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Monday, 15 June 2020

Special flight arrives in Yangon with WHO medical supplies, experts for fight against COVID-19

A SPECIAL flight bringing laboratory equipment donated by the World Health Organization-WHO, and medical experts who can give the expertise at the disposal of the government in the fight against COVID-19 landed at the Yangon International Airport yesterday.

The special flight arranged by the World Food Programme carried laboratory equipment which would be handed over to the Ministry of Health and Sports and 10 experts from UN and interntional organizations.

The flight left from Malaysia and landed at the Yangon International Airport at 10 am.

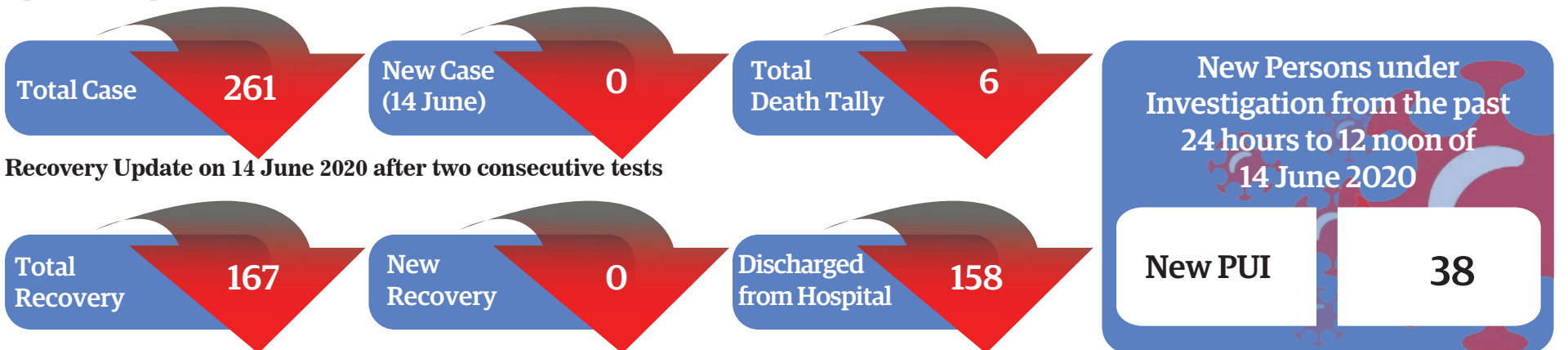
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Workers unloading medical supplies from the special flight at the Yangon International Airport on 14 June, 2020. PHOTO: PE ZAW

No new case of COVID-19 in Myanmar on 14 June, total figure remains at 261

Updated at 8 pm, 14 June 2020



Ministry of Health and Sports

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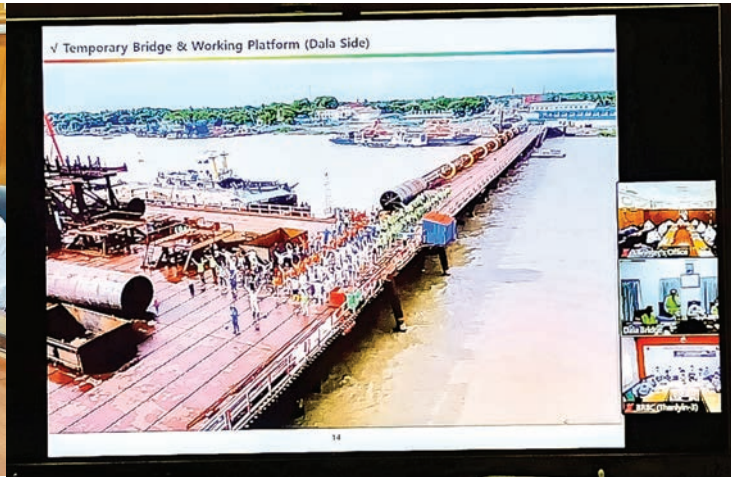
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All information and illustrations are based on data available at the time of publication and subject to change without notice.

MoC holds virtual meeting on securing quality of infrastructure projects



Union Minister U Han Zaw and officials (left photo) inspect the construction site of the Korea-Myanmar Friendship Bridge (Dala) in Yangon Region (right photo) via a videoconference on 13 June. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Construction U Han Zaw reviewed bridge, road and building development projects in Yangon Region via a virtual meeting from his office in Nay Pyi Taw on Saturday.

Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Lin, Permanent Secretary U Win Tint, and directors-general from the bridge, road, buildings, urban and housing development and rural road development departments were present at the videoconference.

Bridges Development

Deputy Director-General of Bridge Department U Kyaw Kaung Cho and officials from

the contractor company reported on the progress of Korea-Myanmar Friendship Bridge (Dala) including its bored piling processes, and measures for environmental safety and worksite safety.

Chief Engineer of Bridge Department U Kyaw Lin and officials detailed about the construction of the Thanlyin Bridge No.3 that crosses Bago River.

Deputy Director (Civil) from the Special Bridges Unit (10) of Bridge Department U Myo Thet Tun presented the construction of Bago River Crossing Dar Pein-Thabyu Bridge.

Roads Development

Director (Civil) of Yangon Region's Roads Department U Htin Kyaw reported on the conditions of roads and bridges projects that are being implemented during 2019-2020 FY, works of four districts' units and three special units, and COVID-19 preventive measures.

Director (Civil) of Rural Road Development Department U Thet Zaw reported on roads upgrading projects in Taikkyi and Thonegwa townships.

Urban and Housing Development

Deputy Director-General

of Urban and Housing Development Department U Myint Naing explained the housing projects and ongoing works in the region.

Buildings Development

Director (Civil) U Ko Ko Aye of Building Department reported on the construction of People's Hospital in North Okkalapa Township, extension of four-storey building at People's Hospital in South Okkalapa, construction of multi-purposed hall at Co-operative University (Thanlyin), completion of seven-storey building at Yangon General Hospital, and renova-

tion of Yangon University's Universities Dhamma Hall.

He also presented the extension of five-storey building at Kyimyindine's Orthopaedic Hospital, constructions of Dagon Seikkan Hospital and eight-storey building hostel for health-care workers in Yangon, and extension of four-storey building at Hlinethaya People's Hospital.

Upon the reports, the Union Minister and Deputy Minister appreciated the improvements of bridges, roads, buildings, urban and housing and rural roads in Yangon Region, and stressed the importance of worksite safety at Yangon-Dala bridge project.

When the Yangon-Dala bridge is completed, the transportation across the Yangon River will be easier.

The Thanlyin Bridge No.3 will reduce traffic jam, and make the transportation to the Thilawa Special Economic Zone easy, he added.

The Union Minister also urged the attendees to give priority to the projects' standard quality and completion dates. —MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Special flight arrives in Yangon with WHO medical supplies, experts for fight against COVID-19

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Mr Walid Ibrahim, WFP Myanmar's Deputy Country Director said, "We have the flight number six today, a very proud milestone for all of us.

"Today we would like to put the emphasis on the passenger side of the operation. This operation is giving the possibility to bring in experts who need to come into Myanmar to give the expertise at the disposal of the Government in the fight against COVID-19 now as all commercial operations have yet to restart operations. In its fight against COVID-19, as the country is very much looking at cargo and medical equipment, test kits, PPEs or hygiene items, the country is also in need of experts who can come and give the expertise at the disposal of the Government.

"This flight we have a num-

ber of organizations whose staff members that made it back to the country or entering the country for the first time. We also have cargo belonging to WHO, which as part of previous consignment, that would be handed over to the National Health Laboratory, he added.

Under the humanitarian flights plan between Yangon and Malaysia, similar flights arranged by WFP carrying medical supplies arrived Yangon on 10, 17 and 24 May.

The WFP's Global Logistics Service Provision Plan aims at connecting logistics hubs around the world in order to provide an essential link with countries that needs to bring in cargo.

Similarly, India, China, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Japan provided Myanmar with the medical supplies in support of fighting against the COVID-19.—Zaw Gyi

Kachin State IDPs relocated to Panwa low-cost housing units

A ceremony to relocate local residents of Chipwe and Panwa townships that have fled their homes due to armed conflicts into low-cost housing units built by the Ministry of Border Affairs was held at Ngi Lawt Village in Kachin State on 13 June.

The Kachin State Minister for Security and Border Affairs, Col. Nay Lin Tun, first spoke about the 50 low-cost housing units for the 54 families that are being relocated today. He said the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement will soon provide food, moving costs, and humanitarian aid as well.

Next, U Bawm Lan of the Panwa people's militia explained the housing units constructed by the Department of Development for Border Areas and National Races and Chipwe Township Administrator U Nyunt Swe explained the implementation

progress on reports made by IDPs wishing to return home. Director Daw Hla Kaythi Mar of the Disaster Management Department then explained the aid provided to the IDPs.

Afterwards, the IDPs received family kits handed over by Col. Nay Lin Tun, cash donation from Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Zone Taing of Chipwe constituency, medical aid from Col. Hein Min of Northern Command, K27.250 million from Director U Kyaw Min of Department of Development for Border Areas and National Races for installing a 2-mile pipeline for drinking water in the low-cost housing compound and K7.056 million for a month's food supply for the 392 IDPs, six months worth of food from Daw Hla Kaythi Mar, K8.1 million for zinc roofing and distributing K100,000 for each household,

soap bars, blankets, mosquito nets, mats, clothes and 81 solar lamps from UNHCR, 81 bags of 10 tissue rolls each from UNDP, and K50,000 from KMSS for basic bathroom necessities. The IDPs accepted the donations and U Bawm Lan said words of thanks on behalf of the IDPs.

Next, Col. Nay Lin Tun inspected the construction of roads, electricity wiring and school buildings within the area of the low-cost housing units and gave necessary instructions to officials.

