with its tail sliced off in Bokpyin Township of Taninthayi Region on 15 January. This is the first such incident reported from the township in 2020.

Acting on a tip, a team from the Bokpyin Township Forest Department discovered the carcass of the male elephant, aged about 25. Its tail had been cut.

The elephant was reportedly shot with two poisonous arrows. According to the report, the elephant measured 10 feet in length and 8 ft feet in height. Its trunk was 5 ft long.

In October last year, a wild

elephant was found killed and skinned in the same area near Pyigyimandaing Town, Bokpyin Township.

"The incidents have alerted us of the possible presence of poachers here," said Ko Zaw Chit, a local villager.

The Pyigyimandaing Town Police lodged both cases under Section 41 (A) of the Protection of Biodiversity and Conservation Areas Law, and are continuing with their investigation. —Myint Oo (Myeik)

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



An elephant was found dead with its tail sliced off in Bokpyin Township on 15 January. **PHOTO: MYINT OO (MYEIK)**

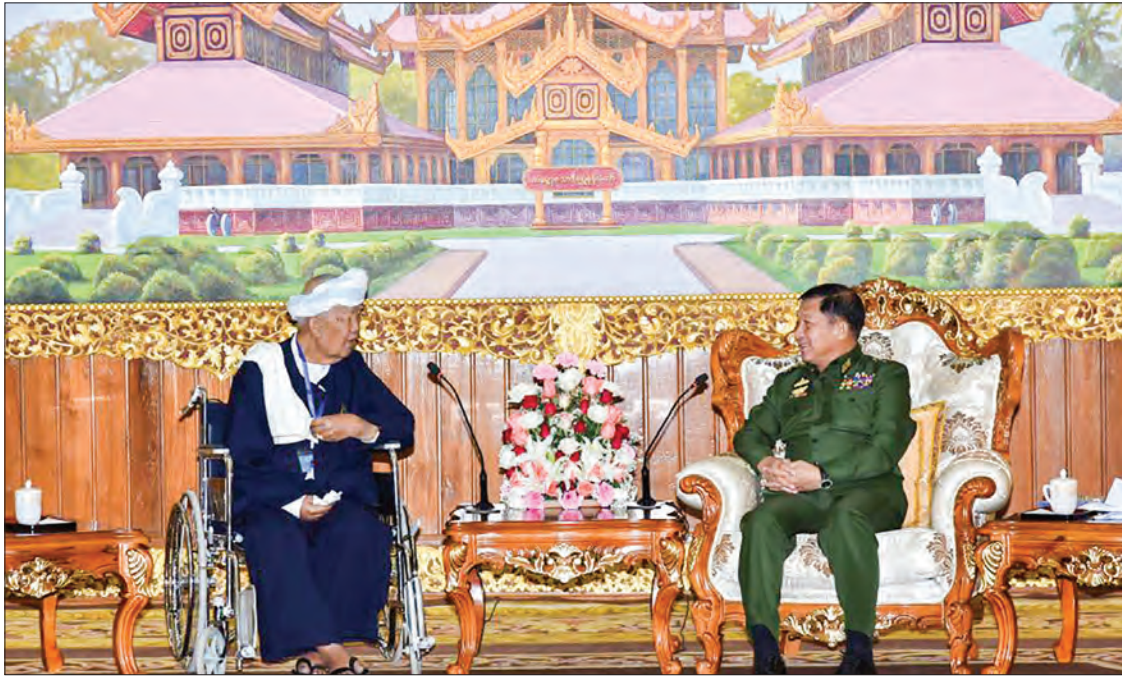
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Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives PNO delegation



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Patron of the militia force of the PaO National Organization, U Aung Kham Hti in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.
PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received U Aung Kham Hti, Patron of the militia force of the PaO National Organization, at the Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting to discuss development of the PaO Self-Administered Zone was attended by Lt-Gen Moe Myint Tun from the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army), senior military officers and militia members.

At the meeting, the Senior General gave advice regarding the modernization of the agricultural sector of the PaO region that mainly produces tea leaves, potato, avocado, onion and other crops.

The Tatmadaw will provide cooler boxes to store potatoes of the PaO region.

The Senior General also discussed preservation of the Mwetaw Kakku Pagodas which have been included in the list of tourist attractions of Myanmar.

Then, PNO's Militia Force Joint General Secretary (1) U Nay Win Tun and its members held talks on construction of a seed laboratory and hydropower generation in the PaO region.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing then presented gifts to U Aung Kham Hti and party, according to a press release of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Defence Minister receives HCOC chairperson

UNION Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win received Ms Kjersti Andersen, Chairperson of The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOC) and Norwegian Ambassador to Austria, at his ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

They discussed how Myanmar can become member to the HCOC and the

rules to adhere to after joining.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister Lt-Gen Sein Win meets with Chairperson of The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation and Norwegian Ambassador to Austria, Ms Kjersti Andersen. **PHOTO: MNA**



MIC okays four foreign investment permits with over 10,000 job opportunities this week

MYANMAR Investment Commission-MIC approved four foreign investment permits and 17 endorsement process in this week, amounted to over US\$

310 million with 10,102 job opportunities.

The announcement came at the MIC's meeting 1/2020 yesterday at the office of Directorate

of Investment and Company Administration in Yangon.

At the press conference held following the meeting, U Thant Sin Lwin, Secretary of Myanmar

Investment Commission, Director General of Directorate of Investment and Company Administration gave details the facts related to permitted enterprises and endorsement enterprises under Myanmar Investment Law and the press statement (1/2020) was distributed.

In addition, he also highlighted that the CNTIC VPower KY3 Limited will operate a 100% foreign owned investment in Kyaukpadaung Township, Rakhine State and the project will generate 658.8 million kilowatt-hours of electricity, 20 per cent of the output will be distributed to the local people in Rakhine State and the remaining 80 per cent will be distributed to the National Grid.

The period from October 1 to 10 January of this 2019-2020

financial year has allowed foreign investment amounted to US \$ 1,546.94 mln and Myanmar citizen Investment amounted to Kyat 716,451.284 mln including US \$ 128.400 mln.

By the end of November 2019, the countries with the largest investment in Myanmar were Singapore, the People's Republic of China, Thailand, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom. The top sector is Oil & Gas sector, accounted for 27.04%, followed by the Power sector, accounted for 26.15% and manufacturing sector, accounted for 14.01% of the total permitted amount of foreign investment.

A total of 12 reporters from 10 local and international media attended the press conference.—GNLM



Myanmar Investment Commission holds the press conference in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

ACTING CHIEF EDITOR

Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS

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 & DISTRIBUTION

San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114

ADVERTISING & 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
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National Museum Department preserves mural paintings at Bagan temple

THE Preservation Unit under the Bagan Division of Archaeology and National Museum Department is managing to preserve mural paintings at Monument Number 1081 in ancient Bagan city beginning 16 January, said Deputy Director U Soe Soe Lin. The temple is located between Myinkabar and Thiripyitsayar villages of Bagan, and its outer wall is decorated with cement floral designs, while the inner wall is with the murals.

Over 400 temples in Bagan were painted with the murals.

The Monument Number 1081 was affected by an earthquake shock in 2016, with the collapse of some parts of mural paintings.—Ko Htein (Ngathayauk Sub-Tsp)

(Translated by Aung Khin)



A man take renovation works on the wall of a temple in Bagan. **PHOTO: KO HTEIN (NGATHAYAUK SUB-TSP)**

Over 2,500 buses equipped with machines for YBS card payment system

By Nyein Nyein

E-TICKETING machines have been installed on more than 2,500 buses with the YBS lines for the rollout of the card payment system, said Daw Nilar Kyaw, Yangon Region Minister for Electricity, Industry and Transportation.

