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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Thursday, 26 March 2020

## State Counsellor chairs meeting of National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the address at the meeting of Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). **PHOTO: MNA**

**S**TATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, in her capacity as the Chairperson of the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19),

delivered a speech at the meeting on control measures of the disease yesterday.

The meeting held at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw was attended by Union Ministers, chief ministers and minis-

ters of Region/State governments and officials.

The meeting discussed three Covid-19 cases in Myanmar, treatments given to them, containment of the disease to those who had close contacts with them

and the places they visited, transportation arrangements for migrant returnees from Thailand to their homes, accommodation for them before they arrive back to respective destinations, community-based facility quarantine for

them and other measures against the Covid-19.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi gave guidance and decisions based on matters presented at the meeting.—MNA

*(Translated by Aung Khin)*

## Home quarantines enforced in Chin village

**C**hin State government has instructed the locals to stay at homes in Ketal village of Tiddim Township, Chin State, where the Covid-19 case was found.

U Soe Htet, the Minister for Development, Electricity and Industry of Chin State government, said, "The case happened some days ago. His wedding has also finished. The locals in the whole Chin State have been alerted to the risks of disease.

The Chin State government held an emergency meeting on control measures of this disease.

"The infected person is getting medical treatment at the hospital in Tiddim Township. He has no more fever at present and is in good health. His specimen was tested positive while he was ill. We are monitoring all the places he visited.

The Union Government has sent a team to Chin State on 24 March to help the local government in

this case.

Public events have been banned in the whole Chin State and the restrictions will also affect going to churches on Sunday.

Chin State Government has contributed K50 million for the Covid-19 control fund to the public donation of K30 million. The fund will be used for medicines and other needs.—MNA

*(Translated by Aung Khin)*



## Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw concludes 15<sup>th</sup> regular session

THE 13<sup>th</sup>-day meeting of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 15<sup>th</sup> regular session was held yesterday. Asterisk-marked questions were raised, a bill approved, a report from the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee was approved, and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat delivered the closing speech.

First, U Ar Moe Si of Khaunglanphu constituency asked whether the Lawwuchila bridge in Khaunglanphu Township will be upgraded in the 2019-2020 financial year. Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Than Htut replied that a budget proposal for the upgrade will be submitted after an inspection on the bridge approves it.

Next, U Myint Oo of Thanetpin constituency asked whether there were plans to construct a sluice gate in Sittpinseik creek so as to store a sufficient amount of water for summer crops in Bago, Waw, Thanetpin and Kawa townships of Bago District and for the 30-mile green project in Yangon Region.

Deputy Minister for Agri-



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

culture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw replied that the regional government has compiled a budget proposal for the sluice gate and will submit it to the Union Government. The project is estimated at K15 billion and the Yangon Region government has slated K3 billion in their budget proposal for 2020-2021 financial year. The project is slated to take 3 years.

Daw Khin Saw Wai of Yethedaung constituency asked whether the 15.6 miles of road left to be paved on the Ponnagyun-Yethedaung road will be

completed in 2019-2020FY.

Deputy Minister for Construction Dr Kyaw Linn replied that the 6 furlongs of the road has been included in the 2019-2020 supplementary budget proposal while the remaining 15 miles will be included in the Union and Rakhine government capital fund proposals for 2020-2021FY.

Next, Speaker U T Khun Myat read the report on the Protection of Individual Freedom and Personal Safety of Citizens Bill submitted by the Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee.

He then announced that bill has been approved as no MP voiced any objections.

Next, the Speaker announced the Amyotha Hluttaw has sent back the tax tribunal bylaw and high court lawyer council election bylaw without any amendments.

This was followed by Daw Aye Mya Mya Myo of Kyauktan constituency and Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Major Win Min Tun debated the report from the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee.

Committee member U Nyein Thit then responded to Hluttaw representatives' discussions and committee secretary U Zone Theint tabled a motion to approve the report. The Speaker called for the deliberation of the assembly, received approval and approved the report.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then delivered the closing speech of the current regular session. He said the session had 13 meetings, answered 97 asterisk-marked questions, 757 non-marked questions, tabled

a motion of remorse and 5 other motions, put one motion on record and have 5 motions left for discussion. He said 22 bills were processes, 7 approved and 15 ongoing.

The Speaker said 6 Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representatives were took the oath of office and 43 individual interviews for various Hluttaw committees were disseminated and 12 research papers were distributed.

The Speaker then told the Hluttaw representatives that they are part of one of the three branches of government and reminded them to ensure the voice of the people and their aspirations are fulfilled and to work together to establish a democratic federal republic.

He said as the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is designated as a pandemic by WHO, the Hluttaw representatives are tasked with ensuring the public is aware of all guidelines and information related to it distributed by the Ministry of Health and Sports.—Aye Aye Thant

(Translated by  
Zaw Htet Oo)

## Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw concludes 15<sup>th</sup> regular session

THE 13<sup>th</sup>-day meeting of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw's 15<sup>th</sup> regular session was held yesterday. Asterisk-marked questions were raised, a motion debated and the performances during the 15<sup>th</sup> regular session reviewed by Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than.

First, U Mya Min Swe of Magway Region constituency 9 asked whether there were plans to construct an embankment wall to prevent erosion and stabilize water flow in Shwe Chaung stream that flows through Pakokku.

Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Thar Oo replied that the erosion caused by Shwe Chaung stream is 2,500 feet in Pakokku's ward 3. He said the estimated cost for building an embankment wall is K750 million. However, there are no plans to include a budget proposal for it in the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 financial years.

U Kyaw Thote of Mandalay Region constituency 7 asked how private schools are regulated. Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi replied that the



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

Basic Education Department checks on private school in accordance with the private school registration law and state/regional education officers form examination groups to review the schools.

Next, Dr Win Myint of Bago Region constituency 11 asked whether the Ministry of Transport and Communications will hand over land area of the RTC basic education primary school in Sein Kantkant Village, Minhla Township, Bago Region, to the Ministry of Education, and whether a 60x40 feet RC sin-

gle-floored building will be constructed there.

Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi replied there are directives to follow from the President's Office concerning transferring of land ownership. He said budget proposal for the new building can only be submitted when the land has been transferred to his ministry.

Next, U Shan Oar of Chin State constituency 2 asked what the Union Government is doing to promote the status of Myanmar's sports. Deputy Minister

for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein replied that they are arranging to decentralize sports training from the sports science institution to schools that have full equipment for certain sports. She said the ministry is organizing 31 sports contests across the states/regions for 28 sports categories popular in the region and in Asia. After question time, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Daw Hla Htay (a) Daw Ohn Kyi read the committee's report on the health council bill. The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker then sought the approval of the Hluttaw for each section of the report.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein tabled for the bill to be approved with its current amendments and U Ko Ko Naing of Sagaing Region constituency 8 seconded the motion. The Speaker called for the deliberation of the Hluttaw, received no objections and announced the bill is approved with its amendments.

Next, bill committee member Dr Myo Aung read the committee's report on the Myanmar

Red Cross Logo Usage Bill and the Speaker sought the decision of the Hluttaw for each section of the bill. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein tabled for the bill to be approved with its current amendments and U Ko Ko Naing of Sagaing Region constituency 8 seconded the motion. The Speaker called for the deliberation of the Hluttaw, received no objections and announced the bill is approved with its amendments.

Next, the Amyotha Hluttaw debated a motion tabled by U Maung Maung Ohn of Ayeyawady Region constituency 5 urging the Union Government to issue a mandate allowing businesses to mix designated ratios of ethanol into diesel in order to reduce imports of the fuel and lower the trade deficit.

U Win Zaw of Kachin State constituency 7 seconded the motion saying that it would benefit the national economy and urged the government to evaluate if implementing the motion would be effectively practical with existing laws and bylaws.

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# "People are the key"

## Well-wishers donate cash to fight against coronavirus

TWO well-wisher organizations donated K 40 million to the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) at the Ministry of Health and Sports in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe, in his capacity as Secretary (2) of the committee, received K35 million donated by Myanmar traditional

cheroot producers association, and K 5 million provided by the Mann Aung Nyein Foundation.

The donors said they donated cash after they had listened to the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's televised speech on latest situation of Covid19.

