

PARLIAMENT

Pyithu Hluttaw holds second day meeting with questions to MoE, MoEE

PAGE-2

PARLIAMENT

Amyotha Hluttaw MPs raise queries to Union ministries on second day meeting

PAGE-2

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VII, No. 34, 14th Waning of Kasone 1382 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Wednesday, 20 May 2020

President U Win Myint, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi send congratulatory messages on 45th Anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and ROK

U Win Myint, President and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, exchanged congratulatory messages with Mr. Moon Jae-in, President of the Republic of Korea, respectively, on the occasion of the 45th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Korea which falls on 19 May 2020.

State Counsellor discusses schools reopening with stakeholders in education sector amid COVID-19



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds a video conference on reopening of schools with relevant persons in education sector. PHOTO: MNA

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in her capacity as Chairperson of the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) held a video conference about reopening of schools amid the COVID-19 pandemic with relevant persons in the education sector yesterday.

The video conference from the Presidential Palace in Nay

Pyi Taw was joined by Director-General U Ko Lay Win from the Department of Basic Education under the Ministry of Education, Daw Nilar Win, representative from the Myanmar Teachers' Federation, and U Kyaw Htay, representing parents of school children.

After some words of greeting by the State Counsellor, U Ko Lay Win discussed reopening of schools in other countries, step by step resumption of classes for

primary, middle and high school children, and coordination plans being made between the Ministry of Health and Sports, the Ministry of Education and parents to prevent the spread of the pandemic in schools.

Daw Nilar Win talked about preventive measures against the pandemic when schools are reopened, possible challenges in implementing directives for the COVID-19 due to shortages of teachers and facilities, and suit-

able school attendance plans in line with the needs of their school being adopted by teachers, parents and responsible officials. She also advised restarting only middle and high school levels in the initial phase, while KG and primary children should learn at home with the help of parents.

U Kyaw Htay presented about the worries and concerns of parents regarding the reopening of schools, the need for advance preparations for common mon-

soon diseases, the need for school ferries and individuals to follow COVID-19 directives, the need to upgrade the online teaching system for teachers in Yangon where the spread of the disease was high, and requirement of COVID-19 vaccine.

In response to discussions, the State Counsellor advised strict adherence to the directives for preventing the spread of the disease. She also spoke about

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

Union Minister participates in the 2nd World Economic Forum's APAC-RAG-COVID-19 Action Platform Videoconference

PAGE-3

NATIONAL

ROK donates COVID-19 test kits to Myanmar

PAGE-4

NATIONAL

95 Myanmar citizens arrive back from India by relief flight

PAGE-10

BUSINESS

Govt, CSOs trying to remedy loss of cabbage growers during pandemic

PAGE-11



PYITHU HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw holds second day meeting with questions to MoE, MoEE

PYITHU HLUTTAW representatives asked questions to the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Electricity and Energy on the second day of 16th regular session yesterday.

MP U Ar Moe Si from Khaunglanphu constituency asked about appointments of required teachers for the three primary schools in his constituency in 2019-2020 academic year.

Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun replied the appointments of teachers transferred from other areas and new teachers for these schools in the 2020-2021 academic year.

MP Dr Aung Naing from Thabeikkyin constituency asked about opening a government technical high school. The deputy minister replied that the Department of Technical, Vocational Education and Training Department prioritizes new school plan at the district cities and it is not possible to set up such school in this constituency.



Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun. PHOTO: MNA



MP U Ar Moe Si. PHOTO: MNA

MP U Stephen from Kengtung constituency asked about power supplies from national grid for Kengtung Township and Mongpyin Township. Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Khin Maung Win replied that Mongpyin and its nearby 15 village and Kengtung and nearby 55 villages will have access to electricity from national grid after constructing Namhsan-Mongpyin-Kengtung power line.

MP Daw Ni Ni May Myint from Taungup constituency asked about requirement of new building for middle school in Natmaw village of her constituency; MP U Moe Shwe from Putao constituency asked upgrade of middle school into a high school in his constituency in 2019-2020 academic year.

Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun replied the questions.

MP U Sai Tun Aye from Mongshu constituency asked about operation of coal-fired power plant in Tikyit area of Pinlaung Township in line with existing law, regulations and



Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win. PHOTO: MNA



MP Daw Ni Ni May Myint. PHOTO: MNA

directives. He also raised a question to review the three-year permit for this plant; MP U Khin Cho from Hlaingbwe constituency about renegotiating the contract for transfer period of a hydropower project being operated under BOT system to the government; MP U Nay Myo Htet from Kyaukta-da constituency raised a query about completion of LNG plant projects which are being implemented by tender system; MP U Nay Htet Win from Singbaungwe constituency asked for immediate solutions on the delay of electrification in villages under the National Electrification Programme.

Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win answered these questions.

Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo submitted the Direct Sale Bill and Bill Committee Member U Zaw Win read out the report on this bill.

The 3rd day of Pyithu Hluttaw meeting will be held on 20 May.—Aye Aye Thant

(Translated by Aung Khin)

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw MPs raise queries to Union ministries on second day meeting

THE Amyotha Hluttaw convened its second day meeting of 16th regular session yesterday.

MP U Kyaw Than from Kayah State constituency 8 asked for completion of warehouse (including office) at the Disaster Management Department in Bawlakhe district with the additional budget for 2019-2020 financial year.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung replied that the construction project could be finalized in this financial year if the budget is approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

MP U Bwe Khane from Chin State constituency 3 asked about construction of a two-storey RC building for police members in Hnaring Town of Thantlang Township of Chin State.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Soe Tint Naing replied that budget will be shared for this project and more buildings will be constructed at that police station.

MP U Hla Oo from Sagaing Region constituency 4 asked about removal of a prison from the business hub of Monywa



Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung. PHOTO: MNA



MP U Kyaw Than. PHOTO: MNA

Township the Tharzi village.

Maj-Gen Soe Tint Naing also answered this correction facility will be used as a jail although a new prison has been built at the designated area.

MP U Zaw Hein from Taninthayi constituency 7 asked arrests of linking criminals and their movable and immovable property, and called for effective legal actions against those who neglected to file lawsuit against the linking criminals.

Maj-Gen Soe Tint Naing replied legal actions against both of these persons.

MP Dr Kyaw Ngwe from Magway Region constituency 10 asked for upgrade of wooden bridge into a concrete bridge by the Union fund on road section between Pakhangyi and Pakhangal of Yesagy Township in his constituency.

Deputy Minister for construction Dr Kyaw Lin replied the upgrade of bridge will be done on the basis of receiving budget in 2020-2021 FY.

MP U Kyaw Kyaw Win from Rakhine State constituency 8 asked about upgrade of wooden bridge of a concrete bridge in



Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Lin. PHOTO: MNA



MP Daw Htu May. PHOTO: MNA

Thayagong village of Maungta Township.

The Deputy Minister also replied the project will be implemented on the basis of receiving budget in the upcoming fiscal year.

MP Daw Htu May from Rakhine State constituency 11 asked about upgrade of a road section on Kyaukchaung-Kyauknimaw in Yanbye Township, and possible legal action against the company which has been contracted for the upgrade. MP U San Myint from Ayeyawady constituency 3 raised queries about construction of a concrete RC bridge that links the two villages of Yekyi Township and Kyonpyaw Townships. Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Lin replied to these questions. Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Daw Nwe Nwe Aung read out the report of her committee to discuss the Law Protecting Privacy and Security of Citizen amended by the Pyithu Hluttaw to be able to discuss at the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The 3rd day of second Amyotha Hluttaw will be organized on 20 May.—Aung Ye Thwin

(Translated by Aung Khin)

“People are the key”

State Counsellor exchanges ideas about reopening of schools with stakeholders in education sector amid COVID-19

FROM PAGE-1

the need for teachers to be ready before reopening of schools and also the need for teachers, parents and school ferry operators to understand and abide by the COVID directives.

In her concluding remarks, the State Counsellor assured that the Union Government would take into serious consideration the views of the Ministry of Education, teachers and parents and after taking into careful consideration at which level schools should be reopened, adopt the most pragmatic method. She added that classrooms would be resumed on a trial basis and that at the present moment it was not yet clear which approach would be successful.

She further stated among the countries that they have studied, Vietnam was the most impressive country in addressing COVID-19 crisis as it could take effective measures and that Vietnam's experience has been studied; schools have also been reopened in Vietnam; both countries share the same situation, and that the situation in developed countries and the situation in Myanmar was very different; because of this difference, it would not be practical to calculate what would happen in Myanmar based on observations of what had happened in those countries. Since the situation in Vietnam and Myanmar was very similar, there was ample time to



State Counsellor discusses school reopening plan with stakeholders in education sector on a video conference. **PHOTP: MNA**

study Vietnam's experience.

The State Counsellor added that during the COVID period, teachers would be given training about teaching methods; teachers and parents should be given awareness training on how best to cooperate for the education of children during this COVID period; that they also needed to give pragmatic suggestions to solve the problems; that it would be possible to know about the concerns of parents only if they gave advice and participated in discussions such as this one; that is was not enough just to present concerns, she wanted to hear practical solutions to the problems; for example, the idea presented by the teacher that it would be possible to reopen the higher-level classes although

there was a concern for the lower-level classes. She said this type of practical advice should be given. Only then would they be able to arrive at a decision.

The State Counsellor emphasized that the education of a country should not be stopped; children might lose their enthusiasm for education when they are away from classrooms for a long time; U Ko Lay Win shared his experiences on this; long-term closures of classrooms would have negative impacts on education; being too hasty with a shortcut in teaching could not generate well-educated persons; just by having a degree does not mean a person is educated, the type of education system she had in mind was not just to churn out degrees; the education must be

able to benefit the individual, the community, the country and the whole world. She said this was the type of education system they wanted to give to the country.

