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Message sent by President U Win Myint on the occasion of the 73rd Union Day 2020

(12th February, 2020)

Esteemed national brethren of the Union,

Today is auspicious 73rd Union Day for the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. On this auspicious occasion which reflects the unity and the union spirit of our nationals, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to all the nationals who live together in this country and wish all of you healthy, wealthy and prosperous.

Myanmar made every endeavor to regain the independence by sacrificing the lives, blood and sweat of its people for many years after being occupied by the Colonialists for more than 100 years. General Aung San and the leaders of the national races, with the purpose of gaining independence in the mainland as well as hilly regions simultaneously, signed the historic Panglong Agreement on 12th February 1947, and proved the unity of all the nationals. The day on which the Panglong Agreement was signed to exhibit the union spirit and unity of all the nationals was designated as the Union Day and this year sees its 73rd Anniversary.

Esteemed national brethren of the Union,

In order to preserve our sovereignty and independence which was regained after sacrificing the lives, blood and sweat of the na-

tional races, we must strive for non-disintegration of the union, non-disintegration of the national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty and it is important for all the national brethren to continue to preserve our independence with our united effort.

Owing to the bitter legacy of the divide and rule policy of the Colonialists, lack of trust, doubts and diverse outlooks have grown among the nationals after the independence. As a result, armed conflicts have emerged within the country which remains as a hindrance for the development of the nation and the living standard of all national brethren has been lowered. Especially, in the regions which have suffered continued armed conflicts for many decades, there is faint hope for the development of the region and basic human rights are lost.

Though the previous governments have strived throughout the decades to cease internal armed conflicts and to bring about peace in various ways, no political dialogues have been effectively made to reach the compromise and find solutions for the causes of the armed conflicts. The present government has been speeding up the peace process by formulating a national policy and by taking it as the main priority, as peace is believed to be crucial for the development of the nation, for promoting the democracy, for resolving the internal armed conflicts and for achieving sustainable peace.

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Honouring the 73rd Anniversary of Union Day

Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw discusses measures relating to 1963 Nationalization of Business Law

THE second Pyithu Hluttaw held its 6th day meeting of 15th regular session yesterday.

MP U Sao Tha Lay Saw from Shwegyin constituency asked about applications of previous owners for getting back their properties which were seized under the 1963 Nationalization of Business Law.

Deputy Attorney-General of Union Attorney-General's Office U Win Myint answered these properties under the management of Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental

Conservation, Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and the Union Attorney-General's Office.

MP Daw Soe Nwe Aye from TadaU constituency asked about possible renovation of poor quality in constructing the main road in TadaU Township.

Deputy Minister for Construction Dr Kyaw Linn replied, quoting the documents of Mandalay Region government, that the renovation works for this road was completed on 20 November 2018. MP U Nay Lin Aung from



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA



Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Linn. PHOTO: MNA



Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint. PHOTO: MNA

Mindat constituency asked for construction of a Bailey bridge crossing Maw Creek between Mindat and Htilin townships.

The Deputy Minister replied that his ministry could construct the bridge only after the project was transferred from the list of Ministry of Border Affairs to the Ministry of Construction.

MP U Nyan Hein from Thanbyuzayat constituency asked to transfer a football ground in Kyaikkhame Township from the

Ministry of Construction to the Ministry of Health and Sports.

Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Linn replied the transfer will be made as soon as possible. MP U Myat Lay Oo from Htilin constituency asked to renovate a road section in Htilin Township on the way through Myaing-Tawma-Gangaw.

The Deputy Minister answered budget will be proposed for this project in 2020-2021 financial year and the bridge construc-

tion will be implemented on the basis of budget allocation.

Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe explained the questions of MP Dr Sein Mya Aye from Dala constituency about the government's plans to control transmission of 2019 Novel Coronavirus- 2019 nCoV.

The Deputy Minister also answered the questions of MP U Sai Okka from Laikha constituency asking about upgrading a bridge to a double-lane RC concrete structure, MP U Moe Shwe from Putao constituency about upgrading sandstone road to a concrete structure in 2020-2021 financial year in his constituency.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat invited the names of MPs who wanted to submit their proposals for amending the Animal Health and Livestock Breeding Development Bill sent back by the Amyotha Hluttaw with recommendations. The 7th day meeting of Pyithu Hluttaw will convene on 14th February.

—Aye Aye Thant (MNA)
(Translated by Aung Khin)

Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw convenes 8th day meeting

THE second Amyotha Hluttaw held its 8th day meeting of 15th regular session, raising queries to the relevant ministries and discussing two bills and bylaws.

MP U Kyaw Toke from Mandalay Region constituency 7 asked about possible entertainment of the National Cultural Dance Troupe at famous pagoda festivals and in major cities to preserve and promote cultural dance and music of ethnic people, and to convey messages about proper practices during democratic transition process of the country.

Deputy Minister for Reli-

gious Affairs and Culture U Kyi Min replied the request will be fulfilled depending on the budget allocations due to considerable cost for the performances in many areas of the country, including charges for logistics and accommodation.

MP U Win Maung from Magway Region constituency 6 asked for abstract 159.50 acres of land owned by 62 farmers in Tibokan Village from the protected public forest. Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Ye Myint Swe replied that the land areas will be removed from the list of protected



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA



Deputy Minister Dr Ye Myint Swe. PHOTO: MNA



Deputy Minister U Kyi Min. PHOTO: MNA

public forest.

MP Dr San Maung Maung from Bago Region constituency 1 asked about removal of 350 acres applied by a head of local society from the list of cultivation plots under the management of Forest Department. The Deputy Minister also replied that there is no plan to fulfill the request as the land areas has been recorded by the department in accordance with the Union Government's meeting resolution No. (15/2010). However, if the applicant submits a request in another area for es-

tablishing a regional community forest outside the areas of protected forest and protected public forest, it will be scrutinized in accordance with the rules, regulations and directives.

MP U Myint Naing from Rakine State constituency 5 asked for registering Palegai Village as an official village status, and removal of some areas of land from the area of protected forest.

The Deputy Minister replied that his ministry will issue permits after conducting ground surveys in accordance with the

rules and regulations.

The National Library Bill was discussed by Tatmadaw Hluttaw Representative Capt Daw Aye Thinzar Kyaw and MP U Soe Thein (a) U Maung Soe from Tanintharyi constituency 10.

Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein submitted the Use of the Red Cross Emblem Bill to the Hluttaw.

Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Dr Myo Aung read out the report of his committee on the bill. Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than invited the names of MPs who wanted to discuss the bill.

The Speaker informed that the return of Pyithu Hluttaw on the Ethnic Rights Protection Bylaws and the Rules on Copying Case Files with their recommendations, and also invited the names of MPs who wanted to discuss the bylaws, mentioning the specific bylaws and paragraphs.

The 7th day of Amyotha Hluttaw will be organized on 14 February.—Aung Ye Thwin and Soe Win Tun

(Translated by Aung Khin)

President U Win Myint holds meeting with State/Region ethnic affairs ministers



President U Win Myint addresses the meeting with State/Region ethnic affairs ministers at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

PRESIDENT U Win Myint urged ethnic affairs ministers of States and Regions to make more efforts in making peace, unity and development of respective areas as he met with them at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In his speech, President U Win Myint said that the government is implementing establishment of a Democratic Federal Union with mutual agreement of ethnic nationals for lasting peace, by forming a Union-level ethnic affairs ministry to work with relevant ethnic affairs ministers of State/Region governments, who are responsible for representing the ethnic people of their areas.

The President also highlighted important participation of ethnic affairs ministers in peace-making efforts of the government as the country is still facing armed clashes in some areas where non-signatories of Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement are operating.

He added diversity of ethnic people could lead to prosperity of the Union and that the convergence of views could turn into national strength; and understanding and trust among different ethnic national races could reduce conflicts and create mutual regards and respects.

The President also urged the ethnic affairs ministers to enter into negotiation for removing doubts, worries and disputes among the ethnic people.

He remarked that national

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unity is mainly related with the non-disintegration of Union, peace and prosperity of the State, and that unity could be created, rather than verbal description, by dialogues, consideration, mutual understanding and mutual respect of different cultures.

President U Win Myint also offered assistance of the Union government to the ethnic affairs ministries of respective local governments, and advised to foster collaboration for the welfare of ethnic people without having regional and political bias.

He continued to say that the government is carrying out democratic reform processes not for popularity of individuals or the ruling party, but for national interest, peace and stability and socioeconomic development of national people, and these tasks need cooperation of regional ethnic affairs ministers.

After the President's speech, Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister U Zaw Aye Maung, Pa-O Ethnic Affairs Minister

Nang San Wint Khine, Lisu Ethnic Affairs Minister U Ar Ti Yaw Han, Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister Naw Pan Thinzar Myo and Intha Ethnic Affairs Minister Dr Tun Hlaing discussed establishment of a Democratic Federal Union and peace, ethnic unity and national reconciliation, protection of ethnic people's rights and development in ethnic areas.

Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi presented about teaching of ethnic languages in schools, appointments of teachers and publishing text

books.

Regarding the discussions, President U Win Myint gave concluding remarks, by giving explanations about the government's policies on supporting ethnic languages, literatures, cultures and customs, harmonious development of all states and regions, in accordance with the Constitution and existing laws in implementing development programmes, and peace efforts.

He finally called for additional strives of ethnic affairs ministers in making peace and building a Democratic Federal Union.

The meeting was attended by Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, Union Ministers Dr Pe Myint, U Win Khaing, U Thein Swe, Dr Myo Thein Gyi and Nai Thet Lwin, Kachin State Government's Bamar Ethnic Affairs Minister U Khin Maung Myint (a) U Deik, Shan Ethnic Affairs Minister U Sai Sein Lin, Lisu Ethnic Affairs Minister U Ar Ti Yaw Han, Rawang Ethnic

... the government is carrying out democratic reform processes not for popularity of individuals or the ruling party, but for national interest, peace and stability and socioeconomic development of national people, and these tasks need cooperation of regional ethnic affairs ministers.

Affairs Minister U Yan Nam Pheung, Kayah State Government's Bamar Ethnic Affairs Minister U Hla Myo Swe; Kayin State Government's Mon Ethnic Affairs Minister U Min Tin Win, Pa-O Ethnic Affairs Minister U Khun Myo Tint; Sagaing Region Government's Shan Ethnic Affairs Minister Nan Hmway Hmway Khin, Chin Ethnic Affairs Minister U Lar Htaung Htan, Taninthayi Region Government's Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister U Saw Lu Kar, Bago Region Government's Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister Daw Naw Pwal Hsay, Magway Region Government's Chin Ethnic Affairs Minister U Hla Tun, Mandalay Region Government's Shan Ethnic Affairs Minister U Sai Pan Saing (a) U Kyaw Sein, Mon State Government's Bamar Ethnic Affairs Minister U Shwe Myint, Pa-O Ethnic Affairs Minister Nang San Wint Khine, Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister U Aung Myint Khaing, Rakhine State Government's Chin Ethnic Affairs Minister U Pon Bway; Yangon Region Government's Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister Naw Pan Thinzar Myo, Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister U Zaw Aye Maung, Shan State Government's Kachin Ethnic Affairs Minister U Zote Daung, Lahu Ethnic Affairs Minister U Yaw That, Intha Ethnic Affairs Minister Dr Tun Hlaing, Ayeyawady Region Government's Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister Gamoe Myat Myat Thu and Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister U Tin Saw. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Sons and daughters of the Union

All ethnic national brothers and sisters are all sons and daughters of the Union. We can get unity only with Union spirit. We should strive to live in unity although there may be differences in race, language and religion. It is of utmost importance for all of us who live in this Union and love her land and waters to cherish the task of building a strong, peaceful, united and developed Union.

[Excerpt from a speech given by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the opening ceremony of the Ethnic Culture Festival - 2020 held on 1 February 2020]



State Counsellor talks with school children in Taunggyi

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, visited No.1 Basic Education High School in Taunggyi Township in southern Shan State yesterday.

Her entourage included Union Ministers U Min Thu, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, Dr. Aung Thu, U Ohn Win, Dr Myint Htwe, Dr Win Myat Aye; Deputy Ministers Major General Aung Thu and U Hla Maw Oo; Chief of Myanmar Police Force Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo and departmental heads.

The State Counsellor and party arrived at Heho airport by a special flight in the afternoon, and they were welcomed by Shan State Chief Minister Dr Lin Htut, Speaker of Shan State Hluttaw U Sai Lone Sai, Chief Justice of Shan State High Court U Kywal Kywal, local government ministers, Hluttaw representatives, civil service personnel and local



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by school children at No.1 High School in Taunggyi Township in southern Shan State. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives her portrait painting at No.1 High School in Taunggyi.

PHOTO: MNA

ethnic people.

The State Counselor and party proceeded to Taunggyi,

where they were greeted by the local people with traditional dances.

In the school compound, the State Counsellor met with the school children and asked about

their most difficult and favorite subjects, the favorite country, the Union Day and their future goals.

In her speech, the State Counsellor said her visit to the school was to help the children in pursuing their education as both school children and teachers are important for the schools.

She also explained the objectives of holding the Union Day on 12 February, and the meaning of the Union representing a united country which was full of diversities.

She added the importance of unity for the prosperity of the country, while all the citizens need to perform their national duties effectively and efficiently by understanding the concept of 'give and take' in family affairs, education, social relations and national interests.

The State Counsellor continued by saying that one of the advantages of children is that they have a lot of time in their future, and that they need to spend the time effectively for the country, while they need to cultivate friendly relations with each other.

She also advised the teachers to teach the children with kindness.

The State Counsellor had documentary photos taken with the school children and teachers before signing the visitors' book and receiving commemorative gifts from the children.

The State Counsellor and party stayed in Taunggyi in the evening and spent the night there.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Message sent by President U Win Myint on the occasion of the 73rd Union Day 2020

(12th February, 2020)

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The government has been endeavoring national reconciliation and peace, and up to 10 ethnic armed groups have signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA). The Union Peace Conference, which brought about the commonality of agreement through the political dialogues and negotiations, has been held three times and 51 points of basic federal rules necessary for establishing a Democratic Federal Union have been achieved in different parts of Union Agreement Treaty.

The basic necessity for the national reconciliation, the successful implementation of peace process and the eternal peace for the nation is the union spirit, which originated from the united strength of all national races. If all the national races worked together with unity like the way they did in the pre-independence days 73 years ago, I firmly believed that sustainable peace will be achieved throughout the country in the very near future.

Esteemed national brethren of the Union,

When peace prevails in the whole nation, all states and regions will be developed and the social security and socio-economic development of all the national people will be promoted. It is crucial that all the national people, while taking their own responsibilities, join hands in hands with the government to ensure the prevalence of the law and order, impartial judiciary, and the security

of the national people.

For the economic development of the country, it is necessary to promote the role of national entrepreneurs in addition to seeking ways to increase the foreign investment. The government is now paying special attention to the development of transportation across the Union, the increased use of the electricity, the development of tourism business, the case of trading, the increase in local products, and the expansion of micro, small and medium enterprises and private sector.

While the government has also been trying to put every effort in the national level health and education promotion programmes, the nationals must work together with the government in combating drug abuse and anti-corruption movements as a national responsibility.

As the constitution is the heart of the nation, the nationals must continue to strive to be able to adopt a constitution which is in accord with the standards and fundamental principles of the democracy, relevant to the context of the nation, and consistent with the objectives of the nation. When the democracy flourishes in the country, all the citizens can enjoy the deterrent principles of the world - justice, freedom and equality, which are also the essence of the democracy, and as a result we will be able to establish a true Democratic Federal Union.

Esteemed national brethren of the Union,

As all the national races are living together in harmony with union spirits, we must work together to preserve the cultures and customs of all the nationals and to have equal opportunity and social development of all the nationals.

I firmly believe that when there is no doubt or mistrust among our national brethren, we can strengthen the national unity and national reconciliation among national brethren and will be able to establish a true Democratic Federal Union.

Therefore, on this union day, I would like to urge strongly the nationals to work hard to achieve the following five national objectives of 73rd Union Day in 2020;

1. to strive for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty with the united effort of all national brethren;
2. to continue to carry out the successful implementation of the peace process with the union spirits;
3. to ensure the rule of law, impartial judiciary and the security of all the national people with the united effort of all nationals;
4. to make sure that the living standard of all the national people will be improved by combating the drug abuse as a national duty;
5. to strive for the emergence of a new constitution that is in accord with a true democratic federal union.



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than presents trophy to the winner team at the award-giving ceremony of 2020 States/Regions U-21 men's football match in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than and wife, attendees and winner team pose for a photo at the award-giving ceremony of 2020 States/Regions U-21 men's football match in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker attends States/Regions U-21 men's football final

THE final match and award-giving ceremony of 2020 States/Regions U-21 men's football match was held at the Wunna Theikdi Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw, with Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than and wife Nan Kyin Kyi in attendance yesterday.

Sports and Physical Education Department of Ministry of Health and Sport, and Myanmar Football Federation jointly organized the U-21 men's football tourney.

In the final match, Kayin State Team beat Magway Region Team with a score of 2-0, and won championship.

Following the final match, an award ceremony was held in which members of Amyotha Hluttaw Health, Sports and Culture Committee Dr Kyaw Ngwe and Daw Naw Sar Mu Htoo, members of Health and Sports Development Committee U Myint Lwin and Dr Khin Saung, and Kayin State Minister for Immigration and Human Resources U Min Ko Khine presented awards to best goalkeeper, best defenders, best midfielder, best forward and best player of the tourney.

