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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VII, No. 170, 2<sup>nd</sup> Waning of Tawthalin 1382 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm, www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Saturday, 3 October 2020

## State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi reports to people regarding COVID-19 situation



**T**HE COVID infection figure in Myanmar is now over 14,300. The number of deaths is now over 300. Just as I said last week, because we have started using Test Kits which can give us quick results, we are finding more positive cases at a faster pace. Why is this; this is because the testing is quick. In the beginning, we will see more positive cases. Later, we hope this rate will go down. Please don't be too worried or anxious because the number of positive cases increased in the beginning. The people should know that if the positive cases are detected earlier, then treatment could be given earlier. Thus it is in the interest of the people.

When we look at the statistics, out of the number of people who came in for testing because they were exhibiting symptoms of the disease, 23.6 per cent were tested positive. Out of the

people who came in for testing because they have had contact with an infected person, 18.9 per cent were tested positive. When we tested people who had returned from abroad or had returned from other parts of the country where there were widespread infections, 1.8 per cent were tested positive. The important thing is to report to the health authorities quickly as soon as symptoms of the disease manifest themselves.

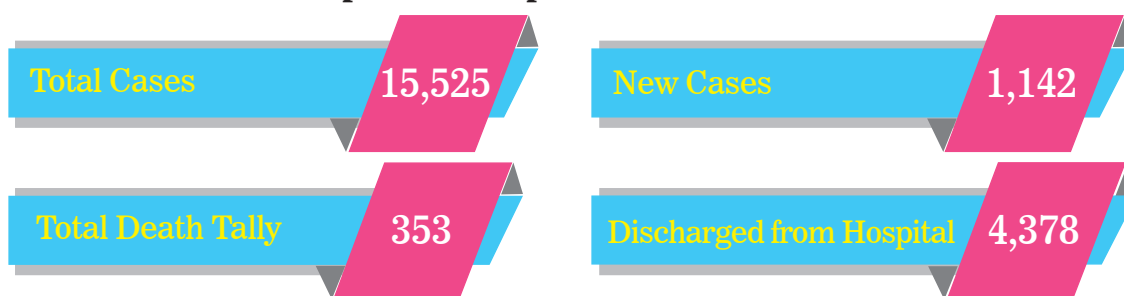
With regard to this, what a majority of the people are getting worried is the case of losing the sense of smell. They wanted to know how dangerous it would be for people who have lost their sense of smell. According to our specialist doctors, in the case of losing the sense of smell, if the person goes in for testing at an early stage, the disease could not be that serious.

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### 1,142 more new cases of COVID-19 reported on 2 October, total figure rises to 15,525

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rise to 15,525 after 1,142 new cases were reported on 2 October according to Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these 15,525 confirmed cases, 353 died, 4,378 have been discharged from hospitals.—MNA

Updated at 8 pm, 2 October 2020



Death toll until 8 pm 2-10-2020



Ministry of Health and Sports

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## Advice to people in Yangon Region

1. About 6,000 people have been quarantined in Yangon. Within two days, quarantine spaces were arranged for 1,000 people who came back from Rakhine State. Now, the number of people who had contacts with COVID-19 patients has increased, so seven new quarantine centres have been established for 1,000 more people. The civil society organizations and volunteers are invited to help the persons at the quarantine centres.
2. People in Yangon need to send the persons who had contacts with confirmed cases in the contact tracing to the quarantine centres without making them worried.
3. People should adhere to the required rules and regulations in the quarantine centres. When sending food to people in quarantine centres, alcohol and cigarettes should not be included in the delivery.
4. People in Yangon have lots of difficulties, challenges and burdens. Therefore, they need to strictly follow the rules by staying at home in two to three weeks during this period. In going outside for necessary reasons, they must wear masks. As Yangon City has a large number of population, people are also advised to abide by the rules of Ministry of Health and Sports amidst the increasing number of confirmed cases.

## State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi reports...

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However, if the testing was done at a later period, it would become more and more difficult to treat the disease. Now we have the ability to use test kits and determine whether a person has been infected or not. The number of test kits we have bought from the Republic of Korea with government funds is now over 400,000. Furthermore, we have test kits donated by ROK. We have started using these test kits in the Yangon Region starting from 29 September. We have begun using them in district and township hospitals. We will make arrangements to use these test kits in other regions and states as well. Therefore, I want the people to understand that although it may seem that more positive cases are being discovered at a faster rate, in the beginning, we would be able to give more effective treatment.