She also said that the COVID-19 experience should be regarded as a learning experience for all; it was a learning experience for the Ministry of Education, parents, and teachers; it was not only the children who need to learn, all of them were learning; with respect to COVID-19, every day was different, the situation was changing every day; decisions had to be made depending on the way things developed; for some situations, there was no advance thinking, in fact, it was not possible to do so; the unexpected thing happened, that in essence could be called wisdom. She

added, wisdom was the ability to make a correct assessment of a particular situation and to decide upon the best course of action.

She ended the discussion by saying that at this time, everyone was trying to understand and make a correct assessment of the COVID-19 situation; it was also a time when everyone was trying to decide on the best course of action based on this assessment. That was why she wanted to thank all three individuals who participated in the discussions. She said by having this type of discussion, she hoped that all citizens would gain more knowledge not only about COVID-19 but also other issues and that they would all have good health and well-being. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Myaing)

Union Minister participates in the 2nd World Economic Forum's APAC-RAG-COVID-19 Action Platform Videoconference

UNION MINISTER for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, yesterday participated in the second meeting of the Regional Action Group for Asia-Pacific (APAC-RAG) - COVID-19 Action Platform, facilitated by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

The Union Minister referred to the critical role played by supply chains in ensuring that essential medical equipment makes its way into the capable hands of frontline health workers while recalling that Myanmar had joined

hands with the international community in issuing a joint ministerial statement pledging to ensure supply chain connectivity, and to guarding against restrictive measures that would threaten access to essential goods, including medical supplies.

Participants also exchanged views regarding COVID-19's impact, including speeding up the region's transition into the 4th Industrial Revolution. The Union Minister drew attention to innovations emerging from Myanmar, including seeing My-



Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun joins meeting on Regional Action Group for Asia-Pacific (APAC-RAG) - COVID-19 Action Platform. **PHOTO: MNA**

anmar's young innovators deploy robot technology to deliver food and medicines to those in quarantine, and the use of IT to monitor COVID-19's spread, and the effectiveness of movement

restriction orders.

The WEF Action Platform offers an action-oriented dialogue tool used by senior decision-makers to exchange perspectives and share insights

regarding critical issues arising from the COVID-19 crisis and to strengthen regional resilience, develop coordinated responses, and enhance public-private cooperation.—MNA

ROK donates COVID-19 test kits to Myanmar

THE Republic of Korea government presented COVID-19 test kits to Myanmar yesterday.

Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe received the donation items at his office in Nay Pyi Taw.

ROK Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lee Sang-hwa explained the donation as bilateral relations between the two countries become stronger after the official visit of their president to Myanmar last year and their commitment to foster this relation.

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe expressed thanks for the donation.

Ambassador Mr Lee Sang-hwa represented for the Korean government, KOICA Myanmar Chief Representative Mr Lee Youn-Soo for the KOICA Myanmar and a representative presented the donations of test kits worth of US\$ 50,000 from the ROK government, RNA Extraction kits worth of \$500,000 from the KOICA Myanmar and 15,000 sets of viral



Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe receives the donation items for COVID-19 from ROK. PHOTO: MNA

transport media worth of \$52,500 from the Hyundai Engineering and Constructions Co.Ltd.

The Union Minister also received donation items of local well-wishers in the afternoon. At the ceremony, Myanmar monks studying in India presented K10 million, followed by contributions of people from social network K20.8 million, batch 7/2016

of officer management course at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar) K1.1 million, former trainees of English language proficiency course group (1) of section (2) at 1/2018 K550,000 and Director Daw Khin Lay Nyo and staff members of Ministry of Health and Sports K130,000.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement No. 96/2020 12th Waning of Kasone, 1382 ME (18 May 2020)

Dr Aye Maung has no right to subsist as a Pyithu Hluttaw representative and his termination announcement from being elected Pyithu Hluttaw Representative.

1. Dr Aye Maung, who was elected as a Pyithu Hluttaw Representative in the by-election on 1 April 2017 for the Pyithu Hluttaw constituency of An Township in Rakhine State, was found still serving a prison term under the existing laws as the Sittway district court order made on 19 March 2019 under the Penal Code 122 (1) and the Penal Code 505 (b) was approved after his appeal was rejected at different levels of courts.
2. Therefore, Dr Aye Maung is no longer Pyithu Hluttaw representative and has been terminated from being elected Pyithu Hluttaw representative as per the Sittway district court order made on 19 March 2019 for his infringement of Section 11 (d) of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law.
3. Dr Aye Maung (holding NRC No. 13/NaKhaNa(N) 009999) who has been terminated from being Pyithu Hluttaw representative is announced not to contest as the candidate for the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw in the elections which will be held in future commencing from the date of declaration.

sd/Hla Thein
Chairman
Union Election Commission

COVID-19 cases in Myanmar reach 193 on 19 May 2020

THE Ministry of Health and Sports released an update report of COVID-19 in Myanmar yesterday, with 2 new cases and national tally reaching 193.

The five new cases are 1 from Taungdwingyi Town-

ship, Magway Region, 1 from Taungup Township of Rakhine State and 1 from Pantanaw Township of Ayeyawady Region, 1 from Taunggyi, Shan State (south), and 1 from South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region.

Out of 193 positive cases, 6 died, 104 persons have recovered and 91 persons have been discharged from the hospital.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

COVID-19 in Myanmar Updated at 8 pm, 19 May 2020

Total tally: 193

1. The National Health Laboratory (Yangon) tested 184 samples and the Department of Medical Research tested 159 samples in the first batch for COVID-19, totaling 343, on 19 May.

The result showed that two lab specimen tested positive for COVID-19.

2. There are a total of 193 confirmed cases in Myanmar up to 8:00 pm on 19 May.

3. Three old cases (Case no. 34, 122 and 157) were tested negative two consecutive times, bringing the total number of those who recovered to 104 on 19 May. Among them, 91 persons have been discharged from the hospital and they will be kept isolation at the designated places.

4. The total death toll remains at six.

5. There are a total of 67 new persons under investigation in the past 24 hours from 12 noon of 19 May.

COVID-19 Situation Report at 8 pm, 19 May 2020

	New	Total
Number of COVID-19 confirmed cases	2	193
Number of recovered persons	3	104
Number of Death	0	6

COVID-19 Laboratory results at 8 pm, 19 May 2020

Samples tested at the National Health Laboratory (Yangon) on 19 May	184
Samples tested at the Department of Medical Research on 19 May	159
COVID-19(SARS-CoV-2)	2

COVID-19 Situation Report at 8 pm, 19 May 2020

Case No	Age	Gender	Address	Contact with positive patient	Overseas travel history	Hospital for medical treatment	Lab result	Remark
192	34	Female	Taunggyi, Shan State (South)	No	Yes (UAE)	Weibargi Specialist Hospital	Positive	Held under quarantine (Hline Township)
193	60	Female	South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region	No	Yes (UAE)	Waibargi Specialist Hospital	Positive	Held under quarantine (Hline Township)

Ministry of Health and Sports

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release 19/2020
12th Waning of Kasone, 1382 ME
(18 May 2020)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

- In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
- With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 16 May 2020 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