Afterwards, Social Affairs Minister of Magway Region Dr Khin Maung Aye awarded individual medals and cash prizes to the second runner-up Chin State Team, and Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein awarded to the first runner-up Magway Region Team.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw awarded individual medals, trophy and cash prizes to the champion Kayin State Team.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker and wife, the Deputy Minister and officials also posed for a group photo together with players of winner Kayin State Team.

In the morning, Chin State Team won Mon State Team with 4-1 in the third-place match.

A total of 15 teams participated in the men's football tourney which took place from 28 January to 11 February.

Also present at the final and award ceremony were Ethnic Affairs Ministers of States and Regions, Hluttaw representatives, Director-General and officials of Sports and Physical Education Department, and football fans.—MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Union Planning, Finance and Industry Minister receives Swiss Ambassador



Union Minister U Soe Win holds talks with Ambassador of Switzerland Mr Tim Enderlin in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win received Ambassador of Switzerland Mr Tim Enderlin at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to participation and discussion of Myanmar at the Road to Bern programme organized by the Swiss Confederation to discuss the matters related to the United Nations World Data Forum 2020 (UNWDF) that will take place in Bern, Switzerland from 18 to 21 October.

They also discussed mat-

ters related to strategic action plan for public financial management that is included at the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan, achievements in implementation of Myanmar's public financial management system in cooperation with World Bank, reforms in financial and tax sectors that are included at the strategic action plan of public financial management system, the condition of cooperation in budget transparency and debt management, and tax management in Switzerland.— MNA ■
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



MIFER holds second traditional Htamane making competition

WITH the view to increase solidarity and harmony, friendliness and team spirit, the second ever competition of Htamane was held at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Re-

lations, Office Building No(1), Nay Pyi Taw on 11th February 2020. A total of 3 teams, including Ministerial staff, families actively participated at the event. The entertainment program and prize awarding ceremony are also included in the occasion and U Thaug Tun, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, attended and made the encouragements.— MNA ■

Union Minister U Thaug Tun encourages teams participating in the traditional Htamane-making contest in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister U Thein Swe attends Labour Migration Stakeholders Meeting

UNION Minister U Thein Swe of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population attended the Labour Migration Stakeholders Meeting, assisted by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT – Australia), the Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Developing International Internal Migration

Governance (DIILM) and the Livelihood and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT), at the M Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In his opening address, Union Minister U Thein Swe said: “This meeting aims at evaluating the 2019 ILO programmes and projects on labour

migration and developing the implementation strategies to be executed under the 2020 ILO programmes and projects, with the stakeholders’ added recommendations. Worldwide labour migration was estimated at 272 million according to the 2019 UN report while the ILO listed at about 150 million in 2013. The

number increased to 164 million in December 2018 according to the ILO.”

The ministry is sending migrant workers through the overseas employment agencies while it is also supervising them in accordance with the Overseas Employment Act 1999 and relevant rules, regulations and directives.

The Overseas Employment Act 1999 is being amended. Assisted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Five-Year National Plan of Action for the Management of International Labour Migration (2018-2022) is now being implemented in collaboration with the relevant ministries and non-governmental organizations in order to promote long-term decent employment both within and outside ASEAN, he added.

He said that the ministry is also cooperating in the TRIANGLE in ASEAN project (2015-2025), the Developing International and Internal Labour Migration Governance in Myanmar project (2016-2020), and the Safe and Fair project (2018-2023). For a safe migration, the ministry has opened 15 branches Migrant Resources Center in collaboration with the ILO and the international labour migration organizations. The Complaint Mechanism Centers are also opened in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon.

Present on the occasion were Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, departmental officials, officials with the ILO Yangon, representatives of the community organizations and guests.—MNA ■

(Translated by Aungthu Ya)



Union Minister U Thein Swe addresses the Labour Migration Stakeholders Meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Transport and Communications Minister receives Indian Ambassador

UNION Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung received Indian Ambassador Mr Saurabh Kumar at his office in

Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to the projects jointly implemented by Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Republic of India, and latest development in MoU signed by the two countries and ongoing implementation processes. — MNA

Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung meets with Indian Ambassador Mr Saurabh Kumar at the Ministry of Transport and Communications in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Innwa Branch (Haka) opens in commemoration of 73rd Union Day

IN commemoration of the 73rd Union Day, the Innwa Bank Limited opened its 65th branch in Haka yesterday morning. Chin State Chief Minister Salai Lian Luai, Commander Major General Soe Tint Naing of the North Western Command, Chin State Hluttaw Speaker U Zo Bawi, Chin State Minister of Security and Border Affairs Colonel Han Win Aung, Chin State Minister of Planning and Finance U Wi Kaw, officials and personnel of the Innwa Bank Limited, guests, town elders and local residents were present on the occasion.

First, Commander Major General Soe Tint Naing of the North Western Command, State Hluttaw Speaker U Zo Bawi, State Minister of Security and Border Affairs Col Han Win Aung, State Minister of Planning and Finance U Wi Kaw

and the Innwa Bank Limited Managing Director cut the ceremonial ribbon.

Then, the signboard of the Innwa Bank Limited Haka Branch was unveiled by Chin State Chief Minister Salai Lian Luai by pressing a button and the dignitaries observed inside the bank branch.

As a gesture of prioritizing local development, the Innwa Bank Limited Haka Branch was opened and located at No. (150), corner of Bogyoke Street and Myopart Street, in Myothit Ward, Haka.

The Innwa Bank Limited is providing bank transaction services such as an interest rate of 9 per cent on savings accounts, an interest rate of 10 per cent on fixed deposit accounts and capital loans for businesses. —MNA

(Translated by Aungthu Ya)

FDC to analyse prize-winning film “Fallen Angels”

THE Film Development Center will screen ‘Fallen Angels’ film for analysis in its 36th event of the Cinematheque Programme at its office No. 50, Shwe Taung Kyar Road (Golden Valley Road), Bahan Township, at 12 noon on 16 February.

The Hong Kong drama film directed by Wong Kar-wai won Best Cinematographer and Best Editing awards at the 15th Hong Kong Film Festival.

The “Fallen Angels” is about a hit man in Hong Kong and a woman he calls his partner, a girl who is searching for her ex-boyfriend and a boy who is mute in the city of Hong Kong.

The event will be led by Dr Aung Min, a member of FDC management board. — Nyein Ko (FDC)

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Union Minister attends central-level meeting, gives instructions on preventing Coronavirus

A DAILY central-level meeting on surveillance and control of coronavirus was held yesterday at the Ministry of Health and Sports in Nay Pyi Taw.

Speaking at the daily meeting 15/2020, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe expressed his satisfaction at health authorities’ and workers’ coordinated efforts for surveillance and preventing spread of coronavirus infection in regions and states.

“However, we don’t need to reduce the momentum we gained in surveillance and prevention of the spread of Coronavirus infection though there is no infected patient still,” said the Union Minister.

He also called for beefing up surveillance and raising Coronavirus awareness at the areas where Chinese nationals are living during their stay in Myanmar.

Besides, the awareness about the deadly virus should be carried out at factories where foreigners are working together

with Myanmar employees.

The Union Minister told the attendees that the ministry distributed about 240 mobile tablets to health officials and workers in Kachin State, Shan State (North) and (East) in efforts to disseminate knowledge on Coronavirus infection to the people.

The mobile tablets have stored 22 health posters, pamphlets and directives and procedure adopted by the ministry.

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe also stressed the importance of understanding by the people about the effectiveness of the quarantine and restrictions in giving medical care to the patients.

He disclosed that the ministry has formed the clinical management committee to make the treatment effective, saying the ministry’s readiness for providing medical care to patients timely even if patients were infected with the virus.

He also stressed the importance of the early case detection in preventing the spread of the

Coronavirus infection, saying that inmates who have got fever should receive medication for 14 days in quarantine.

Dr Myint Htwe also urged the authorities to conduct health talks at crowded places including schools, pagodas, markets and factories.

The meeting also discussed health condition of nineteen patients are being kept under watch and quarantined as they have high fever and temperature. The attendees of the meeting also reported on surveillance at three international airports and 27 border check points.

According to the discussion at the meeting, the health condition of 59 students returned from Wuhan, China, receiving for 14-day quarantine treatment are in good condition.

They also discussed the 24/7 emergency operations centre-EOC and hotline services at hospitals, stockpiling medicines and medical equipment and updated information.—MNA

(Translated by TTN)



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe attends the daily meeting 15/2020 for prevention Coronavirus. **PHOTO: MNA**

Finding political solution through peaceful means

OUR country is home to different ethnic races and people professing different faiths and speaking different languages, and is thus, a perfect model for a Union. Diversity is the beauty of our country and our strength, too. On this day (12 February) in 1947, our ethnic leaders signed the Panglong Agreement, which served as a historical milestone in our independence movement. Our leaders managed to turn our diversity into united strength, and we regained our independence and sovereignty on 4 January, 1948.

However, due to the legacy of evil and several other reasons, misunderstandings, mistrust, and doubt crept in among the ethnic people, leading to 70 years of armed conflicts, and the fire of armed conflicts has not yet ceased.

