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## President, First Lady, and State Counsellor offer “soon” (day meal) to Sayadaws



**P**RESIDENT U Win Myint, First Lady Daw Cho Cho, and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi offered “soon” to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws, the Tipidakadhara Tipidaka Kovida Sayadaws, and the candidate Sayadaws, who will be receiving religious titles, at 9:30 am yesterday at the Sasana Maha Beikman in the precinct of the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw.

Present on the occasion were the Sayadaws and senior monks led by Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Bharmo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa, Vice President U Myint Swe, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than’s wife Nant Kyin Kyi, Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo, Union Constitutional Tribunal Chair U Myo Nyunt, Union Election Commission Chair U Hla Thein and wife Daw Aye Thida, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein’s wife Dr Sein Sein Thein, Union Ministers, the Union Auditor-General, the Union Civil Service Board Chairman,

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President U Win Myint, First Lady Daw Cho Cho, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the congregation take the five precepts conferred by State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chair Bharmo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa at the Sasana Maha Beikman in the precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

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## Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw hears explanation from Union-level organizations in 15<sup>th</sup> session

THE second Pyithu Hluttaw continued its 15<sup>th</sup> session yesterday, with Union-level organizations answering questions raised by MPs and two proposals being submitted before the parliament. Land seized for sand mining will not be released: MOPFI

At the Pyithu Hluttaw yesterday, the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry replied to a question on the confiscation of land in Bokpyin Township. Deputy Minister Dr. Min Ye Paing Hein denied that the ministry has plans to release the confiscated land as it has established a new village for local people.

The deputy minister said the sand extraction industry established at the previous site of the village has been allowed to mine as sand from that area could be used for producing high-quality glasses.



Deputy Minister Dr. Min Ye Paing Hein. PHOTO: MNA

Speaking about the reasons for not releasing the land, the deputy minister said the move was not meant to cause grievance to locals. The ministry has set up a new village for them, and only when the whole area is mined, there would be enough raw material to get the required output,



MP U Nay Lin Tun. PHOTO: MNA

he said. The question whether the ministry has plans to release the land was raised by MP U Nay Lin Tun of Bokpyin constituency.

Similarly, Deputy Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing replied the questions on implementation of the National Complaints



Deputy Minister U Myint Kyaing. PHOTO: MNA

Mechanism for Forced Labour in Myanmar raised by MP U Saw Tin Win of Kya-in-Seikkyi constituency; Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo on the ministry's plan for conservation of river banks by growing low-cost grass plantation raised by MP Dr Aye

Zin Latt of Shwebo constituency; Deputy Minister Dr Min Ye Paing Hein on issuing licences on-line for industries and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein on plan for formation of supervisory committees for surgical rooms at hospitals nationwide.

Dr San Shwe Win of Yekyi constituency submitted a proposal urging the Union Government to control e-cigarettes (Electronic Nicotine Delivery System), Heated Tobacco Product for Heat-not-burn-Product and Water pipe for smoking. The Pyithu Hluttaw decided to discuss the proposal.

Dr Aye Min of Kayan Constituency submitted a proposal to form regional groups for raising health awareness comprised of regional general practitioners and volunteers in regions and states.—Aye Aye Thant

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

## Amyotha Hluttaw

## Amyotha Hluttaw approves motion for blending ethanol and gasoline suitable for debate

THE 11<sup>th</sup>-day meeting of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw's 15<sup>th</sup> regular session was held yesterday.

During question time, Naw Chris Tun (a) Dr Arkar Moe of Kayin State constituency 7 asked whether the registration of Kettel Village and Ka Paung Pin villages of Thandaungyi Township, Kayin State, by the Ministry of Home Affairs into Kweye Yaing Pyin village-tract, Yedashe Township, Bago Region, in 2018 will be rectified.

Deputy Minister U Tin Myint of the Office of the Union Government replied that if more than half of the relevant electorate consent to re-delineate the territorial boundary and if three-fourths or more of representatives of assenting Hluttaw levels vote their approval of the matter, than it can be implemented in line with Article 53 of the Constitution.

Next, Dr Sai Hsai Kyauk Sam of Shan State constituency 6 raised questions concerning land confiscated by the local light infantry division and possible relinquishment.

Deputy Minister for Defence Rear-Admiral Myint Nwe replied that the division already received permission to seize the land area in Wow Khote village, Kengtung Township, and they have relinquished 2 acres from there. He said the land cannot



MP Naw Chris Tun (a) Dr Arkar Moe. PHOTO: MNA

be relinquished as it plays an important strategic location with the military command there, and would be easily infiltrated without its presence.

U Bwe Khain of Chin State constituency 3 then asked whether the inter-village roads between three village-tracts near Mara ridge, Thantlang Township, will be completed in 2020-2021FY.

Deputy Minister for Construction, Dr Kyaw Lin, replied that there are five roads networking the village-tracts, and from among them, the 9-mile Loilem-Fartalan road has 5 miles left for expansion but the concerned village and township administration committee and Hluttaw representatives have not submitted any relevant docu-



Deputy Minister U Tin Myint. PHOTO: MNA

ments. Thus, it cannot be included in the budget proposal while the remaining four roads will be included in the state capital fund for 2020-2021FY.

Next, U Baw Rae Soe Wai of Kayah State constituency 3 asked when the villages in Dorphu village-tract, Dimawhso Township, which have not been linked to an electricity supply will be provided as such.

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Khin Maung Win replied that the total estimated cost for linking the 6 villages in Dorphu village-tract to an electricity supply is K787.6 million. He said the matter has been included in the state government's fund proposal for 2020-2021FY and work will commence depending



MP Dr Sai Hsai Kyauk Sam. PHOTO: MNA

on the amount allotted.

Following this, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced that the Pyithu Hluttaw has sent back the traffic safety and vehicle management bill with amendments and for MPs interested in discussing the bill to enroll their names.

The Speaker also submitted the Tax Appellate Tribunal Bylaw sent back with amendments from the Pyithu Hluttaw for the consideration of the assembly. U San Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3 then discussed the Bar Council Election Rule.

Next, the Speaker announced the Pyithu Hluttaw has made amendments to all separate fifth bylaws amending the Pyithu Hluttaw Election By-

law, Amyotha Hluttaw Election Bylaw, and the State and Regional Hluttaw Election Bylaw and called for MPs interested in discussing the matter to enroll their names.

This was followed by U Maung Maung Ohn of Ayeyawady Region constituency 5 tabled a motion urging the Union Government to swiftly issue a mandate to relevant businesses allowing them to blend gasoline with an appropriate ratio of ethanol.

The MP explained that since ethanol can be produced from breweries and the byproducts used to feed livestock and other agricultural use, it would help alleviate the nation's trade deficit and annual import of approximately 2 million tons of gasoline if businesses were allowed to blend ethanol with the fuel.

U Tun Tun Oo of Mandalay Region constituency 2 seconded the motion, saying it will greatly benefit the nation.

The Speaker then gathered the deliberation of the Amyotha Hluttaw, received no opposition, and announced the motion has been put up for debate. He called for MPs interested in discussing the matter to enroll their names.

The date of the next Hluttaw meeting will be announced in advance.—Aung Ye Thwin, Soe Win Tun

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

# President, First Lady, and State Counsellor offer revered prenoon meals to Sayadaws

## FROM PAGE-1

the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chair, the Central Bank of Myanmar Governor, the Joint Chief of Staff (Army, Navy and Air Force), the Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander, deputy ministers, the deputy attorney-general, the Nay Pyi Taw Council members and wives, permanent secretaries, departmental heads, officials and invited guests among others.

Before the event, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi paid homage to the Buddha image enshrined in the Sasana Maha Beikman and presented it with an emerald alms-bowl of rice, flowers, water and lights.

President U Win Myint, First Lady Daw Cho Cho, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the congregation then received the five precepts given by State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chair Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa and listened to the Metta Sutta (Buddha's loving-kindness chant) sermons recited by the Sayadaws and venerable monks.

Afterwards, President U Win Myint and the First Lady submitted the offertories to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chair Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa and Ovadacariya Pyinmana Maha Withutayama Zaygon Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Dr. Bhaddanta Kavisara.

The State Counsellor also submitted the offertories to State Sangha Maha Nayaka



President U Win Myint, First Lady Daw Cho Cho and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi offering the revered prenoon meals to the Venerable Sayadaws. PHOTO:MNA

Committee Secretary Sayadaw Thanlyin Minkyaung Pariyatti Monastery's Presiding Monk Aggha Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa and Myingyan Chaungdaung Pariyatti Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kelasa.

Next, Vice President U Myint Swe, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than's wife, Union Chief Justice U Tun Tun Oo, State Constitutional Tribunal Chair U Myo Nyunt, Union Election Commission Chair U Hla Thein and wife Daw Aye Thida, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Pyithu Hlut-

taw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein's wife Dr Sein Sein Thein, union ministers, the auditor-general, the union civil service board chairman, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chair, the Central Bank of Myanmar

governor, the joint chief of staff (Army, Navy and Air Force), the Nay Pyi Taw Command commander, deputy ministers, the deputy attorney-general, the Nay Pyi Taw Council members and wives and the perma-

nent secretaries presented the donation items to the Venerable Sayadaws, Senior Monks and candidate Sayadaws, who will be receiving the religious titles, respectively.