The Union Minister also expressed thanks to the donors for their contribution. —MNA

*(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe receives K 5 million donated by a well-wisher at the Ministry of Health and Sports in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



### NEWS RELEASE ON COVID-19

8:15 P.M., 25-3-2020

1. Global status on COVID-19

(Statistics provided by WHO at 11:30 pm, local standard time, on 24-3-2020)

- Number of infected countries -195
- Number of global positive lab results -375,493
- Number of global deaths -16,362
- Global mortality rate -4.4%

Global status-

No.	Country	From beginning to current period	
		Number of positive cases	Total deaths
(၁)	China	81,767	3,283
(၂)	Italy	64,927	6,077
(၃)	USA	42,164	471
(၄)	Spain	33,089	2,181
(၅)	Germany	29,212	126
(၆)	Iran	24,811	1,934
(၇)	France	19,615	860
(၈)	South Korea	9,037	120
(၉)	Switzerland	8,015	66
(၁၀)	United Kingdom	6,654	335

Note: The list shows nations with the highest infection rate

16 countries with number of positive cases between 1,000 to 6,500: The Netherlands, Austria, Belgium, Norway, Australia, Portugal, Sweden, Brazil, Turkey, Malaysia, Denmark, Canada, Israel, Czech Republic, Japan and Ireland.

15 countries with number of positive cases from 500 to 1,000: Pakistan, Luxembourg, Thailand, Ecuador, Saudi Arabia, Poland, Chile, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Indonesia, Romania, India, Singapore and Qatar.

A total of 177 nations and regions infected with local transmission.

2. COVID-19 status in Myanmar as of 12 p.m. 25-3-2020:

275 suspected patients under quarantine:

- Patients tested negative for COVID-19 -212
- Lab tests still in progress -61

3. COVID-19 status in Myanmar's

Number of positive cases - 3 (2 hospital quarantine, 1 facility quarantine)  
All three infected are imported cases. Two of them are quarantined at Waibargi Specialist Hospital, Yangon, and the other is quarantined at Tiddim Township General Hospital, Chin State.

4. There 504 people under quarantine in hospitals, hotels and facilities across the states/regions from 31-1-2020 to 25-3-2020.

(Hospital Quarantine)

- Kandaw Nadi Hospital, Mandalay - 67
- Waibargi Specialist Hospital - 59
- Hospitals in other states/regions - 34
- Hotel Quarantine - 158
- Facility Quarantine - 186

5. The Ministry of Health and Sports is continuing to examine for people who have been in close contact with patients that have COVID-19 and quarantining them. The ministry is administering health guidelines, disseminating authentic news and urges the public to closely follow ministry-issued health guidelines.

—Ministry of Health and Sports

## Update on COVID-19 surveillance 8 pm, 25-3-2020

1. The Ministry of Health and Sports is conducting surveillance for COVID-19 at international entry/exit gates, in hospitals, communities and in collaboration with private hospitals.

2. There are 38 new patients under surveillance between 24-3-2020 to 25-3-2020.

3. A total of 59 patients are under hospital quarantines as of 8 p.m., 25-3-2020, and the results of their lab tests will be made public in real time.

4. Two family members who have been in close contact with the 26-year-old male in Insein Township, Yangon Region, who tested positive for COVID-19 have been quarantined in the hospital. The other 9 people who have been in close contact are quarantined in their home.

-The patient who tested positive was on the UB 701 flight from Bangkok to Yangon on 21-3-2020 and was seated in aisle 3. Passengers who were in aisles 1 to 6 are strongly advised to contact their nearest health departments and self-quarantine themselves in their homes.

- The ministry strongly urges people who have returned from countries with COVID-19 cases to restrict themselves to their homes and adhere to the health guidelines issued by MoHS. <https://mohs.gov.mm/Main/content/publication/2019-ncov>

5. Currently, 195 countries are infected with COVID-19 and the public is urged to adhere to the health guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports.

## Correction

Please read "I wish to inform that the government has no plans to shut down necessary public services, markets or..." instead of "I wish to inform that the government has ...." in the first sentence of the third paragraph of the translated speech the State Counsellor on Page 3 of the 25 March issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar. The GNLM regrets the error.—Ed

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# Tripartite discussions focus on lessening Covid-19 impacts

THE Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population held a meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with representatives of employees and employers to find solutions how to reduce the impacts of Covid-19 pandemic.

At the meeting, Union Minister U Thein Swe discussed ongoing and possible impacts, including closures of industries due to shortage of raw materials and lack of commodity supply orders, reduction of workforce, disputes between employers and employees, labour protests, unemployment and possible consequences from suspension of overseas employment programmes.

He also recognized the

problems of factories which are struggling for regular operating, while the workers are concerned about unemployment.

The Union Minister advised all the stakeholders to discuss the best way to overcome challenges and to conduct awareness programmes at the factories and workshops.

The government will set up the K100-billion-loan programme to help employers and business firms in garment industries, hotel sector and small-scaled enterprises.

Those present at the meeting made their suggestions on solving the problems caused by the Covid-19.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister U Thein Swe attends the meeting with representatives of employees and employers in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

# National-level committee to implement resettlement, closures of IDP camps



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye addresses coordination meeting on National-level Committee for Resettlement and Closures of IDP Camps in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE National-level Committee for Resettlement and Closures of IDP Camps held its first coordination meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday to implement its strategies.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, in his capacity as the committee's chairman, explained the tasks of committee which was formed on 25 February 2020.

The committee will work for closures of 128 IDP camps in Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Rakhine states due to armed

conflicts, report its activities to the Union government every six months and to the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre.

Strategies for the committee were developed with the help of Swiss Professor Mr Walter Kaelin to meet international norms. A set of guidelines was also designed to support the resettlement process.

Officials from the governments of Kachin, Rakhine, Shan and Kayin states presented their implementation plans.

The meeting discussed data collection, preparing re-

ports, budget requirements, media relations, information to foreign missions, UN agencies and international communities, and the sub-national committees agreed to submit their quarterly reports to the national committee.

The Union Minister emphasized the needs to follow instructions of the Ministry of Health and Sports in measures related to prevention, control and treatments of Covid-19.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

# MP to issue new commemorative stamps on Armed Forces day

MYANMAR Post (MP) under the Ministry of Transport and Communications will issue three new special postage stamps worth K500, K200 and K100 each to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Armed Forces Day. The special stamps will go on sale at all post offices in States and Regions at 9:30 am on 27 March 2020 (4<sup>th</sup> Waxing of

Tagu 1381 ME).

As a special programme, the Central Post Office of Nay Pyi Taw, the Yangon General Post Office, and the Mandalay General Post Office will stamp the postmark and date on the commemorative stamps and First Day Covers purchased.

—MNA

(Translated by TTN)





# MoE discusses 32 mln euro disbursement of EU



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi discusses with EU Ambassador Mr Kristian Schmidt on Education Sector Reform Contract Policy Dialogue in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 March. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Ministry of Education and the European Union held the Education Sector Reform Contract Policy Dialogue on 23 March for the EU's disbursement of 32 million euro (K51 billion) in support of education reform in Myanmar. Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi and EU Ambassador

Mr Kristian Schmidt presided over the meeting held at the headquarters of MoE in Nay Pyi Taw, with the support of MyGov-ernance Project.

The Union Minister said that his office will cooperate with the EU in promoting equal access to education for all the children in Myanmar while the ministry is implementing free education system and all-inclusive education.

The MoE is supplying the volunteer teachers with stipend and ferry buses, and constructing school buildings with the assistance of international partner organizations.

He added that the ministry has formed a committee with relevant departments to create opportunities of basic educa-

tion for the domestic migrant children in Phakant Township, Kachin State.

The Union Minister expressed thanks to the EU, and reaffirmed future cooperation between the ministry and the EU in vocational education and training, promotion of ethnic languages and literatures and education reform programmes.

EU Ambassador Mr Kristian Schmidt also congratulated the government's to improve the access and the quality of education for all children despite many challenges in Myanmar.

This is the second payment of EU from a total of 221 million euro (K382 billion) committed to support education to Myanmar. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

# MIC's performances in first two months of 2020

The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) is permitting local and foreign investments in accordance with the Myanmar Investment Law.

The MIC permitted a total of US\$925.684 million worth of foreign investments including increased investments in January 2020, and \$545.859 million of foreign investments including increased investments in February.

