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Pyithu Hluttaw discusses release of grazing land, infrastructural development, petroleum bill



Pyithu Hluttaw holds its 8th-day meeting of 17th regular session on 4 August. PHOTO:MNA

PYITHU Hluttaw held its 8th-day meeting of 17th regular session yesterday, and the Ministry of Union Government Office, the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Health and Sports answered the questions of Hluttaw representatives.

Questions to ministries

MP U Kyaw Min from Letpandan constituency asked about

illegal cancellation of 163.62 acres grazing land in Magyikwin village-tract of his constituency.

Deputy Minister for Union Government Office U Tin Myint replied that a private company will return 51.55 acres of grazing land from its 91.55 acres to the Bago Region government for local development programme. Out of the remaining land from the 163.62 acres of previous pas-

ture, 16.11 acres will be returned for the grazing land.

MP Dr Aung Naing from Thabeikkyin constituency asked about drawing clear lines of demarcation between Ohn Zone village-tract and Chaunggyi village-tract and between his constituency and Singu Township.

Deputy Minister U Tin Myint replied that the land demarcation is a highly controversial

issue and it will be solved by the regional level officials by using advanced land surveying tools.

MP U Khin Maung Latt from Myanaung constituency asked about upgrade of a rural bridge in his constituency. Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Linn replied that the bridge would be upgraded into a 60-ft long concrete bridge in 2020-2021FY based on availability of fund from

Ayeyawady Region government.

MP U Than Aung from Ngapudaw constituency asked for renovation of fragile bridge that links Chaungwa Village and Autthaung Village.

Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Linn replied that the upgrade of bridge will be carried out after applying budget in the upcoming financial years.

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No new case of COVID-19 in Myanmar reported on 4 August, total figure remains at 355

Updated at 8 pm, 4 August 2020



New Persons under Investigation from the past 24 hours to 12 noon of 4 August 2020



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"People are the key"

PYITHU HLUTTAW

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MP U Maung Maung from Htityaung constituency asked when the new 50-bedded hospital will be inaugurated and the use of existing old hospital building.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein replied that the new 50-bedded hospital will be inaugurated in 2021-2022FY and the old hospital building will be used for public healthcare facility and outpatient ward.

MP U Peik Ko from Pakokku constituency asked for opening of a rural health centre in Magy-pin Village in his constituency.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein answered that the rural clinic will be established with the approval of Union Government Office, and the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry is going through the process.

MP Daw Aye Aye Mu (a) Daw Shar Mee from Kalay



Deputy Minister for Union Government Office U Tin Myint.

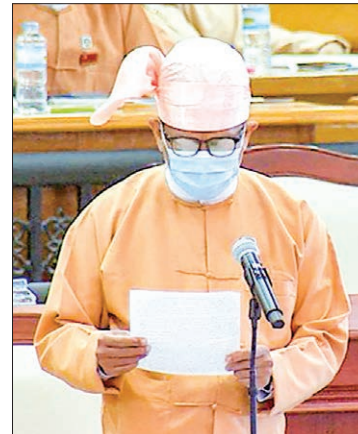
constituency asked about connection of inter-village roads at the eastern bank of Myitthar River in her constituency, and Deputy Minister Dr Kyaw Linn answered it.

MP U Nyan Lin from Shwepyitha constituency asked for construction of a track and field facility equipped with sport gear linking with a foot-



MP U Kyaw Min.

ball ground in 2020-2021FY; MP Dr A Zin Latt from Shwebo constituency asked about enforcement on systematic production of hygiene drinking water; MP U Zaw Min Thein from Laymyethna constituency asked about the current status of the Multi Sectoral National Plan of Action on Nutrition (MS-NPAN).



MP Dr Aung Naing.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein replied the questions.

Petroleum Testing, Drilling and Processing Bill

Pyithu Hluttaw approved the Petroleum Testing, Drilling and Processing Bill submitted by the Electricity and Energy Development Committee.

Motion to form health aware-

ness campaign teams

MP Dr Aye Min from Khayan constituency tabled a motion to form health awareness campaign teams comprised with the private general practitioners, health experts and some enthusiasts as a move to promote public healthcare.

The motion was discussed by the five Hluttaw representatives.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein explained the activities of her ministry in public healthcare sector in various means including social media platforms, and suggested to put the motion on record.

The Hluttaw unanimously decided to hold it for record.

The 9th-day meeting of Pyithu Hluttaw will convene on 6 August.—Aye Aye Thant

(Translated by Aung Khin)

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw raises queries to three ministries, hears motion

Amyotha Hluttaw held its 8th-day meeting of 17th regular session yesterday, with queries to three ministries and heard a motion for amending regulations relating to bylaw for Conservation of Water Resources and Rivers.

Queries to ministries

MP U Hla Oo from Sagaing Region constituency 4 asked for upgrade of the 2-mile 4-furlong long road section of Monywa bypass on Mandalay-Sagaing-Monywa-YeU Union Highway into 30 ft wide asphalt concrete road in the 2020-2021 financial year.

Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw replied that the budget allocation was limited only K500 million in 2020-2021 financial year; this amount is enough for only 6-mile 5-furlong length of the road, and that the project could be finalized in the following years, depending on availability of budget.

MP U Lin Tin Htay from Mon State constituency 4 asked about construction of new school buildings required



Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw

in some villages of Chaungzon Township in 2020-2021 financial year.

Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun replied that out of nine schools in Chaungzone Township, three new buildings have been constructed at three schools, and construction of more new school buildings will be prioritized in the upcoming financial year.

MP U Bwe Khane from Chin State constituency 3 asked about supply of drinking water due to its scarcity in Khwa Phoe village in Thantlang Township.

Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw replied that the project



MP U Hla Oo

will be implemented with the fund of Border Areas and National Races Development Department in 2020-2021FY.

MP Dr Khun Win Thaug from Kachin State constituency 11 asked about renovation of Tarli diversion weir in Momauk Township of his constituency.

Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw replied that the diversion weir will be constructed in 2021-2022FY, and its irrigation system in the following financial year with the budget of Kachin State government.

MP U Sai San Aung from Shan State constituency 12 asked for the establishment of a modern tractor camp of Agricultural Mechanization



Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun

Department in Hopan Township of Wa Self-Administered Division.

Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw replied that the plan is not in the process as the ministry has a limited capacity for this and the agricultural mechanization camp in Kunlong Township is providing assistance to Hopan Township.

MP U Thet Naing Soe from Taninthayi Region constituency 2 asked for legal actions against the vessels catching Commerson's anchovy fishes in Myanmar water close to Launglon Township in his constituency; MP U Mya Min Swe from Magway Region constituency 9 asked about con-



MP U Lin Tin Htay

struction of mini dams along Tantkyi mountain range for greening of this area.

Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw replied the questions.

Regulations of Conservation of Water Resources and Rivers

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than invited the list of MPs who want to discuss specific paragraphs and sub-paragraphs for amending bylaws for regulations of Conservation of Water Resources and Rivers.

The 9th-day of Amyotha Hluttaw will convene on 6 August.—Aung Ye Thwin

(Translated by Aung Khin)

2020 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION



Advance voting process for local voters outside their constituencies in 2020 General Election

- Heads of trainings, schools, hospitals and jails are to contact the sub-election commissions to get documents of Form 15.
- They must return these documents to sub-commission of respective townships by 26 August 2020 after the documents are filled by the voters.
- Sub-election commission of respective townships must send ballot papers and envelopes for advance voting to the trainings, schools, hospitals and jails by 7 October 2020.
- Advance voting must be organized at trainings, schools, hospitals and jails on their appropriate day from 8 October 2020 to 21 October 2020.
- The envelopes containing ballot papers must be sent back to sub-election commission of respective townships by 4 pm on 8 November 2020.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee discusses bills on National Planning, Union Budget

PYIDAUNGSSU Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting on 2020-2021 National Planning Bill and 2020 Union Tax Bill sent by the Union Government in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Chairman of Joint Bill Committee and Joint Public Accounts Committee U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Ministers for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win and U Sett Aung, Vice-Chairman, Secretaries, Joint secretaries and members of the Joint Bill Committee and the Joint Public Accounts Committee, officials from Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry, Union Attorney-General Office, and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee discusses 2020-2021 National Planning Bill and 2020 Union Tax Bill on 4 August. PHOTO: MNA

MoI Union Minister holds copyright meeting for literary works



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint holds a meeting with writers, publishers and copyright experts at Central Printing Factory on Theinbyu Road in Yangon on 4 August. PHOTO: MNA



need to study international copyright rules.