She made the remarks at the 3rd anniversary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA), held on 16 January at the Sky Star Hotel.

"A total of 2,539 buses have been equipped with the machines. The machines have been installed on 1,500 Utone and Hyundai vehicles, 1,000 Foton buses, and 39 Scania buses," said Daw Nilar Kyaw.

"Although the machines have been installed on buses, the card payment system has not started yet. And, preparations are under way," she added.

"We will let the public use the card system after it has been fully tested. A pilot project will



YBS staff install e-ticket machine using smart card with the card payment system. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

be held on a limited number of buses. We will make sure it is for a long term," said Daw Nilar Kyaw.

"Furthermore, plans are being drawn so payments for the Yangon Water Bus and for shopping can be made using the pay-

ment cards. Therefore, we are taking a preliminary measure. The long-awaited card system will be launched soon," she said.

To improve transport facilities in Yangon, the Yangon Bus Service system (YBS) was launched on 16 January, 2017,

during the incumbent government's term. At present, more than 100 bus lines are operating 4,500 buses on about 135 routes, along with the Airport Shuttle. The number of daily commuters has been estimated at 1.8 million. *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*



Suspect named San Win Maung seen with confiscated drugs. **PHOTO:MPF**

Drugs seized in Ywangan, Hopong Tsps

DRUG Enforcement Division officers arrested a man identified as San Win Maung on the Ywangan-Kyaukse Highway near Yonetaung Village, Ywangan Township, at 4 pm on 15 January after discovering 28.5 kilos of raw opium in his motorcycle.

Similarly, officers arrested a man named Maung Htee on the Hopong-Loilem Highway

near Honham Village, Hopong Township, around 6:30 pm after discovering 16,000 psychotropic tablets from his car.

Police have opened cases against both men under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, according to Myanmar Police Force.—GNLM

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

China demand pushes up kidney beans trade in Mandalay

NEWLY harvested kidney beans are seeing a strong trade in the Mandalay market due to demand from China, according to traders.

“China usually purchases Myanmar kidney beans in March every year. This year, traders from the neighbouring country have started buying fresh beans at harvest time,” said U Soe Win Myint, owner of the Soe Win Myint depot from Mandalay.

“Green grams (Shwe Wah variety) are also in high demand in the early harvest season. Moreover, Chinese traders are actively purchasing kidney beans at harvest time. Unlike in the previous years when trading used to be cool at the approaching time of the Chinese New Year, the beans trade transaction has been strong. That benefits growers and traders. India will also purchase kidney beans next month,” he said. In addition to high demand, the prices this year are also K10,000 per three-basket bag higher than last



Kidney beans in Myanmar are grown in October and harvested in January and February. **PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MANDALAY SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)**

year. Currently, a bag of kidney beans is priced at K113,000. Meanwhile, green grams are fetching K125,000 per bag this year.

China buys Myanmar’s peanuts, various sesame seeds, butter bean, kidney beans, green grams, corn, soy beans, and other pulses and beans from Mandalay market.

Kidney beans are primarily grown in Bhamo, Katha, and Htigyaing in Sagaing Region in October. They are harvested in January. Kalay and Kalewa townships supply newly harvested beans in February. — Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Dollar continues downward trend

THE US dollar has been sliding against the Kyat in the local currency market, with the exchange rate touching a low of K1,480-1,484 per dollar on 15 January, said money exchangers.

On 14 January, the rate was pegged at K1,487, while the US dollar index was above 97 in the global 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 dollar demand is falling in the market. The dollar rate is likely to remain cool,” said a money exchanger. The Central Bank of Myanmar set the reference exchange rate (weighted average market rate) at K1,482.3 per dollar on 15 January.

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

market.

With the Kyat gaining against the dollar in the internal forex market, the 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.

Hereafter, 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. In November, the rate moved in the range of K1,510-1,524. Last month, dollar rate started to dip below 1,500. —Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

From Page - 16

techniques and quality management standards of automobiles. After long-term running-in and commissioning, the first DX3 SUV as assembled by DAMT formally rolled off line, indicating a solid milestone of Soueast in its exploration of the Burmese market. Thereafter, Soueast and DAMT further quickened their pace of cooperation and launched DX7 SUV and A5 sedan into production successively, unveiling a new chapter in the cooperation between both countries in the auto industry.

Go deeper in the local market

While introducing products into the local market, Soueast Auto further customized a marketing plan for DAMT according to its domestic marketing experiences and the local market conditions of Myanmar in order to assist with its local marketing work. DAMT actively held diversified marketing activities online and offline to realize sales to the end-users. For offline sales, DX3 launch conference was held and about 20+ representatives from the political and commercial circles of Myanmar were invited to attend the conference and highlight its importance in the local market. In June 2019, DAMT displayed Soueast products at Myanmar Plaza, the first international retailing market of Myanmar, and conducted effective interactions with the consumers in order to stimulate the desire of local consumers to buy. On January 5 this year, DAMT held a launch conference of A5 at CBD Times City of Rangoon and the vehicle was fully favored by the consumers. For online sales, Soueast product was promoted via a placement in the famous Thai movie Ladyboy, thus realizing the high-level integration of brand and plot and maximizing the brand promoting effects. Meanwhile, a Facebook car owner group was established to allow car owners to share their stories relating to the car and their life and make the car part of their efforts to display their life tastes and interests.



Local sales and standard services

A hardcore product requires not only topnotch quality, but also good sales channels. With the popularity of DX3 in Myanmar, DAMT rapidly quickened the pace to expand its sales network. So far, Soueast has had 7 exhibition halls in 3 major cities of Myanmar, i.e. Rangoon, Naypyidaw and Mandalay, wherein 5 are located in Rangoon and 1 in Naypyidaw and Mandalay each. Soueast provided more professional guidance in the design of exhibition hall, sales network layout and services. Meanwhile, Soueast also established an export team to provide fast total-process aftersales services, assist DAMT to efficiently address aftersales issues and enhance customer satisfaction and cohesion.

It takes the efforts of all to win out. The globalization of Chinese brands is an inevitable trend today. As a member of the "quality Chinese brands", Soueast will continue to explore the overseas market under the brand image of "high quality, competitive price and good service". Soueast will focus on the needs of overseas customers and take a forward-looking approach to realize a new milestone for the development of "quality Chinese brands" in the future.

Peace is a must

PEACE is a must. Only people residing in an area devoid of peace can understand its value once it is restored. Peace is sine qua non for our country which has faced internal armed conflicts for over 70 years.

In her address at the 68th Kayah State Day ceremony recently, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said: "A state may have been devoid of peace for some time, but when peace is restored to the state, when there is ceasefire in the regions, there comes progress in the locality, which all national races do not fail to witness."

Yes. Once peace is restored, children can go to school without hassle, and mothers, women, and elders have no more cause for worry.

The progress seen in areas where peace has been re-established gives us the strength to move forward, even in the worst of conditions. With peace we can achieve other goals and turn dreams into reality.

Now is the time we need to review our deeds and make a commitment to do what we can to help our country prosper.

Although there are many obstacles, we will not lose hope and will focus on ensuring complete peace in the country.

More than 72 years ago, our ethnic brethren made a promise to each other to move forward with joined hands. This is the Union Spirit. With that promise and spirit, we gained our independence. And we built the sovereign state of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Today, we all need to think deeply whether the Union we built is an authentic one. If we adhere to the Union Spirit, our country will progress within a short time.

We would like to remind all armed ethnic people of the promise we made to each other, through gesture and manner; that we will move forward through thick and thin.

Please see the difference in the areas before and after the declaration of ceasefire.