At the hospitals, we have made arrangements so that there are adequate supplies of equipment, and medicines to give proper treatment. Also, we have set up new places which can be used as hospitals and also established Intensive Care Units (ICUs) within hospitals. Furthermore, as the people know already, we have started a programme where the people can ask questions regarding matters which have been worrying them to specialist doctors every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Regarding this programme, there has been much interest. I understand that about 1,000 questions have been received. Among these questions, there are bound to be some repetitions. The people who have listened to this programme will know how our specialist doctors have responded to the questions. Please

listen to this programme if you are interested. As I have reminded earlier, please don't try to cure yourself using homemade remedies. Don't believe when other people around you tell you "you can cure like this" or "you can use this other method". Please ask your questions to the team of specialist doctors through the programme. There are also online programmes where you can ask questions.

I think you will have noticed that in the international news regarding the COVID disease if we made a study, it would be noticed that the disease has spread quite a lot in other countries. This is the second wave. There are some other people who have made assessments saying that the third wave has struck. In some other countries, they are facing the second wave. In some countries, they have been able to contain the disease. If we tried to find out why they have been able to contain the disease, it does not matter whether the country is rich or poor. In the end, it has to do with how much discipline the people had been able to maintain and whether the people followed the rules and regulations. I want to remind the people about this.

This is because the best and simplest way to control COVID-19 is social distancing. Therefore, stay at home, avoid going outside unnecessarily, and don't receive guests unnecessarily. I have talked about these guidelines, but I would like to remind you again. Hosting the guests at home is not different from going outside. Wear a mask when going outside if necessary, and put on gloves, otherwise wash your hands at least 20 seconds. There are so many small hand sanitizer bottles. Keep a hand sanitizer bottle with you when you go outside for frequent hand

cleaning.

If you do these two things; and if you stay away from each other at least 6-ft. as much as possible, you will get much protection. If it is not possible to keep this distance, wearing the mask and social distancing could reduce the possibility of infection to a great degree. It is required to follow the stay-at-home order in the areas with high infection rate. Many positive cases have shown no symptoms of the disease.

The infection of COVID-19 cannot be seen with naked eyes to stay away from the people with positive cases who have no symptoms. Therefore, don't take the risk and have full awareness of the disease.

With regard to medicine, all over the world in hospitals, people across the globe including doctors are learning more and more about this disease. Right now it has been 9 to 10 months since the outbreak started early this year. Because we have passed this period of 9 to 10 months, we have learnt a lot. Based on this knowledge, we are carrying out preventive measures as well as measures to ensure that the livelihoods of our people are not unduly affected as much as we can.

For example, we have changed the rules for discharge from hospitals in accordance with the latest findings of the pandemic. If possible, discharge is allowed early, but home quarantine for one week is needed. Only then, the case will be confirmed negative. But medical tests must be conducted again. I want to remind you that no one is guaranteed not to be infected with the pandemic again. While some diseases are suffered only once in a lifetime, many medical experts have concluded that

COVID-19 is not like such diseases. Although someone has recovered from the disease, it is better to take care of your health to prevent a second infection. I have frequently said that the elderly persons and those with poor health conditions must be seriously protected from this disease.

Many Myanmar people are suffering from hypertension, diabetes and renal failure. People with such diseases would seriously suffer from COVID-19. Therefore, family members with such health conditions and the elderly persons must be protected from this disease.

The infection rate is low among young people as they have high resistance to the infection. However, the virus can transmit to old persons at home.

It needs to be kept in mind that COVID-19 is giving us lessons on how to live in daily life with rules and disciplines. The situation has imposed very severe restrictions on us. The free living style must be controlled at the moment.

We would be able to overcome the disease only when the vaccine has been developed. Actually, the medical experts do not know that the vaccine would prevent the disease for the whole life, or whether it will be needed annually. The countries which will produce the vaccine are 100 per cent sure for it. However, they are not sure how long the potency of the vaccine will last.