President U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than's wife Nant Kyin Kyi, Union Election Commission Chair U Hla Thein's wife Daw Aye Thida, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win's wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein's wife Dr Sein Sein Thein, wives of union ministers and officials also presented the offertories to the candidate Thilashin Sayagyis (nuns), who will be receiving the religious titles.

The congregation then listened to the sermons given by State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Secretary Sayadaw Thanlyin Minkyaung Pariyatti Monastery's Presiding Monk Aggha Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa and shared the merits to all those present and other sentient beings.

President U Win Myint, First Lady Daw Cho Cho, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the congregation concluded the ceremony by offering "soon" (day meal) to the Venerable Sayadaws, Senior Monks and Thilashin Sayagyis. —MNA

(Translated by Aungthu Ya)

## Religious titles were conferred on outstanding Members of the Sangha since the days of Myanmar Kings.



## Myanmar officially joins the ASEAN Single Window system

UNION Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win delivered an opening speech at the launching ceremony of Myanmar Entry into the ASEAN Single Window at the Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, the Union Minister said the Custom Department of the ministry was working on its transition from the document-based works to the electronic-based office system under the commitments with the ASEAN.

Before fully implementing the National Single Window, Myanmar made National Single Window Routing Platform with the support of USAID since 2018 to send Form Ds issuing from Trade Administrative Department to the ASEAN countries.

As a first step, Myanmar on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2019, Myanmar entered into the ASEAN Single Window Live Operation after linking the Country of Origin Certificate (AITGA e-Form D) with the ASEAN nations.

The work for exchanging the ASEAN Customs Declaration Document-ACDD

and electronic Sanitary and Phytosanitary (e-SPS) are underway with the assistance of the USAID.

Following the speech of Union Minister U Soe Win, Director-General U Min Min of the Directorate of Trade and Mission Director Ms Teresa McGhie of the USAID delivered addresses respectively.

According to the ASEAN agreements, Myanmar might exchange electronically ATIGA Form D within the region. The main reason is to reduce paper works. Myanmar exporters and importers will be able to access and complete Form D more easily, which will lead to reduced time and cost as well as dramatic improvement in the accuracy and speed in processing through the ASEAN Single Window and it will also help increase transparency and more efficiency. Myanmar became the 8<sup>th</sup> country of the ASEAN block for ASEAN Single Window Live Operation on 9<sup>th</sup> December. As a second step, the ministry would take measures for exchange of ACDD and e-SPS based on AITGA e-Form D.—MNA  
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



Union Minister U Soe Win delivers the speech at the Launch Ceremony of Myanmar Entry into the ASEAN Single Window in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

## Nay Pyi Taw Council gives land compensation to farmers



Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Mayor Dr Myo Aung delivers the speech at the ceremony to give compensation for confiscated land to farmers in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

NAY PYI TAW Council distributed land compensation amounting to K130.488 million to 42 farmers from Pobbathiri, Dekkhinathiri and Ottarathiri townships in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The second land compensation distribution ceremony was held at the Nay Pyi Taw City Hall. At the ceremony, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Mayor Dr Myo Aung said the council realized that the farmland are the farmer's life and they could not be evaluated with money.

The council paid compensation to farmers to ensure that they can gain benefits from urban development through their farmland.

Then, Nay Pyi Taw Council

Chairman and Mayor Dr Myo Aung, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aye Maung Sein, Deputy Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw U Ye Min Oo and Hluttaw representatives distributed compensation to farmers.

During the time of the incumbent government, Nay Pyi Taw Council gave K875.6815 million as the land compensation to 312 local farmers for 844.078 acres of land in 2016-17 financial year, K99.965 million to 42 local farmers for 91.17 acres in 2017-18 FY, K121.9744674 million to 50 farmers for 221.728 acres in 2018-19FY, and K112.692 million to 22 farmers for 110.76 acres for the first time of this FY.—MNA

## Deputy Minister U Set Aung signs book of condolences for late former President of Egypt

DEPUTY Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Set Aung signed the book of condolences opened for late Mr Muhammad Hosni El Sayed Mubarak, former President of Egypt, at the Egyptian Embassy at No 81, Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Street, Dagon Township in Yangon yesterday.

Former President Mr Muhammad Hosni El Sayed Mubarak was aged 92 when he passed away. – MNA

(Translated by TTN)



Deputy Minister U Set Aung signing the book of condolences for late Mr Muhammad Hosni El Sayed Mubarak, former President of Egypt yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

## Govt, NCA-S EAO hold work coord meeting to implement decisions of 8<sup>th</sup> JICM

THE Government and the ethnic armed organizations signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA (NCA-S EAO) held a work coordination meeting in Yangon yesterday in preparation for implementing the decisions made at the 8<sup>th</sup> Joint Implementation Coordination Meeting-JICM.

Speaking at the meeting at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Yangon, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo said the meeting would discuss the issues related to the framework agreements and implementing post-2020 tasks step by step and seeking the basic agreements between the two sides.

“The aforementioned issues would be signed as the Part-3 of the Union Accord at the fourth session of the Union Peace Conference-21<sup>st</sup> Century Panglong, and it would become a milestone of our history,” said U Tun Tun

Oo.

He also stressed the importance of negotiations to reach agreement for political basic principles, urging the two sides to create a good situation in which both sides can continue dialogues for strengthening the ceasefire and integration.

“Today, we will discuss the issues related to holding national level political dialogues and preparation for holding the UPDJC meeting. Similarly, this meeting will also discuss the ways for inclusion of the ethnic organizations which have not yet signed the NCA to the peace process,” said Sao Sai Ngin, leader of the framework agreement negotiation leader of the NCA implementation.

The meeting was also attended by Lt-Gen Yar Pyae of the Ministry of Defence (Army), Lt-Gen Min Naung and Lt-Gen Tin Maung Win, Secretary of the



Government and ethnic armed organizations signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA (NCA-S EAO) hold the work coordination meeting in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG

Peace Commission Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Pyithu Hluttaw MP U Pyone Cho (a) U Htay Win Aung, members of the Peace Commission U Hla Maung Shwe, U Moe Zaw Oo and Director-General of the State Counsellor Office U

Zaw Htay while the ethnic armed organizations side was led by Sao Sai Ngin, NCA Implementation Coordinator U Myo Win and members of the negotiation team U Hla Htay, Saw Mya Yarzar Lin, Dr Hlyan Hmone Sar Khaung,

Salai Hta Hlar Hay, Saw Sein Win, Pado Saw Tar Do Mu, Pado Saw Al Kalusae, Saw Kyaw Nyunt and Nai Aung Ma Ngay, Dr Sai Oo and Nan Yin Yin Soe.

The meeting continues today.—Ye Khaung Nyunt

## Military attaches, media personnel observe seized drugs in Kutkai, Shan State (North)



Military attaches and journalists observing the seized drugs in Kutkai yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

SECURITY forces seized narcotic drugs and drugs-related materials worth over K 93 billion from 28 February to 4 March in northern Shan State, according to the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Office.

Military attaches from embassies in Yangon and media personnel flew to the area in Kaungkha Village-tract in Kutkai Township yesterday by the Tatmadaw Plane and helicopters and observed the seizures.

Before visiting the area, Maj-Gen Toe Yi of the Defence Services (Army), Commander of

the North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Zaw Aye and Police Col Zaw Lin of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control detailed about the mission which seized the drugs.

In the afternoon, the military attaches and media personnel left Lashio for the Lwekham Village in Kaungkha Village-tract in Kutkai Township by helicopter and observed the seized narcotic drugs and precursors.

They arrived back Yangon in the evening, according to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.—MNA

## Helicopter carrying military attachés crashes, 2 pilots hurt

A military helicopter carrying military attachés crashed in a village in Kutkai shortly after taking off yesterday. There were no fatalities, but two pilots were injured in the accident.

The accident occurred around 3:40 pm yesterday when local and foreign mediapersons and military attachés from foreign embassies in Yangon were headed to Kutkai to cover the seizure of narcotic drugs and precursors worth K93 billion by the military between 28 February and 4 March around Kaungkha and Lwekham villages in Kutkai Township, Shan State (North).

The injured pilots, who controlled the helicopter so that there was minimum damage

until it touched land, are not in critical condition, said a press release issued by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. The journalists and military attachés were transported by the remaining helicopters from the village to Lashio, and from thence, they were taken to Yangon by a Tatmadaw flight.

They landed in Yangon at 7:20 pm, according to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. —MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

The military helicopter crashed shortly after taking off from Lwekham village in Kutkai Township. PHOTO: MNA



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

**Daily central-level coordination meeting of COVID-19 (30/2020)**

THE daily coordination meeting on COVID-19 (30/2020) was held at the Ministry of Health and Sports yesterday.