The local people know the benefits of peace well. Hence, we all need to work towards ceasefire, which is the door to complete peace.

Now is the time we need to review our deeds and make a commitment to do what we can to help our country prosper.

Peace is the need of the hour. There is no room left for more violence, with people mourning their dear ones and bearing the brunt of the vicious cycle of armed conflict.

It is important that even little children understand why peace is a necessity and the need to uphold it.



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MY ALMA MATER – YANGON UNIVERSITY

By Maung Hlaing



The University of Yangon is the oldest university in Myanmar.

IT was during my schooling days when I fantasized about the life of a university student. Thanks to the inspiration of our teachers, we came to know the taste of reading. Because of the school library, we could appreciate the novels written by famous writers. Among them, the novels depicting the life of university students made me dream about the Rangoon (Yangon) Arts and Science University which was renowned as RASU in those days.

Especially, the works of Tekkatho Phone Naing inspired me to become a university student. Before I passed the matriculation examination, I loved to listen to the tales or stories our teachers told us in the classroom. In my dream world, hundreds of times I was transported to Adipati-lan-ma (Chancellor Road), Convocation Hall, Thitpok-pin, U Chit Tea-shop and so on.

To make matters worse, after reading the novel titled 'Collegean' written by Saya Zawana, I could not suppress my ardent wish to become a university student. When this novel turned into a film, I was totally magnetized by the starring characters--Collegean Nay Win and Myint Myint Khin.

Then, the songs like 'Tekkatho Kyaung Thu Ta-oo' (A University girl student) sung by Ko Min Naung and 'Chit-yet Shayshay Inya-myay' (Longer days of love at Inya Lake) by Twantay Thein Tan were so popular that even rural folks loved to sing them. The novels, films and songs depicting about the life of RASU made the high school students who were crazy for university campus long for the days of Yangon University. Then I was only Sixteen and tried to sit for the matriculation examination.

As I was born in a delta town, I hardly visited the capital city of Yangon. In those days, when university students came back from RASU in summer holidays, we could not keep slobbering over them.

The then university students wore vests printed with the letters 'RASU' at the back. They wore white Teteron shirts so that the letters would be visible on their back under their shirts. As the number of university students was so few, being a university student was a boastful thing. Only students of well-to-do class of our town could join the university when they passed the matriculation examination. Most of the families could not afford to send their children to the university where students could pursue a

particular branch of study.

In those days, my native town saw the insurgents and Tatmadaw, or Armed Forces playing hide-and-seek. Peace and stability did not prevail in the rural areas. To make matters worse, when I was in the tenth standard, currency notes were demonitized. As a result, the whole town was in recession. Being a member of the family that was leading a hand-to-mouth life, to pursue education solely depended on my big aunt who ran a brokerage house. Due to the demonitization, her earnings had slumped.

Although I passed the matriculation, I could not join the university because of a slump in my aunt's business. My hope to go to RASU had collapsed. Fortune failed to smile on me. Finally, I had to work in the Posts and Telecommunications Department.

However, I never lost sight of pursuing the university education.

After working for two years in the country, I was transferred to Yangon where I could join the Workers' College which was set apart for those who were working in the government departments and work-establishments in Yangon municipal area. At this point, you may raise a question "Is Yangon University your real Alma Mater?" I must confess that Yangon University is not my real Alma Mater. My real Alma Mater was the Workers' College where I was reading for B.A. Degree from 1968 to 1972. Workers' College, indeed, was one of the affiliates of Rangoon Arts and Science University. At that time, we had our

separate faculties and owned lecturers, tutors, demonstrators and its staff. Although we did have our deans of faculties, they all were under the control of RASU. Most of our teachers were from RASU. After teaching day students at RASU, they came to teach us of Workers' College out of their goodwill, or cetana without taking rest in the evening.

Workers' College was situated at the corner of Botahtaung Pagoda Road and Merchant Street. Formerly, it was known as University of Adults Education which is now turned into National Management Degree College (Botahtaung). Due to the

insufficiency of classrooms, first-year students were placed at a primary school on Botahtaung Pagoda Road in Pazundaung. As for third-year students, they had to go to Institute of Education on Pyay Road, which was opposite the then Burma Broadcasting service: BBS (now Myanma Radio and Television: MRTV).

Sometimes, our tutorial classes were conducted at the buildings of respective subjects or departments on Saturdays (even on Sundays at other times.) In this way, RASU had been my Alma Mater since then. It was the very university that I eagerly wanted to reach. On the first day when I

landed on the campus, the first thing I did was nothing but walking up and down the Chancellor Road, passing through the halls of Pinya, Thaton, Bago and Mandalay before reaching the Convocation Hall.

The second thing I did was sitting under the Thitpok-pin which is over 100 years old. It is located in front of the Science Hall near Adipati-lan and Convocation Hall. I sat under the tree over fifty years ago but it is still alive and it has been standing as the symbol of RASU for over 100 years. Recently, it was installed with Blue Plaque as a heritage of Yangon Heritage Trust (YHT). If the tree could speak, it would tell a lot of stories hiding in its heart.

During the period of five years, whenever I reached Yangon University, I never failed to visit Yangon University Library which was commissioned into service in 1928. Later the Universities' Central Library that emerged with the birth of new system education was also a place I loved to spend my leisure hours. The images of Judson Church, over 100-year old Thitpok-pin, Adipati-lan, or Chancellor Road, U Chit Tea-shop and prominent halls are still in my eyes and heart. It is because they have been characters of novels, and short stories written by renowned writers, songs by some composers, poems by famous poets, and films by some movie-directors.

SEE PAGE-10



Giant Thitpok-pin in the middle of Yangon University beautifies the campus.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Thursday 16th January, 2020)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is generally fair over the North Bay and East Central Bay and a few clouds to partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 17th January, 2020: Weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-6) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17th January, 2020: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17th January, 2020: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17th January, 2020: Fair weather.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Own name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.). – Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar

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MY ALMA MATER — YANGON UNIVERSITY

FROM PAGE-9

It is for this reason that I could participate in the Golden Jubilee Anniversary activities held 1 to 5 December, 1970. I could remember that a big archway was erected at the entrance of chancellor Road. Because of the bad weather, I failed to visit the event on first and second days. On 3 and 4 December, not only the campus of RASU, but also other places such as Institute of Medicine I, Institute of Education were also crowded with students and laymen.

There were two or three stages on the campus. Among them, the stage on the vacant plot between Mandalay Hall and Amara Hall attracted an audience of thousands. It was because RIT (YIT) anyeint, Workers' College anyeint and so many yeins, or varieties of dances were performed at that stage. Most of the performers were highly praised as real professionals.

The Performing arts competitions on mandolin, violin, harp and xylophone were held at the Recreation Centre (RC) on Chancellor Road. I remember well that Ko Thit Sar of Workers' Collage won the first prize in the mandolin competition. We could also enjoy other professional anyeints such as College Myaing Anyeint and UTC Shwe Hnin Zi which were entertained on the campus of RASU.

The Diamond Jubilee Anniversary was ceremoniously held in the time of Tatmadaw Government in December, 1995. However, I was not able to attend that anniversary as I was away from Yangon at that time.

Yangon University, indeed, has a long history. It came into being after the (Rangoon) University Act had been enacted on 1 December, 1920. The university and its birth cohorts — Judson Church, the over 100-year old Thitpok-pin (Tetrameles Nudiflora. R.Br.Datisceae), the Convocation Hall, Chancellor

Road, Yangon University Library, and its hostels saw what had happened through the ages they passed. Yangon University Students Union where students who struggled for independence gathered was destroyed in the time of Revolutionary Council in 1962.