Therefore, it is important for people to take care of their health. People with good basic health conditions could resist the pandemic. Infection rate is very rapid even in some developed countries. One of the high death tolls in those countries is the large population of elderly persons with high average lifespan.

In considering these situations, the COVID-19 death rate in those countries is not related to other diseases. They have better health conditions than our people. Therefore, our people need to maintain good health conditions with suitable foods and lifestyles.

Regarding the foods, I have frequently advised people to avoid salty foods, too much edible oil, sweets and unsuitable food for the health of individuals. Instead, consume more fruits and vegetables. Take physical exercises regularly.

Try to live a healthy lifestyle to have better health conditions and good immune systems. Even if you contract a disease, it will not develop to a serious level. Questions about healthcare can be raised to the specialist doctors three days a week; please listen to what they say carefully and follow their advice. I will also give a situation report twice a week.

We believe that it is the duty of the Union Government to take care of the healthcare needs of the people. In the final analysis, the health of the individual depends upon that individual. Even though the doctors give prescriptions of medicine, the disease will not disappear if the appropriate medicines are not consumed. The Union Government and the Health Ministry will work for the health of the people to the best of its ability. After all, people are in the best position to take care of their own health. I wish to conclude by urging you not to forget this fact. Please take good care of your health. Only good health can bring happiness. Our country can prosper only if our people are healthy and happy. Thank you.

*(Translated by Kyaw Myaing, 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.

**2020**  
General Election  
Sunday, 8 November 2020



## VP U Myint Swe attends climate change meeting online



Vice President U Myint Swe (L) participates in the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the National-Level Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Central Committee via videoconference on 2 October 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

**V**ICE President U Myint Swe delivered a speech at the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the National-Level Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Central Committee, which was held online from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, the Vice President said that the past nine sessions of the committee in the last four years could make a total of 121 decisions. Out of them, implementation of 72 decisions was already completed, and the remaining 49 are underway.

He said that it is crucial to complete the projects during the designated time as the earlier the projects finish, the more they benefit.

Extremely unsystematic expansion of towns and cities, industrial zones and farming around the world including Myanmar has been causing the increase of carbon dioxide emissions, ecological damage, forest degradation, habitat destruction, illegal wildlife trade and rapid climate change.

As all people know, the effects and people's actions are destructing the nature's harmony and survival of living things and are treating sustainable development of the countries, he said.

He stressed the importance of taking major priority over effective environmental conservation, sustaining the ecological and environmental system, and avoiding ecological degradations caused by the implementation of development works in the country.

Environmental conservation is a long-term process, and the national-level committee is proudly carrying out the works in cooperation with Region/State committees.

For sustainable development of local and foreign investment businesses, it is imperative to effectively implement the works on environmental conservation and climate change in accordance with State policies, relevant strategic processes, environmental conservation laws, by-laws, rules and regulations and international norms, he added.

As a remarkable success, the committee could release Myanmar national environmental policy, "Strategy" and "Main Work Plan" on climate change, and national-level waste management strategy and main work programme.

He further said that improvement of investment projects and small and medium-sized businesses working with the framework set in line with environmental policy, strategy and main work plans.

Work on environmental conservation and reducing impacts from of climate change is a very wide process, he added calling for cooperation on drawing up and implementing of the plans on new sectors such as sustainability of natural resources, control of air pollution caused by factories, workplaces and urban development.

He added that a high well-being society would be made by conserving the environment, reducing climate change and maintaining the ecosystem.

It is essential to continuously and widely conduct awareness

programmes about the policies and frameworks for private businesspersons and the public, and to check and take actions against permitted and licenced projects that failed to abide by issued directives, he said.

He urged the attendees to increase cooperation with international organizations in getting technical and financial assistance for implementation of international agreements signed by Myanmar.

Union Minister U Ohn Win said the matters relating to drawing up of long-term plans and strategic frameworks after finding out new environmental fields and effective implementation of environmental and ecosystem conservation, reduction of climate change and waste management.

Secretary of the National-Level Committee and Director-General of Environmental Conservation Department U Hla Maung Thein reported on the conditions of the resolutions made in the ninth meeting, working committees' tasks, ongoing works and environmental con-

servation plans.