Acting Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Aye Kywel briefed on formation of collective management organizations for literary copyright and promoting copyrights on literary works.

At the meeting, Saya Chit Oo Nyo, Ma Hnin Phwe, Juu, Mg Hla Myo (Chin Chaung Chan), Pone Nya Khin, copyright expert Academy Swe Zin Htike, the legal experts Sittway U Than Maung and U Htay Oo, publishers U Myint Tun, U Myo Aung, U San Mon Aung and U Win Hlaing Oo and IT expert U Thaug Su Nyein discussed relevant topics.

Myanmar enacted the Literary and Artistic Copyright Law on 24 May 2019.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

UNION Minister for Information and Public Relations Dr Pe Myint held a meeting on copyright issues for literary works yesterday morning.

The meeting was held at the Central Printing Factory

of Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu Road in Yangon.

The Union Minister firstly delivered an opening speech, saying the meeting was to exchange

views on the literary copyright issues.

He added copyright issue has become more complicated amidst the changing trend of technology, with adverse effect

of new media on print media.

The new media has caused the changing trend in writing and creation styles, as well as expectation of the readers, said the Union Minister, adding the

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
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Notification 146/2020**

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(4 August 2020)

**Four Defence Services Personnel representatives
substituted for Pyithu Hluttaw**

According to the report presented under Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law on substitution of four Pyithu Hluttaw representative of Defence Services Personnel who were submitted by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services for the 8 November 2015 General Election, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following Pyithu Hluttaw representatives shown on the left column under the Notification 1/2016 dated on 18-1-2016, the Notification 2/2017 dated on 26-1-2017, the Notification 8/2017 dated on 16-5-2017 and the Notification 29/2017 dated on 14-11-2017 with those shown on the right column.

Pyithu Hluttaw

- 1. BC 18190
Maj-Gen Tin Swe Win
- 2. BC 18645
Brig-Gen Naing Win
- 3. BC 17989
Col Khin Maung Cho
- 4. Navy 3689
Lt-Comdr Aung Kyaw Hnin

- BC 18834
Maj-Gen Aung Myo Tun
- BC 26936
Lt-Col Naing Lin
- BC 29149
Lt-Col Yan Naing Kyaw
- Navy 3890
Lt-Comdr Tun Tun Lat

**Hla Thein
Chairman
Union Election Commission**

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Notification 147/2020**

1st Waning of Second Waso 1382 ME
(4 August 2020)

**One Defence Services Personnel
representative
substituted for Amyotha Hluttaw**

According to the report presented under Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law on substitution of one Amyotha Hluttaw representatives of Defence Services Personnel who was submitted by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services for the 8 November 2015 General Election, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following one Amyotha Hluttaw representative shown on the left column under the Notification 20/2017 dated on 21-8-2017 with those shown on the right column.

Amyotha Hluttaw

- BC 18637
Colonel Aung Lwin
- BC 23057
Colonel Aung Kyaw Tun

**Hla Thein
Chairman
Union Election Commission**

Renewal of notice to journalists for 4th Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong

THE fourth session of the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong, which will be held at Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC-I and MICC-II) in Nay Pyi Taw, has been postponed from 12-14 August to 19-21 August.

As the conference will be held in accordance with the preventive measures against COVID-19, the media

will be invited in limited numbers, and the Ministry of Information will soon announce the list of journalists for covering the conference.

The correspondents who cover the event will have to do in accordance with the formerly released guidance of COVID-19 measures and need to inform their arrivals at Nay Pyi Taw Municipal Guesthouse

no later than noon of 14 August.

For further enquiries, please contact U Myo Nyunt from News and Periodicals Enterprise, Phone-09-420723244 and 067-3412125 and Daw Yu Yu Win from Copyright and Registration Division, Phone - 09-5061715 and 01-544582. — MNA ■

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye comforts flood victims in Hinthada, Bago

THE Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is providing relief aid to the flood victims with Myanmar.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye with the director-general of the Disaster Management Department and officials met and comforted the flood victims at the temporary relief shelter in Phaungsate Village in Hinthada Township yesterday morning. They also visited the bank erosion site due to flood of the the Ayeyawady River.

The Union Minister comforted flood victims and discussed with local authorities about implementation of the resettlement.

The Union Minister and party presented K4,100,000 for purchasing construction materi-



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye inspects damages to road caused by flood of Ayeyawady River. PHOTO: MNA

als for flood victims in Eait Pyat Village, K310,800 for food subsidy, instant noodles, soaps and masks

for protecting COVID-19. Moreover, arrangements have been made to ship aid to flood victims

due to broken embankment near Phaungsate Village, according to the ministry as soon as possible.

The Union Minister met the staff from Disaster Management Training School in Hinthada Township and discussed the curriculum review, capacity building for each teacher and coach, research on natural disaster management, and conducting ongoing workshops, seminars and courses via video conferencing. In the afternoon, the Union Minister and party went to Nyaunglebin, Peinzalot Town, Zeyawady Town and Otwin Township in Bago Region and comforted the flood victims. They donated instant noodles, soaps, masks and relief assistance, K9,912,000 to cover one week of rice for 4,720 people and K3,100,000 for construction materials.—MNA ■

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

This is the time we should be on our guard



In our country, we haven't even reached three months from the time we started imposing health rules and regulations to protect ourselves from COVID. I can see some people who have lost their patience. In this type of situation, we should be scared because we need to be scared; this is the time we should be on our guard. In some countries where they have announced that they have overcome the COVID challenge, they are facing COVID cases again. This is really scary.

Let me remind you again. Researchers are of the opinion that the second COVID wave is more likely to be worse than the first wave. We did not overcome the first wave easily. We had to invest in financial resources, human resources, and spiritual energy and will power. All types of energy. We need to come up with spiritual energy and will power continuously so that the investments we have made so far couldn't turn out to be for nothing.

Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's Facebook post on 17 June 2020)

7th coordination meeting between Govt, NCA-S EAOs held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE 7th work committee coordination meeting between the Government and the NCA-S EAOs (Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement Signatories – Ethnic Armed Organizations) was held at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Representatives of the Government at the meeting were the NRPC Vice-Chairman the Attorney-General of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Lt-Gen Min Naung and Lt-Gen Tin Maung Win from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Peace Commission Secretary and Retired Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Pyone Cho (a) U Htay Win Aung, Peace Commission advisory board members U Hla Maung Shwe and U Moe Zaw Oo, and Director-General U Zaw Htay of the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor.

NCA Implementation Framework Coordination Group Leader Sao Sai Ngern, NCA Implementation Coordinator U Myo Win, members U Hla Htay, Saw Mra Yazar Lin, Dr Lian Hmung Sakhong, Salai Htalaw Hei, Saw Sein Win, Pado Saw L Kalusay, Saw Kyaw Nyunt, Kya Salmon, Nai Aung Ma Ngay, Khun Myint Tun and Dr Sai Oo represented the NCA-S EAOs.

During the meeting, Attorney-General of the Union U Tun Tun Oo said that the matters related to the Joint Ceasefire Monitoring Committee were discussed on 2 August, and agreement was reached. With mutual



The 7th work committee coordination meeting between the Government and the NCA-S EAOs is in progress on 4 August. **PHOTO: KO HTEIN**

understanding, both sides could transform differences into common stance, he said.

Negotiation groups of both sides discussed matters related to the Part III of the Union Accord. Thirteen agreements on NCA Implementation Framework have been achieved, said the Attorney-General of the Union. Both sides have agreed eight main topics regarding future processes and implementation for post-2020. Two points regarding the basic principle of building the Union based on democracy and federal system have also been agreed, according to the Attorney-General of the Union.

Agreements reached in the coordination meeting will be added to the Part III of the Union Accord, so it can say that both sides are taking efforts to

lay foundation for peace process and construction of a Democratic Federal Union for post-2020, said the Attorney-General of the Union.

He also urged the attendees to be patient, open-minded and show mutual understanding in the meeting in order to support ongoing peace process and the upcoming fourth session of the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong.

He urged both sides to focus on finding common ground in order to help negotiate agreements.