27 families from an IDP camp in Chipwe Township were relocate back to their place of origin and 54 families were relocated to the low-cost housing units in Panwa yesterday. Both IDP camps are the first to be closed in line with the national strategy to shut down IDP camps.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

“People are the key”

COVID-19 committee honours volunteers, philanthropic orgs in Bago

THE National-Level Central Committee for Prevention, Control and Treatment on COVID-19 presented certificates of honours, lapel pins, face masks and hand sanitizers to the volunteers and philanthropic organizations that are fighting against COVID-19 pandemic in Bago Region yesterday.

The committee also provided cash aids to pregnant women, children under 5 years old, the elderly and the disabled who are receiving quarantine after a handover ceremony was organized at the Zeya Thiri Ashoka Monastery in Bago.

The ceremony was attended by the central committee’s secretary and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Bago Region Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister Daw Naw Pwal Hsay, Director-General and Deputy Director-General of Social Welfare Department, and officials from General Administration Department, Public Health Department, and Department of Medical Services.

At the Zeya Thiri Asho-



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye (centre right) presents face masks and lapel pins to a volunteer at the Zeya Thiri Ashoka Monastery’s quarantine centre in Bago on 14 June. PHOTO: MNA

ka Monastery’s quarantine centre, the Union Minister and party helped the persons receiving facility quarantine, handed over certificates of honours to the Region’s ethnic affairs minister, and provided the representatives of the volunteers lapel pins, face masks

and hand sanitizers.

The ministry gave a total of K 11.37 million, K 30,000 for each person, for 265 pregnant women, 94 children under 5 years old, 18 elderly persons, and two persons with disabilities to the Director-General of the Social Welfare Department,

who is also the in-charge of the quarantine centre.

The volunteers reported on their difficulties and requirements in fighting COVID-19, and the Union Minister coordinated over the matters.

Officials from the Bago Region government’s gener-

al administration department and related volunteers steering committees will present the national-level central committee’s certificates of honours to 2,609 volunteers and 231 philanthropic organizations in the region.

If there are volunteers and philanthropic organizations that were not included in this batch, the committee will arrange additional certificates for them, according to the committee.

The committee will also present certificates of honours to the volunteers and philanthropic organizations in other regions and states after the volunteers and the organizations are scrutinized by officials from the related region and state governments’ general administration departments and volunteers steering committees.

The committee organized yesterday’s handover ceremony in Bago in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports.

—MNA ■
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

COVID-19 preventive measures implemented in Kawthoung

INTERNATIONAL Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) conducted COVID-19 preventive measures at the quarantine centres in Kawthoung, Taninthayi Region, yesterday.

Members of the World Vision Myanmar, Med Across, ARC, FED, OIKOS and Pyi Gyi Khin

organized COVID-19 awareness talks at the quarantine centres.

They will also donate relief items including face masks, hand gels and sanitary products for women to the quarantine centres in Kawthoung.

— Kyaw Soe(Kawthoung) ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



An NGO official (left) presents COVID-19 awareness leaflets to locals in Kawthoung on 14 June. PHOTO: KYAW SOE(KAWTHOUNG)

Government continues repatriating Myanmar citizens during COVID-19



Myanmar citizens returned from foreign countries queue for immigration processes at the Yangon International Airport on 14 June 2020. PHOTO: MNA

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs is working in line with guidelines issued by the National Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19 and cooperating with Myanmar embassies abroad to bring back Myanmar citizens facing difficulties caused by the global pandemic in other countries.

A relief flight from Myanmar Airways International (MAI) brought back 74 Myanmar citizens from Qatar, Italy, Brazil, France, Iran and Australia to Yangon International Airport yesterday evening. The Union government has brought back 3,764 Myanmar citizens in this manner thus far.

The returnees received were medical examinations and moved to the mandatory quarantine for 21 days as arranged by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, Ministry of Health and Sports, and the Yangon Region government.

—MNA ■
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

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

600 migrant workers return from Thailand via Myawady border on 14 June

A total of 600 Myanmar migrant workers returned home through Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge (2) of Myawady border town in Kayin State yesterday.

Among them, 45 were handed over by Thailand's Immigration Detention Center (IDC), and 555 persons returned home in their own arrangement from various parts of the kingdom with the approval of Myanmar embassy there.

On their arrival, Kayin State Hluttaw MP U Thant Zin Aung, District Administrator U

Tay Zar Aung, Deputy District Administrator U Aung Chan Nyein, Township Administrator U Phyo Zaw Ko Ko and other local authorities helped the returnees with medical tests and other supplies.

Myanmar has been making systematic arrangement for the return of migrant workers from Thailand since 1 May.

A total of 27,502 Myanmar migrants arrived back home through this route until now.—Htein Lin Aung (IPRD)

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Myanmar citizens returned from Thailand queue at the Myawady border on 14 June 2020. **PHOTO: HTEIN LIN AUNG (IPRD)**

Over 10,000 Myanmar migrant workers sent back home via Lashio

Myanmar migrant workers seen on the train as they are brought back to their native places via Lashio yesterday. **PHOTO: NAN THANDA O O (STATE IPRD)**

A total of 10,249 Myanmar nationals who returned from China so far to their native places via Lashio in northern Shan State by train, according to the local authorities.

Yesterday's returnees include five from Kachin State, 14 from Chin State, 24 from Sagaing Region, 11 from Nay Pyi Taw, 44 from Bago Region, 173 from Magway Region, 33 from Mandalay Region, five from Yangon Region, 17 from Rakhine State

and 15 from Ayeyawady Region.

Members of Lashio District and Township COVID-19 Prevention, Control and Treatment Committee, well-wishers, railway officials, Red Cross and volunteers checked the returnees' health conditions, and fulfilled their needs.

A total of 6,358 men, 3,891 women out of 10,249 had already brought back from China since 6 May.—Nan Thanda Oo (State IPRD) ■

*(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)***RTAD notifies de-registration of modified vehicles on slip returns before fiscal year-end**

Over 100 of the modified motor vehicles are notified of de-registration at the Road Transport Administration Department (RTAD) before the end of the current financial year, to receive slips (import permits) in return, the department recently announced.

RTAD is issuing slips for passenger cars after the modified vehicles are struck off by the registrar. Slips for over 200 vehicles have been issued. RTAD notified the remaining owners to process slip return for de-registration of six vehicles impounded at the police sta-

tion and 114 cars in the vehicle owners' hands at the respective RTAD branches in Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi and Bago regions and Shan, Kayin and Mon states, as per RTAD's data.

Earlier, the RTAD collected fines for modifications detected on a vehicle's body coach during the examination. Under Section 4 (18) (e) of the 2015 Motor Vehicles Law, the registration of a motor vehicle can be cancelled if the type, year, structure, or body of the vehicle has been changed without permission. RTAD has been confiscating modified vehi-

cles since June 2018. However, the government has granted some relief to owners of modified vehicles by issuing import permit slips (Form Ds) to them, starting from 1 October 2019.

Under the Motor Vehicles Law, the cars will be seized and cancelled from the list on account of modifications, such as the installation of new parts and changes in the body coach. But, the current move aims to cover the loss to the owners, said RTAD Director U Lian Cin Mang (aka Ngam Khai Pa Pa).

If modified vehicles are found, they will be de-registered

and slips will be returned.

The Ministry of Transport and Communications has already notified vehicle owners about the announcement on slip returns and urged them to contact RTAD.

Between 2017 and 23 September 2019, 362 modified vehicles have been identified as per RTAD data.

At present, there are over 1.09 million vehicles registered across the country, and about half of them are registered in Yangon.—Ko Khant ■

*(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)***Heroin confiscated in Hsenwi Township**

POLICE seized 22 kilo of heroin worth K 660 million while searching a truck driven by Mine Nay Myint Aung (alias) Myint Aung, aged 28 at Yay Pu inspection gate in Hsenwi Township on 13 June.

Police filed charges against him under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic

Substances Law, according to the Myanmar Police Force.—GNLM ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Mine Nay Myint Aung (alias) Myint Aung seen with confiscated heroin. **PHOTO: MPF**



Over 1.9 mln broiler chicks permitted to import within 2 months: MLF

IN a bid to help meet the domestic needs, more than 1.9 million broiler chicks have been allowed for import between 15 May and 15 July, according to Myanmar Livestock Federation (MLF).

Following the prevention measures to contain the spread of coronavirus, 40 per cent of broiler poultry businesses halted due to the decreasing demand, dropping the production of broiler chicken and hiking the chicken price.

As a result of this, over 1.9 million broiler chicks have been given green lights for imports, to keep the price regular and help domestic poultry



A man feeding the chickens in a poultry farm in Yangon. **FILE PHOTO**

businesses back to normal. Some production enterprises of broiler chicks suspended the operations. When they return to new normal, they need broiler chicks for production. Therefore, the import of broiler chicks is granted.

The government has allowed importing 920,000 broiler chicks between 15 May and 15 June and then, more import permits have been granted for 1 million chicks between 16 June and 15 July. It takes 45 days to raise chicks for meat. The production costs K3,000 per chick. —Aung Thura ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar's exports to Hong Kong surpass import in current FY

THE value of Myanmar's bilateral trade with Hong Kong touched US\$180.9 million in the seven four months of the current financial year 2019-2020, with exports surpassing imports, according to data provided by the Ministry of Commerce.

Between October and April, Myanmar has shipped goods worth \$176.65 million to Hong Kong and imported goods valued at \$4.26 million.

Myanmar's major items of export to Hong Kong include precious stones, agricultural products, fishery products, and garments. The nation mainly imports telecommunications equipment and optical goods.

Myanmar-Hong Kong trade was valued at \$232.395 million in the last 2018-2019FY, \$238 million in the mini-budget period (April to September 2018), \$385.63 million in the 2017-2018 FY, \$234.46 million in the 2016-2017FY, and \$316

million in the 2015-2016FY, the Commerce Ministry's data showed.

Hong Kong is one of the world's leading financial centres, logistics hub, and an international legal and dispute resolution services centre for Asia. It has positioned itself to play a prominent role in facilitating trade and investment flows and has been working towards closer economic integration with ASEAN countries, including Myanmar.