Members of the National-level Committee — Deputy Minister Dr Ye Myint Swe, Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint and Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Tin Tun — also discussed matters relating to the issuance of environmental assessment instructions on mining, hydroelectricity and petrol and gas sector and environmental conservation laws, by-laws and directives.

Chairpersons of the Region/State Supervision Committees detailed about the implementation of the decisions made in last meeting and ongoing works.

The attendees including Permanent Secretaries, directors-general and representatives of CSOs discussed the implementation of environmental conservation and reduction of climate change, ongoing plans, difficulties, cooperation with international organizations, awareness programmes, fundraising, chemical and waste management and sustainable development.

## Please build up your inner strength



We have said this before. The deaths resulting from this disease are related to fundamental medical problems. That is why older adults, those whose health is not strong enough, those who have underlying health problems and especially those with diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart problems; some of our citizens have these problems. Those who have such diseases need to be more careful. We have to worry about them because their immunity is not good.

However, as I have said before, don't get depressed because you have tested positive. Your strong spirit is very important. You are not alone. Please build up your inner strength with the thought that the whole country is with you. I want you to join in and cooperate with the public service personnel of the Ministry of Health and Sports, and workers in the health sector with the spirit that you also need to struggle to overcome this disease.

*(Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's reports to people about latest COVID-19 situation, on 29 September 2020)*

## VP U Myint Swe attends climate change meeting online

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Secretary of the National-level Committee and Director-General of Environmental Conservation U Hla Maung Thein confirmed 16 decisions agreed and made by attendees during the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The meeting was concluded after the Vice President, the Patron of the National-Level Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Central Committee, made remarks.

The following dignitaries and senior officials attended the virtual meeting: commit-

tee's Chairman and the Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, U Ohn Win, Deputy Minister Dr Ye Myint Swe and Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint and central committee members, the Chairperson of Nay Pyi Taw Council Environmen-

tal Conservation and Climate Change Supervising Committee, the permanent secretaries and the directors-general, the ministers of state/region governments who are the chairmen of Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Supervising Commit-

tees and secretaries, the members of six working committees, representatives of CSOs and NGOs, representatives of private businesses, departmental heads and officials. — MNA

*(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*

## UEC discusses voting of persons with disabilities

UNION Election Commission held a virtual meeting with the civil society organizations focusing the issues of persons with disabilities yesterday morning.

Chairman of UEC U Hla Thein, and commission members, representatives from the 29 CSOs for PWDs, the responsible persons from International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) took part in the meeting which discussed the cooperation between the UEC and the CSOs to ensure the participation of the PWDs in the 2020 General Election.

The UEC Chairman said that the Article 369 (a) of the Constitution and the Article 29 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities provide for equal political and electoral rights of persons with disabilities.

He also added that every person with disability has the right to vote in the elections and has the right to be elected in the election according to the Section 29 and Section 30 of the Law on the Rights of Persons



UEC Chair U Hla Thein (R) organizes virtual meeting with civil society organizations over voting of persons with disabilities on 2 October 2020.

**PHOTO: MNA**

with Disabilities, enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in 2015.

The UEC's Strategic Plan (2014-2018) and (2019-2022) also included a section on promoting inclusiveness, focusing on the right of all persons with disabilities to vote.

In the 2017 and 2018 by-elections, the commission arranged

9 model polling stations in 5 townships of the Yangon Region, Sagaing Region and Chin State to facilitate the voting of the people with disabilities.

The commission also helped the visually impaired persons with Braille Template to vote in the election. There are a total number of 87,280 dis-

abled voters in 2020 General Election.

He continued that the commission provided the demonstration lessons and follow-up trainings on disability voting during the electoral capacity building trainings held in Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw in November 2019.

As the 2020 General Election will be organized during the COVID-19 crisis, the commission is working to ensure safe and secure voting in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Sports.—MNA

*(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)*

# MoTC, MoI jointly organize cyber security awareness talks

THE Department of Information Technology and Cyber Security under the Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Ministry of Information jointly held cyber security awareness talks via videoconferencing yesterday morning.