Sao Sai Ngern, the NCA Implementation Framework Coordination Group Leader, said that starting from early 2020, the negotiation groups of both sides have regularly made discussions matters related to implementation of the resolutions of the

8th JICM, the upcoming fourth session of the Union Peace Conference– 21st Century Panglong, and Part III of the Union Peace Accord, and the meetings achieved good results.

The fourth session of the Union Peace Conference– 21st Century Panglong will be organized in the third week of August.

The NCA Implementation Framework Coordination Group Leader Sao Sai Ngern continued that the results achieved from the two-day Work Committee coordination meeting will be submitted to the Peace Process Steering Team (PPST) meeting to be held on 6 and 7 August to seek approval.

The JICM preliminary meeting will be held on 10 and 11 August, and the JICM meeting on 13 August. This two-day coordination meeting discussed

the facts that should be included in the Part III of the Union Accord, and in the upcoming JICM meeting on 13 August, the leaders of both sides will approve the facts, according to the group leader Sao Sai Ngern, who urged all the representatives to exert great efforts in the two-day coordination meeting to achieve good results.

Proposals of both sides for implementation of the resolutions of the 8th JICM, the NCA Implementation and Framework, relevant future processes for post-2020, plans for step-by-step implementation and basic principles were discussed in the meeting.

The second day of the meeting will be held on 5 August. — Myo Myint, Han Lin Naing

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Elections are the foundation of democracy.

Announcement for voters ahead of 2020 General Election

1. Union Election Commission has announced eligible voters lists on notice boards at the relevant wards/village-tracts sub-commission offices and villages for 14 days, from 25-7-2020 to 7-8-2020 for the first time. The voters need to check the lists, and if necessary, they can do to add their names using Form -3 in the lists of eligible voters, to make complaints to those who are not eligible in the list using Form -4 and to submit a data-correction form using Form (4-c).
2. The Union Election Commission will recompile the complete eligible voter lists making addition, subtraction or correction to the lists supervised of the relevant Township Sub-Election Commission.
3. After the process of addition, subtraction or correction in relations to the request of voters, the second edition of voter lists will be announced (again) for 14 days in October 2020. The voters, who failed to submit their requests for addition, subtraction or correction in the first announcement for any reason, may ask (again) for addition, subtraction or correction of voter lists.
4. A person will be able to vote only if his or her name is included in the relevant list of eligible voters. In order to get complete and accurate lists of eligible voters, the people are requested to cooperate with election officials by sending at least one person from each household to the relevant election offices to check the list.

Union Election Commission

Deputy Commerce Minister joins Indo ASEAN Oceanic Business Summit & Expo

DEPUTY MINISTER for Commerce U Aung Htoo, as a Guest of Honour, delivered remarks at the 1st Indo ASEAN Oceanic Business Summit & Expo organized by Confederation of India Industry (CII) on 4 August morning.

The Deputy Minister said that the current ceremony is a plan to accelerate the good-drive in economic relation in line with the sustainable development goals among India, ASEAN and Asia-Pacific countries.

It is also expected to sign Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement by the end of 2020; after the agreement is signed, it will become the world's largest trading region.

He added the need for cooperation among the signatories to promote competition and strength for post COVID-19



Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo joins digital version of 1st Indo ASEAN Oceanic Business Summit & Expo on 4 August. PHOTO: MNA

period; the electronic trading system plays key role in the world's trading sector during the pandemic and should take full advantage of it for the recovery of economy.

Myanmar is striving for economic relief in line with

Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) and also constructs Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone and ports to be able to link with India and other coastal regions.

Mr Hardeep Singh Puri, the Honourable Minister of State of

India, ministers and deputy ministers from India, Fiji, the Philippines, Malaysia and Cambodia, Indian ambassador to Myanmar, ambassadors, high-ranking officers, organizations and businesses people from ASEAN and partner countries joined the

meeting.

This event was the first of its kind trilateral business summit involving prominent countries from ASEAN and Oceanic region.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

National human rights body holds high-level meeting with APF

MYANMAR National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) is holding a High Level Dialogue with the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) since 3 August via virtual conferencing.

The APF is a coalition of 25 national human rights organizations in Asia-Pacific regions, providing the support of technical expertise in developing performance of the member institutions.

The purpose of the High Level Dialogue was to discuss with reformed MNHRC for national human rights institutions' distinctive features, common challenges and the role and responsibilities of the member institutions and to provide necessary support in the



Meeting between National Human Rights Commission and a High Level Dialogue with the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions is in progress on 4 August. PHOTO: MNA

MNHRC's promoting human rights and performance, developing more awareness raising

and protection activities.

At the High Level Dialogue, the performance of MNHRC

and interactions with government organizations, with international organizations and with

public, performance appraisal and suggestions, implementation of the Commission's Strategic plan (2020-2024) and further activities were discussed.

The High Level Dialogue was attended by Chairperson of MNHRC U Hla Myint, Deputy Chairperson and members, APF Expert Ms Rosslyn Joy Noonan as lead facilitator from APF and Principal Advisor of Capacity Assessments and International Engagement Ms Pip Dargan and commissioner to Philippines Commission on Human Rights Ms Karen Gomez-Dumpit.

The High Level Dialogue will end 6 August.—MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

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Announcement of 11 elected members of
Bar Council

In accordance with the Rule 16 of the Bar Council Election Bylaws, the list of 11 advocates who were newly elected for the members of Bar Council are announced as follow:

Sr.	Name of High Court lawyer	Licence number	National Scrutinization Card No
1	U Mya Thein	973	12/Ma Ya Ka (Naing) 007014
2	U Nay La	2062	12/Ta Ma Na (Naing) 006540
3	U Thein Than Oo	3695	9/Kha Ah Za (Naing) 048031
4	U Nyan Win	1203	12/Pa Za Ta (Naing) 011060
5	Daw Khin Nu Tha	2523	12/Oo Ka Ta (Naing) 009081
6	U Kyaw Hoe	1933	14/Pa Tha Na (Naing) 133161
7	U Khin Maung Than	1784	9/Ma Ha Ma (Naing) 018069
8	U Sein Win Chan	2344	13/Ta Ka Na (Naing) 066699
9	U Thet Swe	4511	7/Pa Kha Na (Naing) 078879
10	U Aung Kyaw Min	5118	12/Da La Na (Naing) 085740
11	U Khin Maung Zaw	4060	9/Pa Ma Na (Naing) 002047

Sd/
Dr Thida Oo
Secretary
The Bar Council

Matriculation exam results to be announced on 9 August online

THE 2020 matriculation exam results will be announced on the website of Ministry of Education www.moe.gov.mm and www.myanmarexam.org starting from 00:30 am on Sunday of 9 August 2020.

The results for the remote regions and the places with no internet access will be announced via Myanmar radio programmes and SKYNET Education Channel.

Announcement of the result will be made at the respective exam centres with the arrangement of at least 6ft physical distancing from 9 am to 4 pm in accordance with the guidance of the Ministry of Health and Sports on 10 August 2020.

People must follow some preventive measures when they enter school compounds, with keeping away at least 6 ft each other and wearing masks and face shields systematically.

The elderly persons aged 60 and over, chronic disease patients, sick persons, suspected patients of COVID-19 and those have primary contact with confirmed cases will not be allowed entering the schools.

There will be seven call centres to clarify confusions on the result announcement.

The Department of Myanmar Examinations will later announce for taking out matriculation marks, certificates on completion of matriculation exam and submitting complaint for rechecking answer paper. — *Department of Myanmar Examinations*

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee holds meeting on construction sector



Hluttaw representatives and officials from Ministry of Construction hold meeting on removing the list of pledges in the previous 16 regular sessions of Hluttaw. PHOTO: MNA

THE Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee of the Amyotha Hluttaw held a meeting with Hluttaw representatives who raised the questions

and officials from the Ministry of Construction in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, the committee made a coordination between the MP and the min-

isterial officials for removing the list of pledges in the previous 16 regular sessions of Hluttaw. —MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

Myanmar citizens stranded in foreign countries return home by relief flight

A total of 106 Myanmar citizens – 36 in the Republic of Korea, 28 in the United States of America, five in France, five in Egypt, three in Indonesia, three in Japan, three in Norway, two in Belgium, one in Italy and 17 seamen – arrived back home by a relief flight No 8M 802 of Myanmar Airways International from Incheon International Airport landed at the Yangon International Airport yesterday night after they were stranded

in foreign countries due to suspension of international flights.