The following are foreign investments permitted during January and February 2020:

Sr	Sector	January		February	
		No. of investment	Capital US\$ (million)	No. of investment	Capital US\$ (million)
1.	Transportation and communication sector	-	145.000*	-	-
2.	Industrial sector	27	94.369	21	179.487
3.	Electricity sector	3	487.685	-	-
4.	Housing and building construction sector	2	161.860*	-	-
5.	Hotel and tourism sector	-	27.140*	1	1.066
6.	Animal husbandry and fishery sector	1	8.950	-	-
7.	Other service sector	1	0.500	4	5.486
8.	Oil and Gas sector	-	-	-	352.820*
9.	Industrial zone construction sector	-	-	-	7.000*
Total		34	925.684	26	545.859

\* Increased investments were included in the total amount.

The MIC permitted a total of K109, 822.947 million worth of local investments including increased investments in January 2020, and K 100,461.071 million worth of local investments including increased investments in February 2020.

The following are local investments permitted during January and February:

Sr	Sector	January		February	
		No. of investment	Capital Kyat (million)	No. of investment	Capital Kyat (million)
1.	Housing and building construction sector	1	4,120.000	-	-
2.	Industrial sector	4	21,989.890*	6	35,741.624*
3.	Hotels and tourism sector	5	62194.757	2	47,985.000
4.	Mining sector	-	-	1	800.000
5.	Electricity sector	-	-	1	580.000
6.	Other service sector	3	21,518.300*	4	10,134.447
Total		13	109,822.947	14	100,461.071

\* Increased investments were included in the total amount.

The following are the jobs created in January and February 2020 by the foreign investments:

Sr	Sector	Number of jobs created for local workers	
		January	February
1.	Animal husbandry and fisheries sector	57	-
2.	Industrial sector	15,819*	20,429*
3.	Electricity sector	327	-
4.	Hotel and tourism sector	-	24
5.	Construction Sector	930	-
6.	Housing and building sector	569	-
7.	Other service sector	10	365
Total		17712	20,818

\* Increased number of employees was included in the total number.

The following are the jobs created in January and February 2020 by the local investments:

Sr	Sector	Number of jobs created for local workers	
		January	February
1.	Electricity sector	-	55
2.	Mining sector	-	55
3.	Industrial sector	453	1,256
4.	Hotel and tourism sector	963	279
5.	Housing and building construction sector	70	-
6.	Other service sector	364	211
Total		1,850	1,856

MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

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## RTAD suspends its operation to avert Covid-19 danger

By Nyein Nyein

"ROAD TRANSPORT Administration Department (RTAD) has suspended its operation in line with the directive by Yangon Region government to avoid public gatherings so as to prevent the Covid-19 infection starting from 25 March, said RTAD Director U Thein Htut.

The branch offices in Ywar Thar Gyi, Northern district, eastern district, western dis-

trict and southern district have all temporarily stopped the processes such as the extension of vehicle licences and changing of owners' names until further notice, he added.

"As you see, when we open the office there are many people gathering. If some would be infected with Covid-19, it would transmit to many other people. So, we have paused to avert the Covid-19 danger. Now, people are also prohibited from eat-

ing in Yangon restaurants. The regional government urged for take-away food to stay and eat at home. We will announce the dates to do the processes again," he said.

RTAD is aimed at ensuring the road safety and so the vehicles will be inspected whether they are abiding by the road safety rules. Registration will be granted only to those vehicles that follow rules and regulations. And the driver's

licence will also be issued in accordance with the law.

Negotiations with the related departments will be made to collect the charges under the government laws, rules and regulations.

At present, there are over 1.1 million vehicles registered across the country, and more than 540,000 vehicles are registered in Yangon region.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

## TVT provides free delivery service to elderly, sick in Mandalay

TOGETHER Volunteer Team (TVT), which is formed with the local youth from Mandalay, is providing free delivery service to Mandalay residents who are now difficult to buy the staple foods such as rice, oil, salt, dried goods, and medicines, on account of the recent outbreak of Covid-19, according to TVT.

TVT volunteer Ko Aye Chan Ko Ko said, "TVT will buy the ordered items and deliver them free starting from 24 March. Our team is volunteering this to avoid panic buying after the Ministry of Health and Sports has made an announcement on 23 March midnight that two Covid-19 positive patients were found in Myanmar. Also, the team is providing its services to those who are difficult to go outside and buy the foodstuff and medicines in this situation because they are elderly and sick."

"We heard that people are panic-buying at the supermarkets in the Yangon region after authorities announced that the Covid-19 was found in Tiddim and Yangon the day before yesterday. So, the supermarkets are running out of stock. If Mandalay would face the same situation, there would be difficulties for those who are elderly and sick. In this case, our team will buy the foodstuff they need to order and send them to their home with free delivery. We will give priority to those who are really difficult to go outside. We assume that those who contact us through phone or Internet are really difficult to go outside. We don't own private cars because we are freshly graduated youths. We have to carry those ordered items by our motorbikes as much as we can," he added.

The team started to operate



Together Volunteer Team is providing free delivery service. PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MAN SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)

with six members. On the first day of their operation, ten people ordered to send rice, oil, salt, medicines, and masks. At present, nearly 100 people have requested to join us in our team.

"I found this TVT team on social Website and have ordered to buy rice, oil, and liquid soap for us. I am the only one in my house because my husband has gone on

a business trip. So, I like to thank them. I have to pay the money as written in the voucher and there is no need to pay other charges. I really appreciate them," said Daw Wah Wah from Chanmyathazi Township, who orders the items to TVT via phone. —Min Htet Aung (Man Sub-printing house)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

## MTE halts 21 elephant camps in States/Regions amid Covid-19

"MYANMA Timber Enterprise (MTE) has closed 21 elephant camps across the states and regions to respond to the out-

break and spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019," said Deputy Manager U Myo Min Ko of Palin Kanthayar Elephant Camp, in Nyaung-U Township, Mandalay Region.

The Myanmar Timber Enterprise under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has temporarily closed its elephant camps and elephant-based tourism businesses across the states and regions starting from 25 March, according to the elephant camps in-charges.

Deputy Manager U Kyaw Kyaw Tun of Hmaw Yaw Gyi Elephant Camp in Kyauktaga township, Bago Region further

explained that MTE has opened the elephant camps in the states and regions with an aim to conserve the elephants, to boost the economy and job opportunities of the locals who rely upon the elephant-based tourism, to enable the people to gain knowledge on the nature and behaviour of the elephants, to make them love the elephants, and to create places for recreation and relaxation for the domestic and foreign travellers.

Although the elephant camps are closed to the visitors, the staff from the elephant camps are working as usual. —Ko Htein (Ngathayouk)

(Translated by Hay Mar)



File: children and their families on elephant trek near Nyaung-U Township. PHOTO: KO HTEIN (NGATHAYOUK)



## Taninthayi Tourism Committee grants licence for hotel worth K800 mln

TANINTHAYI Regional Tourism Committee has issued a licence for K800-million-worth hotel business, said Deputy Director U Win Thein of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

The hotel will be developed by a local investor on the Strand Road of Myeik town. The construction will start this year, he added.

Also, the committee has granted licences to three tourism companies at the second meeting of the committee this year, yet two companies surrendered the licences.

“These licences are relinquished not because of the fallout in tourism industry with Covid-19 negative impacts,” he also highlighted.

The committee has endorsed to extend the term of licences for tourism companies, hotels and tour guides at the meeting, the deputy director said.

Lately, Taninthayi Region has become a popular spot among tourists. Thailand eyes Taninthayi Region for investment. The region also has smooth transportation, according to the regional investment committee.



Taninthayi Regional Tourism Committee meeting in progress. PHOTO: DAWEI DISTRICT IPRD

The Hotels and Tourism Ministry and the regional tourism committee have granted licences to a total of 31 hotels with 21,142 rooms, and 11 guesthouses with 1,589 rooms. More than 80 local tourism businesses are providing service to local and foreign visitors, said U Hla Htwe, regional minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation at the launching of the 2019-2020 Myeik Archipelago

Tour Season.

Taninthayi Region hosted 338,938 visitors in 2016, 343,829 in 2017 and 358,732 in 2018, he said.

Taninthayi boasts the Myeik archipelago, which consists of more than 800 largely untouched islands. The Lampi Islands Marine National Park is eco-tourism site in the region. The visitors can enjoy water activities that are available at the national park like scuba-diving, swimming and sun-

bathing. They can also explore traditions and rituals of Salon people and enjoy the scenic beauty of mangrove ecosystems, coral reefs, birds and animals dwelling in the area.