The online event was attended by Union Minister Dr Pe Myint, Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun and departmental heads, officials from the Department of Information Technology and Cyber Security and the National Cyber Security Centre, those from the Union level organizations, the ministries, chief information officers from region/state governments, vice-rectors, deans and tutors from the technology universities and computer universities, representatives from communication operators and internet service companies, and staff members and officers from the Ministry of Information.

In his opening remark, Un-



Ministry of Transport and Communications and Ministry of Information hold cyber security awareness talks online on 2 October 2020. PHOTO: MNA

ion Minister Dr Pe Myint talked about the importance of cyber security for internet users, prevention of damages to hardware and software for information security, the emergence of 'new media' with the development of ICT, and upgrade of media

platforms to meet new modern technologies.

He also explained studies, discussions and exchange of knowledge of new technologies in media at the MoI departments this year by inviting experts in this sector.

U Sai Saw Lin Tun, Acting Director-General of Department of Information Technology and Cyber Security, discussed the information theft and damage in cyber attacks across the world, disclosure of secret information to destroy dignity of the organi-

zations under the attacks, hacking the websites of government ministries, private companies and online shopping, increasing cyber attacks and abuses during COVID-19 crisis, organizing annual events of Myanmar Cyber Security Challenge since 2015, participating in international cyber security contests, and more effective cooperation in security issues among the relevant organizations.

Officials then held talks on the topics about the Cyber Security Policy & Legal Framework Development, the Role of Cyber Security in Government Organization, the PlugX RAT, CobaltStrike and Mustang Panda, the Learn about Ransomware attacks in Myanmar and how to prevent them, the SIEM Platform Introduction, the Email Security Introduction, and the Approach to Hardening of Individual Host -Host Security.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

# Union Minister U Thein Swe discusses legal work permits for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand



Union Minister U Thein Swe (L) organizes virtual meeting on legal work permits for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand on 2 October 2020. PHOTO: MNA

UNION MINISTER for the Labour, Immigration and Population organized a videoconference on legal work permits for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand yesterday.

Union Minister U Thein Swe, Deputy Minister U MyintKyaing, the Permanent Secretary, the Labour Attaché to Thailand, officials from the ministry and

the representatives from Myanmar Overseas Employment Agencies Federation attended the online meeting.

At the meeting, the Union Minister said he had received a proposal to open an employment registration centre at the Mae Sot-Myawady border for the Myanmar workers have signed the contract with Thai employers

and received work permits.

Under the plan, Myanmar migrant workers will not need to come back home again for registration.

In that regard, the ministry is coordinating with the Thai government agencies to reduce costs and not to lose the job opportunities for Myanmar workers, and the Myanmar embassy

in Thailand and the Labour Attaché are in consultation with the relevant department officials.

He continued that the relevant departments in both countries, employment agencies and workers need to coordinate depending on the changing situation due to the current COVID-19 crisis, and it takes getting the right information to do so; that it is necessary to plan and cooperate between the Ministry, the relevant Myanmar Embassy, Labour Attaché, employers and workers, licenced overseas employment agencies and Thai agencies in order to implement effective processes.

He remarked that the employment agencies should be aware of the procedures, restriction and requirements set by the Thai Government and inform workers, to prepare statistics and information in advance and, furthermore, it is necessary to work closely with Thai employ-

ers and agencies.

Afterwards, the chairperson and the responsible persons from the overseas employment agencies presented in detail the process to get the legal permission to continue working for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand, to send the Myanmar workers who have signed the employment contract with the employers as soon as possible under the MOU system, and the MOU at the border crossing for the return of former workers who have signed the employment contract and worked in Thailand.

The Myanmar Labour Attaché in Thailand discussed the legal permission for former Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand under the MoU, the coordination between officials from the Ministry of Labour in Thailand.—MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

## Section 58 (d) in Hluttaw Election Law

IN accordance with section 58 (d) of the Hluttaw Election Law, no one is allowed to give speeches at meetings, instigation, writing, distribution of using posters or attempting by other means to disturb the voting or election. Anyone who is found guilty of or abet this act shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or with fine not exceeding K100,000 (one hundred thousand Kyats), or with both.



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

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## Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe holds meeting with front-line health workers of COVID-19 treatment

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe discussed with the medical professors, doctors and nurses who were working closely for the treatment to COVID-19 patients in Yangon General Hospital, North Okkalapa People's Hospital, Thingangyun People's Hospital and Insein People's Hospital through video conferencing yesterday morning.