Built by the British government in the Pre-War time, Yangon University was the most impressive and prestigious university in South-east Asia. She gave birth to prominent political leaders such as Bogyoke Aung San, Myanmar's first Prime Minister U Nu, former UN Secretary-General U Thant and so on. Rector Dr. Htin Aung was world-famous scholar who promoted the literary world and education field as well. Doubtlessly, the university still is producing so many young leaders who are now playing their roles in nation-building endeavours.

Thitpok-pin, which is older than the hundred-year old Yangon University, the Convocation

Hall, Judson Church, the Inya Lake and Kant-kaw trees (ironwood trees) have welcomed and said goodbye to generations of students who come to pursue university education.

Due to the WWII, Yangon University could not hold her Silver Jubilee celebrations in 1945. However, the university held a Students Festival under the leadership of Students Union to commemorate the 40th anniversary in 1960. The Golden Jubilee celebrations were successfully held under the unseasonal rains on 1 to 5 December, 1970. The Diamond Jubilee was ceremoniously held in the time of Tatmadaw Government in December, 1995. In 2020, we are now holding the Centenary celebrations all the year round on the campus of Yangon University.

For the celebrations of the Centenary of Yangon University, Myanmar Post under the Ministry of Transport and Communications has issued two new postcards to commemorate the

Centenary of Yangon University. Like the former celebrations, paper reading sessions and respect-paying to the old students who are still alive will be held. Students young and old alike are now taking an active part in the centenary activities.

I am now over 70. Luckily, I have seen Golden Jubilee, Diamond Jubilee and Centenary celebrations in my life. How lucky I am! I am proud of it.

Yangon University, my Alma Mater, has lived through so many political upheavals and ups-and-downs of Myanmar's modern history. In the early rainy season, Thitpok-pin becomes green with new leaves and the tree shows its skeleton in the summer holiday. Students of generations are coming in and going out. This is an unending process.

YANGON UNIVERSITY is and will peacefully be standing tall till doomsday!

Ref : 1. *The Mirror Daily*, 12-7-2019
2. *The Mirror Daily*, 14-12-2019

Myanmar external trade reaches over \$9 bln from October to December this financial year

FIRST-quarter of 2019-2020 financial year, the provisional figure of Myanmar international trade showed that the total trade reached at US\$9.383 billion with \$4.677 billion export and \$4.706 billion import. In the same period of last FY, Myanmar international trade reached \$8.108 billion with \$3.648 billion export and \$4.460 billion import.

Compared with last FY, Myanmar's trade exceeded \$1.275 billion with \$1.029 billion export and \$246 million import.

Following is the external trade provisional export figure from October to December 2019-2020FY comparison with the same period of last FY. Values are in million US\$.

Sr	Sector	From Oct to Dec 2019-2020 FY's provisional value	From Oct to Dec 2018-2019 FY's value	Exceed/decrease
1.	Agricultural products	908.528	739.365	169.163
2.	Animals products	46.868	170.784	-123.916
3.	Marine products	261.045	224.931	36.114
4.	Mineral products	792.273	292.557	499.716
5.	Forest products	44.305	47.122	-2.817
6.	Manufacture products	2537.843	1987.531	550.312
7.	Other	86.827	186.437	-99.610
Total		4677.689	3648.727	1028.962

Following is the external trade provisional import figure from October to December 2019-2020FY comparison with the same period of last FY. Values are in million US\$.

Sr	Subject	From Oct to Dec 2019-2020 FY (temporary)	From Oct to Dec 2018-2019 FY	Exceed/decrease
1.	Investment products	1558.180	1436.979	121.201
2.	Raw material	1924.157	1876.369	47.788
3.	Article of use	1223.710	1146.883	76.827
Total		4706.047	4460.231	245.816

MNA

Third "Silk Road Shot" International Micro Films Festival invites HD films for contest

THE Third "Silk Road Shot" International Micro Film Festival will be held in Mangshi, Dehong Prefecture of Yunnan Province, China, from 7 to 10 February this year.

The festival was annually organized beginning 2018.

The type of entries for the contest are micro films (online movies), micro documentary, micro anime, micro publicity films, and public service films can be sent for the contest.

The file format of the entries should be MOV, H264, MPG, MP4, RMVB, AVI and other files of HD format that can be opened with common players (no bigger than 4G).

The entries should be

works filmed between 2018-2019.

The movies files may be sent to U Wan Kyint Yui (09-891504169) Myanmar Representative Office of Dehong Prefecture Merchants Association at No 33, Lawkanat House, Parami Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Film Development Centre at No.50 Golden Valley Road, Bahan Township, Yangon (01-534574), Dehong Prefecture Merchants Association in Mandalay at (Dha-9/63-70), 43rd Road, between 65 and 66 streets in Maha Aung Myae Township, Mandalay and Ma Khin San Yin (09 - 426802021), not later than 28 February.—Myo Kyaw Aung (FDC)

(Translated by Aung Khin)

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Environmentalists file suit against Merkel's 'weak' climate laws

BERLIN — Environmental groups announced Wednesday they had filed two lawsuits at Germany's highest court accusing Chancellor Angela Merkel's government had failed to protect basic rights through its weak climate protection law.

Greenpeace together with German groups BUND and Deutsche Umwelthilfe filed the legal actions, which are also backed by Luisa Neubauer, a prominent activist of the Fridays for Future climate strike movement.

A dozen Bangladeshis and

Nepalis, whose countries have been hard hit by global warming, also support the initiative.

"Climate protection is the protection of fundamental rights, particularly those of younger generations and inhabitants of most affected countries," said Remo Klinger, a lawyer for the plaintiffs.

Germany should "make a contribution commensurate with its responsibility in terms of climate change", added Klinger, urging the Federal Constitutional Court to "show the way to go".

The environmental groups

had already backed three farmer families who took their case to a Berlin administrative court last year, but that case was struck down by the judge.

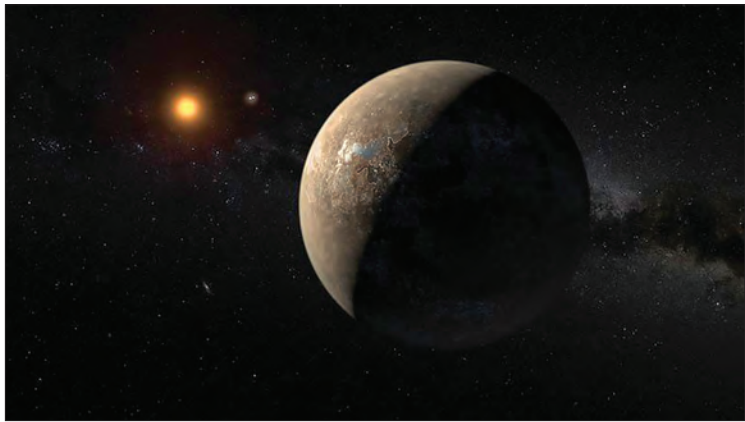
Undeterred, they have now turned to Germany's highest court, evoking a decision of the Dutch supreme court, which in 2019 ordered the Dutch state to cut its greenhouse gas emissions.

Merkel's government last year agreed on a sweeping package of climate policy reforms that are estimated to cost 100 billion euros by 2030.— AFP ■



German Minister for Food and Agriculture Julia Kloeckner speaks on the stage near the Brandenburg Gate after a protest against the German government's agricultural policy including plans to phase out glyphosate pesticides and to implement more animal protection on Tuesday in Berlin. PHOTO: AFP

'Super-Earth' can be orbiting our nearest neighboring star



An artist's impression of Proxima b orbiting the red dwarf star Proxima Centauri. Image: M. Kornmesser. PHOTO: AFP

WASHINGTON — Findings from a recent analysis of our closest neighboring star Proxima Centauri suggest that it may be orbited by a previously unknown planet.