Additionally, a Community-Based Tourism (CBT) site was created in Sanhlan village in Launglon Township in the region. The village has 3 lodges that can accommodate up to 20 visitors. The visitors can participate in

water activities like snorkeling, swimming, enjoying the panoramic view and also learn how to fish using traditional ways from local fishermen, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Earlier, the hotels and tourism sector was regulated by the Union government. With the enactment of the Myanmar Tourism Law 2018, the sector has been decentralized and gave more power to the region and state governments, said Naw Pan Thinzar Myo, Yangon Region Minister for Kayin Ethnic Affairs.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein is the chairman of the regional tourism committee, while Naw Pan Thinzar Myo is the deputy chairman. The committee includes officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Union of Myanmar Travel Association, and civil society organizations (CSOs) as members. —Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Manufacturing exports exceed \$4.63 bln as of 13 March

EXPORTS of finished industrial goods touched a high of US\$4.63 billion between 1 October and 13 March in the current fiscal year 2019-2020, an increase of \$577 million compared with the corresponding period of the previous financial year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

As per figures provided by the ministry, the exports of finished industrial goods totalled \$4.059 billion during the same period in the 2018-2019FY.

Additionally, the manufacturing sector has attracted foreign investments of \$432.74 million in the 2019-2020 FY, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in garment and textiles produced on the (CMP) Cutting, Making, and Packaging basis, and it contributes to the country's GDP to a certain extent.

The majority of the CMP enterprises import raw materials, mainly from China. Owing to the current negative impact of the coronavirus, these businesses have faced shortages of raw materials since February-end.

At present, some CMP garment factories have shut down on the rea-

son for the lack of raw materials due to the Covid-19 crisis, leaving thousands of workers unemployed. Even worse, some foreign entrepreneurs are also running away from their businesses. Those factories without official notification of closure will be inspected by a ground field inspection team. And, the factory operators can face legal actions under the Myanmar Investment Law (MIL) if they fail to comply with notification requirements for the closure of factories, said DICA Director-General U Thant Sin Lwin.

The labour-intensive enterprises are badly battered by the Covid-19, he added.

To deal with the shortage of raw materials for the CMP garment factories in Myanmar, the Ministry of Commerce, the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association and the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar, the China Enterprise Chamber of Commerce in Myanmar (CECCM) have been jointly importing raw materials through border trade channels and airlines.

About 50 trucks loaded with CMP raw materials are daily entering the country through Muse checkpoint. A cargo plane of raw materials from China's Quanzhou city arrived

in Myanmar on 17 March. These are part of the emergency supplies to 11 factories, said Director-General U Min Min of the Trade Department of the Commerce Ministry.

The CMP industry has emerged as very promising in the export sector. The value of CMP exports was just \$850 million in the 2015-2016 fiscal year, but it tripled within two years to reach \$2.5 billion in the 2017-2018FY. During the last fiscal year, incomes from garment exports were over \$1 billion higher than the previous fiscal year, according to the Ministry's data.

Since an outbreak like Covid-19 might happen in the future it is necessary to prepare for a sufficient supply of raw materials. The public and private sectors will cooperate in setting up the supply chain on our own sources, including weaving, knitting, dyeing, and sewing factories.

Japan is the largest market for Myanmar apparel, followed by the European Union.

The MGMA has more than 500 members, and garment factories in Myanmar, employing more than 500,000 workers. Investors prefer to invest in countries with inexpensive labour like Myanmar. —GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## uab to extend loan payback term up to 6 months

By Nyein Nyein

MANAGING Director-cum-CEO Mr Christopher Loh of uab Bank said, “We fully understand the financial constraints of the customers. To cope with the problems, all the stakeholders need to work together. We will explain the programmes to the bank's relationship managers and managers of bank branches. We will try to provide financial facilities to our customers in keeping up with the business climate.”

A uab Bank statement announced on 24 March that for financially affected customers in vulnerable circumstances due to Covid-19, UAB will extend loan payback term up to six months.

The uab Bank will offer debt relief programmes to reduce cash flow problems for a short term to the customers affected by the Covid-19, it stated.

The relief programmes include the revision of the terms; suspension of payback up to six months and other financial supports. Therefore, the customers can make enquiry through the managers of each branch. The uab is also providing financial service in accordance with the notifications released by the Central Bank of Myanmar.

“We like to encourage the customers to use e-banking transaction systems such as mobile banking, i-banking, credit card or debit card”, CEO Mr Christopher Loh added.

The uab Bank is a leading bank in Myanmar, established in 2010. It has expanded its network to over 78 branches in 47 townships across Myanmar. It provides a wide range of financial services including consumer banking, premier banking, SME banking, corporate banking, trade finance and treasury services.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



# Seek ways through negotiation for tackling COVID-19 impacts on labour sector

**G**LOBALLY, 2020 will be a very difficult year. The Coronavirus pandemic is currently impacting the global economy.

The spread of Coronavirus presents us with unknown operational and financial challenges. At the same time, there are concerns about sustained economic impacts.

The consequences of the global pandemic of the Coronavirus infection have forced some CMP (Cut-Make-Pack) garment factories with a high number of labourers, some hotel and tourism industries and some SMEs to lay off, reduce working hours and also shut down.

In this time of crisis, workers and employers are advised to focus on operating the businesses and to ensure the current job opportunities, without disputing rights and opportunities.

The situation can lead to disputes between employers and employees, protests, rising unemployed rate. It is uncertain how severely or for how long this will also affect our labour sector.

To lessen the consequences of the global pandemic, governmental departments concerned, employers and employees are advised to seek ways for tackling the crisis before the situation gets worst.

Some factories and industries, bearing the brunt of the Coronavirus pandemic, shut down and laid off their workers in Myanmar, but some new factories have come into operation since the beginning of 2020.

The CMP and SME employers do not want to lose their experienced workers (and their market), employees do not want to lose their

jobs, the Government does not want a national collapse – and international investors are looking for those who can survive this crisis.

The government has already pledged K100 billion loan with low interest rate to the industries with high labour including garment factories, hotels, and small and medium enterprises.

At the same time, it has been found that the consequences of the global pandemic has still not make our labour sector worse, with normal employment situation, so we should make efforts to main this current trajectory.

To keep this situation on the current growth trajectory, the authorities are obliged to create job opportunities as soon as possible.

In this time of crisis, workers and employers are advised to focus on operating the businesses and to ensure the current job opportunities, without disputing rights and opportunities.

Businesses should be flexible moving forward and track how coronavirus has affected their business on a regular basis.

The employers and employees are urged to seek ways for overcoming the current challenges through negotiations.

We need to be in this together and show some compassion during this very important time in our lives. We are confident that we can get through this together.

# One third of humanity under virus lockdown

## Government policies and the capacity for virus testing vary widely around the world, so the true extent of the pandemic is difficult to estimate.

**M**ORE than one billion Indians went into lockdown Wednesday, leaving a third of the planet now under orders to stay at home, as the United States vowed to spend \$2 trillion to counter the economic harm of the coronavirus.

Europe remains at the heart of the epidemic, with first Italy and now Spain's death toll overtaking that of China, while Britain's Prince Charles became the latest prominent figure to test positive for the COVID-19 disease.

Coronavirus cases are also spreading in the Middle East, where Iran's death toll topped 2,000 on Wednesday, and in Africa, where Mali joined all seven of its neighbours in declaring its first cases – two nationals who arrived home recently from France.

Government policies and the capacity for virus testing vary widely around the world, so the true extent of the pandemic is difficult to estimate, but more than 404,000 cases have been declared in 175 countries and territories since the epidemic first emerged in China in December.

What is in less doubt is the number of deaths, with more than 19,000 attributed to the new coronavirus strain since the outbreak began.

### 'Wartime level of investment'

The economic damage of the virus – and associated lockdowns – could also be devastating, with fears of a worldwide recession worse than the financial meltdown that occurred over a decade ago.

But financial markets soared as the US Senate and the White House agreed a stimulus package worth roughly 10 per cent of the entire American economy, an injection Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said represented a "wartime level of investment".

### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS Grace period for corporate tax payment

The Japanese government and the ruling parties are considering allowing a one-year grace period for corporate tax payment by small and midsize companies affected by fallout from the corona-



Deserted roads in New Delhi on the first day of a 21-day government-imposed nationwide lockdown. PHOTO: AFP

virus, sources close to the matter said Wednesday.

The planned measure to expand the already available grace system will be part of their economic package to be finalized next month aimed at mitigating the impact of the spreading virus.