Only the united strength of the ethnic people and their commitment can help preserve and perpetuate independence and sovereignty and prevent the disintegration of the Union.

The most important requirement for the perpetuation of the Union, in which ethnic people with different languages, literature, culture, and customs are residing together, is building a Democratic Federal Union.

If someone fails to get the answer through peaceful and electoral methods, then it means their skills are inadequate.

While marching towards the goal of a Democratic Federal Union, it is important to build trust and reduce conflicts between diverse ethnic armed groups. We can achieve this by promoting mutual respect and value.

The unity of the ethnic people is connected with the peace and development of the country. Just lip service cannot unite all diverse ethnic people. Friendly relations based on sympathy, and understanding and mutual respect for customs and culture can strengthen the unity of the national races.

We must believe we need unity and we must accept it is our responsibility to bring true, long-lasting

peace to our country, which gained independence in the 20th century.

For our objectives to be realized we need to build understanding among ourselves. And, trust.

So far, 10 ethnic armed groups have signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, and some are yet to sign the NCA. Armed conflicts are still happening in some areas. Ceasing armed conflicts and signing the NCA are urgent requirements.

We are marching on the path to democracy and that requires the fulfillment of democratic duties. At the top of those duties is finding a political solution through peaceful means, which is most important.

If someone fails to get the answer through peaceful and electoral methods, then it means their skills are inadequate.

That is why we would like to implore ethnic armed organizations which have not yet signed the NCA to participate in strengthening development and peace so that our nation can prosper.

Tracing Family Tree of our Ethnic Nationalities

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

LAND of medium size now called "Myanmar" is a geographical entity founded by terrestrial and aquatic borders - land and seas. There are many archipelagoes - a collection of islands and islets along the coasts.

Based upon the pantheological, geological and archeological evidence above ground, underground and under aquatic bodies inland and seas, scientists across the world had reached a consensus that "Myanmar" is one of the cradles of mankind. Fossils of Anthropithicus Erectus discovered in the Pondaung Area near Monywa, upper Myanmar, was well known as Pondaung Primate. Stone tools and weapons of Paleolithic Age in Upper Myanmar (Anya Desa) were tested in the laboratories and confirmed by scientists led by Dr Movius and Dr de Terra brought honour of the Anyathian culture unanimously given by world's scientists. Subsequent findings and discoveries led to Mesolithic Age (Middle Stone Age) and Neolithic Age (New Stone Age) during which our ancestors had passed to advanced civilization - food gathering to food producing and wandering solitary life to cave dwelling community settlements.

Padalin Caves in Southern Shan States are wellknown site of our Neolithic Age settlement among other similar sites across the country.

Next either by chance or by digging, evidence of Bronze Age settlements were exposed. Geologists and Metalogists jointly opined that Myanmar ancestors reached Bronze Age in locality. Nyang Gan near Monywa seemed to be the birth place of this age and copper mines exist in our country.

The entire Pyu settlements across the country with their large city states Vishnu, Sri Kestiu and Halin, Maung Maw and Waddi tell us the peak our ancestors had reached in Iron Age. From that date to the last day of our king we had remained in Iron Age, in spite of attempts to reach Steel Age at the turn of the 19th century.

After the glance through the above background let us take a brief study of our ethnic races. Anthropologists have classified human races of the world into three broad categories 1. Mingo-

lord 2. Caucasus and 3. Negroid based upon the physical features and cultural characteristics with many species, sub-species and variations under the category of Mongoloid, Myanmar ethnic nationalities come.

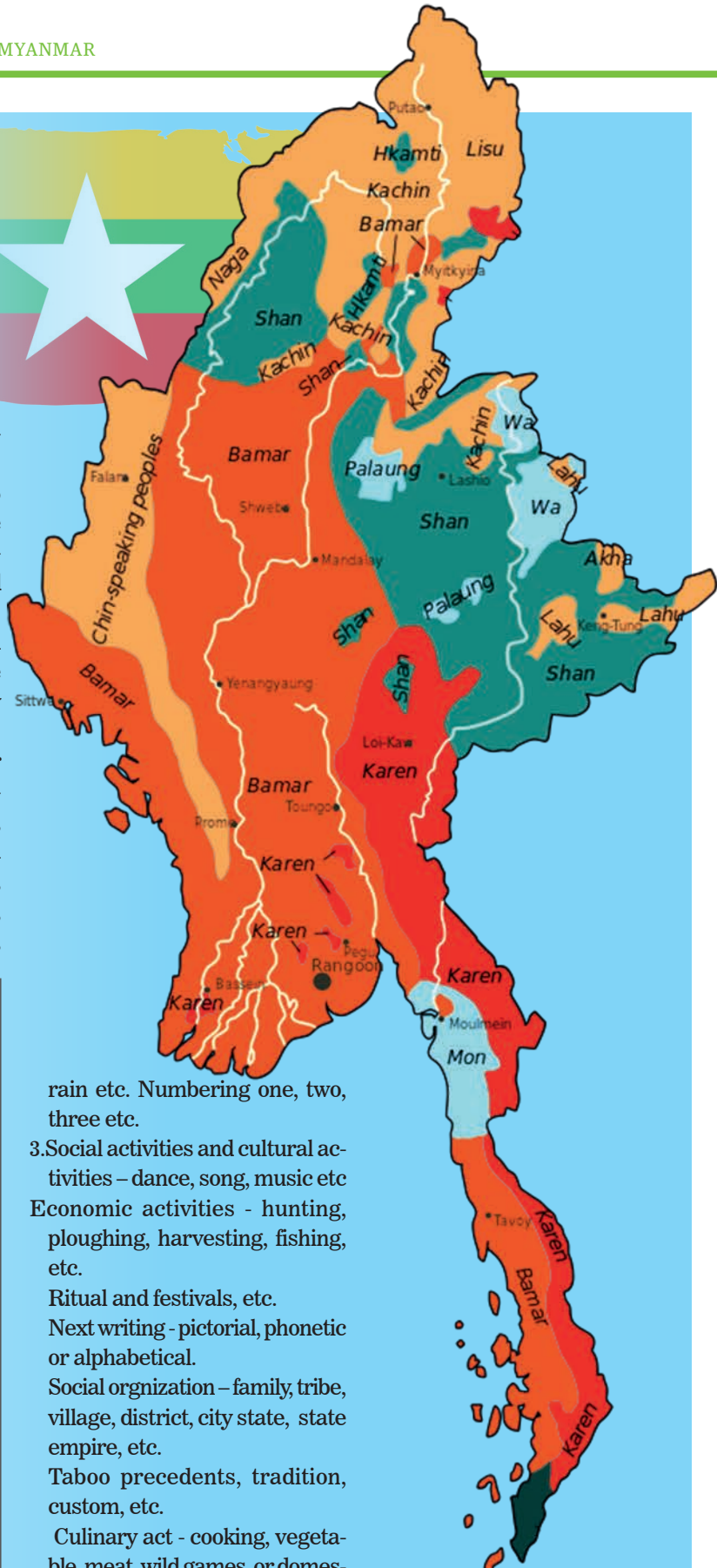
They are the direct descendants of our Anthropithicus Erectus (Pondaung Primate) with their own Anyathian Culture (Paleolithic Age Culture) and among them are those who are descendants of the Myanmar Central Asiatic mixed blood. In quest of green pastures where the water is clear and grass is green, Central Asiatic people of Mogoloid categories

moved into Myanmar. There were other causes of their migration into Myanmar, such as tribal conflicts, love of adventure and human curiosity. Due to the impassable snow capped mountain ranges branched out from the main Himalayas, their movements took along the north-east, north-west valleys and rivers. When they found new pastures they settled and lived with and inter-married with indigenous Myanmar producing the ancestors of today Myanmar ethnic nationalities. The following is the family tree constructed by world anthropologists based upon physical and cultural families and

characteristic but mainly upon language.