The meeting discussed the need of the doctors and nurses in treatment to the COVID-19 patients and to fulfill from the Central Committee and the suggestions from them.

The Union Minister said that the COVID-19 crisis in Myanmar was the biggest public and medical challenge in the ministry's history and there may be a need to deal with a sudden increase in patients.

He added that the Yangon's COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment coordinating committee was formed on 11 September to manage the requirements of the hospitals and the quarantine centres in a time-



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe holds virtual meeting with frontline medical professionals and healthcare workers on COVID-19 situation on 2 October 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

ly manner and it was important to know the suggestions from the medical staff who were giving medical care to the patients in hospitals in order to decide correctly.

The Union Minister also discussed fulfilment on the recommendation of doctors and nurses, sufficient medical

supplies by using dashboard for management in medicines and medical supplies.

Then, the doctors in the front line of COVID-19 treatment made their reports on the situation of high dependency unit and intensive care unit at the Yangon General Hospital, the needs of more health workers

and other healthcare facilities at the North Okkalapa People's Hospital, Thingangyun People's Hospital and Insein People's Hospital.

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe coordinated the reports and discussed providing assistances.—MNA (Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)



Myanmar citizens in South Korea cast advance votes at the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul on 2 October 2020.



Myanmar nationals in Singapore line up outside the Myanmar Embassy on 2 October to cast advance votes.

## Myanmar citizens in Singapore, ROK cast advance votes

ELIGIBLE voters of Myanmar citizens in Singapore began casting their advance votes for the 2020 General Election on 1 October.

About 800 advance voters on 1 October and about 1,400 voters on 2 October casted their votes at the Myanmar Embassy in Singapore.

Voters are required to wait in line in accordance with the safe distancing rules set by the embassy. After the temperature measurement and hand washing, they have to take out the ballot papers and vote.

Advance appointment is required on the embassy's website for the date and time for voting in order to avoid crowds during the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure that the voters do not have to wait in line for long periods of time.

The appointment letter needs to be showed on the day of the voting with the passport,

ID card or the driving licence of the voter for identification.

There are about 320,000 eligible Myanmar voters in Singapore for advance voting and the polling station will be open from 1 to 18 October.

Similarly, the Myanmar citizens in the Republic of Korea began the advance voting at the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul starting from yesterday.

Over 1,400 Myanmar nationals working across the ROK came to Seoul to vote by buses on the first day of the advance voting.

Myanmar Embassy in Seoul also provided masks, disposable gloves and hand sanitizer in order to abide by the rules and regulations set by the country.

There are 9,810 Myanmar citizens who have applied for advance voting in the 2020 General Election and the polling station will be open until 11 October.—MNA (Translated by EPPA)

# Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye delivers speech at 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Fourth World Conference on Women

UNION Minister Dr Win Myat Aye gave a speech for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women held online on 1 October during the 75<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly.

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, which was first organized in China in 1995. It was held under the topic of gender equality and empowerment women worldwide.

In his remarks, the Union Minister said that all the world countries face many challenges due to COVID-19 pandemic, Myanmar also conduct COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment activities while carrying out the transition processes into democracy system, the participation of women in transition processes for democracy system including peace processes, prohibition of gen-

der discrimination according to the Union Accord as part of peace processes, 30 per cent of women participation in each sectors, drafting policies to prevent gender based violence and agreements to promote women abilities.

Myanmar is working hard to promote gender equality and protect vulnerable groups in some ways by stipulating laws and policies and 11 women organizations are serving for the women affairs in active ways under the instruction of Myanmar National Committee on Women Affairs with 2013-2022 National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women.

He continued saying that the Prevention and Protection of Violence against Women Bill was submitted to the Hluttaw, and the country also carries out to approve the action plan (bill) to prevent and protect the



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye delivers speech at the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women via videoconference on 1 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

violence against women in conflict areas. The government also conducts response activities for all inclusive of women and girls in vulnerable groups and uses K2.1billion to help the people

at IDP camps by making COVID-19 Prevention, Control and Treatment Plan.