### Prince Charles tested positive

Britain's Prince Charles has tested positive for COVID-19 and is showing mild symptoms, the Clarence House announced Wednesday.

The 71-year-old Prince of Wales displayed mild symptoms "but otherwise remains in good health," said a spokesman of Clarence House, the official residence of Charles and his wife Duchess of Cornwall Camilla who has tested negative.

### Asia-Pacific countries

To contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, Asia-Pacific countries have upgraded restrictions as the Philippines and New Zealand declared states of emergency, while Malaysia extended "movement control order."

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has declared a state of national emergency in the entire country as the number of infections jumped to 636, according to a new law released on Wednesday.

The law, which Duterte signed

on Tuesday night, empowers the president to tap all available state resources to halt the spread of COVID-19.

The Philippines recorded 84 new cases as of 4:00 pm local time on Wednesday, bringing the total to 636.

New Zealand also declared a state of emergency on Wednesday after 50 new COVID-19 cases were confirmed, taking the total to 205.

It will allow the director and local controllers, as needed, to provide for the conservation and supply of food, fuel and other essential supplies, regulate land, water and air traffic, close roads and public places, evacuate any premises including any public place and if necessary to exclude people or vehicles from any premises or places.

Malaysia is extending the "movement control order" that includes comprehensive restrictive measures for two more weeks till April 14, which are originally to end on March 31, Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin announced on Wednesday.

Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha announced on Wednesday an emergency decree, effective from March 26 until April 30, which provides stringent measures for the authorities to contain the pandemic.

Under emergency rule, the



Medical staff dressed in protective gear prepare to test people for COVID-19 at a drive-through centre at Vibhavadi Hospital in Bangkok. PHOTO: AFP

Bangkok and provincial governors may declare certain areas as well as border passes deemed at risk of COVID-19 infection off-limits to the people, and no gatherings are allowed anywhere until the end of April.

South Korea reported 100 more cases compared to 24 hours ago as of midnight Wednesday local time, raising the total to 9,137.

Of the new cases, 34 were imported from abroad. Six more deaths were confirmed, lifting the death toll to 126.

A total of 2,252 confirmed cases had been confirmed in Australia as of Wednesday morning, up 23 percent from 1,823 on Tuesday morning.

New South Wales (NSW) became the first of Australia's eight

states and territories to surpass 1,000 confirmed cases with 1,029.

The government has announced an international travel ban and stricter restriction on gatherings, warning against outdoor events of more than 10 people including funerals and weddings.

On Wednesday, the total number of COVID-19 cases in Japan stood at 1,277, with 66 new cases.

Of these cases, Tokyo reported 41 new infections, which was the highest daily tally for the city since the outbreak began.

In Pakistan, the total number of confirmed cases reached 1,000 on Wednesday while eight infected patients have died.

Pakistan's south Sindh province is the worst-hit area as 413 cases were confirmed, followed by 296 in eastern Punjab province.

The death toll of COVID-19 in Indonesia has climbed to 58 as of

rol pumps, grocery stores, milk booths, and online shopping are exempted.

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen said on Wednesday that two more French tourists were tested positive for the COVID-19, bringing the total number to 93.

The prime minister said that he is considering to put the country in a state of emergency.

Afghanistan reported the one death from the COVID-19, taking the death toll to two. To date, the country has confirmed 74 infections.

Bangladesh reported the country's fifth death related to the COVID-19.

The government has confirmed 39 cases so far, and no new cases were detected in the last 24 hours.

As a 31-year-old Fijian woman tested positive, the infections in Fiji have reached five.

Starting from Thursday, the main international airport of Fiji, the Nadi International airport will be officially shut down to all scheduled passenger travel while passenger travel to the outer islands will cease from Sunday.

Nepal on Wednesday confirmed the third infection, the Ministry of Health and Population said.

The Nepali government has launched stringent measures, including the week-long lockdown nationwide, closure of all border points, suspension of all international flights and closure of offices except the emergency ones.

Laos has detected a third confirmed COVID-19 case, the Lao official confirmed.

All of the close contacts have been quarantined in a hospital in Luang Prabang province.

Myanmar government is planning to provide prompt response to possible COVID-19 infection at internally displaced persons (IDP) camps in the country.

At present, Myanmar recorded three COVID-19 infection cases after the Health and Sports Ministry announced one more case detected in Yangon in early hours of Wednesday.

REFERENCES  
AFP; Kyodo; Xinhua News Updates

Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Office of the President  
Order 10/2020  
2<sup>nd</sup> Waxing of Tagu 1381 ME  
25 March 2020  
**Appointment of Deputy Minister**  
IN accordance with the provisions stated in article 234 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and section 17 of the Union Government Law, Major-General Soe Tint Naing of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) has been appointed as Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Home Affairs.  
*Sd/Win Myint*  
President  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Office of the President  
Notification 50/2020  
2<sup>nd</sup> Waxing of Tagu, 1381  
25 March 2020  
**Coming into force of the Insolvency Law**  
In accordance with the provisions stated in article 1 sub-section (b) of the Insolvency Law, this Law comes into force on 25 March 2020 (2<sup>nd</sup> Waxing of Tagu 1381 ME).  
*Sd/Win Myint*  
President  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

**Myanmar Daily Weather Report**  
(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2020)

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

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2020:** Weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy in Taninthayi Region, Kachin, Northern Shan and Chin 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 slight increase of day temperatures in Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Regions, Shan State.

**FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2020:** Generally fair weather.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2020:** Generally fair weather.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2020:** Generally fair weather.

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## Shwedagon Pagoda reduces pilgrimage hours to seven



Visitors receive screening at the entrance to Shwedagon Pagoda **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Shwedagon Pagoda reduced its opening hours to seven as part of precautionary measures against the Covid-19, according to the pagoda's board of trustees.

The pagoda will be opened from 9am to 4pm daily

starting from 25 March.

The numbers of people riding lift were also limited at the pagoda. Officials are checking the body temperature of individuals who visited the pagoda, donating masks and providing hand gels. Wash-

ing basins were also set up at the pagoda.

The pagoda is normally open to public about 18 hours daily from 4 am to 10 pm. **MNA**

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

## Myanmar migrant workers return from Thailand for five consecutive days

MYANMAR migrant workers returned home through the second Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge in Myawady for five consecutive days.

A team of authorities comprised of officials of administrative, health care and security sectors have been providing them with medical check ups

and transportation services in efforts to prevent the spread of Coronavirus infection. —Htien Lin Aung (IPRD)

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Myanmar migrant workers wait at the second Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge in Myawady for screening. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Factories in Thilawa SEZ continue operations

OVER 80 factories in Thilawa Special Economic Zone are operating as usual despite the Covid-19 pandemic, according to Dr Than Than Nwe, Secretary of the Thilawa SEZ Management Committee.

“Over 80 factories in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone are currently operating. With the factories running, their employees are working as usual. There are more than 12,000 permanent employees working in the Thilawa SEZ.” said Dr Than Than Nwe.

The Thilawa SEZ Management Committee said that though the factories in the SEZ are running as usual, they are strictly following the instructions issued by the Office of the

President, Ministry of Health and Sports, and Yangon Region Government.

The instructions include washing hands very often, staying at least three feet away from each other, and informing local health department if suspected Covid-19 patients are found, she added.

The Thilawa SEZ permitted a total of 113 businesses from over 20 countries. Out of them, more than 80 businesses are currently running.

In the Special Economic Zone, more than 20,000 workers including permanent employees and construction workers are working. —Nyunt Ko Ko

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



The entrance to the Thilawa SEZ. **PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG**

## Amyotha Hluttaw concludes 15<sup>th</sup> regular session

**FROM PAGE-2**

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr Tun Naing then explained that the ministry has already issued a mandate allowing private organizations to mix in 5 per cent and 10 per cent ratios of ethanol into diesel since 2009. He said as the mandate does not need to be issued again, the assembly should put the motion on record.

The motion's tabler, U Maung Maung Ohn, said he will accept the decision of the Hluttaw and the Speaker called for a secret ballot where 36 voted in favour, 94 voted against and 26 abstained. He announced the

motion as not approved.

Next, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker recounted the performance and results of the 15th regular session. During the 13 meetings from 27 January 2020 to 25 March 2020, 105 asterisk-marked questions were raised, 244 non-marked were raised. He then proceeded to recount the motions, bills and reports discussed and passed during the session.