So we have officially listed 135 ethnic races. Every ethnic race has the following physical appearances and cultural similarities and identities

1. Physical features, height, skin colour; colouring hair; eyes, the style of movement especially walking etc.
2. Language-basic words for family members father, mother, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother and pet and farm animals, trees and plants, love, hate, life, birth, death, friend, foe, sun, moon, day, night, wind,



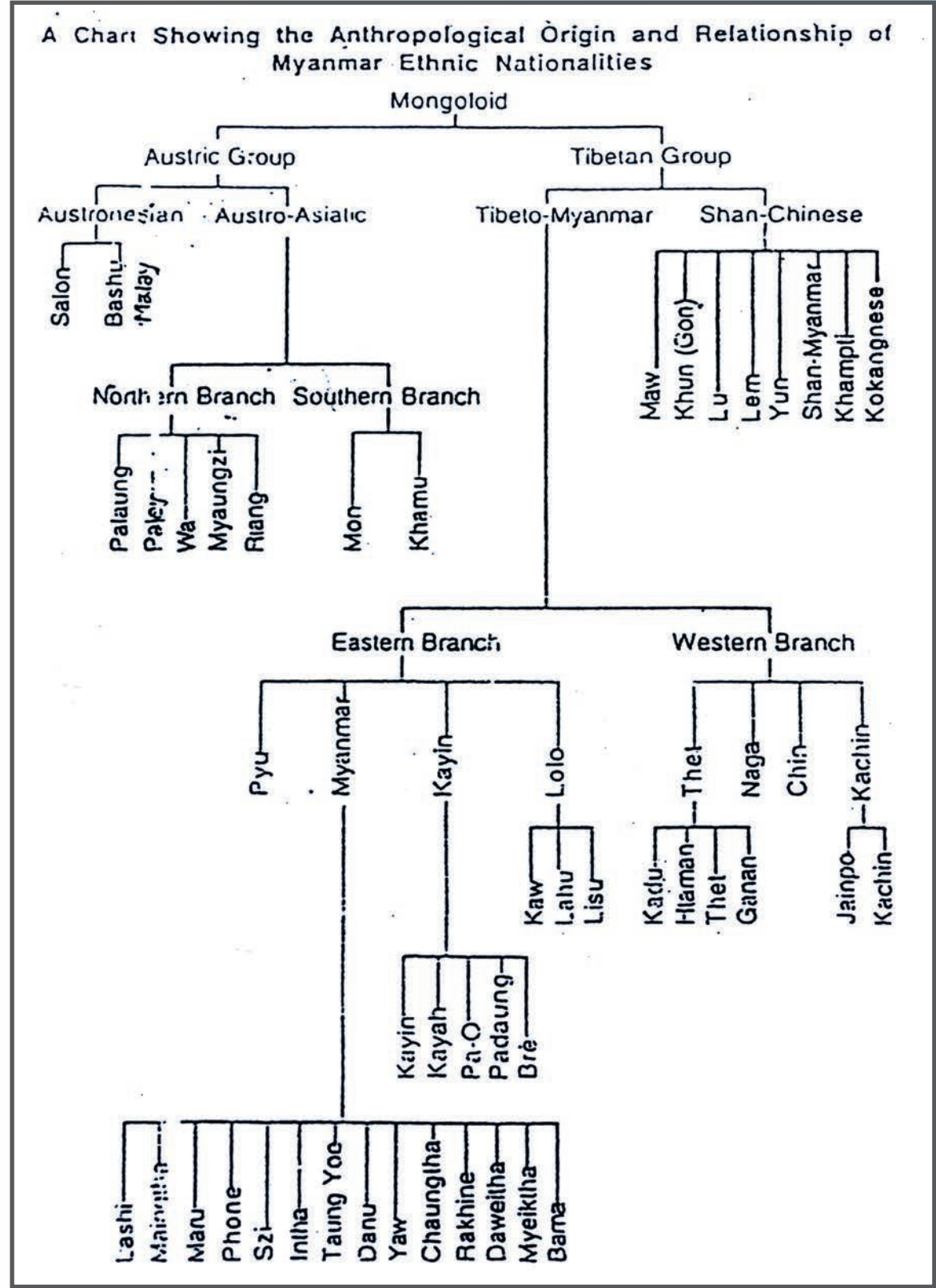
rain etc. Numbering one, two, three etc. 3. Social activities and cultural activities - dance, song, music etc. Economic activities - hunting, ploughing, harvesting, fishing, etc. Ritual and festivals, etc. Next writing - pictorial, phonetic or alphabetical. Social organization - family, tribe, village, district, city state, state empire, etc. Taboo precedents, tradition, custom, etc. Culinary act - cooking, vegetable, meat, wild games, or domestic animal pork, beef, fish, fowls and birds. Believe system, animism, ancestor worship, Nat spirits, Buddhist, etc.

both Government and NGOs.

Yearly commemorated the Union Day 12 Feb is the commemoration of the First Myanmar National Ethnic Union achieved at Pinlong in the Shan State by then leader led by Bogoyoke Aung Sun and his colleagues and the ethnic leaders after he and his colleagues had successfully performed this political duties for national consolidation and unification across the country.

All agreed unanimously to form the Union of Myanmar of all national ethnic nationalities and to rebuild our New Nation of Modern time.

Today activities, political, economic, social and culture for the second Pinlong Conference 21 st century Pinlaung Conference are in full swing. Every member of all our ethnic nationalities is bound to take his part in it for rebuilding of our country for us and for our offsprings.



2020, 73rd Anniversary Union Day National Objectives

1. All ethnic nationals to preserve and protect for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of National Unity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty.
2. To work on the peace process till success is achieved based on Union spirit.
3. To strive with the collective strength of all ethnic nationals for rule of law, a fair justice system and the security and safety of all citizens.
4. To prevent/protect all people from the danger of narcotic drugs as a national duty and thereby uplift their standard of living.
5. Emergence of a Constitution which will be in alignment with a genuine Democratic Federal Union.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 11th February, 2020)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 12th February, 2020: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin State. Degree of certainty of (60%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, Shan, Chin and Kayin States 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 (4-7) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of decrease of night temperatures in the whole country.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12th February, 2020: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12th February, 2020: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12th February, 2020: Fair weather.

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release 6/2020
2nd Waning of Tabodwe, 1381 ME
(10 February 2020)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 8 February 2020 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

Sr	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken
1	Information received of U Tu who lives in Kinsarra Ward, Tanai Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 2 February 2020, police searched the house of U Tu (a) Aung Tu, 54, son of U Kyaw Saw, who lives in Kinsarra Ward, Tanai Township, and arrested him and Maung Tun (a) Nay Myo Tun, 40, son of U Tun Aung, U Aung Dee, 45, son of U Gan Aung, and Yarzar Htet, 31, son of U Thaug Myint Oo, who live in the same ward, and Hla Zaw Oo, 37, son of U Tin Myint, who lives in Monedane Ward, together with stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Tanai)MaYa(pa)2/2020 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Moe Thi (a) Ko Zaw who lives in Kyettakaung Village, Htigyaing Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 5 February 2020, police searched the house of Ma Win Kyi, 52, daughter of U Kyaw Myint, who lives in Kyettakaung Village, Htigyaing Township, and arrested her together with heroin. Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of Moe Thi (a) Ko Zaw, 42, son of U Aung Nyein. Police did not find any narcotic drug but they arrested him. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Htigyaing)MaYa(pa)11/2020 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of Tun Oo, 61, son of U Ba Maung, who lives in the same village, and arrested him together with heroin. Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of his daughter Ma Lin Lin Aye, 34. Police did not find any narcotic drug from there. According to police's interrogation of her, Moe Thi (a) Ko Zaw sold the drug to her. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Htigyaing)MaYa(pa)12/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of some people in Mawmi Village, Palaw Township, Taninthayi Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 5 February 2020, police searched the house of Yan Naung Soe (a) Yan Naung Oo, 42, son of U Myint Aung, who lives in Mawmi Village, Palaw Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Palaw)MaYa(pa)8/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

4	Information received of Chit Ko Lay (a) Ngwe Sint who lives in east Pyigy Pyawbye Ward, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 6 February 2020, police searched the house of Chit Ko Lay (a) Ngwe Sint, 36, son of U Lay Maung, who lives in east Pyigy Pyawbye Ward, Chanayethazan Township and arrested him and Nyi Nyi, 23, son of U Kyaw Htay, who lives in Mayanchansate, Aungmyethazan Tsp, together with stimulant tablets and heroin. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Chanayethazan)MaYa(pa)2/2020 under Section 16(c), 20(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of Khun Hlan Htel who lives in No 2 Ward, Mayangon Township, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 5 February 2020, police searched the house of Khun Hlan Htel, 16, son of U Maung Tein, who lives in No 2 Ward, Mayangon Township and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Bayintnaung)MaYa(pa)5/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of Kalarlay who lives in Kanyinpin Village, Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 5 February 2020, police arrested Kalarlay (a) Chit Ko Ko, 19, son of U Zaw Lay, who lives in Kanyinpin Village, Thanlyin Township, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets on Nyaungpin Street in the same village. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Thanlyin)MaYa(pa)9/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department, so far a total of 971 cases have been opened files as of 8 February 2020. A total of 1,503 people, including 1,252 men and 251 women had been arrested with 7513.9814g of heroin, 1,347.42 g of ICE, 40,339.02166 g of opium, 661.27 g of low-quality opium, 53242.76 g of speciosa powder, 12097.32 g of speciosa, 2.5 liters of liquid speciosa, 463,542 stimulant tablets, 10310.42 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 520.28 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 55.45 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 19 firearms, different kinds of 257 cartridges and one grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the department will report on further exposed cases.
4. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** of the Office of the President via following contact numbers:

Contacts:

Landline No. — 067-590200
Phone No. — 067-590233
Email Address — antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