By analysing the cyclical changes in the light spectrum emitted by the Proxima Centauri, Mario Damasso from Italy's National Institute for Astrophysics and his colleagues presented the

data suggesting that this candidate planet orbits the star every 5.2 years and might possibly be a 'super-Earth.' The planet is thought to have a mass higher than that of Earth, though significantly lower when compared to solar system ice giants — Uranus and Neptune.

If its existence is confirmed, this planet may provide insights into how low-mass planets form

around low-mass stars.

It could also challenge models of how super-Earths are born. Most are believed to form near the 'snowline,' the minimum distance from a star at which water can turn to solid ice. However, the candidate planet's orbit lies almost 1.5 Astronomical Units (AU) away from the star, which is far beyond this sweet spot.

One AU equals the average distance between the Sun and the Earth.

A previous study of Proxima Centauri using the Atacama Large Millimetre/sub-millimeter Array (ALMA) — an astronomical observatory in northern Chile — reported an unknown source of light spectrum signals that could belong to a second planet or may simply have been the product of a neighbouring galaxy or an unrelated phenomenon.—ANI ■

Saving water is easier by replacing coal with gas or renewable energy: Study

WASHINGTON — It has been found in a recent study that the transition from coal to natural gas in the US electricity sector is reducing the industry's water use. It is helping in saving gallons of water and contributing to reducing water scarcity.

"For every megawatt of electricity produced using natural gas instead of coal, the water withdrawn from rivers and groundwater drops by 10,500 gallons, and water consumed for cooling and other plant operations and not returned to the environment drop by 260 gallons. Switching to solar or wind power could boost these savings even more" said Andrew Kondash, a post-doctoral researcher at Duke's Nicholas School of the Environment.

The results of the study were published in 'Environmental Research Letters', 2019.

"While most attention has been focused on the climate and air quality benefits of switching from coal, this new study shows that the transition to natural gas — and even more so, to renewable energy sources — has resulted in saving billions of gallons of water," said Avner Vengosh, professor of geochemistry and water quality at Duke's Nicholas School of the Environment.

These savings in both water consumption and water withdrawal have come despite the intensification of water use associated with fracking and shale gas production, the study says

Water consumption — the amount of water used by a power plant and never returned to the environment — drops by 260 gallons per megawatt, Vengosh said.—ANI ■

Secret mission saves Australia's 'dinosaur trees' from bushfires

SYDNEY — A secret operation by specialist firefighters has saved the world's last stand of Wollemi Pines, a pre-historic species known as "dinosaur trees", from Australia's unprecedented bushfires, officials said.

Fewer than 200 of the trees exist in the wild, hidden in a gorge in the World Heritage Blue Mountains northwest of Sydney, which have been hit by one of the biggest bushfires that have been ravaging much



Specialist firefighters were winched into the gorge to set up an irrigation system to provide moisture for the grove. PHOTO: AFP

of Australia for months.

With flames approaching the area late last year, firefighters deployed air tankers to drop fire retardant in a protective ring around the trees while specialist firefighters were winched down into the gorge to set up an irrigation system to provide moisture for the grove, officials said.

Matt Kean, environment minister for New South Wales state which encompasses the Blue Mountains, described the

operation as "an unprecedented environmental protection mission."

While some of the trees were charred by the flames, the grove was saved from the fires, he said in a statement late Wednesday.

The pines, which fossil records indicate are more than 200 million years old — pre-dating many dinosaurs — were believed extinct until the Wollemi grove was discovered in 1994.—AFP ■

Japan machinery orders log record rise in November on big-ticket railcars

TOKYO — Japan's core private-sector machinery orders logged the biggest increase on record in November, boosted by orders for pricey railway cars, government data showed Thursday.

The orders, which exclude ships and those placed by electric utilities due to their volatility, surged 18.0 per cent from the previous month, the biggest jump since comparable data became available in April 2005, to 942.70 billion yen (\$8.58 billion).

Despite the first rise in five months, the Cabinet Office maintained its assessment saying orders, seen as a leading indicator of capital expenditure, are "stalling." For September, it said the orders were "showing signs of stalling in their recovery."

A government official explained that the evaluation was



An operator drives a train of the Keikyu line to Haneda airport in Tokyo on Jan 14, 2020. The jump in November 2019 orders was largely driven by big-ticket items, such as orders for railway cars. PHOTO: AFP

left unchanged in light of the effect of the big-ticket orders and the recent declining trend since July. In the reporting month, orders from nonmanufacturers, excluding those for ships and from

power companies, rose 27.8 per cent to 592.07 billion yen, supported by demand for railway cars and road vehicles from the transport and postal industries. — Kyodo News ■

Nestle to invest 2bn Swiss francs in recycled plastics

GENEVA — Swiss food giant Nestle said Thursday it would invest 2.0 billion Swiss francs (1.8 billion euros, \$2.1 billion) over five years to cut its use of virgin plastics in favour of food-grade recycled plastics.

The company, whose brands include Nespresso coffee, Vittel water and Smarties chocolates, also plans to invest in new types of sustainable packaging to meet its target of making all its packaging recyclable or reusable by 2025.

Nestle also said in a statement it would reduce its use of virgin plastics by one third over the next five years and would set up a venture fund with 250 million Swiss francs to invest in start-up companies working in the recycling sector.

To create a market for recycled plastics, it said it would

source up to 2 million metric tons of food-grade recycled plastics and allocated more than 1.5 billion Swiss francs to pay a premium for the material between now and 2025.

"No plastic should end up in landfill or as litter," Nestle chief executive Mark Schneider said in the statement.

Major corporations, often criticised by campaigners for putting profit before the environment, are trying to respond to growing pressure from consumers for more responsible practices.

Food and cosmetics giant Unilever announced last September that it will cut its use of new plastic in packaging by half by 2025, acknowledging that the move was partly aimed at young, more environmentally conscious customers. — AFP ■

Bezos promises \$1 billion in bid to see off Indian e-commerce storm

NEW DELHI — Amazon tycoon Jeff Bezos promised Wednesday a new billion-dollar investment in India, just two days after authorities launched an anti-trust investigation into the e-commerce giant.

A three-day visit by Bezos, whose worth has been estimated at more than \$110 billion, sparked protests in New Delhi and other cities by traders who accuse Amazon and its main US-owned rival Flipkart of killing off India's army of street traders.

Bezos, who has spent heavily to make his company an e-commerce titan in the world's second most-populous nation, sought to head off critics by

promising one billion dollars to digitise small and medium-sized Indian businesses.

"We will use our global footprint to export \$10 billion worth of 'Make in India' products across the world by 2025," he said, referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's campaign to boost national production.

Bezos highlighted India's growing importance, saying "the 21st century will be the Indian century" and that the US-India alliance will be the most important.

Amazon and Flipkart — founded in India but taken over by Walmart in 2018 for \$16 billion — face increasing scrutiny and

resentment despite their popularity among customers.

The Competition Commission of India announced Monday that it was investigating both companies over accusations they undermine traditional traders by favouring "preferred sellers" on their platforms.

'Unfair subsidies'

Media reports said Bezos has sought a meeting with Modi, but neither the government nor Amazon would confirm if talks would be held.

Amazon has said it will cooperate with the investigation and was "confident" it was operating legally. — AFP ■

NEWS

In

BRIEF

Molang the chubby rabbit woos world on wave of niceness

PARIS — A giggly white rabbit called Molang who loves nothing more than cuddles and helping his friends has become a global children's megastar.

The ever-smiling character began as an emoji in South Korea before the French animation studio Millimages gave him new life as the star of his own quirky kids series four years ago.