The economic interaction between Myanmar and Hong Kong has been increasing rapidly. Hong Kong has emerged as the largest investor in Myanmar in the current FY with 39 Hong Kong-based firms pumping in \$1.335 billion in real estate development, electricity, and garment businesses as of February-end, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).—GNLM ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Hotels tourism sector attacks K180 bln investment in H1 2019-2020FY

HOTELS and Tourism sector has attracted domestic investments of over K180 billion in the half of the current financial year 2019-2020, according to the Central Statistical Organization.

The domestic investments in Myanmar's hotels and tourism sector stood at K202.37 billion in the 2014-2015FY, K434.67 billion in the 2015-2016FY, K132.9 billion in the 2016-2017FY, K341.6 billion in the 2017-2018FY, K129.5 billion in the 2018 mini-budget period (Apr-Sep) and K173.23 billion in the 2018-2019FY, totalling over K1,414 billion. The tourism sector is the worst affected of all major economic sector due to the outbreak of the pandemic. To contain the spread of coronavirus, Myanmar has currently extended precaution restriction period for the international flights up to June-end. The tourism sector completely stopped and all the stakeholders in the hotels and tourism industry are experiencing financial hardships and unemployment.

The committee to remedy

the economic impacts caused by the coronavirus has been granting the loan to the business stricken by the pandemic from the Coronavirus Fund, with K50 billion allocated from the country's revolving fund and another K50 billion from the social welfare fund. The hotels and tourism sector is listed on the priority sectors for the Fund of K100 billion, along with CMP garment business, and small and medium enterprises (SMEs). A total of 1,016 enterprises have been granted K37.55 billion from the Fund between 9 April and 2 June, according to the committee. The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism released a statement that 376 hotels and tourism enterprises have been approved for the coronavirus loan. At present, the hotels, motels, guesthouses and restaurants can return to new normal, in line with the health guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports. When the pagodas and museums are reopened, the inbound tours will gradually run.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has also drawn up the Tourism Relief Plan. Also, it recently held a videoconference with JICA and ASEAN Tourism Crisis Communication Team, concerning the effects of pandemic and Tourism Master Plan.

Myanmar's tourist entry had dropped by 45 per cent between January and April 2020 compared to the corresponding period of 2019, the UN World Tourism Organization estimated.

Earlier, the hotels and tourism sector was regulated by the Union government. With the implementation of the Myanmar Tourism Law 2018, the sector has been decentralized and it has more power according to the region and state governments.

The regional tourism committee has issued licences to hotels and guesthouses, and construction permits. The committee has also issued licences to inbound tours, outbound tours, and tour guides.—Ko Htet ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Singapore FDI tops \$920 mln in Oct-May period

SEVEN Singapore-listed enterprises brought in US\$920.29 million into Myanmar in the eight months of the current financial year 2019-2020, according to the data released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA). Singapore companies put investments into urban development, real estate, power and manufacturing sectors. Myanmar has attracted foreign direct investment of more than \$4.1 billion between 1 Octo-

ber and May-end in the 2019-2020 financial year, including the expansion of capital by existing enterprises and investments of \$91.8 million in the special economic zones, according to the DICA. Myanmar set an FDI target of \$5.8 billion in the current fiscal. The coronavirus consequences have not affected the foreign investments, DICA Director-General U Thant Sin Lwin said. According to a press statement issued recently by the DICA, 178 foreign

enterprises have obtained permits from the MIC and endorsements from regional and state Investment Committees in the current fiscal. Those enterprises are set to execute electricity, manufacturing, livestock and fishery, real estate development, hotels and tourism, and other services businesses.

"Infrastructure projects such as industrial parks and urban development projects are bringing large investments into the coun-

try," he said. "Myanmar is trying to attract foreign investment by providing tax relief, tax incentives, investment opportunities, and fast processing of proposals. However, the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations is inviting only responsible businesses to the country," he added.

Earlier, Singapore stood as the largest foreign investor in Myanmar, pulling in the FDI of \$2.4 billion in the last financial year 2018-2019, \$724.4 million in the

mini-budget period (April-September, 2018), \$2.16 billion in the 2017-2018FY, \$3.8 billion in the 2016-2017FY, \$4.25 billion in the 2015-2016FY, \$4.29 billion in the 2014-2015FY, \$2.3 billion in the 2013-2014FY and \$418 million in the 2012-2013FY respectively.

Additionally, Singapore emerged as the second-largest foreign investor in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, after top investor Japan.—GNLM ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Trump addresses West Point grads but largely ducks controversies

NEW YORK — President Donald Trump on Saturday addressed the new graduating class of the West Point military academy, praising the “righteous glory of the American warrior” but largely side-stepping recent controversies over racial unrest and the military’s role in putting it down.

“America is the greatest country in human history,” Trump told the 1,107 newly minted second lieutenants as they sat, well-spaced, under a bright sun on the parade ground of the US Military Academy.

But he made no direct mention of the recent racial turmoil and only glancingly referred to recent dissent from top military figures over his threat to employ active duty troops to put down protests.

Trump’s closest mention came when he said, “I also want to thank the men and women of our National Guard” for responding to “challenges from hurricanes and natural disasters to ensuring peace, safety and the constitutional rule of law on our streets.”



Asked about graduating West Point cadets wearing face masks US President Donald Trump replied, “If that’s the way they feel, I think that’s fine”. **PHOTO: AFP**

The president, who was introduced by the academy’s first black superintendent, Lieutenant General Darryl Williams, also referred only passingly to the nation’s racial challenges.

“The army was at the forefront of ending the terrible in-

justice of segregation,” he said, and it was West Point graduates who led the fight in the Civil War to “end the evil of slavery.”

Trump did not mention that one West Point barracks still bears the name of General Robert E. Lee, who led the

break-away Confederate forces during that war, which brought an end to slavery.

Trump has rejected recent demands to rename US military bases bearing the names of Confederate officers. —AFP ■

Statue of famous Italian journalist defaced in Milan

MILAN — A statue in Milan of a famous Italian journalist has been sprayed red and tagged

with the words “racist, rapist”, becoming the country’s first statue targeted since a wave of

similar incidents across Europe and the United States.

A city worker tried to spray clean the statue of Indro Montanelli, which stands in a garden of the same name in the northern Italian city, on Sunday morning after it was vandalised the night before, according to an AFP journalist.

An anti-fascist group had called on Milan’s mayor to remove the statue because Montanelli bought and married a young Eritrean girl after volunteering for Fascist leader Benito Mussolini’s colonial invasion of Ethiopia in 1935.

“In Milan, there is a park and statue dedicated to Montanelli, who until the end of his days

said with pride that he bought and married an Eritrean child of 12 years to turn her into a sex slave during the fascist regime’s aggression against Ethiopia” the I Sentinelli group said on social media.

Milan mayor Giuseppe Sala rejected the request, receiving the support of Foreign Minister Luigi di Maio. Montanelli, who died in 2001 at the age of 92, was one of the most decorated and influential Italian journalists of the 20th century, founding the *Il Giornale* newspaper and serving at the *Corriere della Sera*.

Franjo Ljuljdjuraj, who walked by the vandalised statue of Sunday, said Montanelli was “a great man”. — AFP ■



A city worker tries to spray clean the statue of Indro Montanelli on Sunday morning after it was vandalised the night before. **PHOTO: AFP**

43 African countries under border closure as COVID-19 cases top 225,000 continentwide

ADDIS ABABA — As COVID-19 caseload surpassed 225,105 on Saturday across the African continent, 43 African countries are now under full border closure due to the rapid spread of the coronavirus.

The death toll from the pandemic has reached 6,040, while some 102,846 people have recovered, according to the latest data from the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC).

The Africa CDC said that the northern African region is the most affected area across the continent both in terms of positive COVID-19 cases and the number of deaths. The highly affected African countries include South

Africa, Egypt, Morocco, Djibouti, Nigeria, and Algeria, said the specialized healthcare agency of the African Union (AU) Commission.

Some countries on Saturday reported new records for their daily increases in COVID-19 in-

fections.

Egypt registered 1,677 new COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, the highest daily surge so far, raising the national count to 42,980, the Egyptian health ministry said. —Xinhua ■

Atlanta police chief resigns after officer kills black man

ATLANTA — The police chief in the US city of Atlanta resigned after an officer fatally shot a black man during an arrest, the mayor said Saturday, with the new killing injecting fresh anger into protests against racism and police brutality.

The police chief in the US city of Atlanta resigned after an officer fatally shot a black man during an arrest, the mayor said Saturday, with the new killing injecting fresh anger into protests against racism and police brutality.

Images on local media showed hundreds of protesters in the streets on Saturday and flames engulfing the Wendy’s restaurant where 27-year-old Rayshard Brooks was killed.

The officer who shot Brooks was dismissed Saturday and identified by Atlanta police as Garrett Rolfe. The second officer was placed on administrative duty, according to ABC News.

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms -- who has been touted as a potential running mate for Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden -- earlier announced the resignation of Chief Erika Shields.

Wendy’s employees called police on Friday night to complain that Brooks was asleep in his car and blocking other customers on the premises, an official report said.

He failed a sobriety test and resisted when police tried to arrest him, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) said.

Surveillance video showed “that during a physical struggle with officers, Brooks obtained one of the officer’s Tasers and began to flee from the scene,” the report continued. —AFP ■

COMING BACK TO LIFE

For Europeans, a post-virus summer at the beach?

AFTER anxious months confined at home, eager Europeans are digging out their suitcases, sunscreen and flipflops, and daring to plan a post-coronavirus summer holiday.

With restrictions being lifted and the tourism industry up against the wall, the European Union has set out plans to reopen its internal borders on Monday.

But even if travel within much of the EU is permitted, many Europeans are expected to stay put and take holidays in their own countries this year.

From Spain and Italy, to France, Greece and Britain, the picture of what holidaymakers in search of sun, sea or culture can expect, remains very mixed.

visitors from abroad last year, France has backed the resumption of quarantine-free travel within the EU from Monday.

But says it will apply reciprocal measures if other countries impose quarantine requirements for French citizens.