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe first addressed the meeting. He said Myanmar still has no lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19. He said there are 2 suspected patients and 58 patients under surveillance who have had their lab samples sent to the National Health Laboratory. Fifty-four results have come back showing negative and 6 results are still pending. All patients who are cleared of COVID-19 have been discharged with good conditions.

The Union Minister said 88 per cent of COVID-19 patients exhibit high fevers, 68 per cent exhibit dry coughing, 38 per cent show signs of tired limbs, 33 per cent show chesty coughing, 19 per cent show signs of short breath, and 14 per cent have sore throats.

The Union Minister said airline passengers are screened for high temperatures twice and the Civil Aviation Department has been instructed to properly disinfect luggage of passengers, in accordance with WHO suggestions.

He said the mortality rate



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe addresses the central-level coordination meeting on COVID-19 yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

of COVID-19 has slowly risen to 3.5 per cent, but Myanmar has made necessary preparations to contain the spread of the disease. He said the public need to be made continually aware that people with diabetes, chronic illnesses or the elderly should be swiftly sent to the hospital on signs of designated symptoms.

The Union Minister said people who have been in close proximity to patients or the deceased with confirmed cases should not be timid but come forth for medical treatment at

their nearest medical department.

He said neighbouring nations are quarantining airline passengers for 14 days when necessary and Myanmar will follow suit if the situation calls for it. He said avoiding crowded public spaces and postponing events or celebrations is highly recommended right now.

The Union Minister said they have been addressing the COVID-19 issue since 5 January and they must continually reassess their processes for areas of

weaknesses strengthen them immediately.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Minister, Permanent Secretary and directors-general, deputy directors-general, directors of the Ministry of Health and Sports, the medical superintendent of Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital, specialist doctors, and officials from various medical and health-related institutions and Myanmar Red Cross.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

**News release on COVID-19: MoHS**

(8:00 p.m., 6-3-2020)

1. The Ministry of Health and Sports is closely monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak and spread in China and 85 countries around the world, in cooperation with the international Health Ministries and the WHO, and sharing real-time updated information among these organizations.

2. In this regard:

- (a) A 35-year-old male returned from Bangkok, Thailand, to Ottarrathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, on 3-3-2020 and developed symptoms of high fever, runny nose and coughing on 5-3-2020. He was sent to the Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital on the same day and a lab sample has been submitted to the National Health Laboratory (NHL) with the results awaiting.
- (b) A 30-year-old female in Haka Township, Chin State, arrived in Yangon International Airport at 10:15 am on 6-3-2020 from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Medical staff at the airport monitored her and noticed symptoms of high fever, coughing, and fatigue and transferred her to Waibargi Specialist Hospital. A lab sample has been sent to NHL and she has currently shown no signs of acute respiratory disease.
- (c) A 14-year-old male in Hmawpy Town-

ship, Yangon Region, exhibited signs of fatigue, high fever, and coughing on 4-3-2020 and was admitted to Insein General Hospital. Although the patient has not recently been to countries spread with COVID-19 nor has contact with suspected patients, he has shown signs of acute respiratory disease. A lab sample has been sent to NHL.

- (d) A 34-year-old male in Yaksawk Township, Shan State (South), exhibited signs of high fever, fatigue and coughing up blood on 23-2-2020. He was admitted to a private hospital from 26-2-2020 to 5-3-2020 and transferred to Yangon General Hospital on 6-3-2020 at 12 p.m. Although the patient has not recently been to countries with COVID-19, he has shown symptoms of acute respiratory disease, with a lab sample sent to NHL. However, his condition worsened and he past away at 4:30 p.m. on 6-3-2020.
- 3. A 40-year-old male from Sittway Township, Rakhine State, was traveling from Shweli, China, to Mandalay on 5-3-2020 when he suffered respiratory complications at Lashio and was admitted to Lashio General Hospital at 8:40 p.m. on 5-3-2020.

The patient had been diagnosed with diabetes five months ago and was suffering from high fever and coughing for the past 40 days. He was quarantined at Lashio General Hospital and a lab sample was sent to NHL. However, his condition worsened and he passed away from heart failure at 9:40 pm on 5-3-2020. He reportedly passed away from diabetes and pneumonia.

- 4. A 68-year-old female from Maha Aungmyay Township, Mandalay Region, was admitted to Kandaw Nadi Hospital in Mandalay on 4-3-2020, but passed away as her condition worsened at 7:40 p.m. on 6-3-2020. She reportedly suffered from chronic cardiac problems and diabetes. Her cause of death was diagnosed as due to pneumonia and negative consequences of ill-treated cardiac and diabetes conditions. Her lab sample has been sent to NHL and results are pending.
- 5. Five patients are receiving treatment and under surveillance as of 6 pm on 6-3-2020.
- 6. News will be released in real time for any developments.—Ministry of Health and Sports

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## MIC okays 6 investment proposals; projects to create 2,850 jobs

THE Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) yesterday approved six new projects worth US\$131.125 million and over K113 billion, including increasing of capital by nine existing enterprises.

The approved projects include a proposal for making value added agricultural products, which is expected to create 2,600 jobs.

The projects will be executed in the manufacturing, agriculture, livestock, and other services sectors and are expected to create a total of 2,850 jobs.

The projects were approved

at a meeting (4/2020) convened yesterday at the MIC in Yangon. MIC chairman U Thaung Tun, MIC vice chairman Dr Than Myint, and nine commission members attended the meeting.

By the end of January, the countries with the largest investments in Myanmar were Singapore, the People's Republic of China, and Thailand. The top investment sector was oil and gas, which accounted for 26.70 per cent of the permitted foreign investment, followed by the power sector (26.45 per cent), and the manufacturing sector (14.03 per cent). — MNA



Union Minister U Thaung Tun addresses the coordination meeting of Myanmar Investment Commission in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO:MNA

## Garment factories closing due to shortage of raw materials need to be scrutinized: CTUM



Employees work at the production line of a large garment factory in Yangon. PHOTO:PHOE KHWAR

GARMENT factories that have closed down citing lack of raw materials because of COVID-19 need to be scrutinized to check whether they are really short of raw material supply, said U Maung Maung, chairman of the Confederation of Trade Unions of Myanmar (CTUM).

Although a total of 13 factories informed the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population that they will temporarily suspend production, only one factory has informed the Yangon Region Investment Committee.

"Although all factories said that they are closing due to lack of raw materials, only one factory has asked the Yangon Region Investment Committee to revoke their company license. So, we need to know whether the factories have closed merely to move to other places and open again with new names or not.

We need to be au courant in this respect. So, we need to scrutinize the reason for suspension. The most important thing is to check if the factories have closed due to COVID-19, and whether they have really been closed," said U Maung Maung.

Moreover, factories closing due to lack of raw materials need to be transparent in their actions and they ought to be responsible and accountable, said U Aye Win, secretary-general of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

"We cannot allow factories to just close for underlying reasons rather than lack of supply of raw materials," he added.

More than 5,000 workers have become unemployed within two weeks because of factories closing due to lack of raw materials, according to the CTUM.

"In order to continue operations at CMP factories, working hours are being reduced and overtime has been stopped. If these measures do not prove effective, factories must suspend operations temporarily," said Daw Khine Khine Nwe, Joint Secretary-General of the UMFCCI.

"Entrepreneurs are starting to reduce working hours because they are worried about the lack of supply of raw materials. Workers in most factories have started working eight hours per day. Some factories are closing work after only half a day on Saturdays and some are closing on Saturdays and public holidays. Some factories have already been closed for a temporary period because they could not continue to run due to lack of supply of raw materials," she added.—Nyein Nyein

(Translated by Hay Mar)

## COVID-19: Cos ask CBM to control fallout from rise in interest rate, fall in exchange rate

BY Nyein Nyein

ENTREPRENEURS have requested the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) to control the economic impact from the decline in the dollar exchange rate and the rise in interest rates due to COVID-19, said U Aye Win, Secretary-General of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

Myanmar's economic sector has been adversely affected by COVID-19 and currently, the tourism sector and fruit exporters to China are facing dramatic difficulties, he added.

"Local entrepreneurs, especially exporters and local growers, have requested CBM to find ways and means to respond to the rise in interest rate and the dip in exchange rate," said U Aye Win.

"In wake of COVID-19, it is important that the CBM respond quickly to help entrepreneurs overcome the difficulties and issues they have been facing lately. The CBM is responsible not only for stabilizing the entire financial sector, but also contributing to the development of Myanmar's economic sector," according to entrepreneurs.

The dollar exchange rate has dipped below K1,500 per dollar in the local currency market since 25 December, 2019. Due to COVID-19, the exchange rate reached K1,380 per dollar on 6 March.

In addition, the interest

rate offered by banks has also reached a maximum of 16 per cent from the minimum 13 per cent.

Therefore, the UMFCCI plans to collate the requests and demands of entrepreneurs and submit them to the government for a solution.

In connection with the economic impact of COVID-19 and its consequences, a meeting was held between the government, employers, and employees, comprising members of the International Trade Association and the Economic Association, on 5 March at the UMFCCI. At the meeting, the participants discussed finding solutions for current difficulties and issues by meeting frequently.