The Speaker concluded his speech by urging the MPs to continue working for the benefit of their constituents and constituency when they return home.—Aung Ye Thwin

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



## Social media sees virus solidarity bloom in UK

LONDON — Help groups on social media are connecting people with those most in need during the coronavirus lockdown, fostering a community spirit often neglected in the capital's fast-paced life.

Londoner Stephanie Cheung, 31, is one of those chipping in, leaving a bag of groceries on the doorstep of a stranger in her neighbourhood after getting the call on Facebook.

Wearing gloves, Cheung retreated a few yards from the front door before calling the occupant — a woman in her thirties suffering from bronchitis — on WhatsApp.

To make sure she wasn't left out of pocket, Cheung was reimbursed directly through her Paypal account.

Many more people have found themselves in similar need over recent days, having been ordered



Social networks are helping volunteers carry out tasks such as shopping for the more vulnerable members of their community. **PHOTO: AFP**

to stay home if elderly, experiencing coronavirus symptoms or suffering from serious underlying health issues.

But with more than 400 deaths now recorded, Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday ordered the whole country into lockdown, except for essential shops and services.

Along with more than 7,000 other people, Cheung is a member of "Hackney Covid 19 Mutual Aid", in northeast London.

### Seismic shifts

Many other similar groups are flourishing on social networks, set up to help to solve problems posed by the pandemic, primarily to the elderly or

frail, on the city, neighbourhood and street level,

But the phenomenon has quickly outgrown its original mission, with teachers using the networks to advise on home-schooling, while a man with a heart condition and asthma put a call out — quickly answered — for masks so he could walk his dogs safely.— AFP ■

## Public contributions to the fund of National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19)

The government is increasing its momentum for measures against the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic. For the successful implementation of these measures, the following companies, organizations and individuals have contributed cash donations until 3:30 pm on 25 March 2020.

Donors	Amount (million kyats)
1. CEC of National League for Democracy	100.00
2. Rector Sayadaw Dr Nanda Mala Bhivamsa	10.00
3. National Disaster Management Committee	100.00
4. U Maung Weik (Sae Paing Development Limited)	300.00
5. CB Bank	100.00
6. Shwe Than Lwin Co., Ltd.	100.00
7. Myanmar C.P Livestock	50.00
8. Lay Khun Thu Foundation	16.80
9. U Ashok Kumar (Chairman), Ashro Myanmar Ltd.	15.00
10. Myanmar Padauk Foundation	10.00
11. Dr U Ko Ko and family	10.00
12. RIT (1983) Intake Friends Group	8.80
13. United Tyre Group	5.00
14. Access Spectrum	50.00
15. Myanmar traditional cheroot producers	35.00
16. Mahn Aung Nyein Foundation	5.00
17. Amyotha Hluttaw representatives	4.3
18. Pyithu Hluttaw representatives	8.58
19. Myanmar Motion Picture Organization	10.00
20. Forever Group Co., Ltd.	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>958.48</b>

Further donations of cash and hospital items / equipment will be published.

*National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19)*

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V TRANG AN 06

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TRANG AN 06 VOY. NO. (02/20) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-3-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT-3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES  
(SINGAPORE) PTE, LTD

Phone No: 2301928

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V KOTA HALUS VOY. NO. (KHLU 0120 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KOTA HALUS VOY. NO. (KHLU 0120 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-3-2020 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER  
LINES

Phone No: 2301185

## Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 1<sup>st</sup> (Wednesday) April 2020 "BANK HOLIDAY" under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (037N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (037N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-3-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMIT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CHERRY VOY. NO. (008 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CHERRY VOY. NO. (008 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-3-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY. NO. (2008 N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY. NO. (2008 N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-3-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185



# Huawei Claims No.1 Spot in European Patent Office Ranking 2019; Reaffirms its Leadership in Tech-innovation

NEW DELHI — Patents help establishing a strong market position, thereby reducing competition for a brand.

Furthermore, patent portfolios are also demonstrative of high level of technological capability, specialization and expertise of a company. In that light, in a yet another feat, Huawei Technologies claims the top spot in the European Patent Office (EPO) ranking for 2019.

In a recent report published by the EPO, Huawei has been ranked the top telecom company in Europe, with a maximum number of patents in 2019.

The company ranking reflects the growing importance of digital technologies and Huawei's leadership in the tech-innovation on a global scale.

The report recorded as many as 3,524 patent last year, by Huawei, fol-

lowed by other industry giants such as Samsung, LG, United Technologies and Siemens in the top five.

Two thirds of Huawei's applications were in the field of digital communications, which includes the next generation of wireless communications known as 5G and AI. Adding to the insights, the top 10 comprises four companies from Asia; four from Europe and two from the US. — ANI ■



FILE: Richard Yu, CEO of Huawei Consumer Business Group, introduces Huawei's Mate 30 Series to guests at a press conference in Munich, Germany, 19 September, 2019. PHOTO: XINHUA

## As virus leaves borders shut, European farmers sound alarm

BERLIN — Whether it's served with butter and ham, drowned in hollandaise sauce or topped with a fried egg, nothing says spring in Germany like asparagus.

But this year, the cherished vegetable may be a rare sight on dining tables as many of the foreign seasonal workers who would usually harvest the crop are unable to enter the country because of travel restrictions imposed over the coronavirus.

"The situation is very tense for us farmers," says Thomas Syring, who runs a farm in Beelitz, a town in the state of Brandenburg known for its cultivation of white asparagus.

Syring is just one of hundreds of farmers faced with the threat that his crops may be left rotting in the fields because of a serious shortage of workers.

On Wednesday, his problem grew bigger as Germany announced a complete ban on seasonal workers entering until further notice as part of measures to slow the spread of COVID-19. — AFP ■

### Notice for Change of distributor

We, DONGGUAN RUIDEFENG BIOTECHNOLOGY CO., LTD, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from MYANMAR WAI FUNG AGRICULTURE CO., LTD. to THIN THIN HMWE CO., LTD. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next (2) weeks.

Sr.	The Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active ingredient	Registration type	Registration no.	The New Distributor
1.	Myanmar Wai Fung Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Anthripe	Azoxystrobin 15% + Difenoconazole 20% SC	Provisional	P2019-4746	Thin Thin Hmwe Co., Ltd.

Address : THIN THIN HMWE CO., LTD. No. B-462, Muditar Housing 1, Thiamine, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar  
Tel : 09-455188188

### Notice for Change of distributor

We, SHAANXI BIOGEN CROP SCIENCE CO., LTD, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from MYANMAR WAI FUNG AGRICULTURE CO., LTD. to THIN THIN HMWE CO., LTD. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next (2) weeks.

Sr.	The Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active ingredient	Registration type	Registration no.	The New Distributor
1.	Myanmar Wai Fung Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Baysure	Difenoconazole 37% WG	Provisional	P2019-4785	Thin Thin Hmwe Co., Ltd.

Address : THIN THIN HMWE CO., LTD. No. B-462, Muditar Housing 1, Thiamine, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar  
Tel : 09-455188188

### Notice for Change of distributor

We, QINGDAO STAR CROPS SCIENCE CO., LTD, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from MYANMAR WAI FUNG AGRICULTURE CO., LTD. to THIN THIN HMWE CO., LTD. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next (2) weeks.

Sr.	The Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active ingredient	Registration type	Registration no.	The New Distributor
1.	Myanmar Wai Fung Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Baclean	Kasugamycin 2% SL	Provisional	P2019-4709	Thin Thin Hmwe Co., Ltd.

Address : THIN THIN HMWE CO., LTD. No. B-462, Muditar Housing 1, Thiamine, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar  
Tel : 09-455188188

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## Trump intends to reopen economy in 3 weeks despite fears for failure in containing COVID-19

WASHINGTON — US President Donald Trump said Tuesday that he wanted the United States to be “opened up” by Easter, which falls on 12 April this year, despite warnings that doing so risks failing to contain the escalating spread of the coronavirus.

“I would love to have the country opened up and raring to go by Easter,” Trump said during a Fox News town hall broadcast from the Rose Garden at the White House.

The president’s remarks came as 17 states issued “stay-at-home” orders, either statewide or partially, urging residents not to leave homes except for necessities such as going to grocery store, seeing the doctor and breathing fresh air. Those orders will all take effect



Congressional leaders say they are getting closer to delivering a major boost by passing a nearly \$2 trillion rescue package for businesses, ordinary Americans and hospitals reeling from the coronavirus shutdown. **PHOTO: AFP**

by Wednesday.