National Complaints Mechanism handles forced labour cases

AS a member of the International Labour Organization (ILO) since 18 March 1948, Myanmar has signed the MOU and its Supplementary Understanding with the ILO in 2002 in regards with the Forced Labour Convention (29). Thus, the ILO and Myanmar could jointly handle the forced labour cases from 2007 to 2018. During the establishing period of the National Complaints Mechanism in 2019, the High Level Working Group (HLWG), comprising of representatives from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population and relevant ministries, was handling the forced labour cases. Currently, the National Com-

plaints Mechanism of the ministry is in full measure and announced that the complaints can be sent via the Hluttaw, the President Office, states/regions governments, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, the ILO (Yangon), and other organizations. The complaints also can be sent to the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population Office No. (51) in Nay Pyi Taw in person or by mail or via phone numbers 067-3430184, 067-3430229 and 067-3430274 or email mol@mptmail.net.mm, molipofice@gmail.com, and research.org.dol.mm@gmail.com. —MNA
(Translated by Aungthu Ya)

CBM Governor receives Indian Ambassador



CBM Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, meets with Indian Ambassador Mr Saurabh Kumar in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

U KYAW KYAW MAUNG, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, received Indian Ambassador Mr Saurabh Kumar at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to banking cooperation between Myanmar and India, smooth implementation of making

payment and keeping accounts among Asia central banks, and electronic card payment system. — MNA
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Myanmar bamboo body seeks land on lease in Bago for bamboo, hardwood plantation



Handmade bamboo products displayed in a market. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

By Nyein Nyein

THE Myanmar Rattan and Bamboo Entrepreneurs Association has asked the government to allow it to lease 5,000 acres of land in western Bago for planting bamboo and hardwood, said U Nay Tun Min, chair of the association.

The association has submitted a request for leasing 5,000 acres of land from the Forest Department, he added.

“We have forwarded a lease request for 5,000 acres of land this year. It has not been approved yet. Those lands are

designated for setting up community forests. Villagers will get 5-10 acres of land leased by the government for 30 years. The association will buy the raw products under an agreement,” said U Nay Tun Min.

In addition, factories will be built nearby to make value-added products, according to the Myanmar Rattan and Bamboo Entrepreneurs Association.

At present, the association has leased 100 acres each in Taikkyi in Yangon Region and Minhla in Bago Region. It has been four years since the association began setting up bamboo

plantations.

“We take bamboo originating from Taninthayi with a view to get good quality. Myanmar has a number of good bamboo species,” said U Nay Tun Min.

However, raw bamboo has become rare. Besides, its price is higher than in other countries, said bamboo and rattan entrepreneurs.

The association is conducting courses related to bamboo selection, value-adding technology, market exploration, and bamboo and rattan cultivation.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

CMP garment exports up \$170 mln

IN the first four months of the current financial year, exports of clothes produced on a cut-make-pack (CMP) basis topped \$1.6 billion, an increase of \$170 million from the corresponding period in the 2018-2019FY, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce.

The exports of garments produced under the CMP system fetched over \$1.4 billion in the year-ago period.

Myanmar’s manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in CMP garments and textiles, which contribute to the country’s GDP to some extent.

The garment sector is among the prioritized sectors driving up exports. The CMP garment industry has emerged as a promising one, and enjoys

preferential trade with Western countries.

The majority of Myanmar’s garment factories operate under the CMP system, and those engaged in the industry are striving to transform CMP into a free-on-board (FoB) system, according to the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association.

Myanmar expects income from CMP garment exports to cross \$5 billion in the current fiscal, according to the Commerce Ministry.

The value of CMP garment exports was just \$850 million in the 2015-2016 FY, but tripled over the next two FYs. In the 2016-2017FY, about \$2 billion was earned from exports of CMP garments. The figure increased

to an estimated \$2.5 billion in the 2017-2018FY and \$2.2 billion in the 2018 mini-budget period (from April to September), according to the ministry.

Myanmar mainly exports CMP garments to markets in Japan and Europe, along with the Republic of Korea, China, and the US. With demand from foreign trade partners growing, imports of CMP raw materials are rising year by year.

The Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association has more than 500 members, and garment factories in Myanmar employ more than 500,000 workers. Investors prefer to invest in cheap-labor countries like Myanmar. —Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

No entrance fee for Muse fruit trucks for two weeks

By Nyein Nyein

TRUCKS will not be required to pay an entrance fee at the Muse fruit depot gate from 10 to 23 February.

The fruit depot has announced the exemption to help reduce the trade cost as the current coronavirus outbreak in China has hindered trade at Muse.

“Fruit dealers are suffering on account of the Wuhan epidemic. We just want to reduce the burden of trade,” said U Aung Thet Oo, Deputy Chairman, fruit commodity.

In addition, the depot is

willing to extend the fee exemption period, if needed. Earlier, trucks entering the depot were charged K5,000.

At present, the trade of fish, prawns, crabs, rice, and corn has completely halted. Only a small volume of watermelons and muskmelons are being exported.

In the year-ago period, about 700 trucks loaded with watermelons and muskmelons entered the Muse gate every day. The number of trucks has gone down to 100 following the coronavirus outbreak.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar-Sino border trade almost at a standstill in wake of coronavirus

By Nyein Nyein

BORDER trade between Myanmar and China is on the verge of suspension over coronavirus concerns, said U Min Thein, Deputy Chairman of Muse depot.

“Currently, the border trade situation is at its worst. The trade mechanism has nearly halted. It will result in drastic losses and hence, a revenue loss for the country. The loss is estimated around 95 per cent compared to the year-ago period. Now, the goods have stockpiled in border areas. Nothing can be traded in the current situation,” said U Min Thein.

At present, exports of fish, prawn, crab, rice, and corn have completely stopped. Only a small volume of watermelons and muskmelons are being exported, according to the Muse depot.

“Breeders from lower Myanmar are not supplying fish and prawns to the border market anymore as some of the stockpiles here have already been discarded. Watermelon exports are much lower than those registered in the previous year. Only 5 per cent of the fruits have been sent out of the country,” said U Min Thein.

Electronic appliances and seasoning powder are still being imported from China amid the coronavirus outbreak.

In wake of the coronavirus, banks, offices, and schools in China have shut down and they are expected to reopen on 24

February, according to Muse depot.

“Earlier, China was scheduled to reopen offices on 10 February. Now, it has pushed the date back to 24 February. The department offices and schools have been closed down. Only supermarkets in Shweli (Ruili) have remained open to provide food supplies. Some restaurants are still operational. People are being allowed to take away food or order food through the We-Chat service, but they cannot sit down and eat in restaurants,” said U Min Thein.

The shutdown of Sino-Myanmar trade is expected to end in early March.

Trade at Muse had been suspended in August last year owing to fighting in northern Shan State.

The value of Sino-Myanmar border trade through the Muse gate crossed US\$1.89 billion between 1 October and 31 January in the 2019-2020 financial year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Muse is an important border gate in Myanmar and handles the largest volume of trade.

Myanmar exports rice, sugar, pulses, sesame seeds, corn, dried tea leaves, fishery products, minerals, and animal products to China, while it imports agricultural machinery, electrical appliances, iron and steel-related materials, raw industrial goods, and consumer goods from China.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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Trishawmen profit from ferrying tourists around Dala

TRISHAWMEN are pleased with the profits earned from driving tourists around Dala of late even as they face competition from the entry of motorcycles with carriers in the transportation market.

"Our business may suffer due to the entry of motorbikes and three-wheeled motorbikes. But, some tourists are still riding the trishaw, and so we can still earn a livelihood," said a local trishaw driver.

Last year, trishaw operators had done good business in Dala Township.

Now, tourists are visiting Dala Township and they are preferring to ride trishaws. So, trishaw drivers are happy with the business coming their way.

"These days, tourists are coming to Dala Township.

Tourists enjoy riding trishaws to explore places in Dala Township. **PHOTO: MAUNG YIN OO (DALA)**

They need one trishaw per passenger. If there are 40 tourists, they will need 40 trishaws," said Ko Hla Myint, a local trishaw driver from Kanbe Village.

"Moreover, we keep pathein umbrellas on trishaws to attract

tourists. The umbrellas also protect them from the sun," he said.

"Most of the tourists visiting Dala are from South Korea, China and Japan. Dala is very close to downtown Yangon, and tourists also like to ride the riv-

er crossing ferry boat to feed pigeons," he added.

To preserve the trishaw association's dignity, we have to ensure the safety of tourists, he said. —Maung Yin Oo (Dala)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Sale of traditional lacquerware falls as tourist arrivals decline

THE sale of traditional lacquerware is on the decline on account of fewer tourist arrivals in the Bagan NyaungU region following the coronavirus outbreak in China, according to a lacquerware maker from Myingabar Village in Nyaung-U Township.

"Earlier, local travellers purchased lacquerware from Bagan NyaungU region. At the time, lacquerware were selling well in the local market. Now, the sale of lacquerware in the local market has declined as the market is relying on the arrival of tourists. The number of tourists entering Bagan NyaungU region is on the decline because of the coronavirus outbreak. So, lacquerware makers are facing difficulties, and the market for traditional lacquerware has been adversely affected," said U

Zaw Pwe from Myingabar Village, who is producing lacquerware on a manageable scale.