Paris, Europe's most visited city, has gradually begun coming back to life, with cafe terraces open again.

The Eiffel Tower reopens on June 25, albeit with limits on the numbers of visitors, who will only at first be able to go up the monument by the stairs, among other restrictions.

The enigmatic Mona Lisa and other artworks will again be on view at the Louvre from July 6.



Many Europeans are expected to stay put and take holidays in their own countries this year. PHOTO AFP

Une Staycation?

In France, the world's number one tourist destination, the government is banking on the French staying in the country for their holidays, to help kickstart the key tourism sector.

To hammer home the message and remind the French what's on offer at home, it is about to launch a #CetejevisitelaFrance campaign, meaning This summer I'm visiting France.

Many seem to have already heeded the call.

According to the head of France's Entreprises du Voyage association, which represents sectors of the travel industry, just 20 percent of summer bookings in travel agencies so far are for trips abroad, compared to 66 percent normally.

With just over 90 million

What's fiesta in German?

Spain's borders will remain closed Monday as it goes through the final stages of rolling back one of the strictest lockdowns in the world -- although German tourists will be allowed to visit the Balearic Islands as part of a pilot project.

So, for a few more weeks, Spaniards have their tourist sites to themselves.

But, from July 1, the likes of Barcelona's monumental Sagrada Familia or the ancient Alhambra in Granada will reopen to foreign visitors.

Madrid has set that target date for the opening of its borders, the resumption of international tourism, as well as ending quarantine for arrivals.

With tourism accounting for 12 percent of GDP, it's hard to imagine a summer season in

Spain without its foreign visitors.

Masks will remain compulsory in public and closed spaces until the virus is defeated, authorities have warned.

In the meantime, Ibiza's lively nightlife gets a boost.

Spain's Balearic Islands, which also include Mallorca and Menorca, will be allowed to welcome almost 11,000 German tourists during the second half of June under the pilot project.

Travellers will have their temperature taken on arrival under the scheme, which will be conducted according to "strict health guidelines", the region has said.

Welcome to... quarantine

Britain is not strictly speaking affected by Monday's reopening since it didn't close its borders in the first place.

However, it has imposed a 14-day quarantine on all arrivals from abroad, including British nationals, to avoid new COVID-19 cases entering the country, which has the highest death toll in Europe.

The move is likely to hit international tourism, with Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and other hotspots unlikely to see foreign tourists flocking to them while most people arriving from overseas are required to self-isolate for a fortnight.

On the other hand, to enable Brits to head to sunnier climes, the government has said it is looking at establishing "air bridges" with countries with low rates of the virus.

The move calls for bilateral agreements with individual countries but would get around the quarantine requirement.

Even without the controversial measure, travel to Britain remains tricky, with hotel bookings and rentals still off the cards, unless for business reasons.

Restaurants and tourist attractions are also still shuttered.

Roman holiday

Benvenuti in Italia! is the catchword in Italy, which was the first European country to be hit hard by the coronavirus.

Three months after going into lockdown, but keen to turn a page and revive its key tourism sector, Italy reopened to travellers from Europe on June 3.

In fact, many of its world renowned historic sites and monuments have been reopening since May, including Saint Peter's Basilica in the Vatican and Rome's Colosseum.

SOURCE: AFP

Greece is 'ready to welcome tourists', says prime minister



An undated file photo shows tourists on the island of Santorini. PHOTO: AFP

From the emblematic island of Santorini, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said on Saturday that Greece is "ready to welcome tourists" in complete safety after the coronavirus lockdown, whose impact on tourism will be "significant".

"Greek tourism is back," said Mitsotakis, two days before the reopening of the tourist season.

The return of tourists to Greece from around 30 countries by air, sea and land, begins on Monday.

"Everything is ready in terms of making sure that we

ensure the proper social distancing guidelines, said Mitsotakis, adding that safety and health is "our number 1 priority".

"We want visitors to feel safe. I am not interested in making Greece the number one destination in Europe.

"I am interested in making Greece the safest destination in Europe." Greece has been relatively unscathed by the virus with just 183 deaths.

After stopping at Fira hospital, where he again spoke of the "success" of his government "in overcoming the first wave of the

pandemic", the prime minister visited the archaeological site of Akrotiri by greeting "the incredibly diverse cultural heritage" of Greece.

But in a country where tourism is crucial to the economy, accounting for almost 25 percent of GDP, Mitsotakis admitted that the impact of confinement on the tourism sector would be "significant".

Only "a fraction" of the 33 million tourists who visited Greece last year would turn up this summer, he cautioned.

SOURCE: AFP

Focus on planting trees taking advantage of monsoon rain to save our environment

TAKING advantage of the ongoing monsoon rain in the country, volunteers and forest departments in regions and states are planning to plant saplings in the respective regions.

Local forest departments distribute saplings to schools, colleges, governmental departments and civil society organizations every monsoon.

Monsoon tree plantation campaigns reports are also seen in media these days promoting social forestry in the country.

It is worth noting that over 50,000 saplings would be provided to the people this monsoon by the Forest Department in Minbu Region, which is located in our country's dry zone, in efforts to bring the maximum area of the region under forest cover—a basic requirement to overcome environmental degradation.

The Dry Zone, an area comprising 58 townships in Mandalay, Magway and Sagaing, is home to around 10 million people, who mostly rely on rain-fed agriculture. It suffers from year-round water shortages due to the climate change.

The record temperature of 47.5C recorded in Chauk township in Magway on 8 May, the highest in the country in 52 years, and the above normal temperatures across the country, has put us on alert to prepare for combating drought, rather than dealing with its aftermath.

Last year, the number of villages facing a water shortage rose from the expected number, to reach nearly 400 nationwide.

According to the Global Climate Risk Index 2020, Myanmar has

had the highest weather-related losses in the past two decades, alongside Puerto Rico and Haiti.

Weather experts have warned that the central dry zone of Myanmar suffers a significant climate variability due to droughts and floods, resulting in the destruction of crops and increased vulnerability for farm households.

The situation has alerted us to pay attention to the forests which play an important role in supporting and maintaining ecological systems and cycles. They also regulate water flows and protect the soil.

Today is the time for us to speed up our plantation process, and the government could not achieve the task alone.

We would like to urge CSOs, volunteers and the people to plant maximum saplings to enhance forests and trees which would help to solve the problems of environment due to the climate change and deforestation.

Please bear in mind, if we fail to preserve our environment, it might someday kills us.



REMOTE SUPPORT SYSTEM

Cutting-edge technology connecting fans and virus-affected sports

JAPAN'S pro baseball and soccer leagues are set to resume later this month after being derailed by the coronavirus pandemic, finally bringing sports spectating back into daily life – albeit in a different fashion.

The lingering risk of infections has forced both Nippon Professional Baseball and the J-League to implement a number of restrictions, such as initially holding games behind closed doors. As the world adapts to the crisis, advances in technology are becoming integral to the experience of watching sports.

In mid-May, a demonstration was held at Shizuoka Stadium Eco-pa of a new technology called the "remote support system," which allows athletes competing behind closed doors to hear the "cheers" from fans watching at home.

J-League first-division side Shimizu S-Pulse and J2 club Jubilo Iwata participated in the first test of the system, developed by music instrument giant Yamaha Corp. When spectators watching tapped buttons labeled "goal" and "clap" on a dedicated application, the sounds of cheers and applause rang out from a total of 58 speakers installed throughout the stadium.

A former player who participated in the experiment said it felt "very realistic," while the noise prompted a person outside the stadium to ask, "Is there an event going on inside?"

S-Pulse have already shared the results of the trial with their supporters and are looking to establish guidelines on using the system.

Revolutionary changes are also coming to sports broadcast. An AI camera developed by

an Israeli company can carry out fully automated broadcasting. The camera is able to smoothly track the movement of the ball and players, and produce footage that compares to professional-grade video.

Since filming costs can be reduced by up to 90 percent and the camera can be operated remotely, such technology is attracting interest from Japanese local media, who are looking for something to replace the canceled summer national high school baseball championship in August.

Shigeo Araki, president and CEO of Sports Marketing Laboratory Inc., aims to use the camera to expand the range of sports coverage beyond the professional level.

"We're finding that the existing models don't work (because of the coronavirus). The question is how things will change," Araki said.

Using tech to improve the fan experience

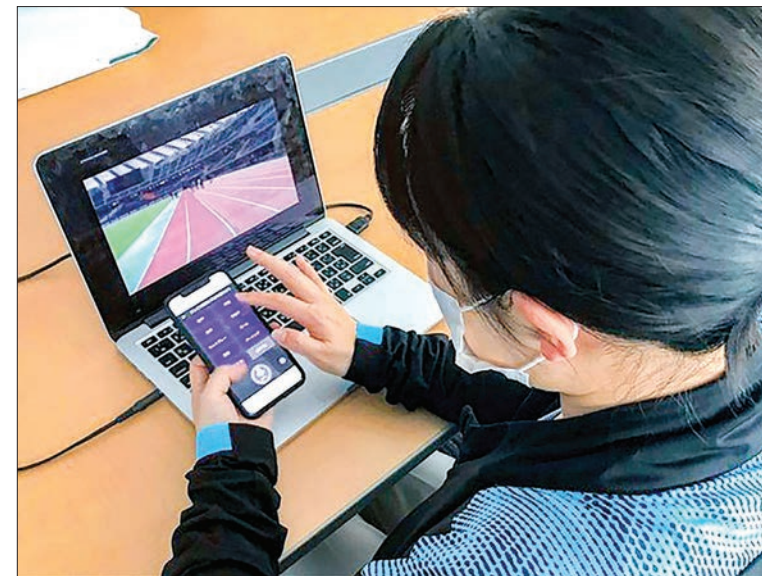


IMAGE CREDIT: The Remote Cheerer system (Yamaha Corporation)

Virtual reality video technology could give viewers control over how they watch sports on their smartphones and tablets. The SoftBank Hawks, reigning cham-

pions of Japanese pro baseball, are considering introducing such technology this season.