Trump said his administration will reevaluate its 15-day social distancing guidance aimed at slowing the spread of the virus, suggesting it will expire early next week.

“I guess by Monday or Tuesday, it’s about two weeks. We will assess at that time and give it more time if we need a little more time. We have to open this country up,” he said.

Vice President Mike Pence, who is leading the White House Coronavirus Task Force, said earlier during the town hall that the administration never considered a nationwide lockdown.—Xinhua

## S Korea’s export volume posts double-digit growth in February

SEOUL — South Korea’s export volume posted a double-digit growth in February due mainly to more business days, central bank data showed Wednesday.

In terms of volume, the outbound shipment expanded 11.4 per cent in February from a year earlier, after sliding 3.5 per cent in the previous month, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

It came as the Lunar New Year’s holiday moved to January this year from February last year, raising the number of working days last month.

Export volume for computer, electronic and

optical devices surged 30.5 per cent on stronger demand for chips used for data server and electronic devices.

Shipment of transport equipment declined 5 per cent as the COVID-19 outbreak across the globe caused production disruption in some of factories.

In terms of value, the export added 3.4 per cent in February from a year ago, marking the first rebound in 15 months.

Import volume rose 1.5 per cent in the month, and in terms of value, the import inched up 0.1 per cent, posting the first turnaround in 10 months.

—Xinhua

Trade Mark Ads Call Thin Thin May. 09251022355, 09974424848

### Notice for Change of distributor

We, SHENZHEN NOPOSITION AGROCHEMICALS CO., LTD, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from MYANMAR WAI FUNG AGRICULTURE CO., LTD. to SEINN LAE THWIN CO., LTD. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next (2) weeks.

Sr.	The Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active ingredient	Registration type	Registration no.	The New Distributor
1.	Myanmar Wai Fung Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Ah Hmyauk	Chlorpyrifos 50% + Cypermethrin 5% EC	Full	F2019-1933	Seinn Lae Thwin Co., Ltd.

Address : SEINN LAE THWIN CO., LTD. Corner of Merchant Street & 38th Street, No.(525), First Floor, Ward No.(6), Kyauktada T/S, Yangon  
Tel : 09-455188188

### Notice for Change of distributor

We, SHENZHEN NOPOSITION AGROCHEMICALS CO., LTD, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from MYANMAR WAI FUNG AGRICULTURE CO., LTD. to THIN THIN HMWE CO., LTD. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next (2) weeks.

Sr.	The Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active ingredient	Registration type	Registration no.	The New Distributor
1.	Myanmar Wai Fung Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Noposion Propiconazole 25% EC	Propiconazole 25% EC	Full	F2019-1923	Thin Thin Hmwe Co., Ltd.
2.		NPS Result	Chlorothalonil 40% SC	Provisional	P2018-4419	

Address : THIN THIN HMWE CO., LTD. No. B-462, Muditar Housing 1, Thiamine, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar  
Tel : 09-455188188

### TRADEMARK CAUTION

SUMITOMO OSAKA CEMENT CO., LTD. a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 6-28, Rokubancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 102-8465, Japan, is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:



Reg. No.4/3607/2020 (23.3.2020)

In respect of “Building Materials, not of metal; Cement; Coatings [Building Materials]; Construction Materials, not of metal; Grout; Materials for making and coating roads; Mortar for building; Non-metallic rigid pipes for building; Asphalt; Pitch and Bitumen; Non-metallic transportable buildings; Monuments, not of metal; As far as included in **International Class 19** and not in other classes”.

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Daw War War Lwin, H.G.P  
For SUMITOMO OSAKA CEMENT CO., LTD  
C/o WongPartnership Myanmar Ltd.  
Junction City Tower, #09-03  
Bogyoke Aung San Road,  
Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar

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Daw War War Lwin, H.G.P  
For SUMITOMO OSAKA CEMENT CO., LTD  
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Bogyoke Aung San Road,  
Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar

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Bogyoke Aung San Road,  
Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar



## India to lock down whole country to battle coronavirus



A man wears a mask as he looks outside a closed shop in Jaipur, India, on 21 March, 2020. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

NEW DELHI — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Tuesday his country will go on lockdown for 21 days starting Wednesday, restricting the movements of some 1.3 billion people in a bid to prevent further spread of the novel coronavirus.

“To save India and every Indian, there will be a total ban on venturing out of your homes,” Modi was quoted as saying by local media. The premier said on Twitter there was no need to panic and people should refrain from hoarding supplies, as all necessities including medicines would remain available through

government coordination.

With the lockdown decree, public transportation including international and domestic flights as well as trains will likely be suspended for the most part, affecting people’s movement significantly.

In an address to the nation, Modi said the latest measure is aimed at preventing further spread of the coronavirus in the world’s second-most populous country. People in capital New Delhi and other areas are already restricted from going out except to shop for daily necessities.—Kyodo News ■

### NEWS In BRIEF

#### Jaishankar, Chinese FM Wang discuss bilateral efforts to combat coronavirus crisis

NEW DELHI — External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday spoke to his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi and agreed to build further on bilateral efforts in combating the spread of coronavirus.

“Discussed with State Councilor and FM Wang Yi of China our working together in combating COVID19. Agreed to build further on our bilateral efforts in this domain. Exchanged views on the forthcoming #G20 Summit. Global challenges require global cooperation,” tweeted Jaishankar. According to the Health Ministry, the total number of positive coronavirus cases in the country has reached 492. The coronavirus which started in Wuhan, China in December 2019, has so far affected people in about 190 countries globally, with over 14,000 fatalities, among other things, it has led to nationwide lockdown in several countries, a shortage of supply of essential goods and has caused huge financial loss at the stock market.—ANI ■

## Malaysia extends national lockdown by 2 weeks to curb virus spread

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysian Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin announced Wednesday a two-week extension of a national lockdown as part of stepped-up measures to contain the coronavirus outbreak.

The “movement control order,” which requires people to stay home and was originally set to expire on 31 March, will now continue until 14 April.

“Just be mentally and physically prepared to stay at home for a reasonably longer period of time,” the premier said in a televised address. “I know you feel burdened but I don’t have a choice. I have to extend the movement control order for your own safety.”

Since the order went into effect on 18 March, the national tally of infections has more than

doubled from 790 to 1,796, the highest among Southeast Asian countries. The death toll from the virus, which was zero just 10 days ago, now stands at 19, according to the health authorities.

Exempted from the order are those working in essential services such as healthcare, transportation, banking, law enforcement and the food industry.

Overseas travel is banned. Offices and shopping malls are shut. Streets are quiet as the military has been deployed to assist the police in enforcing the lockdown.

With the Malaysian economy hit hard by the outbreak, Muhyiddin said Wednesday the government will announce another stimulus package on Friday to help ease the financial burden.—Kyodo News ■



A shopping complex in Malaysia's Johor Bahru is closed on 18 March, 2020, after the country imposed a two-week nationwide lockdown to curb the spread of the new coronavirus. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

#### China reports 47 new imported coronavirus cases, no local infections

BEIJING — China on Wednesday reported 47 cases of new-coronavirus infection in people arriving from abroad but no new instances of local transmission.

The National Health Commission said the new infections, detected in Beijing, Shanghai and 10 provinces in the 24 hours to the end of Tuesday, bring the tally for the mainland to 81,218. The total number of imported cases stands at 474. While the number of imported cases in Beijing, deemed the country's top priority and security risk, was down to five from 31 a day earlier, the number of new imported infections in Shanghai rose to 19, a daily record for the megalopolis. The commission also reported four more deaths, three in hardest-hit Hubei Province, taking the total number of fatalities on the mainland to 3,281.—Kyodo News ■

## At least 25 dead in attack on Sikh-Hindu temple in Kabul

KABUL — At least 25 people were killed Wednesday in an attack on a Sikh-Hindu temple in Afghanistan's capital where worshippers were offering morning prayers, the latest brutal assault claimed by the Islamic State group.

The incident highlights the country's ongoing security crisis and comes as the impoverished nation reels from a massive cut in US aid and struggles with a raging insurgency, political deadlock, and rising coronavirus cases.

Witness Raju Singh Sonny told AFP that a man dressed in

a police uniform burst into the temple in central Kabul, shot

a guard and started attacking worshippers in the main hall.



Security is woefully inadequate in the Afghan capital Kabul. PHOTO: AFP

“Several other attackers also entered the building and they were going from room to room shooting people,” Sonny said. Only a few thousand Sikhs and Hindus are estimated to reside in what is an overwhelmingly Muslim nation.