Sr	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken
1	Information received of Tin Shwe who lives in No 2 Ward, Shinbwayyan Town, Kachin State, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 14 May 2020, police searched the house of Tin Shwe, 45, son of U Thaung Sein, who lives in No 2 Ward, Shinbwayyan Township, and arrested him and three others – Myint Maung, 50, son of U Shwe, who lives in No 1 Ward; Soe Thiha, 34, son of U Tun Win, who lives in No 3 Ward and Thant Zaw Oo, 36, son of U Myo Thant – together with heroin. A case has been opened against them with NaMaSa (Shinbwayyan)MaYa(pa)8/2020 under Section 16(c), 20 (a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Hla Wai who lives in Shwekyina Ward, Bhamo Township, Kachin State, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 16 May 2020, police searched the house of Hla Wai, 62, son of U Nat, who lives in Shwekyina Ward, Bhamo Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Bhamo)MaYa(pa)75/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in Thayaung Village, Phaungpyin Township, Sagaing Region.	On 12 May 2020, police searched the house of Soe Tint, 39, son of U Aung Thein, who lives in Thayaung Village, Phaungpyin Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Phaungpyin)MaYa(pa)96/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Tun Aung who lives in Wainginn Village, Indaw Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 13 May 2020, police searched a hut of Aung Win, 59, son of U Ohn Maung, who lives in Wainginn Village, Indaw Township and arrested him and Tun Aung, 41, son of U Phoe Chaw, who lives in the same village, together with stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Indaw)MaYa(pa)76/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in Aungthukha Ward, Kawthoung Tsp, Taninthayi Region.	Police have opened 16 cases and arrested 15 men and three women together with stimulant tablets, stimulant tablet crash powder and speciosa powder in the previous weeks. Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of Phyo Lwin Oo, 27, son of U Hla Kyaing, who lives in Aungthukha Ward, Kawthoung Township on 13 May 2020, and arrested him and Zaw Win Khat (a) Shwe Ohsi, 26, son of U Myo Myint, who lives in the same ward, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. Acting on an interrogation, police searched the house of Daw Yin Nwe Thein, 33, daughter of U Myint Thein, who lives in Thirimyaing Ward, selling the drugs to the two suspects. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Kawthoung)MaYa(pa)97/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in Innet Village, Thabeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region.	Police have opened six cases and arrested six men and three women together with stimulant tablets in the previous weeks. Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of Aung Kyaw Soe, 35, son of U Khin Maung Yin, who lives in Innet Village, Thabeikkyin Township on 10 May 2020, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Dagaung)MaYa(pa)12/2020 under Section 19(a) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in Kyauktan Ward, Mawlamyine Township, Mon State.	On 10 May 2020, police searched the house of Tha Htoo (a) Myint Shwe, 48, son of U Thaung Shwe, who lives in Kyauktan Ward, Mawlamyine Township and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Mupon)MaYa(pa)30/2020 under Section 16(c) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in Abit-Khalaetine Village, Mudon Tsp, Mon State.	Police have opened six cases and arrested 12 men together with stimulant tablets in the previous weeks. On 12 May 2020, acting on a tip-off, police searched a Hijet motor vehicle driven by Mya Moe Oo, 40, son of U Tun Hla and Win Aung, 47, son of U Thaung Han, who live in Htaungkay Ward, Kamawet Town, on the road of Abit-Khalaetine Village in Mudon Township and arrested them together with speciosa. A case has been opened against them with NaMaSa (Kamawet)MaYa(pa)25/2020 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched a motorcycle driven by Zin Bo Htet, 26, son of U Aung Nyunt Wai, who lives in Nyaunggon Village, Mudon Township, at the same place and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Kamawet)MaYa(pa)26/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. On 13 May 2020 at the same place, police searched a motorcycle driven by Yan Naing Ko Ko, (a) Thargyi, 39, son of U Soe Myint, and Tin Maung Lwin, (a) Khoung Gyi, 46, son of U Aye Swut, who live in Zaygyo Ward, Mawlamyine Township, and arrested them together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with NaMaSa (Kamawet)MaYa(pa)27/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. On 14 May 2020 at the same place, police searched a motorcycle driven by Aung Pyae Hlan Soe, 21, son of U Chun Soe and Kaung Yan Htet, 22, son of U Khin Maung Oo, who live in Taungwaing Ward, Mawlamyine Township, and arrested them together with 'WY' and 'R' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with NaMaSa (Kamawet)MaYa(pa)28/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched a motorcycle driven by Than Win, 37, son of U Ohn Shwe Maung, who lives in Yongyi Street, Mawlamyine Township, on the road of Abit-Khalaetine Village in Mudon Township and arrested him together with 'WY' and 'R' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Kamawet)MaYa(pa)29/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs, in Phayagone Village, Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region.	On 11 May 2020, police searched the house of Daw Aye Mi San, 41, daughter of U Aung Nyein, who lives in Phayagone Village, Thanlyin Township and arrested her together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Thanlyin)MaYa(pa)31/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police arrested Sithu Aung, 20, son of U Ye Tun, who lives in Phayagone Village, on an east road of East Yangon University, Phayagone Village-tract, Thanlyin Tsp on 13 May 2020. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Thanlyin)MaYa(pa)33/2020 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
10	Information received of Yan Kyaw who lives in Bo Tun Zan Ward, Dawbon Township, Yangon Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 16 May 2020, police searched the house of Yan Kyaw (a) Yan Kyaw Thwin, 29, son of U Win Oo, who lives in Bo Tun Zan Ward, Dawbon Township and arrested him and his cousin Ma Ei Chaw Po (a) Noe Noe July, 20, daughter of U Khin Maung Gyi, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Dawbon)MaYa(pa)20/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

CHIEF EDITOR

Aungthu Ya
aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR

Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

Kyaw Myaing

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Aung Khin

SENIOR TRANSLATOR

Zaw Htet Oo

INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR

Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Aung Htein,

LOCAL NEWS EDITORS

Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

TRANSLATORS

Hay Mar Tin Win, Ei Myat Mon,
Kyaw Zin Lin, Kyaw Zin Tun

REPORTER

Nyein Nyein Ei,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar
Kyaw Zeya

COMPUTER TEAM

Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe,
Nyi Lin Thu

EDITORIAL SECTION

(+95) (01)8604529,
Fax - (+95) (01) 8604305

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

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

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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

gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/TheGNLM



www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

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

Dolphin conservation campaign conducted in Ayeyawady

AYEYAWADY DOLPHIN conservation poster and warning signs were erected in Ayeyawady region to protect and conserve the Ayeyawady dolphins.

These activities are being carried out because people are selling the fish without obtaining the legal aquatic products sale licence, and selling the rare species of Ayeyawady dolphins as well as collecting the sea products without a licence.

The Ayeyawady dolphins (*Orcaella brevirostris*) are oceanic dolphins and found near sea coasts and rivers in Myanmar. They are very rare and endangered mammal species.

So, the Fisheries Department prohibited that the rare and endangered mammal species are not allowed to catch, kill and hurt regardless of whether the whole bodies or parts of their bodies. Additionally, the endangered Ayeyawady dolphins are not allowed to export, hand over, transport and hand in without having any recommendations from the department concerned. If Ayeyawady dolphins are found alive coincidentally, they have to be released as soon as possible.



Officials from the Fisheries Department and delta locals pose for group photo after they erected a poster for conservation of Ayeyawady Dolphin. **PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG MYINT (IPRD)**

If people fail to follow these instructions, they will be having action taken under the Myanmar Marine Fisheries Law.

A total of 79 Ayeyawady dolphins were found in a 10-day survey conducted from 10 to 20 February in 2019-2020 fiscal year

between Mandalay and Bhamo, a record high population this year.

The population of Ayeyawady dolphin was recorded from 2002 to 2018. The survey counted 72 dolphins in 2002 and 76 dolphins in 2018. This year, the survey found 79 dolphins, which can be said to

have yielded a good result of the conservation process.

The Ayeyawady dolphins give birth to only one baby dolphin every three year. —Maung Maung Myint (IPRD)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

YGN outer ring road to connect YGN-MDY highway to Dala through Thilawa SEZ

A highway outside of Yangon will be constructed to connect Yangon-Mandalay highway to Dala through Thilawa Special Economic Zone, according to an announcement of the Ministry of Construction.

The project is to be implemented by the Ministry of Construction with the spending of loans from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), according to a report released by the Ministry of Construction on 18 May.

It is part of the project of Greater Yangon Comprehensive Urban Transportation project being implemented by the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) in cooperation with JICA.

The first phase of the project will be the construction of the road from Yangon-Manda-

lay highway to Thilawa Special Economic Zone. Then, the road will connect Thilawa to Dala, according to the Ministry.

The road will be a six-lane highway, and it is 65 kilometres (over 40 miles) in total. The first phase of the project will be completed by 2025. The project area will include Hlegu, Dagon Myothit (East), Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), Thanlyin and Kyauktan townships. The project will also include a Bago river crossing bridge. It will be 1.4 kilometres (over 4,500 feet) long.

The Thilawa-Dala road construction project will be targeted to complete in 2035, according to the Ministry of Construction. —Aye Cho

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Over 3,400 tonnes of illegal timber confiscated in Bago

MORE THAN 3,400 tonnes of illegal timber was confiscated in Bago Region from 1 January to 30 April, according to the Bago Region Forest Department.

Although the regional government has restricted going out at night to ensure prevention and control of coronavirus in Bago region, the timber is still extracted at night stealthily.

To control coronavirus pandemic effectively in Bago Region, the government announced that people are not allowed to go outside starting on 18 April from 10 pm to 4 am. On 15 May, the regional government relaxed its curfew from midnight to 4 am.

While the government staffs are following the order, the illegal timber extractors are taking out the timber from the forest without following the curfew. The staff faced with the difficulties to arrest them during the coronavirus period. So, more than 3,400

tonnes of timber were seized from January to April which is an increase compared to the same period last year.

"The staff are following the order but the illegal timber producers are taking a chance on the curfew, producing the timber. We have seized a total of 3,405.4294 tonnes of timber in four months of 2020, including 1,916.0289 tonnes of teak, 890.0360 tonnes of hard wood and 599.3645 tonnes of other timber," said an official from the Forest Department of Bago region.

The illegal extraction is mostly happening in four districts of Bago Region, including Bago district and Toungoo district. The illegal extraction occurs mostly on Ottwin-Paukkau road, Myo Chaung-Sein Kant Lant road, and Koepin-Thargaya road, which are Yoma crossing roads. —Aye Cho

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

FROM PAGE-5

11	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs, in west Kannar Ward, Insein Township, Yangon Region.	On 16 May 2020, police searched the house of Cho Tue, 28, son of U Phyo Cho, who lives in west Kannar Ward, Insein Township and arrested him and four others – Lin Tun Oo, 35, son of U Win Naing, who lives in west Kannar Ward, Insein; Aung Kyaw Lin, 30, son of U Maung Thein, who lives in No 5 Ward, South Okkalapa Tsp; Ko Ko Aung, 16, son of U Than Soe, who lives in Ahlae Village, Hlinethaya Tsp; and Nai Min Aung, 14, son of U Myint Naing, who lives in No 1 Ward, Mayangon Tsp – together with ‘WY’ stimulant tablets and marijuana. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Insein)MaYa(pa)88/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
12	Information received of Aung Min and Chit Khin who live in No 53 Ward, Dagon Myothit (south) Township, Yangon Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 16 May 2020, police searched the house of Aung Min, 33, son of U Win Maung, who lives in No 53 Ward, Dagon Myothit (south) Township and arrested him together with marijuana. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Southdagon)MaYa(pa)53/2020 under Section 19(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of Chit Khin, 31, son of U Than Chaung, who lives in same ward, and arrested him together with ‘WY’ stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Southdagon)MaYa(pa)54/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