On arrival at the airport, 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 guidelines of immigration and healthcare processes.

In accordance with the directives of National-Level Cen-

tral Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in coordination with the Myanmar embassies abroad and other relevant ministries in Myanmar, has been organizing 16 relief/special flights via Incheon International Airport of ROK and a total of 9,442 persons arrived back home under this programme. —MNA

(Translated by TTN)



Myanmar returnees from foreign countries are queuing for immigration process at Yangon International Airport on 4 August. PHOTO: MNA

We may have different approaches, but we have one common goal

THE two-day meeting of the Union Government and the Ethnic Armed Organizations (Nationwide Cease-fire Agreement signatories) concluded on 2 August in Nay Pyi Taw, bringing positive results which will allow the two sides to move forward.

The positive results, which broke a deadlock between the two sides, have demonstrated that the negotiators could turn the diverse stances into common agreement at the negotiation table with mutual respect, magnanimity and understanding.

The recent achievement brought by the two sides also ensures them to move forward.

The 7th NCA-S EAO Work Group meeting is being held in Nay Pyi Taw, and negotiators from both sides are striving for

reaching agreements which would be included in the Part-3 of the Union Accord to be signed at the coming fourth session of the Union Peace Conference- 21st Century Panglong.

So far, the two sides have agreed on 13 framework agreements for implementing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement and eight titles for the future tasks to be continued step by step in the post-2020 period. Regarding the roadmap for building a Union based on democracy and federal system, two points have been agreed by the two sides.

The fourth session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong will be held in the third week of August, and the delegates

will discuss and approve the basic principles that will form the foundations for the establishment of our democratic federal union.

If we look back at our country's history, soon after the 20th Century Panglong Agreement and our Independence, we succumbed to the fires of internal conflict. For nearly seventy years, peace, stability and development in Myanmar have fallen victim to conflict. Our people over successive generations have seen their socio-economic situation and morale undermined, while our country's future has been gradually corroded.

Even today, Myanmar has not yet been able to escape from the trap of poverty and conflict, and great efforts will be needed if we are to catch up with the rest of the world. Our people have been waiting for almost seventy years to witness the ray of hope for a better future that this conference represents.

Therefore, we can say that building a democratic federal Union is the exit path of this country towards stability, peace and prosperity.

Therefore, peace negotiators are highly advised to continue to strive for achieving more agreements in this meeting with commitment to shaping a democratic federal union.

We may have different approaches, but to reach the common goal, if we have farsightedness, and unity, there is nothing that can stop our success.



Cultural Heritage Tour of Bagan

By Lokethar



Bu Paya Pagoda is a notable pagoda located in Bagan, in Myanmar, at a bend on the right bank of the Ayeyawady River. With Bagan hosting a large number of visitors in the holidays, Crowds of holidaymakers flock to Bu Paya. **PHOTO: KO HTAIN (NGATHAYAUK) / FILE**

IT SEEMS that hotels in Myanmar will soon be allowed to accept local travellers after inspection by the authorities as to their compliance with the Ministry of Health's stipulations to guard against the spread of the Corona virus. Perhaps it is an impetus for local people to engage in travelling to "discover" more about their history and culture, and to put up at the various hotels during halts in the course of their travels and tours.

Many Myanmar Buddhists go on pilgrimage to Bagan to worship at the temples and pagodas. The writer would like to suggest that Myanmar people should endeavour to visit Bagan, the ancient cultural heritage of Myanmar, to know more about Myanmar's culture and history as well. Perhaps the educated young generation would be more eager to make a journey into the past of their culture and heritage.

According to the scholars and the archaeologists, Bagan was a land of 19 Pyu villages situated on the eastern bank of the Ayeyawady River some fifty miles downstream from where the Chindwin River joins the Ayeyawady. Bagan was ruled by "King" Thamudarit (AD 107-152). In fact, according to a recent article by one Myanmar scholar carried in the Myanmar newspaper, Thamudarit was "appointed" by the people of the 19 villages to "rule" over them. He was consequently, the "founder" of Bagan.

Starting with him, a total of 55 Kings reigned over Bagan of whom, the 42nd was Anawrahta (1044-1077) the founder of the Myanmar Kingdom.

The city itself was destroyed, according to the historians, by Kublai Khan's Mongol forces from Nanchao (now Yunnan) in the reign of Myanmar King Narathihapate (1255-87). However, the Land of Bagan and its multitude of temples and pagodas have continued to exist. Over the centuries, the forces of nature took their toll but Bagan has not lost its greatness. Many of the

original 4000 or so temples and pagodas of Theravada Buddhist religion still stand, though some of the very ancient ones are in stages of time-worn ruin. Much has been written about Bagan by many writers from many countries. And now the UNESCO has seen it fit to recognise Bagan as a "World Cultural Heritage Site" of Myanmar.

It would be well if some Tourism Agency could organize, "Cultural Heritage Seminar cum Package Tour" of a couple of days duration each, and visit Bagan to learn about its glorious histo-

ry. The tour has of course to be organised with the consent of the authorities concerned and in line with the guidance of the Ministry of Health about safeguarding against the COVID-19 pandemic. The seminar could be held in one of many hotels in Bagan with the participants staying in the same and/or some of the other hotels. It could include presentations on the updated history of Bagan and include visits by the participants to the temples and pagodas highlighted in their presentations. There were many "happenings"

in ancient Bagan according to the "chronicles" and "inscriptions". Visits to such places would be of interest to the participants.

There are many places of great historical interest in Bagan as well; like the stone inscription erected by Razkumar, the son of King Kyansittha (1084-1113). The inscriptions on the stone slabs are in four languages viz; Pali, Pyu, Mon and Myanmar and express the deep love and respect of the Prince Razkumar for his father King Kyansittha and at the same time bears witness to the multi-cultural legacy of Bagan.

There are many religious places of significance as well like the Bu Phaya that was purportedly erected by King Pyusawhti, (AD 167-242) as well as the Baw Baw Gyi Temple and other temples of the early Pyu Kings. The "Umin Temples" probably are the counterparts of the "Cave Temples" which are found in the Himalayan Mountain Ranges. They are found in Nyaung-Oo area of "Bagan" and are probably among the "monuments" built by the earlier "Bagan" Kings.

Most famous of the Myanmar Kings' Pagodas are the Shwezigon, the Thabbinyu, the Lawkananda built by Anawrahta, the Kyansittha Umin a cave temple and the Ananda Temple built by Kyansittha, the latter in the likeness of the temple in India; the Htilominlo built by King

Nadaungmya, and many more Temples and Pagodas built by the Kings, all with their interesting histories (Phaya Thamaings).

Of course the participants of the Seminar, on visiting the Pagodas and Temples would pay homage to the Buddha Images enshrined. They could also take in the scenery of the sun setting red in the western horizon from one of the vantage points. At the same time it would be an exhilarating experience for those who would like to ride in a "Balloon" that would take them high above the Bagan sky for a breadth taking view of Bagan and its vicinity.

And when they come down to earth after the "balloon ride" they could visit the Museum and see for themselves the artifacts unearthed from the vicinity or recovered from the ancient crumbling stupas. The visit to the museum would give a more in-depth knowledge of Bagan's past. A visit to the lacquer ware centre would enable the participants to learn more about the evolution of the art of lacquer ware in Myanmar and for a look at lacquer wares of distinctive Myanmar design.

At the end of the tour, the organizers could perhaps award a "certificate of honour" attesting to the fact that the holder visited "Bagan," the heart of Myanmar's culture and history.

With charity to all and malice to none.

TRACKING PEOPLE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Electronic wristbands to help in COVID-19 fight?

LAST month, a photo of a woman donning a COVID-19 quarantine wristband at a restaurant went viral on social media in Malaysia. It was reported that local authorities are investigating the woman who may have violated her quarantine order. Social media users also urged that the restaurant's owners be penalized for allowing the woman to be on their premises in the first place.

"It's people like her that increase our nation's risk to 2nd wave. Shame on you Ms and shame on your friends/family & cafe who allowed her in & didn't report when she's supposed to be under quarantine. Stricter

measures needed. COVID-19 is still out there," wrote a Malaysian health professional, Jemilah Mahmood on her social media platform, Twitter.