"At present, garment factory entrepreneurs are worried about the lack of supply of raw materials till April because of COVID-19. If the coronavirus outbreak is not brought under control, we need to prepare for the consequences of any lack of supply of raw materials in May, June, and July," said Daw Khine Khine Nwe, Joint Secretary-General of the UMFCCI.

The difficulties and issues caused by COVID-19 have now reached a national level, and so, employers, laborers, and the government should jointly seek ways to mitigate any negative fallout, said U Maung Maung, chairman of the Confederation of Trade Unions Myanmar (CTUM).

(Translated by Hay Mar)

# Suspension of crowded events welcome step for COVID-19 prevention

WITH India, Indonesia, and Thailand confirming new cases of COVID-19, the World Health Organization recently asked countries in South-East Asia to strengthen preparedness for all possible scenarios and ensure early containment.

The mortality rate from COVID-19 has been on the upward trend, reaching 3.5 per cent recently.

So far, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Myanmar, and those who were quarantined for suspected infection have been discharged as they recovered from their illness and tested negative for the virus.

We need to review our efforts, including surveillance, handling of suspected patients, treatment, dissemination of health knowledge among people, cooperation with international health bodies and UN agencies, distribution of medical equipment and medicines to hospitals, and drills. Only then can we correct our weaknesses in time.

But, the Myanmar health authorities are prepared to quickly respond to the first case, the first cluster, and the first evidence of community transmission.

As part of efforts towards early containment to ensure prevention and protect against transmission of the disease, the local health authorities in regions and states must step up surveillance efforts and raise awareness to ensure that the people understand the benefits of preventive measures. People arriving from countries or areas that have reported an outbreak must inform the authorities and must undergo at least a two-week surveillance.

Suspension of events which attract large crowds of people in the regions and states is a welcome step and would be very helpful in the current efforts of the health authorities to prevent any COVID-19 infection.

The World Health Organization has also released three priorities for readiness – protecting health workers; engaging with communities, especially those at highest risk, and empowering them with timely and accurate information to enable them to take protective measures; and, doing our best to contain the epidemic in the most vulnerable countries.

The novel coronavirus can cause mild, flu-like symptoms as well as more severe illness. Patients show a range of symptoms such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Based on current data, globally 81 per cent of cases seem to be mild, about 14 per cent appear to progress to severe disease, and about 5 per cent are critical.

People can protect themselves and prevent the spread of the virus by practicing hand hygiene, covering their mouth when coughing and sneezing, maintaining distance from others if they are sick and from those who are sick.

Infection prevention and control is of critical importance for health facilities in combating COVID-19.

The Myanmar health authorities have beefed up efforts for prevention and control of COVID-10 since 5 January.

We need to review our efforts, including surveillance, handling of suspected patients, treatment, dissemination of health knowledge among people, cooperation with international health bodies and UN agencies, distribution of medical equipment and medicines to hospitals, and drills. Only then can we correct our weaknesses in time.

# COVID-19 OUTBREAK TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON DEVELOPING ASIA : ADB

**M**ANILA, PHILIPPINES (6 March 2020) — The ongoing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak will have a significant impact on developing Asian economies through numerous channels, including sharp declines in domestic demand, lower tourism and business travel, trade and production linkages, supply disruptions, and health effects, according to a new analysis by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The magnitude of the economic losses will depend on how the outbreak evolves, which remains highly uncertain. The range of scenarios explored in the analysis suggests a global impact in the range of \$77 billion to \$347 billion, or 0.1% to 0.4% of global gross domestic product (GDP).

In a moderate scenario, where precautionary behaviors and restrictions such as travel bans start easing 3 months after the outbreak intensified and restrictions were imposed in late January, global losses could reach \$156 billion, or 0.2% of global GDP. The People's Republic of China (PRC) would account for \$103 billion of those losses—or 0.8% of its GDP. The rest of developing Asia would lose \$22 billion,



Fear of the economic impact of the virus has governments and markets on edge. PHOTO: AFP

or 0.2% of its GDP.

“There are many uncertainties about COVID-19, including its economic impact,” said ADB Chief Economist Yasuyuki Sawada. “This requires the use of multiple scenarios to provide a clearer picture of potential losses. We hope this analysis can support governments as they prepare clear and decisive responses to mitigate the human and economic impacts of this outbreak.”

The analysis, The Economic Impact of the COVID-19 Outbreak on Developing Asia, presents full

details on the scenarios considered. It also presents estimated impact on individual developing Asian economies—and on sectors within these economies—including under a hypothetical “worst case” scenario for a given economy in the event of a significant outbreak. These should not be interpreted as predictions that an outbreak will occur but are meant to provide guidance for governments as they consider appropriate responses.

All scenarios and assessments are available on ADB’s website and will be updated as the situation evolves.

ADB’s response to COVID-19 to date includes \$2 million announced on 7 February to enhance detection, prevention,

and response in the PRC and the Greater Mekong Subregion; another \$2 million announced on 26 February to support response in all its developing members; and a CNY130 million (\$18.6 million) private sector loan, signed on 25 February, to Wuhan, PRC-based pharmaceutical distributor Jointown Pharmaceutical Group Co. Ltd. to support the continued supply of essential medicines and personal protective equipment.

ADB stands ready to provide further support to its developing members in their efforts to respond to the adverse impact of COVID-19. ADB will use appropriate means to address the identified needs including through existing and new financial assistance, emergency assistance lending, policy-based lending, private sector investment, and knowledge and technical assistance.

ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. Established in 1966, it is owned by 68 members—49 from the region.

Ref : ADB News Release on 6 March

	Best case		Moderate case		Worse case	
	As % of GDP	Losses in \$ billions	As % of GDP	Losses in \$ billions	As % of GDP	Losses in \$ billions
World	-0.1	\$77	-0.2	\$156	-0.4	\$347
People's Republic of China	-0.3	\$44	-0.8	\$103	-1.7	\$234
Developing Asia excluding the People's Republic of China	-0.2	\$16	-0.2	\$22	-0.5	\$42
Rest of the World	0.0	\$17	0.0	\$31	0.0	\$68
Source: ADB staff estimates.						

## Self-learning

By Lokethar

“SELF-LEARNING” is defined in the National Education Law of 2014 and its amendments, as “learning to meet one’s own needs and interests and is undertaken by one’s self according to one’s own objectives” (translation by the writer). Of course, the traditional sources of “Self-learning” has been, and to a large extent still is, are the public/private libraries.

Nowadays, however, we have the “Internet.” If one has a mobile phone, which almost everyone does these days, the knowledge and information one may require is “at one’s fingertip” so to speak. Of course to get the required knowledge and information on the internet, one must know how to access it. Even if one knows how to access the internet one has to be able to read the learning resources

in the language it is written. The most used language over the internet is the English language. Of course, there are other languages used such as Russian, Chinese, Japanese, French, Spanish, Arabic and so on. Myanmar language is limited to the “websites” that use it and the learning resources are not wide-ranging as yet. So to access knowledge through the internet one would have to be able to read and understand English which the Myanmar people are familiar with due to their past links with the British Empire. The other reason is that the English language is even now being taught in the basic and higher education system from the basic level to the higher education level. In time, the Myanmar people will become conversant enough in the English language to access information over the in-

... it would help “self learning” if the various Ministries and their Organisations could establish Websites in the Myanmar language for all kinds of knowledge and information ...

ternet in English.

One usually acquires an “education” through learning what is taught in the formal education system from the age of say five years to around the mid-twenties, at the end of which one may acquire a Degree/Diploma/Certificate in whatever field of education one studies. After that one usually looks for wage employment or self-employment. As for wage employment, what the employers nowadays seek is not the qualification alone but also the

knowledge and competence required for the job.

One must, therefore, start acquiring knowledge (general or specific of the job) even as one starts in employment. In this age of the internet, Self-learning is a mode of doing so. According to the information over the Internet “Self-learning is an emerging form of learning that has emerged due to the availability of learning resources online”. In the technical language of Education Theory it is, I believe, termed

Auto-didacticism. In fact the older generation also needs to resort to self-learning to keep up with the ever-changing learning needs of this the Digital Age.

The advantages of self-learning are many. To summarise, Self-learning is:-

1. Highly motivational in that it springs from a desire to acquire knowledge.
2. Self-paced in that it is learning at the pace suited to the learner.
3. It’s affordable depending on the availability of the tools and internet access.
4. It’s problem solving directed in that the learner can access information that can help the learner to address specific problems.
5. Accessible among peer groups for on-line conferencing to exchange knowledge and views.

It would indeed be helpful if the Public Education and Training Institutions concerned could conduct Short Courses on accessing the Internet to help interested persons to train them on how to access the internet for Self-learning. In addition courses in the English language would be of help in accessing the internet. At the same time it would help “self learning” if the various Ministries and their Organisations could establish Websites in the Myanmar language for all kinds of knowledge and information related to their functions and activities. That way knowledge and information would be accessible to those who are not used as yet to the English language or any other foreign language for that matter.

With Charity to all and Malice to none.