13	Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in No 5 Ward Lashio Tsp, northern Shan State.	Police have opened 8 cases and arrested 10 men together with heroin and stimulant tablets in the previous weeks. Acting on a tip-off, police arrested Eai San, 19, son of U Eai Ron, who lives in No 5 Ward, Lashio Tsp, together with stimulant tablets and heroin on Nyaungpingon of No 5 Ward on 10 May 2020. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Lashio)MaYa(pa)99/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police arrested Soe Thet Khaing, 33, son of U Eai Khan, who lives in No 3 Ward, Lashio Township, together with ‘88/1’ stimulant tablets and heroin on the road of Lwalloshan Village on 15 May 2020. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Lashio)MaYa(pa)103/2020 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
14	Information received of Daw Kyi Htay who lives in Phaungtwaw Village, Yaksawk Township, Shan State, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 10 May 2020, police searched the house of Daw Kyi Htay, 37, daughter of U Htaw, who lives in Phaungtwaw Village, Yaksawk Township and arrested her together with ‘WY’ stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Yaksawk)MaYa(pa)22/2020 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department, so far a total of 1,123 cases have been opened files as of 16 May 2020. A total of 1,724 people, including 1,443 men and 281 women had been arrested with 9,004.4514 g of heroin, 1,347.42 g of ICE, 42,850.73886 g of opium, 665.27 g of low-quality opium, 53,263.76 g of speciosa powder, 15,097.32 g of speciosa, 2.5 liters of liquid speciosa, 568,579 stimulant tablets, 10,658.87 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 596.28 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 55.45 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 25 firearms, different kinds of 609 cartridges and one grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the department will report on further exposed cases.

4. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President via following contact numbers:

Contacts

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



New World Bank Group Partnership Framework for Myanmar Puts Strong Focus on Social Inclusion and Peace

THE World Bank Group’s support for Myanmar’s economic and political transition will be marked by a strong focus on social inclusion, including in conflict-affected areas, under the new Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for Myanmar, which lasts from 2020 to 2023.

The new CPF, which was discussed by the World Bank Group’s Board of Executive Directors on May 12, focuses on three areas: building human capital and fostering peaceful communities, stimulating responsible private sector-led growth and inclusive economic opportunities, and enhancing the resilience of Myanmar to cope with natural disasters while ensuring that natural resources and the environment are managed sustainably.

Since 2011, Myanmar has transitioned to a civilian government and achieved significant economic growth and measurable improvements in social welfare. Poverty has almost halved, falling from 48 per cent to 25 per cent between 2005 and 2017. However, many parts of the population have yet to benefit from the gains made during this period. One-third of Myanmar’s townships remain affected by conflict. The crisis in Rakhine State, together

with intensified conflict in other states, poses a serious threat to Myanmar’s goal of becoming “a peaceful and prosperous” nation.

“Myanmar will need to invest in all its people to maximize the benefits of economic growth and ensure a more equitable and stable future,” said Mariam Sherman, World Bank Country Director for Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR. “Under the new partnership framework, we will support national reforms that are critical to the transition process, help build well-governed and capable institutions, and target our support to benefit poor and underserved parts of the country, including those affected by conflict.”

The COVID-19 pandemic also brings new challenges to Myanmar. Economic growth is now expected to decline sharply from 6.3 per cent in 2018-2019 per cent to 2 per cent in 2019-20 with significant downside risks. While the economy is expected to regain momentum next year if the global pandemic is brought under control and global trade resumes, serious risks remain which could delay the country’s recovery.

“The economic impact of COVID-19 is expected to take a severe toll on Myanmar’s poor

and vulnerable people who make up about half the workforce of the country’s garment and tourism industries and up to two thirds of workers in the agricultural sector,” said Yuan Xu, IFC Country Manager for Myanmar and Thailand. “With the impacts threatening people’s livelihoods, it’s all the more important to focus on responsible private sector led growth to generate jobs and inclusive economic opportunities for all the people of Myanmar.”

Under the CPF, IFC will aim to support inclusive growth and job creation by working with the private sector to help meet development challenges in areas such as infrastructure, agriculture, tourism and increasing people’s access to finance, which are critical for the future of small and medium sized enterprises.

The CPF has benefitted from extensive consultations with a wide range of stakeholders. Sixteen face-to-face consultations were held in seven States and Regions of Myanmar, as well as in the capital, Naypyitaw, and in Chiang Mai, Thailand, engaging 644 participants from national, state and region government and parliaments; development partners; international NGOs; civil society organizations; pri-

ivate sector representatives; and local community representatives, including internally displaced persons in Sittwe, Rakhine.

World Bank Group COVID-19 Response

The World Bank has provided a US\$50 million loan for the Myanmar COVID-19 Emergency Response Project to help Myanmar fill a critical gap in its contingency plan to urgently increase hospital preparedness and surge capacity in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19, protect health workers, and minimize the severity of illness and associated deaths.

A grant of US\$8 million of the Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF), created by the World Bank to provide financial support to IDA-eligible countries in case of major multi-country disease outbreaks, has been allocated to Myanmar to support surge response in the health sector, with special attention on benefiting the most vulnerable groups and communities in conflict affected areas.

Existing and upcoming World Bank projects in Health, Energy, Agriculture, Education and Community Development are under review to reallocate funds to Myanmar’s economic recovery from COVID-19.

Globally, IFC is providing US\$8 billion in financing to help private companies affected by the pandemic to preserve jobs, with the response part of the World Bank Group’s \$14 billion fast track financing package. IFC will support existing clients through direct lending to companies affected by the outbreak as well as support to financial institutions clients so they can continue lending to micro, small and medium enterprises with a view to preserve jobs and private sector activity.

The World Bank Group, one of the largest sources of funding and knowledge for developing countries, is taking broad, fast action to help developing countries strengthen their pandemic response. We are increasing disease surveillance, improving public health interventions, and helping the private sector continue to operate and sustain jobs. Over the next 15 months, we will be deploying up to \$160 billion in financial support to help countries protect the poor and vulnerable, support businesses, and bolster economic recovery, including \$50 billion of new IDA resources in grants or highly concessional terms. — World Bank Group ■

Confront the double-edged sword of Cyclone Amphan by being prepared

A "SUPER-CYCLONE" due to hit India's West Bengal and Bangladesh coastal area today is expected to bring isolated heavy rainfall over all parts of Myanmar, except Taninthayi.

The cyclone 'Amphan' has been coded yellow by the Myanmar's Meteorology and Hydrology Department as it is not likely to move towards Myanmar.

However, heavy rains, storm surges and high winds are also expected in northern Rakhine, Chin State and some parts of Myanmar, causing flash floods, landslides in hilly areas and power outages and uprooted trees before the cyclonic storm makes landfall.

Fishermen are advised not to venture into the sea during the next 24 hours as tidal waves may occur along with storms at the coastal region.

Myanmar's hilly areas face landslides following heavy rainfall. Hence, care must be taken to ensure the people are safe from the landslides, and preparations must be taken to quickly respond to the disaster with machinery to clear blocked roads.

The super-cyclone presented a "dual challenge" alongside the coronavirus pandemic, which complicated housing arrangements for evacuees. Physical distancing is needed to prevent the rampant spread of the virus. Internally displaced people are sheltering at their camps and migrant workers who have returned from foreign countries have been placed in quarantine facilities which are now at risk from the severe weather.

Being prepared is crucial to prevent the loss of life. Now, there is the burden of the risk of the spread of the virus. The local authorities must therefore act extraordinarily—making people aware of the need for hygienic practices and social distancing, and ensuring that they are adhered to every step of the way.

Experts have given some important recommendations that must be heeded. The shelters must have masks, sanitizers and proper hand washing facilities with soap for everyone. Physical distancing must be maintained during evacuation and inside the shelters.

Never use phones during strong winds, heavy rains, lightning and thunder.

People need to heed to health guidelines during the outbreak of COVID-19 and to pay attention to the announcements of the Meteorology and Hydrology Department. News updates and assistance are available from the following hotline phone numbers of the ministry—067 3404666, 067340777.

We hope that our people can confront the double-edged sword of a cyclone and the spread of a virus with the same determination.

Fourth-year performance of Kachin State government

By Shin Minn

PHOTO: HTEIN NAN NAW (KACHIN STATE IPRD)

Steady development comes to the land of Manaw, boosting society and economy

PADAN Manaw, Sut Mandaw, Ju Manaw, Gwum Manaw and Shadup Manaw from the land of Manaw are quintessential celebrations for the people of Kachin State.

Filled with admirable customs and traditions and mostly covered in snow and frost, Kachin State is also home to Myanmar's tallest mountains Khakaborazi and Ganlanrazi.

The Kachin State government is working hard to drive development for the people of Kachin State and the lush forests and timeless culture residing in it.

When asked about his state government's developmental policies, Kachin State Chief Minister Dr Khet Aung first said there are over 1.6 million people in the state who are from diverse backgrounds. He said they have visions and missions in place to ensure socioeconomic development and fulfill public necessities.

The state government envisions a future where the livelihoods of the public are developed, peace and stability are firmly entrenched between the ethnic groups, and illegal drugs are completely eradicated and



Kachin State Chief Minister Dr Khet Aung attends a meeting to brief about reclamation of 220 acres in Kaungyar Village in Tanai Township.

they are putting in all their efforts to make it a reality.