Interior ministry spokesman Tariq Arian said the assault started around 7:45 am (0315 GMT).

There were conflicting accounts about how many gunmen were involved, with security sources giving differing numbers between one and four.—AFP ■



# White House, Senate agree on \$2 trillion coronavirus rescue plan

WASHINGTON — The White House and Senate have reached agreement on a \$2 trillion stimulus package for the US economy and millions of Americans ravaged by the coronavirus crisis, top lawmakers said early Wednesday.

“At last, we have a deal,” Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said, hailing the massive “wartime level of investment into our nation” reached after five days of arduous and tense negotiations.

“We have a bipartisan agreement on the largest rescue package in American history,” top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer said shortly after McConnell spoke.

“So many people are being put out of work through no fault of their own. They don’t know what their future is going to be like, how are they going to pay the bills,” Schumer added.

“Well, we come to their rescue.”

The Senate and House of

Representatives still need to pass the legislation before sending it to President Donald Trump for his signature.

McConnell said the Senate will vote on the measure later Wednesday.

The deal aims to buttress the teetering economy by giving roughly \$2 trillion to health facilities, businesses and ordinary Americans buckling under the strain of the coronavirus pandemic.

It will put cash directly into



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell hailed the massive ‘wartime level of investment into our nation’. PHOTO: AFP

the hands of Americans hard hit by the crisis, provide grants to small businesses and hundreds

of billions of dollars in loans for larger corporations including airlines.—AFP ■



Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi was a commentator who worked for the Washington Post. PHOTO: AFP

# Turkey charges 20 Saudis over Khashoggi murder

ANKARA — Turkish prosecutors have charged 20 suspects including two former top aides to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman over the 2018 murder of Riyadh critic Jamal Khashoggi.

Prosecutors accuse Saudi Arabia’s deputy intelligence chief Ahmed al-Assiri and the royal court’s media czar Saud al-Qahtani of leading the operation against Khashoggi and giving orders to a Saudi hit team.

Khashoggi, 59, a commentator who wrote for The Washington Post, was killed after he entered the Saudi consulate on October 2, 2018, to obtain paperwork for his wedding to Turkish fiancée Hatice Cengiz.

The Saudi insider-turned-critic was strangled and his body cut into pieces by a 15-man Saudi squad inside the consulate, according to Turkish officials.

His remains have never been found despite repeated calls by Turkish officials for the Saudis to cooperate.

Riyadh insists he was killed

in a “rogue” operation.

But the CIA, a UN special envoy and Ankara have directly linked the Saudi crown prince to the killing, a charge the kingdom vehemently denies.

### ‘Monstrous killing’

Turkey carried out its own investigation after being unhappy with Saudi Arabia’s explanations.

The Istanbul prosecutor’s office said in a statement that Assiri and Qahtani were charged with “instigating the deliberate and monstrous killing, causing torment”.

The murder caused relations between Ankara and Riyadh — which have a longstanding geopolitical rivalry — to worsen.

Saudis, who enjoy investing and holidaying in Turkey, were urged to boycott the country last year. Turkey is a key backer of Qatar, especially after a Riyadh-led economic blockade began against the Gulf state in 2017, and is accused of supporting groups including the Muslim Brotherhood.—AFP ■

# Saudi King to chair G20 video summit on coronavirus tomorrow

RIYADH — Saudi Arabia’s King Salman will chair a video summit of leaders of G20 countries on Thursday with the aim to advance a coordinated global response to the coronavirus pandemic.

“The Saudi G20 Presidency has set the date of the extraordinary virtual Leaders’ Summit for Thursday, 26 March. King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud will chair the meeting to advance a coordinated global response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its human and economic implications,” the Kingdom said in a statement. India is a member nation of the G20 group. The other members include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India,

Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the UK, the US, and the European Union.

Leaders from G20 member countries will be joined by those from other coronavirus-affected nations, including Spain, Jordan, Singapore, and Switzerland.

Several international organisations — including the United Nations, World Bank, the World Health Organization and the World Trade Organization will take part.

Leaders from the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Financial Stability Board, the International Labour Organization, International Monetary

Fund, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development — will also be the part of the conference.

Regional organisations will be represented by: Viet Nam, the Chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); South Africa, the Chair of the African Union (AU); the United Arab Emirates, the Chair of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC); and Rwanda, the Chair of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).

Worldwide, the virus has infected more than 375,000 people and killed over 16,300, as per the latest data available on the World Health Organisation website. — ANI ■



Hundreds of expatriates returning from Egypt, Syria and Lebanon wait to be re-tested at a Kuwait City screening zone on 16 March 2020. PHOTO: AFP



## Football fans of MNL clubs conduct Covid-19 awareness campaigns



A football fan of Ayeyawady United helps two boys wash their hands as part of preventive measures against the Covid-19 in Patheingyi on 25 March. **PHOTO: MNL**

FOOTBALL fans of Myanmar National League Clubs conducted Covid-19 awareness campaigns in some townships yesterday as part of preventive measures against the deadly coronavirus, according to the league's social media.

Yangon United Football

Club's fans went to some busy places in Yangon carrying vinyl, and washing the people's hands with hand gels.

Fans of Yandarabon Football Club also conducted Covid-19 awareness campaign at pagodas and markets in Mandalay.

Ayeyawady United's fans conducted similar awareness campaign in Patheingyi.

Fans of Shan United FC also donated liquid hand soap, hand gel, and masks to Loi-kaw and Demawso townships in Kayah State.—Kyaw Khin

## SEABPF postpones 17<sup>th</sup> SEA Bodybuilding & Physique Sports event

THE 17<sup>th</sup> South East Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championships will be postponed to 24-29 September 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The South East Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Federation (SEABPF) announced the postponement of the championship on 19 March on its social media.

The federation previously planned to hold the championship in Vientiane, Laos from 11 to 16 June. The 16<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Body Building and Physique Sports Championship was held in Myanmar last year. —Kyaw Khin



Manchester City's Pep Guardiola played for and coached Barcelona. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Fury-Wilder rematch postponed by virus pandemic



Tyson Fury and Deontay Wilder's third heavyweight meeting has been postponed until October at the earliest. **PHOTO: AFP**

LOS ANGELES — The third fight in Tyson Fury and Deontay Wilder's heavyweight rivalry has been postponed as the coronavirus pandemic grips the United States and Britain, ESPN reported on Tuesday.

Britain's Fury, who dethroned unbeaten WBC champion Wilder with a dominant

victory in seven rounds last month, had been due to defend his crown in Las Vegas on July 18.

But promoter Bob Arum told ESPN on Tuesday the rematch had now been rescheduled until October at the earliest because of the COVID-19 outbreak which has brought the

sporting world to a standstill.

With travel restrictions affecting both the US and Britain, and Las Vegas' casinos shuttered, Arum said a postponement was the only sensible option.

"You could not guarantee the fighters that the event would take place on that date. We couldn't convince them or ourselves," Arum said.

"Where were they going to train for it? It just made no sense. You just have to take a step back. How are you going to sell tickets? "It's absolutely ridiculous to say the fight is on when the Brits can't even get there." The Nevada State Athletic Commission has also banned all combat sports in the state, adding another complication.

"Everybody has to take a step back. Boxing is not isolated," Arum said. "It's part of what's happening in the world. So possibly the fight will be in early October."—AFP ■

## Guardiola donates one million euros to fight coronavirus in Spain

MADRID — Manchester City coach Pep Guardiola has donated one million euros (US\$1.08 million) to help buy medical supplies for the fight against the coronavirus pandemic in his native Spain.

The former FC Barcelona boss gave the money to the Medical College of Barcelona to buy "medical equipment that is currently lacking in health centres in Catalonia," the body said in a statement. His donation will also be used to produce ventilators to treat patients and protective gear for healthcare workers in Guardiola's northeastern region of Spain.

Meanwhile Barcelona's

Hospital Clinic said it had received a donation from FC Barcelona captain Lionel Messi to help it fight the virus.

"Thank you Leo, for your support and commitment," the hospital added in a tweet.

While the hospital did not say how much money the player donated, Catalan sports daily Mundo Deportivo said it was one million euros. With the pandemic spreading across the world, Spain has been one of the worst-hit countries, logging the third highest number of deaths with the latest toll standing at 2,696, and the total number of infections nearing 40,000.—AFP ■