"In Myanmar, lacquerware seems to have originated in Bagan around the 12th-13th century, according to the elderly people. The art of making lacquerware has been handed down from generations to generations. Now, there are many lacquerware businesses and shops in Bagan NyaungU region, and more than 2,000 people are earning their livelihood by manufacturing lacquerware. Recently, the sale of traditional lacquerware has been declining because of fewer tourists coming to Bagan NyaungU region. However, we have continually been working on making traditional lacquerware," said U Zaw Pwe.—Ye Win Naing (NyaungU)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

A worker makes lacquerware at a workshop in Bagan, Mandalay. **PHOTO: YE WIN NAING (NYAUNG-U)****Grab Myanmar steps up preventive measures against coronavirus**

GRAB MYANMAR has taken steps to help reduce the risk of novel coronavirus transmission as well as ensure the safety and well-being of its drivers, delivery-partner customers, partners, and employees.

In addition to putting measures in place and raising its level of preparedness to address potential incidents, Grab distributed thousands of medical face masks and hand sanitizers, along with instructions on using the items, since 31 January to driver-partners serving at the

Yangon International Airport, Yangon, and Mandalay cities, and several taxi driver groups.

Grab has also been posting updates on social media and issuing in-app notifications to driver-partners, delivery-partners, and passengers, advising them on protective measures prescribed by Myanmar's Ministry of Health and Sports. In addition, Grab is reaching out to restaurant partners, asking them to maintain the highest levels of cleanliness and hygiene.

All Grab Myanmar driver-partners and delivery-partners have been reminded to stay vigilant, exercise caution, and pay attention to personal hygiene. They have also been advised to wear a medical mask while ferrying passengers or delivering food orders. They have been asked to seek immediate medical attention if they feel unwell or suspect an encounter with someone who is ill.

The Grab Myanmar team is monitoring the novel coronavirus situation closely and

has put in place precautionary measures in accordance with international guidelines and recommendations from local health authorities. Grab said it will support the authorities in minimizing the transmission of the virus and will continue to monitor and adjust its response according to the evolving situation.

Grab users needing assistance can call the 24/7 customer service hotline: +959-97-708-3330. —GNLM

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations receives Ambassador of Switzerland to Myanmar

UNION MINISTER for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, U Thaung Tun received

Union Minister U Thaung Tun shakes hands with Mr. Tim Enderlin, Ambassador of Switzerland in Nay Pyi Taw.
PHOTO: MNA

Mr. Tim Enderlin, Ambassador of Switzerland to Myanmar at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Union Minister and the Ambassador discussed matters relating to the United Nations World Data Forum

2020 (UNWDF) to be hosted by Switzerland in October 2020 as well as the promotion for bilateral investment and Switzerland-Myanmar Cooperation Strategy (2019-2023) which aims to promote peace, democratic transition and sustainable development in Myanmar.—MNA

CB Bank Branch robber arrested

THE ROBBER who have stolen about 60 million Kyats from the Dagon North CB Bank Branch was arrested yesterday evening.

The robbery occurred at No (1217), (35) ward, corner of Panglong Street and Annawa Street in Dagon North where the CB Bank Branch is located.

On tips of the respon-

sible public and with the police investigations, Soe Kyaw Kyaw (Father U Hla Aung), who is living in No (33) ward, Ingyimyaing Street, Dagon North, was arrested with over K 37 million, 7,000 US dollars, and a Probox car being used in the robbery. — MNA

(Translated by Aungthu Ya)



At least five dead in suicide attack on Afghan military academy

KABUL (Afghanistan)—A suicide attack targeting a military academy in the Afghan capital killed at least five people early Tuesday, the first major assault in the city in months.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the dawn attack, which comes after nearly three months of relative calm in Kabul.

The ministry of defence said five people were killed and at least six injured in the attack.

The interior ministry, however, said six people died – two civilians and four military personnel – after the suicide bomber detonated the device at around 7:00 am (0230 GMT).

Twelve others were wounded, spokesman Nasrat Rahimi said in a statement.

The blast happened near the Marshal Fahim military academy, where the country's security officers are trained.

"It was a big explosion

that rocked our house. We also heard gunfire afterwards. Ambulances rushed to the area quickly," resident Samiullah, who like many Afghans goes by one name, told AFP.

A security source speaking on the condition of anonymity told AFP that the attacker was on foot when he targeted a vehicle near a checkpoint as it was entering the academy.

President Ashraf Ghani slammed the attack, calling the bombing

"a crime against humanity" while repeating his call for a nationwide ceasefire.

"The great nation of Afghanistan wants an end to violence, a ceasefire and a lasting peace," he said in a statement.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said he was unaware of any claim for the bombing, adding that the insurgents were "investigating" the incident. The Islamic State group are also active in Kabul. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PACITA VOY. NO. (062 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V PACITA VOY. NO. (062 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT 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 EUROSKY

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V EUROSKY VOY. NO. (49) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-4 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 EUROTANKERS INC

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V OLYMPIA VOY. NO. (005N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OLYMPIA VOY. NO. (005N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/MIP 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 MAERSKASIA PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (045 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (045 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT 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 CHERRY VOY. NO. (005 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CHERRY VOY. NO. (005 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

International economic missions express interest in doing business in Myanmar

By Ye Htut Tin (NLM)

MYANMAR is in the process of reforming political system based on the notion that the country will see a progress in State's economy. The rapid arrival of investment from the international community is of great importance to thriving economy. Investment volume and employment opportunities will be massive if considerable foreign investment flows. At the same time technical transfer will be enormous as well.

As regards, Myanmar is welcoming and encouraging investment from home and abroad. With the hope of boosting investment and trade volumes in Myanmar, business rules and regulations have been relaxed to some degree. Special economic zones are under implementation and there has been a change in taxation in order to attract the attention of the investors.

There have been reforms both in economic policy and sector. A good trusting investment environment is being designed for the emergence of a good economic environment for the international investors.

With the rapid reforms in economic and political sectors, Myanmar managed to attract the intention of the investors from the international community who are coming to do



Round table meeting between Belgium and Myanmar entrepreneurs in progress. PHOTO: YE HTUT TIN (NLM)



Dr Maung Maung Lay, Vice-President of UMFCCI talks to medias after the meeting. PHOTO: YE HTUT TIN (NLM)



Mr Philippe KRIDELKA (AMBABEL BANGKOK) Bangkok-based Belgium ambassador to Myanmar and Mr Eric DE CLERCQ, Director of Asia-Pacific (AWEX BRUXELLES) seen with medias at the press interview. PHOTO: YE HTUT TIN (NLM)

business in Myanmar. For these reasons international economic missions are coming in flocks so

as to know economic opportunities and challenges facing in Myanmar.

Belgium entrepreneurs discuss economic expansion with Myanmar

The business persons from Wallonia in Belgium called on Myanmar officials from economic sector on 3 February and focussed on a boost in investment and bilateral trade cooperation.

“Wallonia, Flanders and Brussels Regions are from Belgium. Of them, Wallonia is one of the three regions in Belgium. Flanders already called on Myanmar officials seven years ago. The Belgium ambassador to Myanmar, the economic envoy and the economic attaché made preparations for paying a visit to Myanmar. The Belgium business delegation was comprised of 15 companies and mainly placed attention to investment and trade. They are to expand investment in Myanmar.

“The countries from Europe continent are eyeing Myanmar to make investment and they

come to Myanmar as they are well aware of favourable market situation,” said Dr Maung Maung Lay, Vice-President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

With the purpose of holding mutual discussions about economic opportunities for multiple sectors in Myanmar, a 15-member Belgium business delegation led by H.E. Mr Philippe KRIDELKA (AMBABEL BANGKOK) Bangkok-based Belgium ambassador to Myanmar called on Myanmar business persons led by U Zaw Min Win, President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at the Headquarters of the UMFCCI in Yangon on 3 February.

The business persons from both sides exchanged views on trade, investment and economic opportunities in Myanmar.

“Mutual discussions will help improve bilateral trade between the two countries. The



Chairman of the Italy-Myanmar Business Association, Mr. Bernardo Contri and delegation meeting with officials of UMFCCI on 7 February. PHOTO: UMFCCI

business persons from both sides placed emphasis on matters relating to hospital, construction, dairy provisions, agriculture and computer. Myanmar highlighted responsibility and accountability in the round of discussion. The Belgium business delegation comes to Myanmar as it is desirous of cooperating with the government sector and private sector as well," said U Zaw Min Win, President of the UMFCCI.

Such discussions will bring about benefits in bilateral trade between the two countries and they have a plan to go to Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw to expand business activities, U Zaw Min Win added.

"All 15 companies from Wallonia region are expected to expand a market in Myanmar. Apart from Yangon we will go on a study tour to other places like Mandalay," said Mr. Eric DE CLERCQ, Director of Asia-Pacific (AWEX BRUXELLES).