### Myanmar Gazette

## Heads of service organizations confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names on the expiry of the one-year probationary period from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
1. U Min Thein	Director-General Protocol Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2. Daw Thida Tun	Director-General Budget Department Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry
3. Dr Moh Moh Yee	Rector Co-Operative University, Sagaing Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
4. Professor Dr Zaw Than Htun	Director-General Department of Medical Research Ministry of Health and Sports



## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2020)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2020:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin and Chin States and isolated in Lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Northern Shan State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-7) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Continuation of rain or thundershowers in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin and Chin States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2020:** Partly cloudy.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2020:** Partly cloudy.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2020:** Partly cloudy.

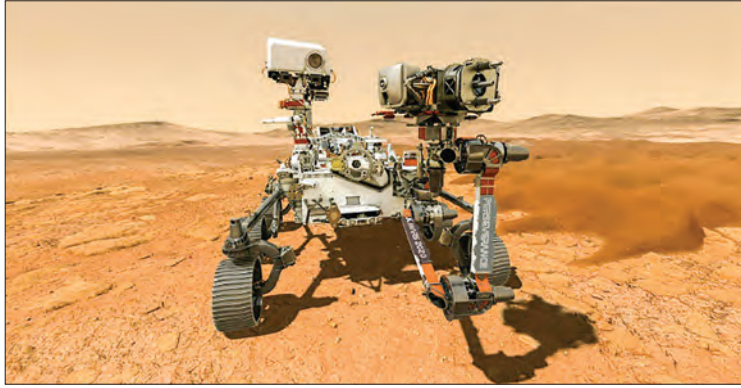
**WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Naypyitaw, Yangon and Mandalay Regions.

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The Mars rover Perseverance will be able to land more precisely, has an onboard system to avoid hazardous terrain on descent, and will scour the ground for signs of ancient microbial life. **PHOTO: AFP**

## NASA names next Mars rover 'Perseverance'

WASHINGTON — NASA on Thursday announced the name of its next Mars rover: Perseverance.

It will be the fifth exploratory vehicle on the Red Planet following in the tire tracks of the similarly augustly titled Sojourner, Spirit, Opportunity, and Curiosity.

The name was announced at an event at Lake Braddock Secondary School in Burke, Virginia, to congratulate Alex Mather, the seventh grade student who picked it.

"Alex's entry captured the spirit of exploration," said Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator of NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

"Like every exploration mission before, our rover is going to face challenges, and it's going to make amazing discoveries."

Following its forebears, Perseverance was named by school-age children in nationwide contests — starting from Sojourner in 1997 to the Spirit and Opportunity rovers, which

landed on Mars in 2004, to Curiosity, which has been exploring Mars since 2012.

The latest contest began last August, with 4,700 volunteer judges including teachers and space enthusiasts whittling down the pool to 155 semifinalists, before nine names were put to the public on NASA's website.

More than 770,000 votes were cast online before the space agency decided the winner.

He will receive an invitation to travel with his family to Cape Canaveral in Florida to witness the rover begin its journey, when it launches between 17 July and 5 August this year.

This window was chosen because the Earth and Mars are in good positions relative to each other at that point.

Perseverance is projected to land in February 2021.

The mission has two new objectives: To seek out signs of ancient life, and then sample materials and prepare a cache that can be returned to Earth on a return trip.— AFP ■

## News release of COVID-19: MoHS

(9:15 p.m., 6-3-2020)

1. The Ministry of Health and Sports is continuously monitoring COVID-19 and lab samples from suspected patients have been sent to the National Health Laboratory (NHL).
2. The lab results are as follows:
  - (a) A 28-year-old male in Kan Pai Ti station hospital,
  - (b) A 27-year-old Myanmar national female in Muse People's Hospital,
  - (c) A 35-year-old male in Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital,
  - (d) And a 68-year old female with diabetes in Kandaw Nadi Hospital, Mandalay, were all found to be free of COVID-19 infection. (The death of the 68-year old female is mentioned in the 8:00 pm news release).
3. Updated news on the NHL lab results will be disseminated in real time.—Ministry of Health and Sports.

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Japan Classic Film Festival 2020 launched in Yangon

IN commemoration of the centenary of Myanmar's film industry, Japan Classic Film Festival 2020 was opened with a ceremony at Nay Pyi Taw Cinema in Yangon yesterday.

During the opening ceremony, people who maintained and restored a film of Japan were introduced.

Next, Japanese Ambassador Mr Maruyama Ichiro, and National Film Archive of Japan Director Mr Okajima Hisashi transferred a Japanese film to Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department, U Ye Nang, and officials.

Afterwards, officials from the Ministry of Information, the Japanese Ambassador and diplomats, officials from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, invited guests and movie lovers watched a Japanese film.

By the supervision of Jap-



Officials and movie fans attending the opening ceremony of the Japan Classic Film Festival 2020 yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

anese Embassy and Agency for Cultural Affairs, the Japan Classic Film Festival will be held for three days till 8 March.

Japanese films named My Neighbor Tororo, Godzilla, Rashomon, Tora-san, The Lovable

Tramp and Tokyo Story will be shown free on 7 and 8 March.

Tickets for the films are available free of charge one hour before screening on a first-come-first-served basis.—MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

## Eel smuggler given suspended jail term in UK

LONDON — A seafood salesman was on Friday given a two-year suspended jail sentence for smuggling endangered eels worth more than £53 million (\$69 million, 61 million euros) out of Britain.

Gilbert Khoo played a "leading role" in a large-scale commercial operation to illegally export endangered European glass eels, Judge Jeffrey Pegden told a London court.

He also said the criminal operation had a "significant environmental impact" on the species, which are threatened with extinction unless threats against them are closely controlled.

The judge, sitting at Southwark Crown Court, ordered



Elvers, or glass eels, are threatened with extinction and the judge overseeing sentence noted the criminal operation had a "significant environmental impact". **PHOTO:AFP**

Khoo, from Chessington, southwest London, to carry out 240 hours of unpaid community work.

Further hearings are scheduled to retrieve the proceeds of crime from the operation, the

court was told.

Khoo, 67, was convicted at the same court last month of six offences relating to the illegal importation and movement of the rare elvers.

British border force officers found a live consignment of baby European eels, originally from Spain, hidden under a load of chilled fish at London Heathrow Airport.

They were due to be exported to Hong Kong on 15 February, 2017.

The 200-kilogram consignment had an estimated value of at least £5.7 million on the black market in East Asia, where they are a delicacy in high demand.— AFP ■

## Aussie scientists map 100,000 km2 of uncharted seafloor

SYDNEY — Australian scientists have returned from an epic 57-day voyage aboard the research vessel Investigator in which they mapped 100,000 km2 of seafloor off Australia's west and south west coasts.

The team, led by the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS), pulled into Perth on Friday bringing with them data and samples dredged from thousands of metres beneath the ocean surface. The main purpose of the voyage was to explore the break up of two tectonic plates — Broken Ridge and the Kerguelen Plateau, to the west and southwest of Australia, which separated 43

million years ago.

"We used an echo sounder to map the seafloor of the two features and then we used a seismic reflection system to actually see beneath the sea floor, what the structures were," Voyage Chief Scientist, IMAS Professor Mike Coffin told Xinhua.

"And we also collected rocks, so we just dragged a chain bag along the seafloor and it brought up a lot of rocks for us."

The area of study for the voyage was all uncharted seafloor and Coffin explained it was hugely exciting to glimpse parts of the earth's surface for the very first time.—Xinhua ■



The Tourism Authority of Thailand has confirmed the country could see a loss of six million visitors in 2020. PHOTO: AFP

## No compulsory quarantine of visitors to Thailand: health ministry

BANGKOK — Thai health authorities on Friday said they would not order the compulsory quarantine of visitors from four countries hit hard by coronavirus, as the kingdom struggles to balance health fears with the needs of its flatlining economy.

The holidays of possibly tens of thousands of people were cast into doubt on Tuesday when the health minister insisted a quarantine of all entrants from nine countries including China — its

territories of Hong Kong and Macau — Italy, Iran, South Korea and Japan, would be imposed.

On Friday health authorities spiked the plan, instead “recommending” arrivals from just four countries — China, Iran, Italy and South Korea — stay indoors and report to authorities for monitoring.

“We recommend home quarantine,” Sukhum Kanchanapimai, from the health ministry told reporters, adding those who

register with authorities will receive free food from Thailand’s biggest grocery group.

All other travellers from the four countries will have to “report on their health status daily”, said Tanarak Plipat of the Disease Control Department, or risk “punishment” under the law.

A British man who entered the kingdom from Hong Kong became the country’s 48th confirmed case of the virus, health authorities added.— AFP ■

## Boeing CEO points at predecessor for MAX mess

CHICAGO — Boeing Chief Executive David Calhoun largely blamed his predecessor for the crisis over the 737 MAX, which remains grounded after two deadly crashes, in an interview published Thursday.

Calhoun, a longstanding board member who took over as chief executive on January 13, told the New York Times that the problems at Boeing were even bigger than he anticipated.

“It’s more than I imagined it would be, honestly,” Calhoun said. “And it speaks to the weaknesses of our leadership.”