It has since become a global sensation not just for pre-school children at which it was first aimed, but also among teenagers and adults who have been swept up in its fluffball of cuteness.

"Molang" now shows in 190 countries including China and has been picked up by both Disney and Netflix. "Molang is a big round rabbit, who is extremely positive, imaginative and enthusiastic," said Marie-Caroline Villand, who developed the animated character from the emoji created by Yoon Hye-Ji. — AFP ■

Honda, Isuzu agree to conduct joint research on fuel cell trucks

TOKYO — Honda Motor Co. and Isuzu Motors Ltd. said Wednesday they have agreed to conduct joint research on fuel cell-powered heavy-duty trucks, in another collaborative move in the auto industry which has seen fierce competition for eco-friendly vehicles.

Honda R&D Co. and Isuzu signed the agreement to promote fuel cells as the powertrain at a time when hydrogen stations are still limited in Japan. Isuzu has been looking to enhance the lineup of its trucks to respond to growing demand for self-driving and low-emissions vehicles, while Honda, which makes Clarity fuel cell cars, seeks to expand the application of its fuel cell technology beyond use for passenger vehicles. Fuel cell vehicles are seen as one of the most promising green cars as they run on electricity generated from a chemical reaction of hydrogen and oxygen and emit only water. Honda and Isuzu said that "the use of fuel cell trucks and hydrogen energy can contribute to the future prosperity of the logistics industry and all other industries in our society and to the early realization of a hydrogen society." — Kyodo News ■



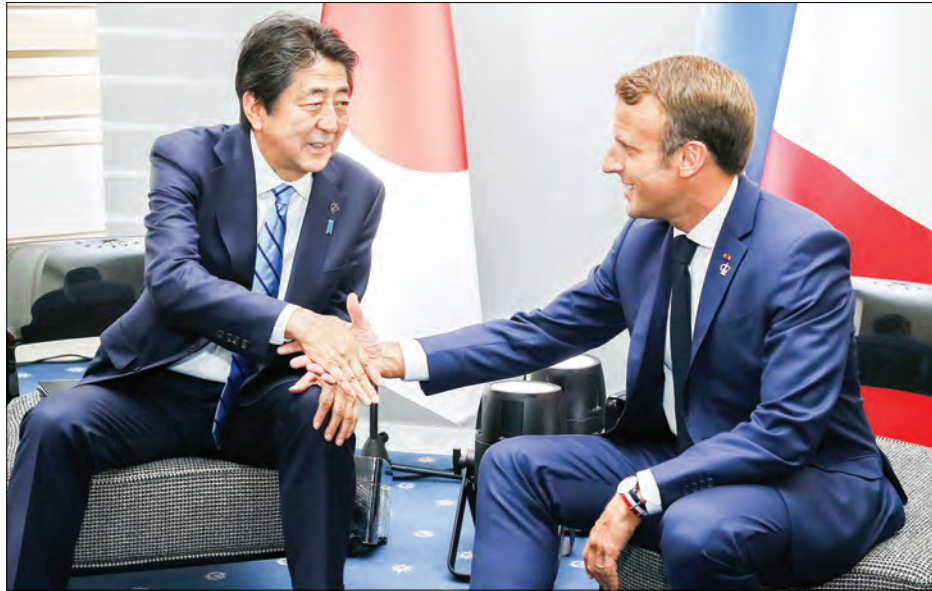
Amazon chief Jeff Bezos greets the audience at an Amazon meeting in New Delhi. PHOTO: AFP

Macron repeatedly told Abe he saw Ghosn's treatment as unsatisfactory

PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron revealed Wednesday that he repeatedly told Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe that he considered the treatment of former Nissan Motor Co. Chairman Carlos Ghosn after his arrest to be unsatisfactory in terms of protecting the rights of a suspect.

"I told (Prime Minister Shinzo) Abe several times that the conditions of Carlos Ghosn's detention and questioning did not appear to be satisfactory to me," Macron told reporters.

Ghosn was arrested in 2018 for alleged financial misconduct while in charge of the Japanese automaker. Facing trial, he fled from Japan by jumping bail in December and said he did so to escape the country's "rigged" justice system.



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (l) and French President Emmanuel Macron shake hands during their meeting in Biarritz, southwestern France, on 24 August, 2019, on the sidelines of a Group of Seven summit. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

In Tokyo on Thursday, Lawyer Junichiro Hironaka, who had won Ghosn's release in exchange for strict bail conditions, turned in his resignation as one of Ghosn's defense

lawyers at the Tokyo District Court.

Following Ghosn's escape, the court has decided to separate his trial from that of former Nissan Representative Director

Greg Kelly, who has been charged with conspiring with the former chairman over the financial misconduct, according to sources close to the matter. —Kydo News ■

US-China trade deal reduces downside risks: Moody's

NEW DELHI — Moody's Investors Service said on Thursday that signing of phase one of the trade deal between the United States and China reduces downside risks of renewed escalation in the dispute that has weighed on global economy for almost two years.

"The agreement could help boost bilateral exports by the two economies and lead to an improvement in business confidence as well as investment," said Michael Taylor, Managing Director of Moody's Investors Service Credit Strategy. "But the details of the agreement suggest that there remains considerable scope for friction

between the two sides," he said in a statement.

"Moody's continues to expect tensions between China and the United States to wax and wane in the years ahead," added Taylor.

On Wednesday (local time), the world's two biggest economies signed a partial trade deal aimed at easing the 18-month trade conflict.

US President Donald Trump and China's Vice Premier Liu He attended a ceremony at the White House. Trump said the agreement was a momentous step towards a future of fair and reciprocal trade between the two countries.—ANI ■

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ADB sells dual-tranche \$2.25 billion 3-year and \$2 billion 10-year global benchmark bonds

MANILA — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has returned to the US dollar bond market with the pricing of a three-year global benchmark bond worth 2.25 billion dollars and a 10-year global benchmark bond worth two billion dollars, proceeds of which will be part of ADB's ordinary capital resources.

ADB plans to raise about 25 billion dollars from the capital markets



Pedestrians walk past a logo of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) displayed outside its headquarters in Manila, Philippines, on 2 September, 2010. PHOTO: AFP

in 2020. "The dollar market has seen a very active start to the new year. ADB is very pleased to make its

first outing a strong one," said ADB Treasurer Pierre Van Peteghem. "The dual three-year and 10-year

tranche approach allowed ADB to respond to investor demand on both ends of the maturity spectrum as reflected in the final order book being over 6.5 billion dollars," he said in a statement on Thursday. "It is also noteworthy that this 10-year transaction opened the market for supranationals in that tenor and equalled ADB's largest 10-year transaction to date," added Peteghem.—ANI ■

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZHE HAI-2

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZHE HAI-2 VOY.NO. (19196) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17-1-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMIT-2 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 GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING
Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CAPE SYROS VOY.NO. (002L/003R)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CAPE SYROS VOY.NO. (002L/003R) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17-1-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT 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 SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BOX ENDEAVOUR VOY.NO. (001S)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOX ENDEAVOUR VOY.NO. (001S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17-1-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/TMT 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 SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CORE BRIGHT OL

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CORE BRIGHT OL VOY.NO. (J2001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17-1-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-5 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 BEN LINE AGENCIES SINGAPORE PTE, LTD

Phone No: 2301928

China, US sign phase-one trade deal

WASHINGTON — China and the United States formally signed their phase-one economic and trade agreement here on Wednesday, with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He and US President Donald Trump inking the papers in the White House.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Liu, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chief of the Chinese side of the China-US comprehensive economic dialogue, first conveyed a message of Chinese President Xi Jinping to Trump.