Drug-free zone

"In our effort to eradicate illegal drugs, we've apprehended 2,824 suspects across 2,117 cases," said Dr Khet Aung. "We've confiscated over 70,000g of various illegal drugs combined, over 1.6 million psychotropic tablets, 0.56 liters of extract-

ed heroin oil, 35 motor vehicles, 683 motorcycles – a total of K9,267,898,991,000,000 – and destroy 496.23 acres of poppy plantations."

Rule of law

When asked about the rule of law enforced in Kachin State, Dr Khet Aung said there were 93 cases under the ten major offenses that transpired within the

fourth year and they successfully framed charges against 69 of those cases. He also said they framed charges against 1,237 out of 1,881 other cases.

There had been 25 cases of human trafficking during the fourth year period and the state government managed to frame charges for 20 cases while successfully implementing preventive measures for 4,374 cases that lowered crime rates.

Roads and bridges

The state government prioritized eight sections of the Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao highway in the fourth year of administration.

"Some significant infrastructure development we accomplished in our fourth year are the Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao road, Mandalay-Lashio-Banmaw-Myitkyina road, Shwebo-Myitkyina road, Manwayne-Chipwe-Lacaung-Htagot-Phimaw road, Gwetaw-Injanyan road, Hopin-Nantmon-Nyaungpin-Hlekha road, Banmaw-Naunglike-Tarsaing road, and Machanbaw-Fruka-Yupbot-Naungmon road," said Dr Khet Aung.

The state department of roads completed 9.6 miles of

AC roads, 55.2 miles of concrete roads, 45.1 miles of tar roads, 5.1 miles of gravel roads, 1.2 miles of rough roads, and 46.7 miles of cliff-side road expansion.

The Kachin State government utilized K22.664 billion from the Union Fund and K49.582 billion from the state fund, a total of K72.246 billion, for 305 bridges under 50 feet, a bridge between 50 to 100 feet, and a bridge between 100 to 180 feet.

In addition, the Rural Road Development Department have used K31.9 billion for 171 miles of roads and 166 bridges in 2019.

State municipal development work

The state government prioritized the development of road and bridge networks within the state and the state municipal board took away the town entry fees to lessen the burden on the public.

"The state municipal development board utilized K639 million of the state fund for 46 road projects (26.2 miles), 10 bridges, and 6 water distribution and other projects," said Dr Khet Aung. The board also used K3.151 billion of their funds for 194 road projects (26.6 miles), 117 bridges and 325 water distribution and other projects.

Electricity sector

In the electricity sector, the state government constructed the Upper Namhtwam hydro-power station project in Putao District to supply 24hr electricity to 10 wards in Putao, 4 wards in Machanbaw, and 34 surrounding villages.

Dr Khet Aung said they have been working for 24hr electric generation for four years and have provided that to 32 towns so far. He said they have also provided electricity to 1,314 out of 2,539 villages.

Border region development

The Border Region and Ethnic Development Department utilized K7.5 billion for 50 bridge, 3 drinking water distribution, and 3 staff residences.



Kachin State Chief Minister Dr Khet Aung

Transportation and communications

The state government erected 64 communication towers and opened 360 mobile phone centers to develop Kachin State's communications sector. They also constructed vehicle terminals in Mohnyin and Banmaw.

Educations sector

Developing the human resource pool is an important task for states and regions and Kachin State government is developing the education sector to meet that task.

The state government upgraded 120 basic education schools and utilized K13.069 billion to construct 138 high schools, middle schools and elementary schools.

In addition, they used K23,344 million to build staff residences for state colleges, universities and training schools under the health department.

Health sector

"We used K3.41 billion from funds to construct the 4-storey patient ward for the 500-bedded Myitkyina hospital," said Dr Khet Aung. "The building was completed on 31 December last year. We used K450 million from funds to construct the 2-storey RC building for the state medical treatment department and it was completed on 15 November last year."

SEE PAGE-10



Kachin State Chief Minister Dr. Khet Aung inspects the upgraded drainage canal.

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organizations confirmed and appointed

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of U Khaing Tun Oo, Director-General of the Union Minister's Office of the Ministry of Home Affairs, on the expiry of one-year probationary period.
2. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Dr Thein Soe, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Union Minister's Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation as Managing Director of the No.1 Mining Enterprise on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 19th May, 2020)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (18:30)hrs M.S.T today, the Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm (AMPHAN) over the West Central Bay of Bengal has moved to Northwards. It is centered at about (200)Nautical miles South of Paradip(Odisha-India), about (275) Nautical miles South of Digha(India), about (350) Nautical miles Southwest of Khepupara (Bangladesh), about (380)Nautical miles West- Southwest of Maungdaw and about (380) Nautical miles West-Southwest of Sittwe (Myanmar). Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 20th May, 2020: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Southern Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Sagaing and Magway Regions, Northern Shan and Kayah States and scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region, Kachin and Eastern Shan States and isolated heavyfalls in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway and Bago Regions, Chin, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough to very rough seas will be experienced off and along Deltaic, Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (45)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (10-16) feet off and along Deltaic, Rakhine Coasts. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at time off and along Gulf of Mottama, Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (8-10) feet off and along Gulf of Mottama, Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Sagaing Region, Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th May, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th May, 2020: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th May, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Fourth-year performance of Kachin State government

FROM PAGE-9

To facilitate public recreational locations and where the public can enjoy healthy and fun activities, the state government constructed Sein Mya Aya Park and Minyat Sports Ground in Myitkyina, Sein Lae Tayar Park in Mohnyin Township, Ayamaw Park in Waingmaw Township including maintenance, upgradation and installing additional sports equipment.

Forming residences

The state government has been building staff residences for the civil servants of the Urban and Housing Development Department in Kachin State. In their fourth year of administration, the state government constructed 16 housing units with 256 rooms using K534 million from allotted funds for the UHD department staff.



The two-storey building for Waingmaw Township People's Hospital is inaugurated on 11, February, 2020 in honour of the 73rd Union Day.

Agricultural sector

While working for the socioeconomic development of the public, the Kachin State government has been tirelessly working to develop the agricultural sector

as well.

Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank (MADB) issued a total of K34.261 billion in loans for 37,000 farmers of 254 villages, covering 244,000 acres of farm-

land, in the step towards socioeconomic development.

The state department of industry managed to form 4,795 acres of farmland for local cultivators and 100 acres using as scientific cultivation system.

For about 100,000 landholding cases, farming permits form-7 were legally issued to 96,354 farmers covering 525,520 acres. In addition, the state government is working hard to return confiscated farmlands to their original owners.

In the fourth year of Kachin State government administration, they resolved 231 cases of farmers who incurred losses and returned 39,397 acres of land to 1,335 farmers who were the original owners.

Forestry and metal sector

Kachin State produces precious metals, wood, gold and jade and has a large mining industry.

“Kachin State produced 32420 metric tonnes of raw metal, 2850 metric tonnes of lead,

1200 metric tonnes of marble, 110 metric tonnes of copper, and 600 metric tonnes of lead/copper mixed ores in this fourth year,” said Dr Khet Aung. “Similarly, we’ve produced 8592 tonnes of hardwood and 34638 tonnes of raw jade.”

The state government confiscated 44332 viss of illegal raw jade in this fourth year and seized 175 tonnes of illegal teak, 120 tonnes of hardwood and 557 tonnes of other wood, a total of 852 tonnes.

The state government also apprehended 290 cases of illegal vehicles, 86 motorcycles, and 3 three-wheelers, a total of 378 vehicles.

Investment sector

The Kachin State government succeeded in inviting five domestic companies and four foreign companies to invest in the region. Dr Khet Aung said the investment created 318 jobs for local residents.

Bank erosion prevention

The state water resource and water body development department utilized K5.961 billion for 7 projects on Myitkyina District, 13 in Banmaw District, 8 in Mohnyin District, and 8 in Putao District, a total 36 projects. This has protected residents living along rivers and streams from floods.

The Kachin State government has worked tirelessly for the benefit of the public along the four years of administration despite overwhelming challenges on the path towards development. They will continue to do so in their remaining term period to better serve the public interest.

(Translated by Pen Dali)



The Hopin-Nantmon-Nyaungpin-Waykhar Road was upgraded in the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year.

95 Myanmar citizens arrive back from India by relief flight

THE relief flight of Myanmar National Airlines landed at the Yangon International Airport yesterday afternoon, carrying 95 Myanmar citizens stranded in India due to suspension of international flights.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs arranged the flight between New Delhi and Yangon in coordination with Myanmar embassy in the capital of India and relevant ministries of Myanmar under the directives of National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

On arrival at the airport, officials from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Health and Sports, and the Yangon Region government helped for their 21-day quarantine period at the designated places and the respective hotels in line with the regulations of immigration and medical checks.

The MNA will also fly to Chennai on 24 May and to Gaya on 27 May to bring back Myanmar citizens from India.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Myanmar returnees from India queuing for immigration process at Yangon International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

Govt, CSOs trying to remedy loss of cabbage growers during pandemic

By Nyein Nyein

THE government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are working together to cover the loss of cabbage growers hit hard by the coronavirus consequences, said Secretary U Kyaw Thu of Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association (MFVP).

Since early April, the cabbage growers in Naungtayar Town, southern Shan State have been suffering losses as the market ruined, forcing them to distribute the cabbage to the people free of charge, according to the MFVP.

“The cabbages were left unharvested in the farm to decay. Having said that, we met with the growers to make free distribution to people. The CSOs contributed transportation charges. However, to cover some loss for the growers, the CSOs and well-wishers came up with idea to give back K70-100 per cabbage for the growers,” he said.