It was reported that the country's Ministry of Health is currently in the midst of investigating and locating 63 other people who are believed to have violated their quarantine orders. Malaysians who have recently returned from abroad are required to wear quarantine wristbands at all times for identification purposes. If found guilty of violating COVID-19 measures or removing the wristbands during quarantine, they could be slapped with a RM1,000 (US\$230) compound.

A number of measures have been introduced by governments in a bid to curtail the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This includes compulsory mask-wearing, curfews and COVID-19 quarantine wristbands.

Nevertheless, some countries have embraced innovative tech to counter the pandemic. This includes electronic wristbands that report a person's whereabouts which also help with contact tracing.

Yesterday, Singapore announced that incoming travellers, including citizens and residents, are required to wear an electronic monitoring device to ensure that they comply with

COVID-19 quarantines as the island state gradually reopens its borders. Any attempt to leave home during the quarantine period or tamper with the device will trigger an alert to the authorities.

Privacy Fears?

Similar measures using electronic wristbands to track peoples' movements during quarantine have also been used in other Asian countries such as Hong Kong and South Korea.

Hong Kong started placing electronic wristbands on arriving passengers back in March in an effort to enforce quarantines and control the spread of the virus. The electronic wristbands are



An airline passenger wears a tracking bracelet (C) after leaving a temporary COVID-19 coronavirus testing centre in Hong Kong. **PHOTO: AFP**

connected to a smartphone app and will be used to ensure that people actually stay at home.

Nevertheless, despite the rather effective measures at

slowing infections, it has also raised privacy concerns among observers.

SOURCE: THEASEANPOST



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 4:00 pm Tuesday 4th August, 2020)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (13:30) hrs M.S.T today, the Low Pressure Area over the North Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 05th August, 2020: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in the whole country with likelihood of regionally heavyfalls in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and isolated heavyfalls in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough to very rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40-45) m.p.h. Wave height will be about (10-16) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of increase of rain in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05th August, 2020: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05th August, 2020: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05th August, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at: 13:00 hrs M.S.T on 4-8-2020)

Flood condition of Ayeyawady River

According to the (12:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Seiktha has exceeded by about (2) feet above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level during the next (3) days.

According to the (12:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Hinthada has exceeded by about (1) foot above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level during the next (3) days.

According to the (12:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Zalun has exceeded by about (1) foot above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level during the next (3) days.

Flood condition of Ngawun River

According to the (12:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ngawun River at Ngathaingchaung has exceeded by about (½) foot above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level during the next (3) days.

Advisory

It is especially advertised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Hinthada and Zalun Townships, Ngathaingchaung and Seiktha to take precaution measure.

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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.

Fingerlings released into 220 acres of paddy field in Danubyu

THE Fisheries Department released fingerlings into the paddy fields intending to sustain the fisheries resources and to prevent the scarcity of the fish resources, it is learnt.

The fingerlings releasing ceremony was held at 9 am on 4 August at Nandawgon Village in Danubyu Town, Ayeyawady Region.

A total of 110,000 fingerlings including 70,000 Barbus fish and 40,000 Tilapia fish were released into 220 acres of paddy fields in Nandawgon Village. The ceremony was attended by regional Hluttaw representative U Aung Naing Tun, Township Administrator U Kyaw Kyaw Oo, Township Fisheries Department head U Zaw Min, township departmental heads, farmers and students.



Local authorities and fish breeders release fingerlings into paddy field in Danubyu Township. PHOTO: TOWNSHIP IPRD

Then, the fisheries department explained the way of conservation of the fisheries

resources to the students in attendance and demonstrated how to hatch the fish for the

local farmers for observation by the students. —Township IPRD (Translated by Hay Mar)

Myanmar-Singapore JV to start aluminium shipbuilding



A new white vessel of Tint Tint Myanmar company is now running in Yangon. PHOTO: THANT ZIN WIN

YANGON Ferry Operator Tint Tint Myanmar Group of Companies will jointly build aluminium ships at the shipyard in Insein Township, Yangon, together with SAM Aluminium Engineering Pte Ltd, pioneers in the craft of aluminium shipbuilding.

Daw Tint Tint Lwin, chairperson of Tint Tint Myanmar gave a remark at the launching event of Lanthit-Sarparchaung route on 1 August.

"We will build the aluminium crafts on a customer-order

basis about 6 months to one year in advance. We have a shipyard in Insein. At present, the SAM provides high-quality security system and ship solutions to Yangon water bus system," she stated.

The old yellow vessels of Yangon Water Bus have been sold to those people doing businesses along the Ayeyawady River. Now, the new white vessels are running in Yangon. The company has another route Manaung-Taungup in Rakhine State.—Thant Zin Win (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Octane 92-manufacturing mini oil refineries allowed in Pakokku

FIVE mini oil refineries have been granted to construct in Pakokku Township in Magway Region to enable them to manufacture Octane 92, according to Magway regional government.

These five mini oil refineries, which have been granted through tender invitation system, will be constructed on 200 acres of fallow and virgin land (358/1896) in Chaukkan village tract in Pakokku Township, Magway Region.

Although Myanmar biggest oil refinery is located in Mann Thanbayagan in Minhla Township in Magway Region, the regional government has planned to refine the oil from hand-dug wells into petroleum.

"Whenever we go to the petrol station, we have to say Octane 92 and Octane 95. In Myanmar, there are no refineries

that can manufacture Octane 92 quality. After being auctioned the imported oil, it reaches the filling stations and labelled as the Octane 92. This is the reason why we are constructing the refineries to manufacture Octane 92. Mann Thanbayagan refinery can manufacture only 68," said U Myint Zaw, Minister for Natural Resources, Environment, Electricity and Energy of Magway regional government.

"Although we have planned to purchase the oil from the hand-dug wells and manufacture in Mann Thanbayagan, the Union level officials said that it is not possible for lack of technology. So, this project, worth over US\$5 million from each company, has been granted to implement under the permission of the Union Government," he said.

The companies are constructing the factory circumambulating road, entrance gates, bridges and electricity supply facilities. Among the five com-

panies, Sunny Global Manufacturing Co. Ltd has completed construction to run its business, according to the Magway regional government. —Zayyatu (Mag-



Magway Government has granted construction of mini oil refineries in Pakokku Township. PHOTO: ZAYYATU (MAGWAY)

Domestic gold price holds above K1.3 mln tracking global cues

By Nyein Nyein

THE domestic gold prices rose above K1.3 million per tical (0.578 ounces, or 0.016 kilograms) on the back of a record rise in international global market, according to Yangon Gold Entrepreneurs Association (YGEA).

On 1 July, a yellow metal was priced around K1,216,500 per tical. It gradually went higher and reached a high of K1,307,500 per tical on 4 August.

Meanwhile, gold price was pegged at US\$1,780 per ounce on 1 July and hit an all-time high of above \$1,973 per ounce on 4 August.

However, the local forex

market sees a slight gain of Kyat against the US dollar, with K1,375 per dollar.

“At present, the domestic market is reported to have a matching of supply and demand”, said U Ohn Myaing, general secretary of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

According to gold traders, during the past four months, the coronavirus risks shut down the gold market in April, and the market was reopened on 18 May, with the minimum rate of K1,214,100 (27 May) and the maximum rate of K1,236,000 (18 May). The price moved in the range of, K1,209,600 on 6 June and K1,219,500 on 1 June. The local gold reached



Myanmar gold price increases, tracking the global market. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

the lowest level of K1,216,500 (1 July) and the highest level of K1,296,500 (27 July).

With global gold prices on the uptick, the domestic price

hit fresh highs last year, reaching K1,000,000 per tical between 17 January and 21 February, crossing K1,100,000 (22 June to 5 August), climbing to over

1,200,000 (7 August-4 September), and then reaching an all-time record high of K1,300,000 on 5 September 2019.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Black bean prices plunge by K20,000 per tonne amidst India low demand



Merchants are evaluating prices of various kinds of bean at the bean and pulses wholesale centre in Mandalay. FILE PHOTO/GNLM

THE low demand by India brought down the black bean prices in the domestic market, according to Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

The prices of the black bean are pegged at around K970,000 per tonne in mid-July. The price plunged to K950,000 per tonne in early August, according to data of the Bayintnaung market.