He said predecessor Dennis Muilenburg had ramped up Boeing’s plane production too quickly.

“I’ll never be able to judge what motivated Dennis, whether it was a stock price that was going to continue to go up and up, or whether it was just beating the other guy to the next rate increase,” he said.

“If anybody ran over the rain-

bow for the pot of gold on stock, it would have been him.”

The MAX has been grounded since March 2019 following two crashes that killed 346 people. March 10 marks the one-year anniversary of the second crash on an Ethiopian Airlines plane.

A board member since 2009, Calhoun was named chairman in

October when Boeing stripped Muilenburg of that role.

On 23 December, Boeing named Calhoun as CEO, finally ousting Muilenburg entirely, and saying the company needed to “restore confidence” and “repair relationships with regulators, customers and all other stakeholders.”— AFP ■



Boeing Chief Executive David Calhoun blamed his predecessor for the crisis over the 737 MAX, which remains grounded after two deadly crashes. PHOTO: AFP

## Shares in India’s Yes Bank crash on withdrawal limits

NEW DELHI — Shares in India’s Yes Bank plunged as much as 85 per cent on Friday after the central bank seized control and imposed withdrawal limits to prevent the collapse of the country’s fourth-largest lender.

The move by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) sparked a sell-off across the troubled banking sector and sent the rupee falling to its weakest level since 2018.

People queued outside Yes Bank branches after the announcement late Thursday that customers can only withdraw 50,000 rupees (\$678) over the next 30 days while the RBI tries to put together a rescue.

The news added to liquidity concerns about India’s financial

system more than a year after the near-collapse of IL&FS, one of the nation’s biggest “shadow banks” — finance houses responsible for significant consumer lending.

A resulting reluctance of banks to lend money has exacerbated the woes of Asia’s third-biggest economy, with growth slowing for seven consecutive quarters before picking up with a meagre 4.7-per cent expansion in the final three months of 2019.

Yes Bank’s exposure to the shadow banking sector is particularly large and it has been struggling for some time to raise fresh capital to free itself of a mountain of bad loans in order to quell worries about its viability.— AFP ■



Yes Bank customers queue up outside the Fort branch on Friday morning. PHOTO: ANIPHOTO

## Melbourne’s Swisse launches globally acclaimed wellness products in India

MUMBAI — Melbourne-based Australian health, wellness and natural skincare brand Swisse announced its launch into the Indian market.

Discerning Indian consumers will now have access to high-quality vitamins, supplements and skincare products from one of Australia’s largest vitamins, minerals and health supplements (VMHS) and skincare brands. Internationally recognised for its quest to supply the highest quality nutrient-rich products, backed by science and world-class manufacturing standards, Swisse products help millions of people around the world make the most from life

every day.

Swisse was founded by Kevin Ring and opened its first stores in Melbourne, Australia, in 1969, where its headquarters are still based. Swisse’s expansion into the Indian market comes one year after it won both the prestigious Victorian Governor’s Export Award for e-commerce and the Australian Export Award for e-commerce.

Swisse’s launch into the Indian market has been supported by tailored assistance from the State Government of Victoria (Australia) through Global Victoria, and the Victorian Government Trade and Investment (VGTI) offices in India.— ANI ■

# Asia-Pacific economies face \$211 bn hit from virus, says S&P

NEW YORK — The coronavirus could wipe more than \$200 billion off Asia Pacific economies this year, S&P Global ratings warned Friday, sending growth to its lowest level in more than a decade, as governments struggle to combat the disease.

In a worst-case scenario, China could see growth of less than three percent, while Japan,

Australia and Hong Kong could “flirt with recession”, it said in a report.

Fears about the impact of the outbreak, which has spread to at least 85 countries since it began in China in late December, have hammered world markets as investors fret over its economic impact.

S&P said it expected the region to grow 4.0 percent this year as supply



Some countries could flirt with recession this year as Asia-Pacific growth is hammered by the coronavirus outbreak. **PHOTO: AFP**

and demand shocks blow a \$211 billion hole in the economy. That compares with a 4.8 per cent estimate given in December and would be the worst performance since a contraction in 2008 caused by the global financial crisis.

“Asia-Pacific’s outlook has darkened due to the global spread of the coronavirus,” it said. “This will exert domestic sup-

ply-and-demand shocks in Japan and Korea. It will mean weaker external demand from the US and Europe”

The report said economies were suffering from the double-whammy of weak demand as consumers stay home for fear of catching the disease, and falling supplies as industries are rocked by shut-downs.— AFP ■

# Japan to invalidate 2.8 million visas for Chinese amid virus fears



Foreign tourists wear masks in Tokyo’s Asakusa district on Feb. 1, 2020, amid the spreading coronavirus. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

TOKYO — Japan will temporarily nullify 2.8 million visas held by Chinese and 17,000 held by South Koreans to prevent the new coronavirus from spread-

ing in the country, the Foreign Ministry said Friday.

The step is part of measures announced a day earlier by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe,

facing a barrage of criticism for his belated response to the outbreak, to toughen border controls and restrict travel from the neighboring countries.

The visas, including those issued to citizens from Hong Kong and Macau, will become invalid from Monday through 31 March, with Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi saying what happens past that point will depend on whether the coronavirus situation improves or worsens.

Chinese and South Korean visitors already in Japan will not have their periods of stay terminated, but if they leave the country they will not be able to re-enter using the same visas while the temporary nullification is in force.

South Korea on Friday slammed the entry restrictions as “unfair” and “unscientific.” Japan’s economy, still reeling from a consumption tax hike and natural disasters, is also expected to take a hit. — Kyodo News ■

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

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Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC KYOTO VOY. NO. (010S/011N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-3-2020 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 MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ARGYROULA GS

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ARGYROULA GS VOY. NO. (002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-3-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of WILMAR 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 WILHELMSSEN SHIPS SERVICES PTE LTD.**

Phone No: 2301928

### To whom it may concern

The manufacturer of Map Pacific Pte. Ltd., (Singapore) has registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar.

Sr. No.	Name of Product	A.I	Type	Regis; No.
1.	Map OK	2-4-D Dimethyl Amine Salt SL	Full	F2009-205
2.	Map Cleanup	Glyphosate 480 g/l SL	Full	F2009-245

Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Map Pacific Co. Ltd.," to new distributor name "Aventine Limited".

If there has any objection on the changing of distributor name, it can be objected to the Co-Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Department, Gyogone (West), Insein Township, Yangon within 2 weeks.

Map Pacific Pte. Ltd., (Yangon Branch)

No. 29, Room – 203, 2nd Floor,

38th Street (Lower Block),

Kyauktada Township, Yangon.

Ph: 01-392168

### PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

We, **TAW WIN DAR CO.,LTD**, would like to change distributor of the following products, (registered by **LIER CHEMICAL CO.,LTD** and **HEBEI VEYONG BIO-CHEMICAL CO.,LTD** to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), from following company . If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Taw Win Dar Co.,Ltd Ph no-09448027852.

Sr.	Trade Name	A.I	Registration No.	Old Distributer
1	Foison Weeder	Bispyribac-sodium 20% WP	P2019-4733	ROYAL GOLDEN CITIZEN CO.,LTD
2	Veyong Brothers	Azoxystrobin 200g/l + Difenconazole 125g/l SC	P2019-4695	AGRO GREEN LAND CHEMICALS CO.,LTD

Trade Mark Ads Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355,09974424848

# Blast targets US embassy in Tunis, attacker dead: police

TUNIS — An attacker targeted the US embassy in the Tunisian capital on Friday, causing an explosion and injuries among police before being killed, police said.

The assailant tried to enter the embassy but was prevented by police who guarded the diplomatic mission in the Berges du Lac district, a police official said.

Several police were wounded in the attack, the official added, without giving further details.

“The operation was doomed to fail,” he said.

Police said the attacker had been riding a motorcycle.

They did not immediately confirm if it was a suicide attack, but body parts were seen strewn on the ground at the scene.

The explosion caused panic among pedestrians near the embassy, images shared online showed.

Tunisia faced a rise in jihadist activity after its 2011 revolution, with attacks killing dozens of security personnel, civilians and foreign tourists.

While the security situation has significantly improved since a series of deadly attacks in 2015, Tunisia has maintained a state of emergency for four years and assaults against security forces have persisted.—AFP ■



Police and forensic experts gather at the scene of an explosion near the US embassy in Tunis. PHOTO: AFP

# Turkey, Russia agree on ceasefire in Syria's Idlib

ANKARA — Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Thursday (local time) announced a ceasefire in Idlib, following a meeting in Moscow that lasted six hours.

“At 00.01 tonight (Friday), as in, from midnight, the ceasefire will be put in place,” Al Jazeera quoted Erdogan as saying. He added that Turkey, which has sent thousands of troops into Idlib to repel the Syrian army, would not ‘remain silent’ if the Syrian government forces continued attacks, and warned that Ankara would retaliate with full force.