On 18 May, under the guidance of MFVP, 12-wheel truck of cabbage were distributed free of



Cabbage growers in southern Shan State have suffered losses due to market decline and had to distribute their produce to people free of charge in some occasions. PHOTO: SANDAR MYO

charge each in Thingangyun and South Dagon Myothit townships.

The second batch of free distribution is planned to proceed in East Dagon and Hlinethaya

townships.

The CSOs and well-wishers are planning to return the contributions given by the people to remedy the loss of the growers,

added he.

Next, MFVP will soon to launch e-commerce platform and people can buy the fruits and vegetable online.

Additionally, the association will arrange mobile farmers market to get fair price for the consumers and earn reasonable profit for the growers.

“At present, the Ministry of Commerce has been helping us to implement this. They provide warehouses to store the cabbage. We are trying to discuss with Yangon mayor to have mobile market trucks”, he stated.

Earlier, the cabbages were sent to Thirimingala market in Yangon. Now, the coronavirus shocks shut down the hotels and restaurants and ruined the market. The cabbage price drastically plunged to K100 from K1,000 compared to last year.

Besides, the supply surpassed the demand in market. The growers are facing financial hardships.

There are about 1,300 acres of cabbage in Naungtayar Town, southern Shan State. An acre can produce 10,000-12,000 cabbages. Now, 35 per cent of the production are damaged in the farm, MFVP stated.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Exports of cattle, animal products down by \$222.5 mln in current FY

MYANMAR'S exports of animal products between 1 October and 1 May in the current fiscal year 2019-2020 touched a low of US\$60 million, a sharp drop of \$222.5 million compared with the corresponding period of the 2018-2019FY when livestock trading was suspended by China.

In the previous fiscal, animal products exports were registered at \$282.66 million.

Animal products exports are solely driven by the private sector this year.

At present, cattle exports to China has been on the decline due to suspension of a trade by China since the pre-Chinese New Year period, said cattle exporters.

Normally, a large cow is valued at over K1.6-2.3 million, but last year, the suspension of trade led to Chinese traders resorting to price manipulation and offering a lower price of about K1 million.

Myanmar has held a series of negotiations with China at the Joint Border Trade Cooperation and Coordinating Com-

mittee (JBTC) meetings on legal exports of cattle along with cross-border control of communicable diseases.

While cattle exports are legal in Myanmar, livestock trading is still not permitted by China, according to the Myanmar Livestock Federation.

Myanmar, which allowed livestock trading in late 2017, is now exploring new export markets for cattle.

At present, to prevent from animal disease, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation issued a notification on 11 March 2020 that the cattle are subject to special goods and procedures for movement of the cattle in the regions and states were mentioned, posing difficulties to those livestock farmers working on a manageable scale.

To transport the cattle within the country, the health certificate (AHD/PC-3) issued by the head of the related Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in the townships, districts and regions or states are required.

If the traders fail to com-

ply with the notification, they will face legal action under the Special Goods Tax Law.

At present, the coronavirus consequences pose transportation difficulties and it is hard to seek for approval from the related Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

The country exports cattle that are above five years old, along with vaccination certificates, health certificates, and farming registration certificates. According to the 2018 cattle census, there are 11.5 million heads of cattle in the country.

Between the 2017-2018FY and the month of October in the current FY, over 460,000 heads of cattle, with an estimated value of over \$581 million, have been exported to China through Muse, according to trade figures.

The authorities have issued cattle export licences to more than 300 companies in the Magway Region. There are around 5,000 companies holding cattle export licences across the country. — Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Domestic gold market reopens at K1.2 million

By Nyein Nyein

YANGON gold market was reopened on 18 May at K1.2 million per tical (0.578 ounces, or 0.016 kilograms), according to Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

The domestic gold market was closed on 29 March due to the coronavirus outbreak and the price of pure gold stood only above K1.1 million in March.

In April, the gold market was remained closed amid the coronavirus risks. On 18 May, the Yangon gold market was reopened at K1,236,000 per tical.

Meanwhile, the global gold price touched a record high of US\$1,760 per ounce.

In early September last year, the price of pure gold reached an all-time record of above K1,300,000 per tical in the domestic market, while the price

of gold was pegged at US\$1,550 per ounce in the global market, as per market data.

YGEA reopened the gold market on 18 May, yet the members of the association must strictly follow the health guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports. If they fail to comply with guidelines, they will be suspended one month to get access to the YGEA, it stated.

The YGEA office is open between 10 am and 2 pm. The members are advised to wear masks in the office, maintain physical distancing, prohibit food at work and avoid the crowd in the office. Only one person has to be used the stair at one time either.

There are over 10,000 gold shops in Yangon Region. Earlier, about 50 visses were daily traded, said YGEA Chair U Myo Myint.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Trade Mark Ads

Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355, 09974424848

Myanmar nationals in ROK donate portable X-Ray machine



Donation of X-Ray machine and cash is made in coincidence with 45th anniversary of Myanmar-ROK diplomatic relations. **PHOTO: MNA**

MYANMAR nationals in the Republic of Korea including ambassador and officials from the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul donated a portable X-Ray machine and cash to Myanmar yesterday.

To mark the 45th anniversary of Myanmar-ROK diplomatic relations that

fell yesterday, the KRW 34 million (about K 38.4 million) worth of portable X-Ray machine manufactured by JLK Inspection Company, and KRW 3.75 million (approximately K 4.227 million) were donated to Myanmar to fight against COVID-19.

The portable X-Ray

machine will be transported to Myanmar via Myanmar Airways International (MAD), and the donated cash will be handed over to the fund for prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19. —MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Warning about Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm (AMPHAN)

THE Department of Meteorology and Hydrology released the report (20/2020) issued on 19 May afternoon and the Emergency Management Centre of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement also published its finding on this weather situation. The reports has forecasted that the Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm (AMPHAN) is expected to cross India, West Bengal and coastal areas of Bangladesh, without heading to Myanmar at present.

According to the observations on 19 May, although it is not likely to take temporary shelters as there will be no direct hit from the Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm (AMPHAN), the wind speed may reach to 20 mph in Yangon, Bago, Magway, Sagaing (north) and Mandalay regions; to 40 mph in Chin and Rakhine states. Heavy rains related to the cyclone may cause landslides, torrents of mountain streams and flash floods.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement have issued the following suggestions:

- (1) Take temporary shelters at nearby houses and buildings than can resist to strong winds.
- (2) Heavy rains can cause flash flood and

no enough time to flee from it, and that it is needed to have more safely precautions in night times.

- (3) Those living near rivers and creeks, mountain streams, base of the mountains and mountain slopes may experience landslides, and that they need to be mover other safe places, if necessary.
- (4) Motorcars, motorbikes, cattle carts or people should not pass through mountain streams during the heavy rains. Flash floods can pose dangers.
- (5) In going outside just after heavy winds or rains, stay away from power lines and posts as much as possible. Be aware of snakes and other poisonous insects. Don't stay near slopes of mountains, creeks, rivers and mountain creeks.
- (6) Adhere to the COVID-19 directives when taking shelters at safe places.

Information and assistance are available at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement through the hotline numbers: 067 3404666 and 067 3404777.

Ministry of Social Welfare,
Relief and Resettlement

(Translated by Aung Khin)

MoSWRR provides cash aids for vulnerable persons at IDP camps

THE Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provided cash assistances for pregnant women and children under 2 years of age at the IDP camps in Kachin and Shan states yesterday.

In the first batch of provision under Shock Responsive Social Protection Programme, the ministry provided K 30,000 per one for a total of 1,402 vulnerable persons at 54 IDP camps in Kachin and Shan states.

This is a one-time-support programme for the most vulnerable persons —pregnant women and children under 2 years of

age — at IDP camps in Kachin and Shan states amid COVID-19 crisis.

With the Union budget, the ministry's Social Welfare Department was supporting vulnerable persons at the IDP camps in Kachin and Shan states under the Maternal and Child Cash Transfer (MCCT) programme in cooperation with General Administration Department and World Food Program during COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the MCCT programme, the MoSWRR has been supporting vulnerable persons in Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and Kayah



The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement presents relief aid to IDPs in Kachin and Shan States. **PHOTO: MNA**

states, and Naga Self-Administered Zone since 2017-2018 FY.

In addition, during the COVID-19 crisis, the ministry

will provide extra supports for those vulnerable who aren't the members of MCCT programme and living at the IDP camps in

Chin, Rakhine, Kayin, Kachin and Shan states.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BALI VOY. NO. (154N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BALI VOY. NO. (154N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-5-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FILOTIMO VOY. NO. (019S/021N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V FILOTIMO VOY. NO. (019S/021N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-5-2020 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



Embassy of India Yangon VEHICLE FOR SALE

Tenders are invited for sale of Mercedes Benz E-300 Sedan (2013), 4 Doors, Left Hand drive, 7 Speed Automatic Transmission. The car is in excellent condition with a Mileage 103444 kms. Interested parties may submit the bid before **08.06.2020**. Details are available at <https://embassyofindiayangon.gov.in>. For queries, please call Embassy of India, 545-547, Merchant Street, Yangon (Tel.No. 243972/ 388412/ 391219).

Trade Mark Ads Call Thin Thin May 09251022355, 09974424848

Thai gov't OKs Thai Airways' rehabilitation via bankruptcy court

BANGKOK — The Thai government on Tuesday approved a plan for flag carrier Thai Airways International PLC to seek rehabilitation through a bankruptcy court, the loss-making airline becoming the latest victim of the coronavirus crisis amid a sharp fall in air travel.