"The current arrival of the 15-member Belgium business delegation to Myanmar is to meet Myanmar business persons and observe economic programmes as well as improving economic cooperation between the two countries," said Belgium ambassador to Myanmar, H.E. Mr Philippe KRIDELKA (AMBABEL BANGKOK).

"We come to Myanmar to resume bilateral trade. Some of our companies operated businesses in Myanmar a few years ago, but they ceased doing business due to various reasons. Even now we have returned to Myanmar to resume economic activities," said a responsible person of Belgium economic mission.

The Belgium economic mis-



Business Meeting between UMFCCI and French Business Confederation (MEDEF) in progress. PHOTO: YE HTUT TIN (NLM)

sion is comprised of the business persons from the fields of construction, technology, child nutrition and medicines, medical equipment, gas and energy, air pollution controlling equipment, agriculture, livestock breeding and animal gene. Trade and bilateral investment were also discussed during the meeting.

Prime Minister's Trade Envoy for Myanmar, British ambassador to Myanmar call on responsible persons from UMFCCI

British Prime Minister's Trade Envoy for Myanmar, Mr. Paul Scully MP, British ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Dan Chugg and members called on responsible persons from Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) at the Headquarters

of the UMFCCI on 3 February and then discussions followed.

Those present at the meeting frankly discussed current market situation in Myanmar; increased assistance provided by UK Aid for infrastructure and education sector; the plan of British business persons to make investment in Myanmar; the arrival of experts from multiple areas to Myanmar; taxation and laws and increased investment.

France discusses cooperation in business and investment with Myanmar

With the leadership of French-Myanmar Business Council and ASEAN Committee of MEDEF International President Mr Francois CORBIN and French ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr Christian Lechervy, a business meeting on joint venture

between French and Myanmar regarding business and investment was held at the Headquarters of the UMFCCI on 3 February.

During the meeting French ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Christian Lechervy said French business persons come to Myanmar in the search for business partners to boost bilateral economic cooperation in the future and work together to create new economic opportunities and tackle challenges. According to the French ambassador, the French business persons had also a plan to study Thilawa Special Economic Zone for investment purpose.

French business delegation was comprised of 20 business persons from the various areas of energy, water and garbage disposal service, rail transport,

infrastructure, banking and loan service, gas, foodstuff, marine, road transport and trade.

President Mr Bernardo Contri of Italy-Myanmar Business Association and party call on responsible persons from UMFCCI

President Mr Bernardo Contri of Italy-Myanmar Business Association and party called on responsible persons from UMFCCI at its Headquarters on 7 February afternoon.

The business meeting spotlighted participation of the UMFCCI, attendance of Myanmar business delegates, telecom, manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, information and communication technology, exchange of information about market situations between Italy and Myanmar. Moreover, both sides also paid attention to signing the agreement to have closer cooperation with the UMFCCI. Dr. Maung Maung Lay, Vice-President of the UMFCCI, U Thaug Tin, Dr Win Sithu, Joint General Secretary and the Chief Executive Officer entered into discussions at the business meeting.

A boost in trade sector plays a crucial role in the reform process taking place in Myanmar whereas investment serves an essential role in a bid to undertake trade promotion. Therefore, so as to encourage economic boom, Myanmar government has established three special economic zones in Thilawa, Kyaukphyu and Dawei providing investment incentives and simplified processes for investors from home and abroad.

(Translated by Htut Htut (Twantay))



U Zaw Min Win, the president of UMFCCI, gives souvenir to Mr Paul Scully MP, Prime Minister's Trade Envoy for Myanmar. PHOTO: UMFCCI



Yangon United ties 2-2 with Ho Chi Minh City

YANGON United F.C. conceded a 2-2 draw against Ho Chi Minh City F.C. in the qualifiers for the 2020 AFC Cup yesterday at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon, according to the Myanmar National League.

The goals for Yangon United were scored by Emmanuel at the 15th minute and

Mg Mg Win at the 19th minute, while the goals for Ho Chi Minh City were scored by Amido Balde at the 11th minute and Nguyen Cong Phoung at the 41st minute.

The two teams have been placed in Group F for the qualifiers with Hougang United of Singapore and Lao Toyota of Laos. The winner from their group will advance to the zonal semi-finals. In another Group F match yesterday, Hougang United beat Lao Toyota by 3-1 at the New Laos National Stadium, Vientiane.

Yesterday's was a home match for Yangon United F.C., and the team will play home matches against Lao Toyota on 25 February and Hougang United on 10 March at the Thuwunna Stadium. The away matches for Yangon United will be against Hougang United on 15 April at the Jurong West Stadium, Singapore; Ho Chi Minh City F.C. on 29 April at the Thong Nhat Stadium, Ho Chi Minh City; and, Lao Toyota on 13 May at the New Laos National Stadium, Vientiane. — Kyaw Khin

Kyaw Zin Htet, goalkeeper of Yangon United FC, gestures his fellow footballers during the match against Ho Chi Minh City F.C. at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 11 February. PHOTO: MNL

Shan United F.C. to take on Philippines' Kaya F.C. today

SHAN United F.C. of Myanmar will play against Kaya F.C. of the Philippines today in the group stage of the AFC Cup at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon, according to the Myanmar National League website. Shan United has been placed in Group H with Tampines Rovers of Singapore, Kaya-Iloilo of the Philippines, and PSM Makassar of Indonesia. After Kaya, Shan United will face PSM Makassar on 26 February in Jakarta, Tampines Rovers on 10 March in Singapore and 15 April in Yangon, Kaya F.C. on 28 April in Manila, and PSM Makassar on 12 May in Yangon. There are nine groups (Group A to I) competing in the group stage of the tourney.

Each group match will be played on a home-and-away round-robin basis.

The winners from each group and the best runners-up in the West Asia Zone and the ASEAN Zone will advance to the zonal semi-finals. The winners of each group in the Central Asia Zone, the South Asia Zone, and the East Asia Zone will advance to the inter-zone play-off semi-finals. The match between Shan United and Kaya F.C. will start at 3.30 p.m., and will be broadcast live on Fox Sports channel. Shan United will give away free tickets to those wearing a jersey with the Shan United logo or a white shirt and jersey at the stadium entrance. —Kyaw Khin

Ronaldo, Ibrahimovic set for Italian Cup clash

MILAN (Italy)—Cristiano Ronaldo and Zlatan Ibrahimovic are set to go head-to-head in Thursday's Italian Cup semi-final, first leg between Juventus and AC Milan at the San Siro.

Both Ronaldo and Ibrahimovic scored at the weekend in defeats as Juventus fell 2-1 at Hellas Verona, while AC Milan threw away a two-goal lead in a 4-2 defeat by city rivals Inter.

"It wasn't the result we wanted," said the 35-year-old Ronaldo despite becoming the first Juventus player to score in 10 succes-



Juventus' Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo heads the ball during the Italian Serie A football match Hellas Verona vs Juventus on 8 February 2020 at the Marcantonio Bentegodi stadium in Verona. PHOTO: AFP

sive league games, just one game short of the Serie A record.

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner has scored 23 goals in all

competitions this season.

Ibrahimovic, 38, has scored three goals since returning to Milan last month.—AFP ■

Sports Visitors Program: MFF to send 14 community coaches to US

FOURTEEN community football coaches will be sent to the United States under the Sports Visitors Program, which is being jointly organized by the Myanmar Football Federation and the US Embassy in Myanmar, according to the MFF.

The program will allow Myanmar community coaches to study community football development programs in villages and wards in the United States. The program aims to resolve the youth drug problem in Myanmar by encouraging young students in villages and wards to play football with the help of US-trained community coaches.

The 14 community coaches who will be sent to the US are U Myo Aung (coach with the Yangon United Football Academy), U Phone Nyunt Ko (grassroots director of the Myanmar Football Federation), U Zarni Ohn Khin (joint secretary of the Loilem football federation, Loilem United F.C.), U Zarni Tun (technical head of the Myitkyina District Sports and Physical Education Department), U Kyaw Min Oo (accountant-2 of sport, University of Distance Education, Mandalay), U Kyaw Swar Khine (corporal/nurse from South-East Command, Mawlamyine), U Kyaw Zaw Wai (PT teacher from BEMS Naung Hta Lone (1), Hpa-an), Daw Aye Aye Naing (staff officer (PT), Sittway District Education Office), Daw Win Win Hlaing (deputy staff officer (PT) with the Hlinethaya Education Office), Daw Chit Pan Nyo (deputy staff officer (PT) with the Myanaung Township Education Office), Daw Ei Ei Aung (assistant coach of Myawady women's F.C.), Daw Hnin Nada Khaing (middle-school teacher (PT) with BEHS (branch) Phoe Gaung, Thayawady), Daw Phyo Phyo Maung (staff officer with the Sports and Physical Education Department, Kachin State) and Daw Phaw Chone Pri Nan (sports head of the Sports and Physical Education Department, Winemaw).

The study tour to the United States will take place in March. —Kyaw Khin