India rapidly changed the import period to three months by August-end 2020 from the earlier set deadline of March 2021, as per their official notice.

With the changes in India's policy on bean importation, Myanmar still falls short of the tar-

get. The growers have already sold out the beans and they are in the hands of traders. They have stockpiled around 200,000-250,000 tonnes of black beans, the association stated.

“Myanmar cannot ship the entire quota by the deadline in any possible way. India's companies have been granted import licence from early July, while some have not received licence until now. Therefore, trading can start in mid-July. If the deadline is April-end, the country can ship only 20 per cent of quota (approximately 80,000 tonnes), U Min Ko Oo, secretary of the association said.

“At present, Myanmar's

Commerce Ministry has requested India's government to extend the import deadline. Earlier, the import quota of 400,000 tonnes of black beans was set for the 2020-2021 financial year. Later, they narrowed the deadline by August-end. We requested the deadline extension to ship the whole quota,” said an official of Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

Myanmar is the top producing country of black bean that India demands. Besides Myanmar, Australia and Africa grow other kinds of peas such as pigeon peas, green grams and yellow peas, the association stated. - GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar external trade hits over \$14 bln in this FY

MYANMAR external trade between 1 October and 17 July in the 2019-2020 financial year hit over US\$14 billion, an increase by nearly \$590 million compared to the corresponding period of last year, according to the official statistics of the Ministry of Commerce.

During the same period in the previous FY, the external trade stood at \$13.44 billion, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar mainly exports agricultural products, animal products, fish products, minerals, forest products, CMP (cutting, making, and packing) garment and other goods.

The country's imports are usually larger than exports. Myanmar conducts exports via both maritime and border trade routes.

During the period, Myanmar's export and import via sea

routes reached over \$8 billion while trade through borders were nearly \$6 billion. When compared with that of the same period last year, the country's border trade increased by over \$20 million, and its non-border trading also rose by nearly \$570 million.

The total trade reached \$29.77 billion with \$14.03 billion worth export and \$15.74 billion worth import. At the same period of last FY, Myanmar international trade reached \$27.87 billion with \$13.44 billion worth export and \$14.43 billion worth import.

If Myanmar boosts seven products systematically, it will earn about \$2 billion from each product.

Myanmar targeted to earn about \$34 billion from trading in 2019-2020FY.—Zwe

(Translated by Hay Mar)

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Airport operator Fraport to slash jobs as virus wrecks traffic

FRANKFURT -- Frankfurt Airport operator Fraport said Tuesday that it plans to shed nearly one-fifth of its workforce, after air traffic plummeted in the second quarter due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The German company plans to cut 3,000 to 4,000 jobs out of around 22,000 across Fraport's Group companies.

Passenger traffic at Frankfurt Airport, Germany's busiest, fell 94.4 per cent year-on-year in the three months to the end of June.

At Fraport's Group airports worldwide, which also include Delhi's Indira Gandhi Airport and Saint Petersburg's Pulkovo Airport, "passenger traffic came to a virtual



Planning for the 'new normal'. PHOTO © AFP

standstill in the second quarter", the company said.

Only Lima Airport, in Peru, made a posi-

tive contribution to the group's financial performance. "The economic effects of the pandemic will be felt well beyond

the current year and permanently change our industry," Fraport's chief executive Stefan Schulte said.—AFP

Oil giant BP plunges into \$16.8-bn quarterly loss

LONDON — BP plunged into a quarterly net loss of almost \$16.85 billion as the coronavirus pandemic ravaged oil demand and prices, triggering huge asset writedowns, the British energy giant announced Tuesday.

The company responded by cutting its dividend for the first time since the Deepwater Horizon oil rig disaster in 2010 that damaged BP's finances and reputation.

"The ongoing severe impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to create a volatile and challenging trading environment," BP said in Tues-

day's earnings statement. "Looking ahead, the outlook for commodity prices and product demand remains challenging and uncertain," it added.

The quarterly loss after tax of nearly \$16.85 billion compared with net profit of \$1.82 billion in the second quarter of 2019, BP said.

"In particular, our reset of long-term (oil) price assumptions and the related impairment and exploration write-off charges had a major impact" this time around, said chief executive Bernard Looney.—AFP

7,600 Japanese Facebook accounts stolen in suspected scam

TOKYO — The account details of some 7,600 Japanese Facebook users appear to have been stolen by scammers and stored on a server based in Russia, a cybersecurity company said Tuesday.

From around late June, domestic users started receiving videos from accounts impersonating a friend on the social media site, according to the government-linked Information-Technology Promotion Agency, Japan, and other sources.

When accessed, the

video link takes the user to a fake website mimicking the Japanese Facebook login page, where account information can be stolen if inputted.

Although Facebook Inc. has not confirmed the scale of the suspected fraud, the cybersecurity firm Sola.com Co. said it tracked down data from more than 10,000 accounts at the end of July in the server based in Russia via the fake website used by the perpetrator.

—Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. (722W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. (722W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-8-2020** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S GOLD STAR LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V TRUONG MINH DRAGON

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TRUONG MINH DRAGON VOY. NO. (08/20)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AIPT-2** 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.

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PNT MIGHTY

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PNT MIGHTY VOY. NO. (06/2020)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT-1** 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.

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BAY LINE SHIPPING PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ROWAN 3

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ROWAN 3 VOY. NO. (2111)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIPL** 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.

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD

Vietnam's factory activity steps back in July amid COVID-19 impacts

HANOI -- Vietnam's Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which measures the economic health of the country's manufacturing sector, dipped back below the 50.0 no-change mark in July, posting 47.6 from 51.1 in June, a report compiled by the London-based global information provider IHS Markit revealed on Monday. The Vietnamese manufacturing sector saw declines in output and new orders as the COVID-19

pandemic continued to impact business conditions. Employment decreased again while purchasing activity was reduced, said the report. July data pointed to a modest reduction in manufacturing output, after a return to growth had been registered in the previous month. Respondents indicated that the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact operations, with new orders reportedly lower.—Xinhua

Extension of extra unemployment benefits to bolster U.S. economic growth: Fed official



A Wendy's restaurant is seen in Plano, Texas, the United States, on July 2, 2020. PHOTO: XINHUA

WASHINGTON — An extension of some form of extra unemployment benefits would bolster U.S. economic growth, a senior Federal Reserve official said Monday.

As negotiations between Republican and Democratic lawmakers for the new COVID-19 relief package stall, the

extra 600-U.S.-dollar unemployment benefits per week for roughly 30 million Americans expired on Friday.

“I think you’re still going to need to see an extension of unemployment. It may be restructured to some extent from the \$600 but I think it’s important that we see an extension

of it,” Robert Kaplan, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, said in an interview with Bloomberg Television.

“The increased incomes, while it may have made it harder for certain individual businesses to hire, it’s helped create jobs because it’s helped bolster consumer spending, so the net effect still has probably been positive for the economy and for employment,” Kaplan said, adding it would weaken U.S. economic growth if unemployment benefits aren’t boosted further.

Mark Zandi, chief economist of Moody’s Analytics, also said that letting enhanced unemployment benefits expire or even renewing them at a lower amount will be a “significant hit” to the U.S. economy.—Xinhua ■

Australian city orders non-vital businesses shut to curb virus

MELBOURNE — Non-essential businesses in Australia’s second-biggest city of Melbourne were ordered Monday to close for six weeks as officials struggle to control a growing coronavirus outbreak.

Victoria State Premier Daniel Andrews said most retail outlets in Melbourne would have to shut

from midnight Wednesday into Thursday, with exemptions for supermarkets, pharmacies and liquor stores.

The measures are the most restrictive Australia has seen since the epidemic began and came on top of mandatory mask-wearing, stay-at-home orders and a night-

time curfew in the city.

The closures are aimed at helping ensure an estimated one million fewer people are moving around the region for work, as hundreds of coronavirus cases continue to be recorded daily despite a lockdown that began in early July.—AFP ■

Portugal: Almost half of tourist accommodation closed or with no guests in June

LISBON — Almost half (45.2%) of tourist accommodation in Portugal is believed to have been closed or not to have registered any guests in June, according to the country’s National Statistics Institute (INE).