He also pledged that the country will continue carrying out for the gender equality and

empowerment of women while adopting CERP for economic impacts including rehabilitation processes.—MNA

*(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)*

# ASEAN Finance Ministers, Central Bank Governors organize sixth meeting via videoconference

MINISTERS for finance and governors of central banks in ASEAN and the United States held an online meeting, as part of the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting yesterday.

Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Governor of CBM U Soe Thein, ASEAN Finance Ministers, Governors of Central Banks in ASEAN, Secretary-General of ASEAN and officials of ASEAN- Business Advisory Council (ABAC), EU-ASEAN Business Council (ABC), US-ASEAN Business Council (ABC) joined the Dialogue for Business Councils (ABAC, EU-ABC, US-ABC) of ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors."

During the dialogue, the ASEAN finance ministers and the governors of central banks exchanged views while the European Union – ASEAN Business Council (EU-ABC) briefed "Advancing Sustainable Finance in ASEAN," the US-ASEAN Business Council (US-ABC) about "Digital Transformation in Financial Services for the Fourth



Ministers for finance and governors of central banks in ASEAN and the United States hold meeting online on 2 October 2020. **PHOTO: MNA**

Industrial Revolution", the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC) about "ASEAN Financial Inclusion Solutions" and "ASEAN Digital Trade Connect".

Then, the 16<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Central Bank Governors' Meeting (ACGM) was held and Viet Nam's Central Bank Governor Mr Le Minh Hung made an opening speech.

Another discussion was also held under the topic of "Policy Dialogue on Promoting Digital Transformation in Banking Sector".

The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) joined the

discussion under the topic called "Central Bank Digital Currency," while the Central Bank of Thailand under the topic of "Promoting Digital Transformation in Thailand's Financial", and the ASEAN trading banks under the topic of "Digital Banking".

Then, the Chair of meeting presented ASEAN Banking Integration Framework (ABIF), Payment and Settlement Systems (PSS) and the sustainable economic development plans.

Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung presented that Myanmar has signed with the governors of the

ASEAN central banks to be DTN member for the establishment of ASEAN Cyber Security Resilience and Information Sharing Platform (CRISP) and the Chair took record it.

The 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Finance Minister's and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM) which was held by the rotating chairmanship of Viet Nam and it presented the prioritized sectors during 2020 ASEAN host country and then the International Monetary Fund (IMF) briefed the world economic situation and prospects while ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) about the response activities and economic risks regarding COVID-19 pandemic and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) about the regional economic and infrastructure growth.

Then, Deputy Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Maung Maung Win discussed receiving low-interest loan from IMF, ADB and JICA for COVID-19 response activities, Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) of G-20 member countries, technology supports and aids for Capacity Building Programme of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO),

getting low revenue in COVID-19 pandemic, large budget deficits and government's debts for increasing expenses, need to emphasize the facts to raise the budget and agreement on the facts of ADB to prioritize the facts that can improve the revenue for the debt sustainability of the government.

Then, the officials of ASEAN Secretary-General also discussed work progresses under the AEC Blueprint 2025 including mid-term review, monitoring and assessment programmes.

The joint-chairpersons of the deputies of ASEAN finance and central banks meeting continuously discussed working progresses and action plans for 2020-2021 regarding the ASEAN finance and financial cooperation.

After that, they finalized the joint statement of the 6<sup>th</sup> AFMGM.

The 2021 ASEAN Central Banks Governors' Meeting and Deputies of ASEAN Central Banks related meetings are scheduled to hold in Brunei Darussalam as the alternative host. —MNA

*(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)*

# Social protection programmes are critical to reduce impacts of pandemic on women

IT is over nine months since we are alerted to be vigilant and to take measures against the impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

As the pandemic progressed, it became clearer that those with lower incomes faced a heightened risk.

Women and men are affected by COVID-19. Among the people suffering from this financial setback, women have been disproportionately affected in comparison to men.

The coronavirus crisis has put women at greater risk of job loss, poverty, food insecurity, loss of housing and domestic violence. Women carry a different kind of burden from COVID-19. Inequities disproportionately affect their wellbeing and economic resilience during Stay-at-Home period with strict rules.