By installing cameras along nearly a full revolution at Fukuoka

PayPay Dome, the Hawks' home stadium, a single play can be captured and viewed from multiple angles.

"Our challenge is how to connect with fans without having spectators," a SoftBank spokesperson said. "We want people in remote areas to experience realistic images by making use of state-of-the-art technology."

On May 27, a new law was enacted aimed at the further development of Japan's 5G wireless network, which is capable of higher speeds, higher capacity and a massive number of connections. The broadening of the network is a trial for technologies that provide sports fans with a more immersive experience while helping them minimize the threat of the coronavirus.

SOURCE: Kyodo

Post-COVID - 19: Live and let live with Betel Quid

By Sayar Mya (MOFA)

BUZZWORD is "New Normal" nowadays, and that the language is being deployed almost as a way to quell any uncertainty ushered in by the coronavirus. The "New Normal" must not be the microscope through which we scan in changing our way of life.

Scenario is that (1) More Saving, Less Spending; (2) New Supply Chains; and (3) Small Business Looks Scariest.

Although life is not fully back to normal, "Old Habits Die Hard", and some guys bite the "Betel Quid" as usual.

Picking up the popular movie entitled "Live and Let Die", I have embedded "Live and Let Live" to the hearts of those who cannot stop loving "Betel Quid".

Definition of live and let live used to say that a person should live as he or she chooses and let other people do the same.

Ironically, the philosophy was to live and let live.

Health experts demonstrate that betel quid chewing, with or without added tobacco, increases the risk of oral cancer in an exposure dependent manner, independently of tobacco and

alcohol use.

Betel quid are made from areca nuts that are placed in a green betel leaf with slaked lime. In our country usually mixed with tobacco. Betel chewing is an open invitation to mouth cancer, oral cancer, then larynx cancer, then lung cancer and also stomach cancer.

Absolutely true that old habits die hard because it is hard to stop chewing betel quid that one has been doing for a long time. Our guys, and some women, just cannot seem to give up chewing the greenly bite.

What is normal in Yangon, but weird in other places?

Being a diplomat in Myanmar Foreign Service, I came across many friends from other countries at various diplomatic functions during my long career.

Consumed with curiosity and humor, I usually asked close friends "What was the most striking scene you have seen when you were visiting Yangon".

Despite different aspects of sentences but they answered in a common way, "Spitting the reddish thing on the pavement".

It was quite shocking to hear that.



Vendor makes betel quid for chewing. PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING

However, it is normal in Yangon.

Why? Asked a betel quid lover, surely, the answer would be, "It is cool and tasty."

Arguably it is a modern-day poisonous bite to eat at least for some Yangonites.

"Stay at Home and Stay

Safe" period of pandemic, the scene of spitting reddish thing is out of sight.

Responses of this weird tendency are simple to witness from the roadside stands across Yangon, before the pandemic, and the reddish stains on the pavements coming from the betel quid spit.

It is called "Kun Ya".

Betel quid are made from areca nuts that are placed in a betel leaf with slaked lime. In Yangon it's usually mixed with refined tobacco coming in round tin small containers from neighboring country.

World Health Organization stressed that more than 60 per-

cent of males in Myanmar chew betel quid and almost 25 percent of the females consumed the addictive item.

In saving the columns and space, I tend to avoid the hazard of chewing betel quid as this writing is not meant for health education.

Why there are many betel quid stands all over Yangon City?

One needs to be a bread earner for the family, especially if there are more womenfolk in the household. More betel quid selling stands are might spread like wildfire in post COVID – 19 pandemic.

Life is unfair that my nieces were born and bred in a household with low bracket income with women only category under pitiful education for better and decent livelihood.

Unintentionally, last twenty years ago, I have had committed a sheer "blunder".

Having a tough, rough and bumpy way of life, my nieces asked me to suggest for their livelihood.

I told them to sell "Betel Quid".

SEE PAGE-10

Myanmar Gazette Appointment of Permanent Secretary

The Union Government has appointed U Shwe Lay, Director-General of the Union Minister's Office of the Ministry of Construction, as Permanent Secretary of the same ministry.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports Order 66/2020

9th Waning of Nayon, 1382 ME
14 June 2020

THE Ministry of Health and Sports has issued this order in line with provisions stipulated in Section 21-(b) of the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Law.

1. The ministry is working around the clock for the prevention of the acute respiratory disease Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and had previously issued Stay at Home orders for 10 townships in Yangon Region and a township in Sagaing Region.
2. Nine of the townships showed improvements in prevention measures and were removed from Stay at Home imposed townships list with Order 50/2020 issued by MoHS on 14-5-2020 and Order 57/2020 issued by MoHS on 28-5-2020.
3. Mayangon Township in Yangon Region now shows considerable improvement in COVID-19 prevention measures and its residences are hereby removed from the Stay at Home order after 4 pm on 15-6-2020.

Dr Myint Htwe
(Union Minister)

The ASEAN Secretariat Invites Nationals from Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam to apply for the following post:

Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Community and Cooperate Affairs

THE ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) based in Jakarta, Indonesia is inviting qualified ASEAN nationals from Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam to apply for the position of Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Community and Cooperate Affairs (DSG CCA). Detailed information including responsibilities and qualifications are available at <https://asean.org/opportunities/vacancies-asec/>.—MNA

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NEW REPRESENTATION

Oscars to draw up diversity rules for nominees



Best Actress winner for "The Favourite" Olivia Colman poses in the press room with her Oscar during the 91st Annual Academy Awards at the Dolby Theater in Hollywood, California on February 24, 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

Hollywood's motion picture academy will introduce new eligibility rules to boost diversity among

Oscars nominees under a raft of new measures announced Friday. The move comes after years

of criticism over a lack of diversity among the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' members, and among the Oscar nominees and winners they select.

"To ensure more diverse representation," a new task force will be set up "to develop and implement new representation and inclusion standards for Oscars eligibility," the organisation said in a statement.

The measures will not affect films in contention this year.

The Academy did not give any details about the new rules, but said the changes are intended to "encourage equitable hiring practices and representation on and off screen."

It will also host a series of

panel discussions on diversity, including a talk hosted by Academy governor Whoopi Goldberg on "the lasting impact of racist tropes and harmful stereotypes in Hollywood films." The changes were announced following mass anti-racism protests that have swept the country since the killing of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis on May 25.

Since 2015 and the #Oscars-SoWhite campaign, the Academy has made concerted efforts to broaden its membership. The annual intake of new members reached 50 percent female for the first time in 2019, while non-white membership has doubled in five years. But less than one-third admitted were people of color.

"To truly meet this moment, we must recognize how much more needs to be done, and we must listen, learn, embrace the challenge, and hold ourselves and our community accountable," said Academy President David Rubin. Among other changes agreed at this week's governor meeting, the best picture category will have a mandatory 10 nominees from next year.

Currently the category has a fluctuating number between five and 10 contenders each year.

No decision was taken on the timing of the Oscars ceremony, following reports that its February 28 date is expected to be postponed due to the pandemic.

SOURCE: AFP

36 more virus cases reported in Beijing, all linked to closed market

Beijing's health authorities on Sunday reported 36 new coronavirus infections, all traced to a local wholesale market where a new outbreak has been discovered, triggering the re-imposition of lockdown measures.

Pang Xinghuo, deputy director of the Beijing center for disease control and prevention, said at a press conference that each case either worked at Xinfadi market or had direct or indirect exposure to it, according to the official Xinhua News Agency.

The sprawling market, which has some 4,000 tenants selling fruits, vegetables and meat, was closed Saturday after 45 workers tested positive for the virus.

Nearby residential areas were also locked down and movement restrictions have been re-imposed across the capital.

An official of the city's Fengtai district where the market is located said Saturday that the entire district has been put into "wartime emergency mode."

The city on Friday report-

ed six new locally transmitted COVID-19 cases and one case the day before.

The latest outbreak comes after Beijing lowered its emergency response to COVID-19 from the second level posture to the third level on June 6.

Also Sunday, the National Health Commission reported two new confirmed COVID-19 cases in the northeastern province of Liaoning. Both are close contacts of confirmed cases reported Friday in Beijing, stoking fears of a



Police officers stand guard at an entrance of the closed Xinfadi wholesale market on June 13, 2020 in Beijing, China. **PHOTO: KYODO**

new wave of infections.

Liaoning cautioned people against going to Beijing and also

decided to quarantine people from some areas of the capital for 14 days.—Kyodo

Post-COVID - 19: Live and let live with Betel Quid

FROM PAGE-9

It is normal to see people spitting reddish things on the pavements in Yangon, but weird in other places on this planet.

I am a heavy smoker since my early twenties, and that the old habits die hard. I tried many times to give up smoking, but unsuccessful.

While the wheel of smoking cigarette and cheroot was still in spin, and that no one could coax, urged, and insisted me to stop smoking. Being a loser myself for many years, but I hope to be a winner because the time and situation are changing.

I did not remember the day or the year, but it was the mo-

ment that I bought a pack of Marlboro and saw "Smoking can cause a slow and painful death".

Considered completely harmless, I took the warning slightly, and I was indifferent, unmoved and careless.

Changing the other brand of cigarettes, the warning keeps coming to me whenever, I bought a pack of cigarettes.

The messages consist of the word "WARNING" paired with one of the following: "Cigarettes are addictive," "Tobacco smoke can harm your children," "Cigarettes cause fatal lung disease," "Cigarettes cause cancer," "Cigarettes cause strokes and heart disease," and "Smok-

ing can etc....."

It creeps in slowly and was scary.

Later, I quit smoking after seeing a dozen of packs.

Therefore, I am painting a picture with my own words in my mind such as that of "Chewing Betel Quid is addictive," "Betel Quid biting can harm your mouth," and "Betel Quid cause fatal oral cancer".

Amazing, astounding and arresting words indeed, I told myself.

Tying a red ribbon, a small warning placard must be placed at each and every betel quid selling stand.

Who will tie the bell on the cat's neck?