Meanwhile, Putin said that Russia did not always agree with its Turkish partners, but hoped the deal will serve as a good basis for ending the fighting in the Idlib de-escalation zone, put an end to the suffering of the civilian



The Syrian government's attempt to take Idlib has forced close to a million civilians to flee their homes. PHOTO: AFP

population and contain a growing humanitarian crisis.

More than 300 civilians, including at least 100 children, have been killed in Idlib since December last year.

According to the United Nations, nearly one million have been internally displaced to the border with Turkey, most of whom are forced to camp out in

the open — the worst humanitarian crisis in Syria's nine-year civil war. Erdogan has said that both leaders have agreed to help these refugees return to their homes. Moreover, Ankara and Moscow also agreed to establish a secure corridor along a key east-west highway in Syria's Idlib and hold joint patrols on it as of March 15.—ANI ■

# Migrants, police in fresh clashes at Turkey-Greece border

PAZARKULE (Turkey) — Brief clashes broke out at Turkey's border with Greece on Friday, where thousands of refugees have been encouraged by Ankara to leave for the European Union.

Greek police fired tear gas at migrants trying to break through the fence, who responded by throwing stones, according to AFP journalists at the scene.

Calm was quickly restored, with hundreds of migrants sitting peacefully in front of the gates, chanting “peace”, “freedom” and “open the gates”.

Makeshift camps for thousands of migrants have sprung up around the border since Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said last week they would no longer be stopped from trying to

leave the country.

Many say they are being pushed to leave.

“They (the Turkish military) told us that if you don't go to the border... you will be forced to come back to Turkey and people don't want to come back because they don't have any good opportunities, there isn't anything,” Ali, an Iranian, told AFP.—AFP ■

## DISTRIBUTER CHANGING FOR REGISTERED PESTICIDES

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

Sr.	Trade Name	A.L	Registration No.
1	TRIPLE TWO 5% WDG	Emamectin Benzoate 5% WDG	P2018-4474
2	TRIPLE NINE PLUS 5% EC	Emamectin Benzoate 5% EC	P2018-4475
3	KTTA 20% SL	Acetamiprid 20% SL	P2018-4335
4	Athoxm 25% WDG	Thiamethoxam 25% WDG	P2018-4144
5	YYY 2% EC	Emamectin Benzoate 2% EC	P2018-4473
6	Chloxyl 81% WP	Chlorothalonil 72%+Metalaxyl 9% WP	P2015-2830
7	HYPERMAD 5% SC	Hexaconazole 5% SC	P2018-4148
8	ACO ONE 25% EC	Propiconazole 25% EC	P2018-4147
9	FUNGIDAN 77% WP	Copper Hydroxide 77% WP	P2018-4355
10	KOLUS 80% WDG	Sulphur 80% WDG	P2018-4345
11	DIBIM 32.5% SC	Azoxystrobin 20%+ Difenconazole 12.5% SC	P2018-4321
12	MOON STAR 24% EC	Oxyfluorfen 24% EC	P2018-4327
13	Y-26 20% WP	Bispyribac-Sodium 20% WP	P2018-4326
14	PENGUIN 33% EC	Pendimethalin 33% EC	P2018-4202
15	POUNG SAPAR 40% WP	Bensulfuron Methyl 6%+ Quinclorac 34% WP	P2018-4365
16	Sellent 10.8% EC	Haloxyp-P-methyl 10.8% EC	2015-2832
17	One Two Four	Emamectin Benzoate 5% + Lambda-cyhalothrin 10% WP	2015-2834

GRADE LAOJUN CHEMICAL CO.,LTD Ph - 09795910179.

## DISTRIBUTER CHANGING FOR REGISTERED PESTICIDES

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

Sr.	Trade Name	A.I	Registration No.
1	777 2% EC	Emamectin Benzoate 2 % EC	2014-2116
2	505-Fornofos 55% EC	Chlorpyrifos 50% + Cypermethrin 5 % EC	2015-2828
3	BBC 95% SP	Cartap 95% SP	2015-2833
4	Acilambdar 25% WP	Acetamiprid 20%+Lambda-cyhalothrin 5%WP	2015-2456
5	Devicopper 77% WP	Copper Hydroxide 77% WP	2015-2457
6	Mancy 25% WP	Metalaxyl 25% WP	P2017-3392
7	Score Two 32.5% SC	Azoxystrobin 20% + Difenconazole 12.5% SC	P2017-3390
8	Kosar 80% WDG	Sulphur 80% WDG	P2017-3394
9	Monsansate 48 SL	Glyphosate 48% SL	2015-2455
10	Parazone 27.6% SL	Paraquat 27.6% SL	P2017-3393
11	U-24 860g/l	2,4-D Amine Salt 86% SL	2015-2831
12	U-26 20% WP	Bispyribac-Sodium 20% WP	P2017-3391
13	Super Poug 40% WP	Bensulfuron Methyl 6% +Quinclorac 34% WP	P2018-4208
14	Jacker 2% EC	Abamectin 2% EC	2014-2114
15	Top Ten 4.5 EC	Beta-Cypermethrin 4.5 EC	2014-2115
16	Shwe Morph 50% WP	Dimethomorph 50% WP	2015-2458
17	Manthane 80% WP	Mancozeb 80% WP	2014-2118
18	Atonik Power	Sodium nitrophenol	2014-2119
19	Special Power	Gibberellic Acid 2% SL	2014-2117

GRADE LAOJUN CHEMICAL CO.,LTD Ph - 09795910179.

**M**ONASTERIES built of bricks or wood in late Konbaung era among abundant historical heritages in Mandalay are dubbed the Hidden Treasure in Mandalay.

Thanks to U Ye Myat Tun, Patron of Mandalay Tour Guides Association, Daw Sanda Aung from MTVTH training school, and tour guides, I grasped the opportunities to visit ancient wooden Maha Minhtin Monastery in Mandalay.

#### Ancient monasteries

Among many monasteries built of bricks or wood across Myanmar, a large number of wooden monasteries and religious edifices built by kings and royal families, and wealthy persons were located in Mandalay, Inwa, Sagaing, Salay, Salin and Myaing townships. Eminent wooden monasteries in style of late Konbaung era were Golden Monastery, Shweinpin Monastery, Dhammikayama Shwegyin Monastery, Thingaza Monastery, Thakawun Monastery, Myataung Monastery and Minhtin Monastery in Mandalay.

The Great History of Konbaung Dynasty stated kings in Konbaung era namely Alaungmintayar U Aungzeya, Naungdawgyi, Myaydu, Bardon, Sagaing, Thayawady, Bagan, Mindon and Thibaw built monasteries. King Mindon and King Thibaw in Yadanabon era constructed 55 monasteries in Mandalay. King Mindon allotted monasteries in eastern, western, southern and northern wards of Mandalay but some



Maha Minhtin Monastery. PHOTO: MAUNG THA. (ARCHAEOLOGY)

## Three great edifices called **Maha Minhtin Monastery,** Motah Ordination Hall, **Ananda Temple**



Damaged brick ladder of Maha Minhtin Monastery. PHOTOS: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)

numbers of monasteries have been in the city up to now. Golden Palace and Shweinpin monasteries are under preservation of the government. Although the majority of monasteries were built in Myanmar architectural works, some monasteries such as Thakawun and Yaw Atwinwun monasteries were built in mixed architectural works of European and Myanmar styles.

#### Ancient Myanmar monasteries

Ancient Myanmar monasteries were formed with tier-roofed building, Sanu building, main building and Bawga building.

The tier-roofed building was created with five to nine tiers on the roof. Eastern, southern and northern wings of the tier-roofed building were



Abbot met congregation at Marabin hall at day time and allowed members of the Sangha to spend night. At some monasteries, those keeping Sabbath took a rest at the eastern Marabin hall and venerable monks resided at the western Marabin hall.

A throne decorated with a backdrop was kept in the east hall and the throne without backdrop in the west hall. Both sides of the main building were installed with a ladder for monks and men and another one for women separately.

Bawga building was located in the westward of monastery. It comprised three rooms—one side room for storing kitchen wares, another side room for fruits and foodstuffs, and the middle for novices.

Some monasteries were added with an arch building for accommodating increased members of the Sangha. The arch building was constructed in front of the main building or between the main building and

three eminent edifices namely Maha Minhtin monastery, ordination hall of Motah monastery and Ananda temple also called red ordination hall, south of Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay.

Ancient wooden monastery namely Maha Minhtin positioned on Pyinnya Pyokhin street, northeast of Maha Muni Buddha Image in Shwephone-shein ward of Mahaangmye Township in Mandalay.

Motah ordination hall was located in the precinct of Motah monastery, east of Dhammikayama monastery and north of Maha Minhtin monastery. Granary Minister cum Motah Officer built Motah monastery in 1226 Myanmar Era in the reign of King Mindon and offered it to Sujatabhi Siridhaja Maha Dhammarajaguru Sayadaw. It was a seven tier-roofed building. Although central Motah monastery was burnt down, the ordination decorated with sculptural works remains unchanged till today.