The Cabinet approval of Thai Airways' plan to file a rehabilitation plan with the Central Bankruptcy Court comes after the government decided against extending a rescue loan to the heavily indebted state-owned airline amid mounting public opposition to the measure.

"It was a difficult decision but it was based on the need to protect the interests of the country and its people," Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha said in televised remarks after the decision.

Thai Airways said it can continue to operate flights and run its business as usual.

"Although Thai's reform plan will be implemented and exercised through the business reorganization chapter under the bankruptcy law, Thai will not be dissolved or go into liquidation or to be declared bankrupt," ChakkratParapuntakul, second vice chairman and acting president



File photo taken in June 2017 shows an Airbus A380 plane operated by Thai Airways International at Narita airport near Tokyo. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

of the airline, said in a statement.

"Thai is committed to do everything possible to emerge from the crisis situation. This is an important step for Thai to change in order to become a stronger and more sustainable entity," he said. "Thai will resume full operations once the COVID-19 situation subsides."

Amid the spread of the new coronavirus around the globe, the flag carrier has suspended its international routes since early April and is poised to continue doing so until the end of June.

With tourism and airline businesses hit severely, the airline has also cut employee remuneration by as much as

50 per cent.

The government was considering a plan to provide a 54 billion baht (about \$1.7 billion) loan to the airline to help pay its employees. But amid fierce competition from budget airlines throughout Southeast Asia, the airline had booked huge losses over the years and already failed to restructure its operations despite being ordered by the government to do so.

As public opposition to the rescue loan mounted, including on social media, the government's State Enterprise Policy Office on Monday proposed rehabilitating the airline under the bankruptcy law as its final rescue plan.—Kyodo News ■

Companies fear protracted slump: World Economic Forum

LONDON (United Kingdom) — A prolonged global slump and surge in bankruptcies arising from the coronavirus pandemic are the foremost concerns for companies surveyed in a World Economic Forum report Tuesday.

Recessions on a scale not seen since the 1930s Great Depression demand more action from governments to ensure a timely recovery and to put growth on a healthier path, the report also said.

The survey of 347 company risk managers looked at the biggest concerns for the next 18 months, after the pandemic shuttered large swathes of production and forced massive rescue packages by governments around the world.

They identified the most likely fallout as an extended downturn, a jump in company failures allied with industry consolidation, along with high youth unemployment.

The debt accrued in the rescue packages could depress government and corporate finances and retard growth for years, and also stymie efforts

to combat climate change, the report said.

The crisis has "revealed the inadequacies of the past", Saadia Zahidi, managing director of the World Economic Forum, said.

"We now have a unique opportunity to use this crisis to do things differently and build back better economies that are more sustainable, resilient and inclusive," she said.

The WEF organizes an annual meeting of political and corporate leaders in Davos, Switzerland. Ahead of this year's conclave in January, when the COVID-19 outbreak was still largely confined to China, the forum's annual risk report showed climate change as the biggest concern for companies over the next 10 years.

But it also flagged up anxiety that health systems around the world were ill-prepared for another pandemic.

A second wave of COVID-19 was another concern identified in Tuesday's report, along with the dangers of cyberattacks and data fraud as much corporate activity shifts online.—AFP ■

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION ENTERPRISE

Date. May 18, 2020

Invitation to Bid for implementation of Ground Mounted Solar Power Plant Projects on Independent Power Producer and Build – Operate – Own Basis

1. Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE) seeks to invite tender for the purchasing of electricity at Designated Connection Points from the Ground Mounted Solar Power Plant Projects on Independent Power Producer (IPP) and Build Operate Own (BOO) basis.
2. The Concession period shall be 20 (twenty) years from Commercial Operation Date (COD).
3. The Tender Form can be purchased within office hour from the tender announced date at following office either;
 - (1) Procurement Department, Electric Power Generation Enterprise, Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
 - (or)
 - (2) No. 39, Kanner Road, Ahlone Power Station, Ahlone Township Yangon, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
4. The Tender Form fee is Myanmar Kyat three hundred thousand (Kyat 300,000) only.
5. The bid submission date is **18th June, 2020 at (10:00) hr.** Myanmar Standard Time.
6. Bidders shall prepare the proposals in accordance with the Invitation for Bid and Request for Proposal (RFP). Bidder's Proposals must be submitted on time. Any late proposal shall be rejected.
7. The necessary information of this tender can be inquired within office hour via calling phone numbers or sending Email;

Electric Power Generation Enterprise
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw
Ph + 95 9 797137280, +95 9 2225181
epgsolartender@gmail.com

circulation order is in easier way.

Hot Line :
09974424848

Advertise with us/
Hot Line : 018604530

Myanmar E-Channel Media Resources

What does an engineer do?
When will robots be intelligent?
How do we measure emotion?
Why is clean energy so important?

Find out answers to these questions and many, many more on the Myanmar E-Channel Media Resources website.

Over 100 international educational films on science and technology translated into Burmese available online with free STEM and TVET educational materials for teachers.

Please visit memr.moe.edu.mm

Myanmar E-Channel Media Resources

Myanmar aims to export 2.5 mln tonnes of rice in current FY

By Kyaw Htike Soe

MYANMAR transported about 1.65 million tonnes of rice and broken rice to countries around the world in the current fiscal year, according to the figures from the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF). Myanmar freighted more than 1.09 million tonnes of rice and 551,641 tonnes of broken rice, fetching US\$ 475.4 million during the period from 1 October 2019 to early April this year. Over 1.4 million tonnes of rice or 85.8 per cent of the total rice export was shipped aboard by sea.

Myanmar's maritime trade accounted for around 85 per cent of the total rice exports in the current financial year, generating an estimated income of US\$313 million, the data from

the MRF shows.

The volume of rice shipped via sea trade exceeded 1 million tonnes in the current fiscal. Rice trade via the border checkpoints accounts for just 13.58 per cent of the total rice exports.

Rice exports through the borders have generated an estimated US\$44.47 million in the current financial year. The volume of rice and broken rice exported between 1 October and 14 February in the financial year 2019-2020 has been estimated at over 1.264 million metric tons, worth US\$ 475.4 million, the MRF's data said. Myanmar has exported rice and broken rice to 59 foreign markets in the current financial year.

China is the main buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by Mad-

agascar and the Philippines.

Guinea is the fourth-largest buyer and Malaysia the fifth-largest buyer of Myanmar rice. The European Union countries account for over 14.84 per cent of rice exports, while 37.55 per cent of rice grown in Myanmar goes to African countries.

In the current fiscal, Myanmar has shipped broken rice mostly to Belgium, followed by Indonesia, Senegal, Guinea, and the Netherlands.

Broken rice has been placed in 52 foreign markets.

Thanks to the expansion of rice markets globally, Myanmar's rice exports have risen to the highest level in 55 years in the fiscal year 2017-18, with rice and broken rice exports to foreign countries increased

to more than 3 million tonnes, earning US\$ 949 million and 1.39 million tonnes of rice worth US\$ 406 million was shipped by sea, the Ministry of Commerce said.

"Myanmar exported 3.58 million metric tonnes of rice which is the all-time highest record of rice in the fiscal year 2017-2018. But the export amount of rice to foreign countries declined after China suspended the import of rice from Myanmar.

I think it would be difficult to surpass the old record of rice export to foreign countries," said U Myint Lwin, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Myanmar Rice Federation.

The country mostly transports broken rice to Belgium, followed by Indonesia, China,



the Netherlands, United Kingdom and Sri Lanka, up from 40 countries compared to the previous year. Around 52 per cent of the rice exports were conducted by sea route while the remaining was transported through borders.

The agricultural sector is the lifeblood of Myanmar people. Myanmar was the world's largest exporter of rice in the mid-20th century. More than 75 per cent of total rice production is consumed in the country where over 70 per cent of the total populations reside in rural areas and surplus rice volume is being exported to foreign countries. Myanmar is looking to become one of the world's top three rice exporters in the next few years and has set a target to export 2.5 million tonnes of rice in present fiscal year which started in October last year. Myanmar earned US\$ 645 million from exporting over 1.8 million metric tonnes of rice and broken rice in 2014-2015FY and fetched US\$ 618 from transporting 1.4 million metric tonnes of rice and broken rice in 2015-2016FY.

The Southeast Asian country exported 1.7 million metric tonnes of rice and broken rice in 2016-2017, fetching US\$ 405 million. Myanmar shipped about 3.6 million metric tonnes of rice and broken rice valued at US\$ 1.356 billion in 2017-2018FY and exported over 2.35 million tonnes of rice and broken rice worth over 709.6 million US in the financial year 2018-2019.



Myanmar freighted more than 1.09 million tonnes of rice and 551,641 tonnes of broken rice during the period from 1 October 2019 to early April this year. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR



China is the main buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by Madagascar and the Philippines. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR



Broken rice has been placed in 52 foreign markets. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR



Rice exports through the border gates have generated an estimated US\$44.47 million in the current financial year. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Oney pay becomes first lifestyle mobile app to support interbank services in Myanmar

ON 4 May, Oney pay launches the first mobile interbank service in Myanmar with the technical and operational support of its official banking partner, Asia Green Development Bank (AGD). The interbank service allows Oney pay users to transfer money between Asia Green Development Bank (AGD), Ayeyarwady Bank (AYA), Co-operative Bank (CB) Kanbawza Bank (KBZ), Myanma Apex Bank (MAB), United Amara Bank (UAB) and Yoma Bank.

As the first ever interbank service in Myanmar, it allows users to transfer money between banks without going into a branch. At a time of a global pandemic, this service reduces social contact and helps users avoid the hassle of going into branches.