When my son was at pre-primary play school, he used to tell a story. The fable concerns a group of mice who debate plans to nullify the threat of a marauding cat. One of them proposes placing a bell around its neck, so that they are warned of its approach. The plan is applauded by the others, until one mouse asks who will volunteer to place the bell on the cat.

All of them make excuses.

I asked my nieces whether it is acceptable to put a placard of warning at your betel quid stand.

Consumed with fear, the adamant answer was, "No way".

Fair rebuttal indeed, but, I asked again "Will you accept, if

a team of Lu Gye orders you."

She thought for a moment and replied in a reluctant smile.

"Okay! If the right authority comes over and tells us to do so."

No easy way out for me to suggest to the higher authorities.

Unless there is a "total ban on betel quid selling", my nieces and the womenfolk would go on holding their head high and survive at least for now, and the years ahead.

It is not the strongest or the most intelligent who will survive but those who can best manage change.



Explosion at Honda Motor plant in central Japan seriously injures 2

TSU (Japan) — An explosion at a Honda Motor Co. plant in Mie Prefecture, central Japan, seriously injured two men on Sunday, police said.

The blast occurred at around 9:15 a.m. near an electrical power distribution board at the Japanese automaker's Suzuka factory in Suzuka city, the police said. The two men, who were nearby, sustained serious burns and were taken to a hospital, they said.

The two were identified as Tetsuya Nohara, 21, and Ryuji Kumagai, 27, who suffered burns to the upper body and to the face, respectively.

The police said the pair were operating the distribution board to see whether there was a flow of current. A colleague heard the explosion and found the two collapsed on the floor before a security guard called for an ambulance.

The Suzuka factory, established in 1960 as Honda's third domestic factory, has manufactured models including the Fit subcompact car, according to the company's website. It also provides technical support and supplies components to Honda factories in 28 foreign countries. —Kyodo ■



Honda Motor Co.'s plant in Mie Prefecture, central Japan. PHOTO: (KYODO)

French trader who bet the house on oil shock and won

LONDON — French trader and specialist oil hedge fund manager Pierre Andurand saw it coming from early February.

His call — and a lucrative one at that — was that there would be a massive slump in oil prices, to the point of unprecedented negative prices for 'black gold'.

"There is no limit to the drop in prices ... negative prices are possible," the founder of Andurand Capital posted to Twitter on April 20.

Hours later the price of a WTI barrel slid into negative territory for the first time, having stood at \$60 in New York a few short weeks earlier, drag-

ging Brent crude down in its wake.

Simultaneously, the Andurand Capital fund was reaping returns of more than 150 percent for having correctly second-guessed the market as early as February — before the coronavirus-induced global panic saw air traffic grind to a virtual halt along with much economic activity.

It was a spectacular coup for the former Goldman Sachs trader Andurand, after he made a market bet diametrically opposed to the one most traders had at the start of the year, when conventional wisdom said the oil price would take off. —AFP ■

Alibaba launches shopping festival for intangible cultural heritage

HANGZHOU — E-commerce giant Alibaba launched its first shopping festival designed to promote intangible cultural heritage (ICH) on China's Cultural and Natural Heritage Day, which falls on the second Saturday of June.

The opening ceremony was broadcast live on Taobao.com. The e-commerce platform of Taobao has seen the number of ICH-themed product sellers growing rapidly thanks to the hosting of more than 2 million livestreaming shows a year.

Along with the increasing penetration of the internet and the popularity of smartphones in China, livestreaming has become an efficient way to promote ICH-related products.

Alibaba Group's vice president Zhao Ying said



People walk past a logo of China's e-commerce giant Alibaba in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, March 21, 2016. PHOTO: (XINHUA/WANG DINGCHANG)

that innovation was the best way to pass on intangible cultural heritage, adding the group would keep contributing to ICH protection and development via digitalization and its platforms.

China started building

ICH workshops across the country to help with the battle against poverty in 2018. The initiative has led to the creation of more than 2,200 projects with nearly half a million jobs.

Data from Taobao.com showed that some 100 mil-

lion users placed orders online for ICH-themed products in the past year. More than 25,000 active Taobao sellers sold ICH handicraft products worth nearly 3 billion yuan (423 million U.S. dollars) during the period. —Xinhua ■

CLAIM DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY. NO. (661N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY. NO. (661N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-6-2020 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM DAY NOTICE

M.V NINOS VOY. NO. (1121 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V NINOS VOY. NO. (1121 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-6-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM DAY NOTICE

M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. (1138W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. (1138W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-6-2020 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI ACCORD VOY. NO. (0207-648N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI ACCORD VOY. NO. (0207-648N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-6-2020 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (S'PORE) PTE., LTD

Phone No: 2301185

ကျေးဇူးတင်လွှာ

၇-၆-၂၀၂၀ ရက်နေ့၊ ညနေ (၅း၄၀) နာရီ၌ ဘဝတစ်ပါးသို့ ကူးပြောင်းသွားသော ကျေးဇူးရှင်မိခင်ကြီး ဒေါ်သိန်းတင် အသက်(၈၈)နှစ်၏ နာရေးတွင် ရပ်နီးရပ်ဝေးနှင့် ပြည်တွင်း ပြည်ပမှ ဖုန်းများ၊ စာများ၊ E-mail များဖြင့် ဝမ်းနည်းကြောင်း သတင်း စကားများ ပြောကြားပေးခဲ့ခြင်း၊ ဈာပနတွင် လွမ်းသူ့ပန်းခြင်းများ၊ လွမ်းသူ့ပန်းခွေများ ပေးပို့ခဲ့ကြခြင်း၊

နိုင်ငံပိုင် သတင်းစာများမှတစ်ဆင့် မိသားစုနှင့်ထပ်တူ ဝမ်းနည်းကြောင်းများ ဖော်ပြပေးခဲ့ခြင်း၊ သင်္ကန်း အစရှိသည့် လူ့ဖွယ်ပစ္စည်းများ ပေးပို့လှူဒါန်းခဲ့ခြင်းများနှင့် ဖုန်းဖြင့် ကိုယ်တိုင်ကိုယ်ကျ ဝမ်းနည်းစကား အားပေးနှစ်သိမ့် ပြောကြားခဲ့ကြပါသော-

- နိုင်ငံတော်အကြီးအကဲများနှင့် စစ်ဘက်နယ်ဘက်မှ အရာရှိကြီးများအားလည်းကောင်း၊
- အငြိမ်းစား နိုင်ငံတော်အကြီးအကဲများနှင့် စစ်ဘက်နယ်ဘက်မှ အငြိမ်းစားအရာရှိကြီးများအားလည်းကောင်း၊
- ပြည်ထောင်စုဝန်ကြီးများ၊ တိုင်းဒေသကြီးနှင့် ပြည်နယ်ဝန်ကြီးချုပ်များ၊ ဝန်ကြီးများနှင့် လွှတ်တော်ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များအားလည်းကောင်း၊
- ပြည်ထောင်စုအစိုးရအဖွဲ့ရုံးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပြည်ထောင်စုဝန်ကြီး ဦးမင်းသူနှင့် ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအထွေထွေအုပ်ချုပ်ရေးဦးစီးဌာန အရာထမ်း၊ ဝန်ထမ်းများအားလည်းကောင်း၊
- ပြည်ထဲရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပြည်ထောင်စုဝန်ကြီး ဒုတိယဗိုလ်ချုပ်ကြီးစိုးထွဋ်၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့ ရဲချုပ် ဒုတိယရဲဗိုလ်ချုပ်ကြီး အောင်ဝင်းဦး၊ ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့မှူး၊ ရဲမှူးချုပ်မျိုးမင်းထိုက် နှင့် ရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့ဝင်များ၊ ယာဉ်ထိန်းတပ်ဖွဲ့ဝင်များ၊ အထူးစုံစမ်းစစ်ဆေးရေး ဦးစီးဌာန ညွှန်ကြားရေးချုပ်၊ ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးနှင့် အရာထမ်းဝန်ထမ်းများ၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမီးသတ်တပ်ဖွဲ့ ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ် ဦးမြတ်သူ နှင့် မီးသတ်တပ်ဖွဲ့ဝင်များအားလည်းကောင်း၊
- နာရေးကိစ္စတွင် အဖက်ဖက်မှစာနာမှုအပြည့်ဖြင့် ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ပေးကြသော ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းဒေသကြီးအစိုးရအဖွဲ့ ဝန်ကြီးချုပ် ဦးဖြိုးမင်းသိန်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်ဝန် ဦးမောင်မောင်စိုး၊ တိုင်းဒေသကြီးအစိုးရအဖွဲ့ အတွင်းရေးမှူး ဦးစိုးစိုးဇော် နှင့် ခရိုင်မြို့နယ် အထွေထွေအုပ်ချုပ်ရေးဦးစီးဌာန အရာထမ်း ဝန်ထမ်းများ၊ စည်ပင်သာယာရေးဌာန အရာထမ်း ဝန်ထမ်းများ အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- နိုင်ငံခြားသံရုံးများမှ သံအမတ်ကြီးများနှင့် သံတမန်များ အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- မြန်မာနိုင်ငံကုန်သည်/စက်မှုလုပ်ငန်းရှင်များအသင်းချုပ်(UMFCCI)၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံလူငယ်စွန့်ဦးတီထွင်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များအသင်း(MYEA) နှင့် အခြားအသင်းအဖွဲ့များ အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- ဌာနဆိုင်ရာများ၊ ပြည်တွင်း ပြည်ပကုမ္ပဏီကြီးများ၊ ညီနောင်မိတ်ဖက် ပြည်တွင်းဘဏ်များ၊ နိုင်ငံခြားဘဏ်များ၊ စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းရှင် ကြီးများနှင့် မိတ်ဆွေသင်္ဂဟများ အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- ထိုင်းနိုင်ငံ Bumrungrad ဆေးရုံကြီးတွင် (၄)လကြာ ဆေးကုသမှုခံယူနေစဉ်ကာလအတွင်း မေတ္တာဖြင့် အထူးဂရုစိုက်ကုသပေး ကြသော အထူးကုသမားတော်ကြီးများဖြစ်သည့် Dr.Rosanee Valyasevii Capt.Dr.Sukitti Panpunnung R.T.Ni Dr.Tatpong Chit-ua-aree၊ Dr.Chaianan Chaiyamanon၊ Dr.Charkaphan Osangthanont၊ Assoc. Prof. Col. Dr.Wichean Mongkon-sritragoon၊ Dr.Ekachai Singhatiraj ၊ Dr.Tagann Chaisami Assoc. Prof. Dr.Pradermchai Kongkani၊ Dr.Krit Kitisini၊ Dr. Non Wajanaponsan နှင့် ဆရာဝန်များ၊ သူနာပြုများ အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- ရွှေဂုံတိုင်အထူးကုဆေးရုံကြီး(SSC)မှ ဒေါက်တာ ဒေါ်ဌေးဌေးကြည်နှင့် အထူးကုဆရာဝန်ကြီးများ၊ ဆရာဝန်များ၊ သူနာပြုများ၊ ဆေးဘက်ဆိုင်ရာဝန်ထမ်းများနှင့် ဆေးရုံဝန်ထမ်းများ အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- မိခင်ကြီးနာမကျန်းဖြစ်စဉ် စေတနာမေတ္တာအပြည့်ဖြင့် အနီးကပ် ပြုစုစောင့်ရှောက်ပေးခဲ့ကြသူများ အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- ရန်ကုန်အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာလေဆိပ်မှ တာဝန်ရှိသူများ၊ ဝန်ထမ်းများနှင့် အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာမြန်မာလေကြောင်း(MAI)၊ AIR KBZ တို့မှ အရာထမ်း၊ ဝန်ထမ်းများ အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- ဦးကျော်သူ နာရေးကူညီမှုအသင်း(ရန်ကုန်)နှင့် အဖွဲ့အားလည်းကောင်း၊
- မိခင်ကြီး၏ ဈာပနတွင်လိုအပ်သည်များကို အစစအဆင်ပြေအောင် ကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ပေးခဲ့ကြသော ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်၊ ကမ္ဘောဇအုပ်စု၊ အရာထမ်း ဝန်ထမ်းများနှင့် ကျေးဇူးတင်ထိုက်သူများ အားလုံးအား ကျေးဇူးအထူးတင်ရှိပါသည်။

ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု

Virus crisis puts Nigeria corrupt fuel subsidy system in spotlight

LAGOS — Plunging oil prices and collapsing state revenues have seen Nigerian authorities vow an end to a controversial fuel subsidy scheme long criticised as a graft-ridden drain on public finances.

But there are major doubts that Africa's most populous country is finally ready to wean itself off a system that has helped some in high places syphon billions from government coffers.

The fuel subsidy scheme has been described as a sprawling web of patronage and mismanagement that encapsulates the dysfunction plaguing the continental powerhouse.

Despite being Africa's largest oil producer, OPEC member Nigeria has limited refinery capacity and actually imports the bulk of its refined products, including fuel.

That fuel is then sold at a subsidised rate in an opaque system aimed at keeping average Nigerians happy – but it also left plenty of scope for corruption by officials and traders.

Over the past few months the coronavirus crisis and turmoil worldwide has upended all this.

The fall in global oil prices means that fuel coming in from outside no longer needs to be subsidised, just as Nigeria's state revenues have taken a major hit.

Taking advantage of the slump to save its much-needed reserves, the Nigerian authorities announced an end to the old system in April.— AFP ■

Indonesia to permit travel to and from Japan, 3 other countries

JAKARTA — Indonesia has been drawing up a plan to allow the resumption of travel to and from four countries, including Japan, in an effort toward economic recovery after the tourism sector has been hit especially hard by the coronavirus pandemic, a government official said Friday.

“Our colleagues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are currently designing travel bubbles for four countries — China, South Korea, Japan and Australia,” Odo Manuhutu, a deputy coordinating minister involved in tourism issues, told a press conference.

According to Manuhutu, discussions have been ongoing to set up criteria for permitting travel be-



Indonesia has been drawing up a plan to allow the resumption of travel to and from four countries, including Japan. People walk through the departures area at the international terminal at Narita International Airport in Narita, Chiba Prefecture on April 7, 2020. PHOTO: AFP

tween Indonesia and the four countries. Such exceptions to travel restrictions between countries have been referred to as travel bubbles, travel bridges or corona corridors.

“After the criteria are made, negotiations will

be held with those countries for two, three or four weeks. When agreements are reached, the travel bubbles will be opened,” he said, adding that there have been many requests from countries seeking to resume travel on certain

routes. The arrangements with the four countries will be “prototypes” before other travel routes are opened, Manuhutu said. He indicated that the four countries were selected because “their investment

has helped Indonesia's economy a lot.”

Direct flights, such as from Seoul to Jakarta or Osaka to Bali, will be encouraged when the travel corridors are created, “because people now avoid transits” due to concern about transmission of the new coronavirus on multi-flight routes, the deputy minister said. The government has slowly reopened some tourist destinations across the country despite the continued high risk of the new coronavirus spreading.

As of noon Friday, Indonesia reported 1,111 new confirmed cases of the coronavirus, bringing the total number of cases to 36,406 with 2,048 fatalities.—Kyodo ■

Notice

We are looking for the whereabouts or any information on U HA MIN alias TAM MAN (譚民) regarding an application before the Hong Kong Lands Tribunal under action No. LDCS 9000 of 2018. The application has been commenced for a compulsory sale of a building in Hong Kong which includes a property known as "REAR PORTION on 4TH FLOOR, NO.68A TO KWA WAN ROAD, KOWLOON". The said U HA MIN alias TAM MAN (譚民) or any person knowing his whereabouts and/or any person representing his estate should contact our Ms.Thuzar Tin or Mr.Aung Kyaing by phone at +951538362or email thuzar.tin@zicolaw.com

/aung.kyaing@zicolaw.com or at our office address at Unit #1 Level 1, Uniteam Marine Office Building, No. 84 Pan Hlaing Street, Sanchaung Township, Yangon within 14 days from publication of this notice.

U Aung Kyaing
Higher Grade Pleader (license no. 24769/ 6. 3. 2006)
ZICOLaw Myanmar Limited
Unit # 1 Level 1, Uniteam Marine Office Building, No. 84, Pan Hlaing Street, Sanchaung Township, Yangon.
Date: 15 June 2020

Toyota Tsusho Asia Pacific Pte Ltd (Yangon Branch) Notice of Closure of Final Closing Down

This is to inform the general public that Yangon Branch of Toyota Tsusho Asia Pacific Pte Ltd is being finally closed down with effect from 30th May, 2020 as the closing down proceedings have been completed.

Daw Thaug Mya Wai, Liquidator
LL.B, D.A, D.C.A, A.C.C.A, C.P.A
Room No. (2D), Rose Condominium,
No. 182/194, 1st Floor,
Botahtaung Pagoda Road,
Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Announcement For In Order To Object

With regard to the amount of 36,330,436 Japanese Yen paid initially by Mr. Joe Chia Khian Meng, CEO of International Dimensions Limited, on behalf of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications (“MPT”) for the project of SEA-ME-WE 3, in which MPT participated in, along with the Ministry of Transport and Communications and International Dimensions Limited (“IDL”), IDL having an address at No. 73, Tras Street # 03-02, Singapore 079012, MPT is now being asked to reimburse to U Aye Zaw Win (12/Ma Ya Ka (N) 006945) as person in charge of the Myanmar branch of IDL, the amount first mentioned above as it is claimed to be U Aye Zaw Win’s personal money.

U Aye Zaw Win submitted that, on 23 August 2019, as he had advertised in the newspapers of The Global New Light of Myanmar and The Business Times in Singapore dated (30 September 2019) with regard to the matter of objection that as U Aye Zaw Win was chairman and director of the Myanmar branch of IDL, the above-mentioned amount was paid personally on his own account and as to the matter of reimbursement of said amount to him, there was no objection filed.

Since U Aye Zaw Win (12/Ma Ya Ka (N) 006945) passed away on 26 February 2020, Daw Khin Sandar Win, his surviving spouse, residing at No.257, Insein Road, Nawarat Office Center, Hlaing Township, Yangon Region, as successor, submitted for the reimbursement of such amount. Therefore, we hereby announce that if anyone wants to object regarding this matter, such objection shall be submitted personally or by letter to the following address within (14) days from the date of this announcement with original and legally binding documents.

U Thiha Aung Khaing, Higher Grade Pleader (No. 40219)
No. 43, Bo Aung Kyaw Street (Lower Block), Kyauktatar Township, Yangon, Myanmar
For Myanma Posts and Telecommunications

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ပုံနှိပ်စက်ဖြင့် ပုံနှိပ်ပေးပါသည်။
Newspapers & Journal Printing Service. **Contact: 01-8604530**

Towards Lawpita

By Maung Tha (Archaeology)

I still remember a lesson of electricity taught by science teacher Daw Than Than Myint while I was attending the middle school. The teacher said, “Lawpita presses a button to switch on lighting of the whole Myanmar and presses again to switch off.” From then onward, I have knowledge about Lawpita power station to supply electricity to towns across the nation.

In my childhood, the small town where I resided was supplied electricity from 7 am to 9 am and 11 am to 2 pm and 5.30 pm to 5.30 am the next day. Supply of electricity in the morning and afternoon sessions was for the local people to listen to radio. Generators from the power station were operated with diesel to supply electricity to locals. At that time, radios

with the use of battery were not developed, so people relied on electricity to listen to radio. Various kinds of electronic equipment such as hot plate, television, computer, washing machine and refrigerator were not wider useful among the people.

When I arrived in Yangon, I was delighted at electrification for the city round the clock. Yangon City was lit the whole night. When I arrived at Lawpita where I saw turbines in Lawpita in non-stop generating hydropower, I was grateful to Lawpita power station.