### Maha Minhtin

Original Maha Minhtin monastery was built in ancient Inwa city and moved to Amarapura in 1852 AD. In the reign of King Mindon in 1876 AD, elephant minister U Min Htin, son of original monastery well-wisher, moved the monastery to the current venue. So, the monastery was named Maha Minhtin monastery. Veteran writer Sayagyi Natmauk Tun Shein disclosed monastery well-wisher elephant minister U Min Htin was eldest son of Taungtha and Nyaungok governor Maha Minhla Thiri Thinkhaya U Bo. Moving process of the monastery took two years. All the processes finished in the reign of King Thibaw in 1878 AD.

After completion of construction, the monastery was offered to venerable monk U Tissa. The elephant minister extended Zetawun building with roofs.

The monastery was constituted with tier-roofed building, Sanu building, Zetawun building and Bawga building in addition to a circular corridor.

For the time being, tier-roofed building, Sanu building and some part of the circular corridor collapsed but Zetawun building constructed of 110 posts with about two feet in diameter remains unchanged. There remain 143 of 462 posts from the monastery. Each posts used at Maha Minhtin monastery were about 30 feet long teak one. It is estimated that the original wooden monastery with triple tier-roof might be larger than the present one three times.

### Old Maha Minhtin Monastery

The wooden old monastery moved to the current place more than 140 years ago was in a square shape. For the time being, the brick ladder installed at the west wing of the monastery was totally damaged. Two repaired ladders can be seen there.

The circular corridor was about 10 feet wide in the north. Southern part of corridor and the ladder to the corridor were damaged. The western part of the facility was narrower than that of northern part.

The curtain of the main building formed with two rooms was installed with doors. The interior structure of the monastery was similar to that of Golden Monastery at the foot of Mandalay Hill. Posts of Maha

Minhtin monastery were larger than those of Golden Monastery but former's posts were not created with arts and crafts decoration. The east Marabin hall was similar to formation of Bagaya monastery in Inwa.

The door for entrance to the building was decorated with statues of celestial beings. Wooden top corner pieces decorated at the room can be seen in good conditions.

A large throne decorated with a backdrop was kept on three feet high and about 15 feet wide stage in the east Marabin hall. The throne was fenced with wooden fashioned posts. It was adequate for keeping a large Buddha image or giving a seat to a monk for delivering Dhamma Desana.

The hall stored some ancient objects and current utensils in addition to a post box.

Maha Minhtin monastery was grand with Myanmar arts and crafts but it was not crowded with visitors similar to that of other wooden monasteries.

The Department of Archaeology and National Museum renovated posts of the monastery, placed concrete at the foot of posts and filled soil under the monastery in 2003-04 fiscal year.

Three sides of the monastery were surrounded by brick drains like moats filled with water.

Although a current abbot maintains the monastery, interior of the monastery is lack of lighting and sanitation. Feathers, spider nets and waste of pigeon on the floor may cause difficulties to visitors for observation.

Authorities concerned should maintain Maha Minhtin wooden monastery which was moved similar to Golden Monastery built by King Thibaw in Mandalay in 1878 so as to show Myanmar handicrafts of the monastery to local and foreign travellers.

*Translated by Than Tun Aung*

### Reference:

**The Royal Palace built with fences (Natmauk Tun Shein)**

**Monasteries decorated with Myanmar handicrafts (Maung Yin Hline, Pyinma Myaing)**

**Myanmar's ancient monasteries showing Myanmar culture (Natmauk Tun Shein)**



PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)

Bawga building, or between the main building and Sanu building. In the late Konbaung era and early colonial era, some monasteries were combined with Bawga Sanu building between the main building and Bawga building. Such a building can be seen at Shweinpin monastery.

### Minhtin monastery, Motah ordination hall, Ananda temple

Among monasteries, ordination halls and pagodas built on a grand scale in Mandalay in Yadanabon era, there were

Mandalay Ananda temple was located south of eastern stairway of Maha Muni Buddha Image. The temple in which four standing Buddha images were kept was similar to Bagan Ananda temple. The temple was named the ordination hall. But locals called it as red ordination hall because of the red brick walls. Queen Yintaw built the temple in the reign of King Badon and Pyu governor-cum-first queen of King Bagan repaired the temple. Hermit U Khanti also renovated the temple in 1279 ME.

By Maung Tha  
(Archaeology)

installed with a ladder each for use of king, first queen and venerable Buddhist monks only.

The tier-roofed building was a location for the throne of Buddha image. The abbot resided at the tier-roofed building, and the main building which was connected with Sanu building where guest members of the Sangha were accommodated.

The main building constructed with a double tier-roof was called Dawei building and with a triple or quadruple tier-roof, Zetawun building. The main building rounded by extended roofs was named double-roof monastery or triple-roof monastery depending on the style of roofs.

The main building was parted with curtains from the floor to the roof to divide it as east and west Marabin halls.



## Defending champions tie with Magwe FC 1-1



Shan United striker Zin Min Tun (white) vies for the ball against Magwe FC defenders during yesterday's Week-8 match of the Myanmar National League at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNL**

DEFENDING champions of the Myanmar National League, Shan United, played to a 1-1 draw against Magwe FC in the Week-9 match of the MNL, yesterday at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

Shan United lined up with key players Zin Min Tun, Maximin, and Armah, while Nanada Kyaw, keeper Thina Sithu, and David Htan were in the substitute list.

Magwe FC lined up with all key players and attacked Shan United from the starting whistle.

Magwe FC got their leading goal at 23 minutes, and the goal was scored by Wai Yan Tun.

After the score turned 1-0,

Shan United tried to dominate the play, but some misunderstanding between the players led to the team missing scoring opportunities.

At the end of the first half, Magwe FC was leading by a goal.

Shan United started the second half with new tactics.

The equalizer for Shan United was scored by the team's key striker Zin Min Tun at 74 minutes.

After 1-1, Shan United got more chances for goals, but the team strikers could not convert due to the massive defense put up by Magwe FC, and the match ended in a 1-1 draw.

—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

## Myanmar National League: Yangon to play Ayeyawady today

YANGON United will play against Ayeyawady United in the Week-9 match of the Myanmar National League at 3.30 pm today at the KyaukTaing Stadium in Patheingyi.

Speaking about the upcoming match, Yangon United midfielder Mg Mg Lwin said that the match will not be an easy one.

"The match will be difficult for both teams. I would like to ask our fans to please have a look at the performance of our team on the pitch," he said.

The midfielder also said his team is aiming for winning the championship. "We must win the match as we are aiming for the championship position," he said.

"The most important thing is that we must not lose the match against Ayeyawady United. If we lose to our opponents, we may slide to the third place," he added.

"A draw result can help our team stand second with goal difference. My teammates have prepared well to face Ayeyawady

United," he added.

Mg Mg Lwin said he has studied how the Ayeyawady United play, how they attack, and prepare for defense, and he has analyzed his team's performance as well. Yangon United is currently in the second place on the standing table, with 20 points from 6 wins and 2 draws. Meanwhile, Ayeyawady United is in the third place with the same points, but with goal difference.

—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Yangon United's Mg Mg Lwin kicks the ball during a match against ISPE FC on 8 February at the Yangon United Sports Complex. **PHOTO: YUFC**

## Coronavirus leaves Serie A's big two facing off in empty stadium

MILAN—A ghostly atmosphere awaits the biggest game of the Serie A season on Sunday (Mar 8) as Juventus and Inter Milan prepare for a title tussle behind closed doors while Italy grapples with the deadly coronavirus outbreak.

Just 500 people will witness Antonio Conte return to Juve, where he won three Serie A titles as a coach and the Champions League as a player.

The loudest noise at a game that would have attracted a raucous sell-out 40,000 crowd at the Allianz Stadium in Turin will be the voices of screaming players as the likes of Cristiano Ronaldo and Romelu Lukaku battle it out for Italy's two best-supported clubs. The coronavirus has now killed 148 people in Italy, the highest number of deaths in any European country.

Serie A on Friday listed a host of new rules that clubs must abide by, including the installation of scanners to check the temperature of the restricted number of authorised people entering the stadium. Journalists at games will have to keep at least two metres apart, while on Sunday there will be no mixed zone or press conferences before or after the match.

### Inter anger

The Juventus v Inter match,

known in Italy as the Derby d'Italia for its historic importance, was supposed to be played last weekend but was postponed as COVID-19 caused havoc across the country.

That decision sparked a row between Serie A and Inter, who were livid at what they saw as completely random scheduling decisions — leading to Inter's Chinese chairman Steven Zhang calling the league's president Paolo Dal Pino a "clown".

Zhang's outburst irritated the other clubs, who were fed up of Inter criticising any decision the league made in a chaotic situation, with Napoli among those praising Dal Pino's work. "First Inter demanded to play behind closed doors, then with fans, and then they wanted to play their match with Sampdoria (postponed the previous week) before Juventus," said Roma CEO Guido Fienga. "What we all want is to protect people's health but also ensure the season progresses."

The league had put the game at Turin's Allianz Stadium back over concerns of broadcasting a marquee match — originally set to be played at the same time as La Liga's El Clasico — against the backdrop of an empty stadium, hoping that virus-related restrictions would be lifted. — AFP ■