The conclusion of the phase-one economic and trade agreement is good for China, for the United States and for the whole world, Xi said in the message read out by the vice premier.

“It also shows that our two countries have the ability to act on the basis of equality and mutual respect, and work through



US President Donald Trump and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, who is also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chief of the Chinese side of the China-US comprehensive economic dialogue, show the signed China-US phase-one economic and trade agreement during a ceremony at the East Room of the White House in Washington D.C., the United States, 15 January, 2020. PHOTO: XINHUA

dialogue and consultation to properly handle and effectively resolve relevant issues,” read the message.

In the next step, the two sides need to implement the agreement in real earnest and optimize its positive impact, so

as to make even greater progress in China-US trade and economic cooperation, the Chinese president said.—Xinhua

Time running out on US-S Korea troop talks: envoy

SEOUL — Washington has compromised in its demands that South Korea should pay billions of dollars towards US troop presence and it was Seoul’s turn to reciprocate before time ran out, the American ambassador said Thursday.

The two allies are in a security alliance and Washington stations 28,500 troops in South Korea to defend it from the nuclear-armed North, which invaded in 1950.

They are a key part of US forces’ deployment in Asia, but the Trump administration has been insisting Seoul pay more towards their costs.

The initial US demand was around \$5 billion a year -- a more than fivefold increase on the roughly \$900 million paid in 2019 -- provoking consternation in Seoul.

The latest round of negotiations concluded without an agreement in Washington on Wednesday.

US negotiators had “adjusted our position, our top line number”, said Ambassador Harry Harris. “We are now waiting for the Korean side to do the same.”

“South Korea as an equal partner in the preservation of peace on the peninsula, and its position as the 12th largest economy in the entire world, can and should do more.”

Time was “of the essence”, he told reporters in a group interview at his residence in the centre of Seoul.

Around 10,000 South Koreans working for United States Forces Korea (USFK) are paid from funds from last year’s deal and when they run out, they will have to be put on furlough, he said. “That notice is going to go out soon.”—AFP ■

Pakistan says Taliban show ‘willingness’ to reduce Afghan violence

ISLAMABAD — Pakistan’s foreign minister on Thursday said the Taliban has shown “a willingness” to reduce violence in war-torn Afghanistan after more than 18 years fighting the

US, sparking speculation that a potential breakthrough in talks with the Americans may be near.

Negotiations between the Taliban and the US have repeatedly stalled, with Washington

calling on the insurgent group to reduce violence before they can resume.

“Today, positive progress has been made, the Taliban have shown their willingness to reduce the violence, which was a demand... it’s a step towards the peace agreement,” said Pakistani foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi in a video statement.

He gave no further details. Zabihullah Mujahid, the official Taliban spokesman, told AFP the Taliban was looking into the comments.

The Taliban and the US were on the brink of announcing a withdrawal deal in September last year when President Donald Trump abruptly declared the process “dead”, citing Taliban violence.

Talks were later restarted between the two sides in December in Qatar, but were paused following an attack near the Bagram military base in Afghanistan.

Islamabad has helped facilitate the talks between the militants and Washington in Qatar over the past year, seeking an agreement that would pave the way for a US troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in return for various security promises from the insurgents.

Pakistan was one of only three countries to recognise the Taliban regime, and its shadowy military establishment — particularly the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) — is widely believed to back the bloody insurgency in Afghanistan.—AFP ■



The US-Taliban talks were aimed at allowing Washington to begin withdrawing troops in return for various security guarantees. PHOTO: AFP

China urges Britain to make independent decision on 5G

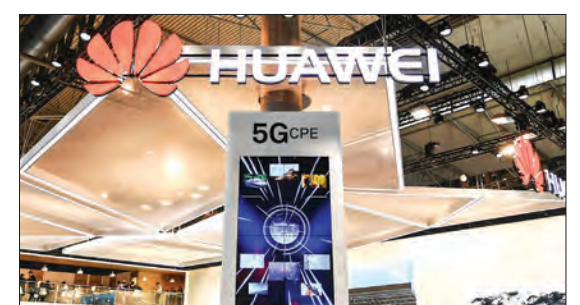
BEIJING — China expressed the hope Wednesday that Britain will take an objective and fair position, make an independent choice in line with its own interests on the issue of 5G, and provide a fair, just, open and non-discriminatory business environment for Chinese enterprises.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang made the remarks at a routine press briefing when answering a question concerning the U.S. pressure on Britain to ban the use of Huawei’s 5G technology.

Geng noted that Huawei has been operating in Britain for many years, investing billions of pounds, supporting tens of thousands of jobs, setting up joint research centers and actively fulfilling social responsibility.

He urged the United States to stop generalizing the concept of national security, smearing and blaming China and suppressing Chinese companies unreasonably.

“What is the real intention of the United States to slander China and suppress Chinese enterprises? I believe any country that upholds an objective and fair position can clearly see,” Geng said.—Xinhua ■



China’s telecom giant Huawei displays 5G technology at the 2018 Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Spain, 26 February, 2018. PHOTO: XINHUA

Russia ruling party backs Putin's PM pick after shock overhaul

MOSCOW — Russia's ruling party backed President Vladimir Putin's nomination of a little-known tax chief as the new prime minister on Thursday, after Putin's announcement of a constitutional shake-up fuelled speculation about his plans.

The lower house of Russia's parliament is due to formally approve Mikhail Mishustin for the role, a day after the shock resignation of the government after Putin's call for reforms to reshape Russia's political system.

The series of bombshell announcements made during and

after Putin's state of the nation speech triggered speculation about his role past 2024, when his current presidential term expires.

Some suggested 67-year-old Putin, who is two years into his fourth presidential term and has steered the country since 1999, could be laying the groundwork to assume a new position or remain in a powerful behind-the-scenes role.

It is unclear whether Mishustin, a technocrat whose recent career revolved around the tax service, is a temporary placeholder or could be

groomed as Putin's successor.

But his approval was imminent after the United Russia party — which holds 75 per cent of seats in the lower house — gave its backing on Thursday morning.

"We decided to unanimously support the candidature suggested by our national leader for the post of the head of government," the head of United Russia's parliamentary faction, Sergei Neverov, told journalists.

Lawmakers are due to discuss and vote on Mishustin's nomination at a plenary session at 2:00 pm (1100 GMT). — AFP ■



Mikhail Mishustin has led Russia's Federal Tax Service since 2010. PHOTO: AFP

Iran accuses Europeans of sacrificing nuclear deal for trade interests

TEHRAN — Iran accused European governments Thursday of sacrificing a troubled 2015 nuclear deal to avoid trade reprisals from US President Donald Trump who has led opposition to the agreement.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said the decision by Britain, France and Germany to heed US pressure to lodge a complaint on Tuesday alleging violation of the deal by Iran deprived them of any right to claim the moral high ground.

The three governments "sold out remnants of #JCPOA (the nuclear deal) to avoid new Trump tariffs," Zarif charged.

He was alluding to a report by the Washington Post on Wednesday that cited European sources as saying that the Trump administration had renewed a threat to impose a 25 per cent



Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, has accused Europe of giving in to US bullying over a troubled nuclear deal. PHOTO: AFP

tariff on European car exports if the three governments held back. "If you want to sell your integrity, go ahead," Zarif tweeted. "But DO NOT assume high moral/legal ground."

The European states initiated a dispute mechanism process set up under the deal, which allows a party to claim significant

non-compliance by another party before a joint commission, with appeals possible to an advisory board and ultimately to the UN Security Council. Since Washington pulled out of the agreement and reimposed crippling unilateral sanctions in 2018, EU governments have sought to find a way to allow European businesses to continue trading with Iran without incurring huge US penalties.