“According to the results of an additional specific questionnaire

that the INE undertook during the months of June and July, 62.6% of tourist accommodation establishments that responded (representing 78.6% of the supply capacity) stated that the Covid-19 pandemic led to the cancellation of bookings scheduled for the months of June to Oc-

tober 2020, mostly from the domestic and Spanish markets,” the INE said in its release.

Most of the establishments that expected to be active between June and October foresaw “occupancy rates of less than 50% in each of those months”, it added.—AFP ■

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (097N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (097N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2020** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V EVER CHANT VOY. NO. (0212-009N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V EVER CHANT VOY. NO. (0212-009N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **H.P.T** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S EVERGREEN MARINE (S’PORE) PTE., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V OSLO TRADER VOY. NO. (030S/032N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V OSLO TRADER VOY. NO. (030S/032N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/TMT** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (097N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (097N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2020** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BANDA VOY. NO. (192 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDA VOY. NO. (192 N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-8-2020** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR SOLO VOY. NO. (910N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR SOLO VOY. NO. (910N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2020** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE



By Kyaw Htike Soe

Seven foreign direct investment projects, totally worth of US\$462.693 million and over K73,206 million, were approved by the MIC on 31 July. **PHOTO: MIFER**

Myanmar lures FDI worth nearly US\$ 5.1 billion in ten months

MYANMAR received US\$5.077 billion of foreign direct investment in the first ten months of the current fiscal year, accord-

ing to a statement issued by the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations (MIFER). The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) approved seven foreign invest-

ment projects totally worth of US\$462.693 million and over K73,206 million that can create up to 3,662 job opportunities for Myanmar citizens.

Among the new projects

permitted by MIC were Hlegu Industrial Park project worth US\$ 230.60 million with mainly investment from Sembcorp CSSD Myanmar Co., Ltd. and the AEON large scale shop-

ping mall project valued at US\$180 million from Japan which is expected to create over 2,300 jobs for Myanmar citizens.

The investment proposals in the industry, real estate, hotels and tourism, and service sectors were greenlighted by the MIC during its regular meeting held via video conferencing on 31 July.

The MIC also gave the go-ahead to 19 new foreign investment projects worth US\$170.275 million and 17 Myanmar citizens-invested projects valued at K60,669 million in its monthly meeting held on 10 July.

The investment proposals in the industry, livestock breeding and fishery, electricity generation and manufacturing sectors are expected to create 11,353 job prospects for Myanmar citizens.

Foreign direct investment inflows into Myanmar amounted to over US\$4.4 billion during the first nine month of this fiscal year, an increase of more than US\$900 million when compared to the same period last year, U Thant Sin Lwin, Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) under the ministry told the State-run media last month. Myanmar has been attempting to lure foreign investment by provid-



The largest sector of FDI flows to Myanmar's electricity generation sector, accounting for 26.52 per cent of the country's total FDI. **PHOTO: GNLM**

ing tax relief, tax incentives, investment opportunities, and fast processing of proposals, he added. The MIFER is also inviting only responsible businesses to benefit the country, he said.

The Southeast Asian country received an average of US\$500 million per month in foreign direct investment in the current fiscal year, the senior official once told the media. He went on to say that the foreign investment volume was higher than domestic investments by Myanmar citizens and the surge in investment volume in the current fiscal year was attributed to the projects with large investments. With steady FDI inflow in the present fiscal year, Myanmar is likely to meet its FDI target of US\$5.8 billion, set under the Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan (MIPP).

The increase of foreign direct investment into Myanmar attributes to the government's steps to ease regulations in an effort to attract more foreign direct investment into the country.

Myanmar has drawn up the MIPP with the assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in order to woo US\$200 billion of FDI within 20 years from FY2016-2017 to FY2035-2036 to become a middle-income country.

Myanmar is considered to be a key overseas emerging investment market for foreign investors around the world due to its consumption trends, abundant young workforce and relaxed export & import related policies. Singapore topped the list of foreign investors in Myanmar during the period from October last year to early August this year, and followed by China and Thailand. As many as 1,800 foreign companies from 51 countries were given permissions to inject investments into 12 sectors in Myanmar.

From 1988 to June 30 of the present fiscal year, foreign investments in 2,033 permitted projects have reached over US\$ 86.1 billion in Myanmar. The largest sector of FDI flowed to electricity generation sector, accounting for 26.52 per cent of the total FDI, followed by the oil and gas sector with 26.44 per cent and the manufacturing sector with 14.28 per cent. Myanmar attracted US\$9.4 billion of foreign direct investment in 2015-2016FY, US\$6.6 billion of FDI in 2016-2017, US\$6.11 billion of FDI in 2017-2018FY, US\$4.52 billion in 2018-2019, and is estimated to lure US\$5.8 billion in the current fiscal year.

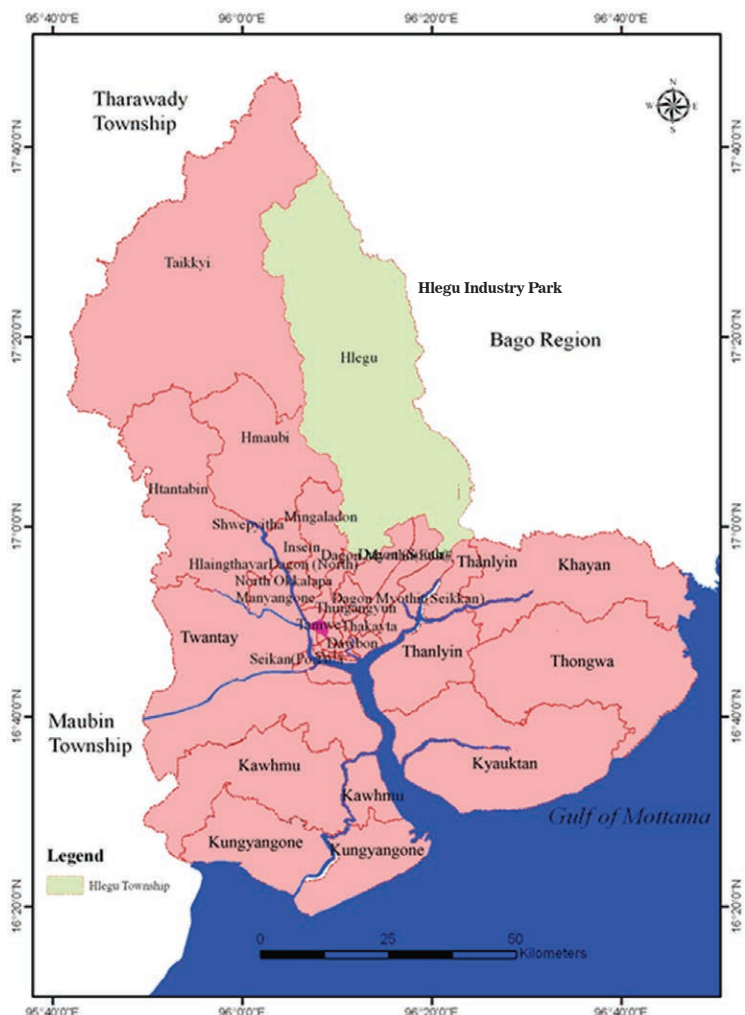


PHOTO: SUPPLY

More than half of Myanmar consumers interested in using digital banking: Visa Study

VISA, the world's leader in digital payments, revealed more than half (58 per cent) of Myanmar consumers are interested in transacting with financial institutions through digital platforms, according to the Visa Consumer Payment Attitudes Study (the "Study") [1]. The Study also found almost half of Myanmar consumers (43 per cent) are interested in making payments with biometric authentication.

Lillian Wang, Country Manager for Visa Myanmar, said: "Over the past few years we have observed a steady shift in Myanmar consumers' perceptions and behaviours towards using digital payments more often. We are even more encouraged to see the results of the Study trending in the same direction. Based on our global experience, Myanmar is building a strong foundation for a digital economy and the vision of an efficient cashless nation is inching closer towards reality."

Based on the findings, more than one in four (27 per cent) are familiar with the concept of digital banking – the online or mobile services which allow users to access bank accounts, transfer money, pay bills, and so much more without visiting a physical bank branch or using cash. The respondents cited speed and convenience as their top motivation to adopt digital banking (40 per cent), followed by the benefits of not having to wait in line at bank branches (32 per cent) and the appeal of trying new technology (28 per cent).