Users can easily transfer money between banks by adding funds to their Oney pay wallet. This can be done through an AGD bank account, or with any e-commerce enabled MPU, VISA or Mastercard. Additionally, if users do not have a bank card or account, funds can be added by using cash-in services through 123 service or Oney pay appointed agents throughout the country. This would then allow the user to simply transfer the amount from their wallet to one of the seven selected banks.

U Aung Zeya Myo, Deputy Managing Director of One Pay Company Limited said, "We want to make sure that our customers are having a simple, secure and convenient experience while using our service. Working with our official banking partner, AGD Bank to support interbank ser-

vices in our app is one of the attempts to reach that goal. The interbank service does not have any hidden costs or extra charges. Any costs associated with the remittance charges will be set by respective banks. The app is designed to notify the users of the transfer rate and cost before they confirm the transaction. Settlement will take up to two working days after the transaction has been made."

U Pyi Soe Htin, Chief Business Officer of AGD Bank said, "As the official banking partner, AGD will manage the interbank transactions of Oney pay users. We're proud to provide banking service to this first mobile interbank service. We are ready to partner with Oney pay to move forward in creating an integrated cashless processing system in Myanmar."

COVID-19, technology advancement, the growth of mobile usage, and broader internet penetration in Myanmar has encouraged people to move from traditional payments to cashless mobile payments.

The Oney pay app connects users and businesses to enable mobile financial transactions across one unified platform. It aims to simplify user's lifestyle by effortlessly combining financial and lifestyle activities by making it smarter, faster and easier to pay for goods and services.

Oney pay app is available for both android and iOS users on Playstore and Apple App store respectively. For more information and to download the app, please visit Oney pay's official website, www.onepay.com.mm. —GNLM



MFF plans to set training dates for national football teams

THE Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) is planning to set training dates for national football teams.

Due to coronavirus, all local football competitions and training sessions of all national football teams have been postponed since 24 March.

All the international foot-

ball competitions that Myanmar football teams are participating have also been postponed until September.

The Myanmar teams will resume their training sessions depending on the end of coronavirus.

Except for the Myanmar national football team that was

taking part in 2020 AFF Suzuki Cup and 2022 FIFA World Cup qualification, the remaining Myanmar football teams are just competing in the ASEAN-level matches.

The training of Myanmar U-16 and U-19 men's teams have been halted during their camp sessions, while some football

teams have been ordered to stop their training sessions while they were preparing.

Out of the total nine football competitions organized by ASEAN Football Federation, eight competitions will be participated by Myanmar football teams.

The teams that will take in the AFF's competitions are

men's national team, U-19 team, U-16 team, women's national team, U-18 team, U-15 team, national futsal team and men's U-21 team.

All Myanmar football competitions are scheduled to resume during September and December. — Shine Htet Zaw
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Celtic celebrate nine in a row despite anticlimactic end to Scottish season

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Celtic's grip on Scottish football remains unbreakable after a ninth consecutive league title was confirmed on Monday even though they have not kicked a ball for two months.

Nine in a row is a landmark staging post in Scottish football. Only twice has it been achieved before, once on either side of

the Glasgow divide -- by Celtic and Rangers. But Celtic's feat in matching those historic achievements feels like an anti-climax after the coronavirus lockdown deprived them of the chance to win it on the pitch.

"They are the ones who have lost out the most in terms of the opportunity to play in front of the supporters, going for nine

in a row," said Celtic manager Neil Lennon of his players. "I feel so sorry for them."

Scottish league chiefs on Monday declared the season over, drawing a line under a bitter squabble over how to finish the campaign. Rangers failed to gain sufficient support among the other 41 league clubs for an independent inquiry into the

controversial vote that allowed the season to be called on a points-per-game basis.

Many clubs were unhappy at the Scottish Professional Football League's insistence that the final instalment of prize money worth £7 million (\$8.5 million) could only be distributed once the leagues were declared over.—AFP ■

California, New York hint sports could return

LOS ANGELES (United States)—California governor Gavin Newsom said Monday sports in the state could return in early June without spectators provided progress continued to be made in checking the advance of the coronavirus.

Newsom, who has previously been sceptical about the return of sport in California during the COVID-19 pandemic, said he believed professional sports could resume under certain conditions next month.

"Sporting events, pro sports in that first week or so of June, without spectators and modifications, and very prescriptive conditions, can also begin to move forward," Newsom said.

"A number of other sectors of our economy will open up again if we hold these trendlines in the next few weeks," Newsom added during his daily coronavirus briefing.

California is home to no fewer than 18 franchises across the major professional US sports leagues. The NBA, Major League Baseball, National Hockey League and Major League Soccer have all been on shutdown due to COVID-19 since March.

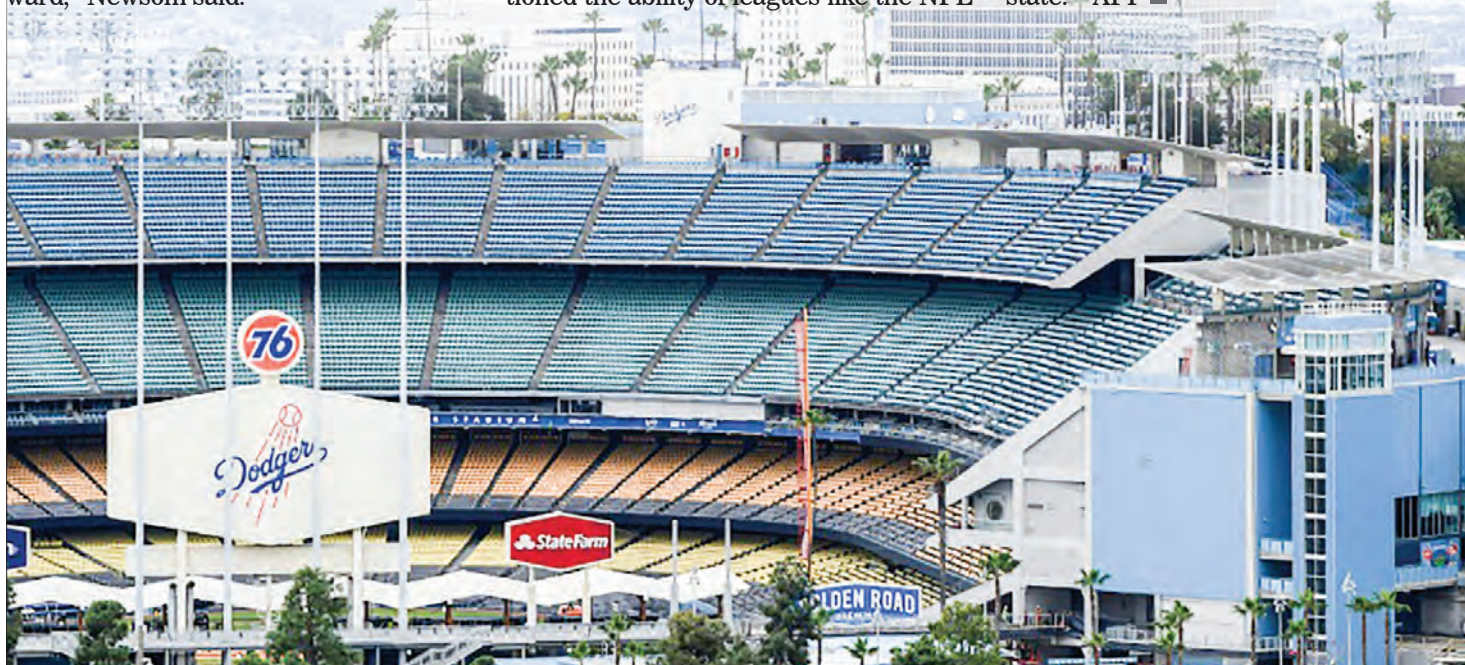
Newsom has said he doubts fans will be able to attend sports events until a COVID-19 vaccine or substantial "herd immunity" has been achieved.

The California leader has also questioned the ability of leagues like the NFL

to start without a hitch in September.

"It's difficult for me to imagine what the league -- broadly leagues -- do when one or two of their key personnel or players are tested positive," Newsom said earlier this month. "Do they quarantine the rest of the team if an offensive lineman is practicing with a defensive lineman, and they are tested positive? What happens to the rest of the line? What happens for the game coming up next weekend?"

Newsom's remarks on Monday were mirrored by comments from New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, who said he was keen for fan-free sport to return to the state.—AFP ■



Dodger Stadium could see Major League Baseball action as early as June, albeit without fans in attendance, California Governor Gavin Newsom has indicated. PHOTO: AFP

Lakers' LeBron eager to get back to basketball



Los Angeles Lakers star LeBron James says he hopes the NBA season can resume safely sooner rather than later as lockdown measures to combat COVID-19 ease. PHOTO: AFP

LOS ANGELES (United States)—Los Angeles Lakers superstar LeBron James said Monday he's eager for the NBA season to resume, as long as the health of players and their families won't be endangered amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

James, speaking on the "WRTS: After Party" programme on the Uninterrupted multi-media platform, said he hoped the NBA season resumes sooner rather than later.

"Definitely not giving up on the season," said James, whose Lakers led the Western Conference when the NBA suspended play on March 11 after Utah Jazz center Rudy Gobert tested positive for the coronavirus.

The virus brought global sport to a virtual standstill, but as lockdowns aimed at preventing its spread have begun to ease, sport has begun to re-emerge.

Germany's Bundesliga became the first top European football league to resume after a two-month hiatus at the weekend.—AFP ■