As its economy has gone into reverse, an increasingly frustrated Iran has hit back with the step-by-step suspension of its own commitments under the deal.

The three European governments said they lodged their complaint in response to the latest step by Tehran suspending the limit on the number of centrifuges it uses to enrich uranium. — AFP ■

Far-right Israeli parties unite ahead of election

JERUSALEM — Three far-right Israeli political parties joined forces late Wednesday, seeking to strengthen their hand in a coming election after a left-leaning alliance was announced earlier in the week.

Israel is gearing up for its third election in less than a year after neither Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu nor his centrist challenger Benny Gantz were able to form a majority government following two polls last year.

Whoever is tasked with forming a government will need to win the support of small parties, which can wield major clout in coalition negotiations.

Under Israel's system of proportional representation, parties may form joint electoral lists to boost their chances of being selected as coalition partners. On

Tuesday, Defence Minister Naftali Bennett's New Right party struck a deal with the National Union faction of Transport Minister Bezalel Smotrich.

On Wednesday night, just before the deadline for filing electoral lists, they were joined by the national religious Jewish Home party, led by Education Minister Rafi Peretz.

The trio will run under the name Yamina ("Rightward" in Hebrew). Left out in the cold was Jewish Power — the extreme-right party which many view as racist — despite Netanyahu's reported push for them to be included in Bennett's alliance.

"I will not include on my electoral list someone who has in his living room at home a picture of a man who murdered 29 innocent people," Bennett wrote on Facebook Wednesday. — AFP ■



Myanmar Brewery Limited (MBL) celebrates after winning 10 categories in Myanmar Employer Awards 2019. MBL has won People Choice Award and Best of the Best Award for two consecutive years. PHOTO: GNLM

Increased pressure required for UN Security Council reform: Estonian FM

NEW DELHI — Estonian Foreign Minister Urmas Reinsalu on Thursday said that increased pressure is needed to reform the UN Security Council.

"Estonia believes increased pressure is needed to reform the UN Security Council," he said in his address at the Raisina Dialogue 2020 here. Earlier on Wednesday, Reinsalu met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and conveyed his country's support for India's candidature for the non-permanent membership

of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for 2021-2022.

"The two leaders met here on the sidelines of Raisina Dialogue 2020.

They extensively discussed various issues of mutual interest for further deepening the partnership between India and Estonia," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a statement. The ministry also said that Reinsalu's visit will further strengthen bilateral relations between India and Estonia. — ANI ■

WLC announces co-main event for 'Battlebones' fight

THE World Lethwei Championship (WLC) recently announced the co-main event for the Myanmar traditional lethwei challenge titled 'Battlebones'. The co-main fight will feature Myanmar lethwei fighter Somiong Luktupfah and Cambodian fighter Sok Rith.

The fight will take place under the bantamweight (51-54 kg) category, according to the organizers.

The main bout and other bouts had been released earlier, but the co-main event had been blanked for the selection of fighters.

The main event will feature Myanmar's Too Too vs Uzbekistan's Naimjon Tuhtaboyev in the middleweight category.

Two more bouts will take place between Saw Kaung Htet (Myanmar) and Samuel Toscano (Italy), and Hein Tun Aung (Myanmar) and Em Sothy (Cambodia).

The 'Battlebones' lethwei fight will be held on 31 January at the Theinbyu Lethwei Stadium in Yangon. The doors will open at 5 pm on the day and the fights will be broadcast live on Canal+ Channel from 5.30 pm, according to the WLC.

Tickets will be priced at K10,000, K15,000, and K 30,000, depending on the locations of the seats.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Myanmar National League: Sagaing United holds sponsorship ceremony



Sagaing United chairman U Chit Myo Htike (Phoe Chit) delivered the opening address at the team's sponsorship ceremony. **PHOTO: MNL**

SAGAING United, a Myanmar National League team, held a sponsorship ceremony yesterday morning for the 2020 season of the league at the Time Out Sports Bar in Novotel Max Hotel, Yangon.

CEO of the Myanmar National League, U Soe Moe Kyaw, chairman of Sagaing United, U Chit Myo Htike (Phoe Chit), U Yar Zar from Zaw Gyi Myanmar, Winner Sport managing director U

Myo Paing Chit, MySports managing director Mr. Clint, football players, invited guests, and journalists attended the ceremony.

The ceremony began with an opening address by the chairman of the football team, U Myo Chit Htike (Phoe Chit).

Next, Winner Sport managing director U Myo Paing Chit and U Yar Zar from Zaw Gyi Myanmar spoke about sponsoring the team.

Afterwards, U Soe Moe Kyaw, CEO of the Myanmar National League, expressed his pleasure about the sponsorships.

Next, officials signed sponsorship contracts and exchanged gifts with the football team.

The ceremony concluded after the football team officials posed for documentary photos.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

ADVERTISEMENT

Warmly Welcome President Xi Jinping to Myanmar

New Fruit of China-Myanmar Friendship under the Belt & Road Initiative Soueast of Fujian Motor Industry Group and Dagon Arr Mahn Thit Co.,Ltd Cooperation



On December 6, 2019, the 7th exhibition hall of Soueast Auto (a subsidiary of Fujian Motor Industry Group) in Naypyidaw, Mandalay and Rangoon of Myanmar was formally opened on Pyay Road, a trunk road of Rangoon. So far, Soueast Auto has achieved a total sales of over 1,400 vehicles in Myanmar, ranking the first among all Chinese passenger vehicle brands. It is a milestone for Soueast Auto's active practice of the "Belt & Road" Initiative and exploration of the overseas markets and also a fruit of the friendship between China and Myanmar. It contributes to the linkage between both countries along the "Belt & Road".

Change Mentality and Sell Overseas

As a member of ASEAN, Myanmar borders China and has time-honored traditional friendship with China. The people of both countries have called each other "brothers" since the ancient time. With the launch of China's "Belt & Road" Initiative in 2015, China and Myanmar also facilitated their economic and trade cooperation. On September 9, 2018, China and Myanmar formally signed the Memo of Understanding on Joint Construction of China-Myanmar Economic Corridor to provide strong driving forces to Myanmar's economic takeoff. As the starting point of the Maritime Silk Road, Fujian Province has close relations with Rangoon, the largest city of Myanmar. In November 1950, Chen Xiaoqi and Chen Fushun, both alumni of Jimei University of Fujian, founded Jimei Primary School in Rangoon, Myanmar. In May 2019, Fuzhou, Fujian's capital city, signed a letter of intent for sister cities with Rangoon.

Facing such new opportunities, Soueast has the obligation and courage to take the lead! As the largest Fujian-Taiwan joint venture auto maker in China, Soueast Auto also received strong supports from President Xi Jinping during his tenure of office in Fujian and Fuzhou. In order to facilitate the cooperation between China and Myanmar in the auto industry, Soueast Auto signed a strategic partnership agreement with its local partner Dagon Arr Mahn Thit Co.,Ltd. (DAMT) in October 2019 after an in-depth research on the local auto industrial policies, market conditions and local customer behaviors of Myanmar. According to the Agreement, both parties will adopt the skd (semi knocked down) mode, engage in the adaptive development of corresponding products, customize local operating strategies and commit to local market development. In the beginning of the partnership, Soueast established a special team for cooperation.



The project starting at the early phase, the local technical support and difficulty overcoming at the medium phase and the quality assurance and aftersales support at the late phase are all laden with the close cooperation between and diligence of both Soueast and DAMT. During the partnership, the technicians of Soueast traveled between Fuzhou and Rangoon for 300+ times and DAMT also dispatched its personnel to Soueast factory for three months during which they learned the manufacturing