The top five services Myanmar consumers are looking to receive from digital banks are paying bills

(65 per cent), transferring money to family and friends (56 per cent), receiving loans (41 per cent), making deposits and withdrawals (35 per cent) and making international money transfers (33 per cent).

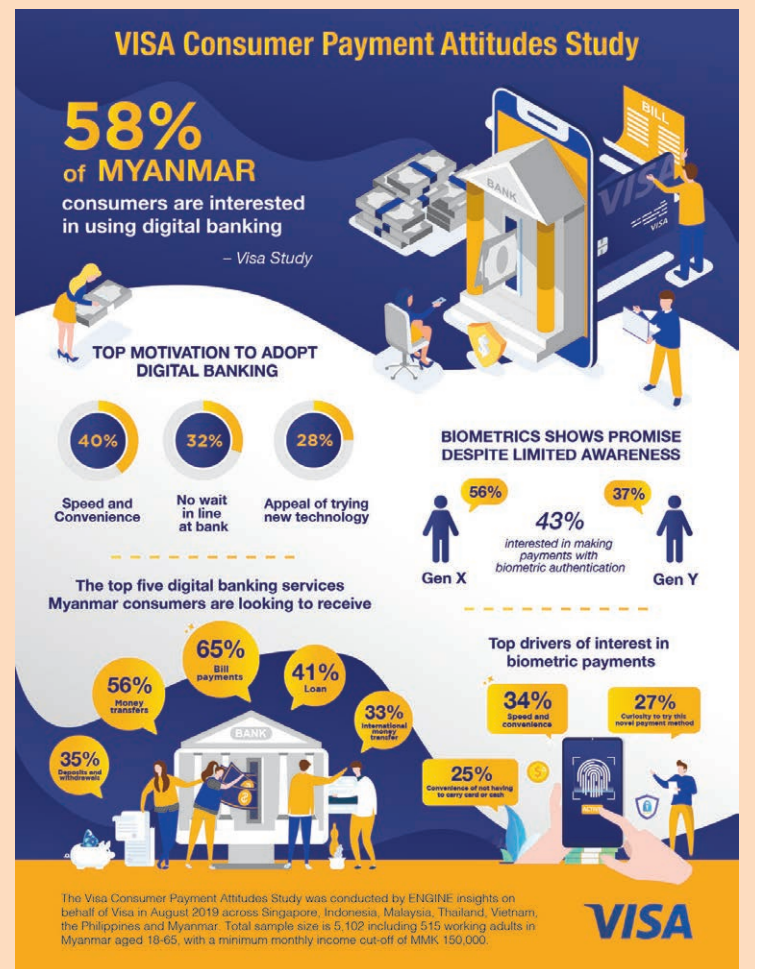
Biometrics shows promise despite limited awareness

The Study also gauged Myanmar consumers' interest in the emerging technology of biometric payments – the method of using fingerprint, voice, facial or retina scan to authenticate transactions. According to the Study, nearly half (43 per cent) of Myanmar consumers are interested in this payment method. More specifically, those of Gen-X (40-54 years old) exhibited higher interest than Gen-Y (25-39 years old) in biometric authentication (56 per cent vs. 37 per cent).

The top drivers of interest in biometric payments are speed and convenience (34 per cent), followed by the curiosity to try this novel payment

method (27 per cent) and the convenience of not having to carry card or cash (25 per cent). On the other hand, respondents also cited leading causes of concern in using biometric payments including their doubts over the security of personal biometric data (32 per cent), the difficulty of setting up (32 per cent) and the worry that using biometric method may incur additional charges (23 per cent).

"Visa is privileged to be operating in Myanmar especially during this critical digital transformation period. To that end, we are pleased to be able to conduct this Study in order to listen to the interest and demand of consumers and leverage the findings to support the industry in developing tools that are not only relevant to their needs but also have the potential to elevate the livelihood of the people and contribute to the sustainable economic progress of the country," Ms. Wang concluded. —GNLM



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Iker Casillas made his Spain debut in 2000. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Spain and Real Madrid legend Casillas retires

MADRID—Spain's World Cup-winning goalkeeper Iker Casillas announced his retirement on Tuesday, after being sidelined for more than a year with a heart problem.

Casillas, 39, also won the

European Championship twice with his country in a trophy-laden career which included more than 700 games for Real Madrid.

"Today is both one of the most important and most difficult days of my sporting life,

the time to say goodbye has arrived," he said on Twitter.

Casillas joined Portuguese side Porto in 2015 after a tearful departure from Madrid but suffered a heart attack in May last year.

He played 167 times for the national team, winning trophies in 2008, 2010, 2012 in a golden age for Spanish football.

He lifted five La Liga titles and the Champions League on three occasions during his time

at the Santiago Bernabeu.

In June he said he was ending his bid to run for the presidency of the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) due to the crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic.—AFP ■

Pedro bids early farewell to Chelsea after surgery

LONDON—Chelsea forward Pedro has undergone surgery on his shoulder ahead of an expected transfer to Roma, meaning he will not play for the Premier League club again.

The 33-year-old Spain international confirmed on social media his operation had been successful. He landed awkwardly on his right shoulder when appearing as a substitute in Chelsea's 2-1 FA Cup final defeat by Arsenal at the weekend.

Pedro will miss Chelsea's Champions League last-16 sec-

ond-leg clash at Bayern Munich on Saturday before he leaves Stamford Bridge.

"The surgery went well, I will be back soon," Pedro posted on Instagram. "It was a pity not to win the FA Cup. Thank you for all your support." Chelsea tweeted: "We're all wishing you a speedy recovery, Pedro17!" in response to his update. Pedro has spent five years at Chelsea after arriving from Barcelona in 2015, winning the Premier League, FA Cup and Europa League.—AFP ■

Espanyol want La Liga relegation cancelled amid Segunda chaos

MADRID -- Espanyol called on La Liga to cancel their relegation on Monday (Aug 3) as the end to the season in Spain continues to prove problematic following a spike in cases of coronavirus.

Despite finishing bottom of the table, Espanyol said in a statement the run-in had been "undoubtedly unfair in a sporting sense given the last stage of the league was not competed in the same, equal conditions as before the suspension".

Promotion and relegation between Spain's top two divisions has become a thorny issue after the Segunda match between Fuenlabrada and Deportivo La Coruna on the final day could not go ahead due to several Fuenlabrada players testing positive for coronavirus. Victory for Fuenlabrada would have earned them a place in the play-offs while Deportivo could have avoided relegation if they had won and other results gone their way.—AFP ■

Red card warning for deliberate coughing in football

LONDON—Footballers can be sent off if referees judge they have coughed deliberately at opponents or match officials in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, say the sport's rule-makers and England's Football Association. The International Football Association Board (IFAB) said it was up to the referee to judge whether he felt the cough was an abusive gesture.

IFAB classified deliberate coughing as similar to "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures".

"As with all offences, the referee has to make a judgement about the true nature of the offence," it said. "If it were clearly accidental, then the referee would not take action nor if the 'cough' took place with a large



Footballers risk being sent off if a referee considers they coughed deliberately at an opponent or a match official under new guidelines from rule makers. PHOTO: AFP

distance between the players.

"However, where it is close enough to be clearly offensive, then the referee can take action."

The FA's guidance for grassroots football in England will come into force immediately.—AFP ■

Murray to play US Open warm-up

NEW YORK — Three-time Grand Slam winner Andy Murray is among four players handed wild cards for this month's relocated Western & Southern Open, organizers said on Monday. Former Wimbledon and US Open champion Murray was given slot alongside Americans Tommy Paul, Tennys Sandgren and Frances Tiafoe for the event, a warm-up for the Grand Slam in New York which begins on August 31. The Western & Southern Open is normally staged in Cincinnati but was moved to New York as a one-off in order to minimize COVID-19 risks for players travelling to compete at Flushing Meadows. Murray was a winner in Cincinnati in 2008 and 2011, making him one of six former winners entered in this year's tournament alongside Daniil Medvedev, Novak Djokovic, Grigor Dimitrov, Marin Cilic and Rafael Nadal. It will be Murray's first ATP Tour appearance of 2020. The 33-year-old Scot has twice had hip operations and has not played an official tour match since the Davis Cup last year. The tournament takes place from August 20-28 at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York.—AFP ■