Towards Loikaw

Kayah State was named Kayinni area before Myanmar had regained the independence and it was also called Ngwetaung State in Myan-



Taungkwe Pagoda in Loikaw.



Pun Creek of Lawpita.

mar literature. Silver Mountain (Ngwetaung) is located in Demawhso Township, 14 miles from Loikaw.

Kayah State is sharing border with Shan State in the north and Kayin State in the west and south. It is the smallest state among other states of the country. Kayah State on 4,529.56 square miles of area with 65 miles in width from the east to the west and 105 miles in length from the south to the north is formed with seven townships in two districts. Kayah ethnic people are the largest number in the state residing together with Shan, Inntha, Pa-O, Danu and Padaung ethnics.

Loikaw Township, the capital of Kayah State, is at an altitude of 2,950 feet, constituted with 12 wards and 13 village-tracts. Biluchaung hydropower project site takes a position near Lawpita Village of Loikaw Township. So it is famous as Lawpita power station.

Thanlwin River is crossing more than 100 miles long area from the north to the south in Kayah State. Bilu Creek originated from Inlay Lake flows into Pun Creek passing the centre of Loikaw.

An isolated hill takes a position in the west of Bilu Creek. Shan ethnic people called it as Loikhaw in Shan language



which means an isolated hill. Then, it changed to Loikaw. But, Kayan ethnic people call it Siridor till today. Siridor in Kayan language means the victory of village using bone of chicken.

Nine rocks with 387 feet in height are located between Pobbayon Monastery and Mogaung Pagoda in Mingala Ward of southern Loikaw. The rock is in shape of nine parts called Taungkwe in Myanmar language, Mawphye in Kayah language and Loifatet in Shan language. In 1948, Parliament Secretary U Sein and physician U Aye advised to name Thiri Taungtaw instead of Taungkwe. So, it was renamed Thiri Mingala Hill in 1970.

The famous Taungkwe Pagoda was built on Thiri Mingala Hill. Such a pagoda attracts pilgrims from various regions of the nation. Taungkwe Pagoda is a symbol of Kayah State.

Pilgrims must climb up the hill along the narrow pavement between cracks of hill to the pagoda without using the lift. Everybody can enjoy beautiful scene of Loikaw from the pagoda.

Towards Lawpita

We went to Lawpita via Loikaw. After paying homage to Taungkwe Pagoda in Loi-

kaw, we proceeded to the eastern ward of Loikaw. Along the route, we saw vast paddy plantations as well as maize ones. Lawpita is in 25 kilometres distance from Loikaw. Along the way to Lawpita is flanked by greening and thriving crop plantations.

We were allowed to enter Lawpita after passing three inspection gates as the area is very important for security. Before entering Lawpita, we enjoyed scenic beauties from a view desk on the hillside.

A saying has been favourite among Kayah ethnic people, which goes: "Will it rain only when frog fries; will fish up only when it rains; will flooding happen only when only when fish ups; will elephants do pulling only when flooding happens; can timber be extracted only when elephants do pulling; and will the state be prosperous only when timber can be extracted." In line with the saying, saw thick forests along the route to Lawpita. Kayah ethnic people were engaged in timber extraction on a wider scale.

Biluchaung Hydropower Projects in Kayah State rely on water sources of Inlay Lake to supply electricity to all areas of the nation till today. KTA Company of the United States of America conducted the feasibility studies in 1953 to generate electricity on Bilu Creek. Based on the report of such company, Nippon Koei Company of Japan made field trips to around Bilu Creek and submitted a proposal that if three power stations are built on Bilu Creek, they can



Biluchaung Hydropower Station

generate 124 megawatts and that if Inlay Lake is improved as a reservoir, these stations can produce 240 megawatts.

As such, three turbines were built for Biluchaung No 2 power station in 1954 for the first phase and machinery installed in 1960 when it started generating 84 megawatts. Three more turbines were installed at the station for the second phase. However, it was necessary to build a reservoir to store water all the year round for generating electricity. Hence, Moebye Reservoir was built near Moebye Village in Pekhon Township, 18 miles from Loikaw, in 1967 and

construction was completed in 1970.

Thanks to Moebye Reservoir, local people can make trips from Inlay Lake of Shan State to Pekhon Port in Kayah State along the waterway. The reservoir can irrigate 20,000 acres of cultivable lands and supply water to generating electricity all the year round.

The power station was installed with three 28-megawatt generators for the second phase in 1974. So, generating capacity of the station reached 168 megawatts. In extending the power stations, Biluchaung No 1 power station was built in 1992 to generate 28 megawatts

and Biluchaung No 3 power station in 2014 to produce 52 megawatts. Three power stations generate 248 megawatts equivalent to 1,724 million kilowatt hours per year.

Upstream Biluchaung hydropower project is being implemented in the site, 14 miles and four furlongs southwest of Nyaungshwe. It is expected to generate 30.4 megawatts equivalent to 1,34.6 million kilowatt hours per year. Thanks to the project, it can prevent silting into Inlay Lake.

No responsible persons are allowed to enter the project area. The responsible persons are not allowed to take photos inside the station. As applications in advance of visitors to Lawpita are allowed, students and those from associations and organizations can pay visit to the project site.

While in Lawpita, I saw speedy, rough flow of water in Pun Creek daily. Water flow of Pun Creek which passes jungles and mountains is in high speed. Such strong massive water volume moves turbines of the power station to generate electricity round the clock.

Biluchaung hydropower projects electrifying the whole Myanmar for more than 50 years is expected to benefit the people for coming many years.

As I heard continuous sound of the current in Pun Creek among beautiful natural beauties of Kayah State daily, I remembered the sound of water flow when I left Lawpita.

*(Translated by
Than Tun Aung)*



Moebye Reservoir.

Fixtures released for Myanmar National League 2020

MYANMAR National League 2020 matches have been released according to the football authorities' decision set by the Myanmar National League committee meeting held on 10 June.

As the starting match of Week-10 of the Myanmar National League, defending champion Shan United will play against Southern Myanmar FC at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon and the match will be streamed live on My Sports Facebook Page.

In the same time, former Myanmar National League champion Yangon United will take on Magwe FC at Yangon United Sports Complex.

On 17 July, Yadanarbon FC will play against ISPE FC at Thuwunna Stadium and the match will be streamed live on

the same My Sports Facebook Page.

On the same day, Ayeyarwady United will play with Rakhine United FC at Yangon United Sports Complex.

In the Week-11 Myanmar National League match, Yangon United FC will take on Hantharwady United at Thuwunna Stadium on 20 June and Yadanarbon FC will take on Magwe FC at Yangon United Sports Complex on the same day.

Southern Myanmar FC will also take on ISPE FC at Padonmar Stadium on 20 July.

On 21 July, Shan United will play with Rakhine United at Yangon United Sports Complex and Sagaing United will take on Ayeyarwady United at Thuwunna Stadium.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Shan United's Nanda Kyaw kicks the ball during the first season match of Myanmar National League 2020 against Yangon United on YUSC pitch. **PHOTO: SUFC**

Keeper San Satt Naing says 'I'm happy to land on the pitch again'

AS Myanmar National League matches are slated to be held on 16 July, Yangon United goalkeeper San Satt Naing has expressed his cheerfulness to playback on the pitch again.

I am happy to have the opportunity to land on the pitch again. The feeling is awesome

and it cannot be mentioned.

Keeper San Satt Naing was making his own workouts in the stay-at-home period of coronavirus pandemic and waiting for the time for restarting of the football matches.

The keeper continued that I have to resume what I love. I am

excited to meet my teammates and fans again. My fans and teammates will feel the same thing as me.

San Satt Naing's club, Yangon United will play against Magwe FC in the restarting match of the Myanmar National League.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Premier League's international appeal faces coronavirus test



Manchester United fans attend a friendly against Tottenham in Shanghai in July 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON — When the 100 day-wait for Premier League football comes to an end on Wednesday, the anticipation will be felt as keenly in Mumbai and Beijing as in Manchester and Birmingham.

The global reach of the English top-flight has helped secure

its position as the wealthiest league in world football.

The Premier League's overseas television rights deals for the 2019-2022 three-season cycle hit a record £4.2 billion (\$5.3 billion) and another £2 billion deal has already been struck for

Scandinavian rights between 2022 and 2028. That income will be all the more welcome, with uncertainty over when supporters will be allowed back into stadiums and commercial revenues expected to tumble in a global economic crisis. However, without the atmosphere generated by paying fans, the Premier League's appeal may be diminished in football's new normal.

"What makes it special in England is the way people react to the game," former Arsenal manager and FIFA's chief of global football development Arsene Wenger told The Athletic.

"It is the best country in the world for the way the fans respond to what's happening on the pitch. That's why I think it will be the most handicapped championship without that."—AFP ■

More than 8 million Italians tune in as football returns

ROME — The return of Italian football was a hit with television viewers in the country as more than eight million tuned in to watch the cup semi-final second leg between Juventus and AC Milan on Friday (Jun 12).

The match was the first to be played in Italy since the coronavirus pandemic halted the season on Mar 9.

The 0-0 stalemate, which was enough to send Juventus to the final, drew the biggest TV audience for a football match this term, Italian media reported on Saturday.

When he authorised the resumption of football, Italian Sports Minister Vincenzo Spada-

fora welcomed the fact the first matches would be in the Italian Cup, as they are broadcast free-to-air on national network RAI and are thus accessible to everyone.

On Friday, the match attracted almost 8.3 million viewers on RAI 1, with a 34 per cent market share.

The biggest audience before the lockdown was for the first leg of the semi-final which ended 1-1 attracted 8.09 million viewers. The national team, whose matches are also broadcast free-to-air on RAI, attracted 7.4 million viewers for their Euro 2020 qualifier against Bosnia last June.—AFP ■



Everyone is looking: Cristiano Ronaldo missed a penalty as Juventus eliminated AC Milan before a huge TV audience as Italian football returned. **PHOTO: AFP**