The service sector they dominate has been hard hit by social distancing rules. The loss of jobs in sectors dominated by women will have a devastating impact on families, especially where women are the primary or co-breadwinner.

Households are under strain, but child care, elderly care, and housework typically fall on women. Concerns over increased domestic violence are growing. With health services over-stretched and charities under-resourced, women's sexual and reproductive health services, as well as prenatal and postnatal care, are disrupted.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Union Government is committed to its policy that "no one would be left behind." This means that women, children and vulnerable communities would also receive assistance from the government's COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan-CERP.

The Union Government also adopted a plan to prevent, contain and respond to the COVID-19 disease in IDP camps, and is implementing it by spending K2 billion in efforts to provide care to the people displaced by armed conflicts and terrorist attacks.

COVID-19 is not only a challenge for global health systems, the UN report said. It is "also a test of our human spirit. Recovery must lead to a more equal world."

Recognizing that women are being disproportionately affected within the struggles of the current pandemic crisis, the Union Government is also implementing the social protection programmes under the CERP with care at its heart for equal development of men and women.

To help our communities and our economy recover from this crisis, the needs of both women currently in the working force and women about to enter the workforce must be prioritized.

The skills and abilities of women are crucial to help our economy and world recover from this unprecedented crisis.

## 'SUSTAINABLE PREPAREDNESS FOR HEALTH SECURITY AND RESILIENCE

# The best time to prevent the next pandemic is now: countries join voices for better emergency preparedness

Past crises have shown that once an outbreak is under control, governments and donors tend to turn their attention to other pressing concerns. This cycle of "panic-then-forget" has prevented the development of effective health emergency preparedness across the globe. The world needs to break this cycle once and for all.

COVID-19 will not be the world's last health emergency and there is an urgent need for sustainable health emergency preparedness to deal with the next one.

This was the strong sentiment shared by participants of the United Nations General Assembly side-event on 'Sustainable preparedness for health security and resilience: Adopting a whole-of-society approach and breaking the "panic-then-forget" cycle'. The high-level virtual event was co-hosted by Finland, France and Indonesia, along with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Past crises have shown that once an outbreak is under control, governments and donors tend to turn their attention to other pressing concerns. This cycle of "panic-then-forget" has prevented the development of effective health emergency preparedness across the globe. The world needs to break this cycle once and for all.

This week, the world crossed a grim milestone with over a million lives lost to the COVID-19 pandemic, and many more expected to have died from unprecedented disruptions to the health systems.

"Over the years we have had many reports, reviews and recommendations all saying the same thing: the world is not prepared for a pandemic. COVID-19 has laid bare the truth: when the time came, the world was still not ready," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General, in his opening address. He

called for investing in preparedness, with an all-of-government and all-of-society approach. "This will not be the last pandemic, nor the last global health emergency. But with the right political and financial investments now, we can advance health security, prevent and mitigate future pandemics, and protect our future and the future of generations to come," he said.

Countries spoke of their commitment to health emergency preparedness. "We know that preparedness makes economic sense, and we have developed tools and models for multi-sectoral cooperation. Learning from the pandemic and building on the previous progress should guide our steps to strengthen Health Security and thus help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals," said Päivi Sillanauke, Ambassador for Health and Wellbeing, Republic of Finland.

"There is an urgent need to leverage the response to COVID-19 to build, maintain and strengthen sustainable public health capacities for emergency preparedness [...] France firmly believes that preparedness deserves to be placed much higher on the foreign policy agenda and we are willing to foster cooperation among Member States to ensure the continued visibility of this topic, whether here in Geneva or at the UNGA in New York," said Stéphanie Seydoux, Ambassador for Global Health, French Republic.

Also sharing their countries' experience with COVID-19 were the Ministers of Health of the



Indonesian people queue to get on a bus at the Blok M terminal in Jakarta on September 10, 2020. PHOTO: AFP

Netherlands, Oman, Senegal and Singapore. Speaking to this issue as well were the Coordinator of the Group of African Ambassadors in Geneva, and Germany's Deputy Director-General, Federal Foreign Office. The discussion was led by Ambassador Hasan Kleib of Indonesia in Geneva.

Stressing the role of community empowerment was the President of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Mr Francesco Rocca. He said his organization had learned from working with its network of responders in 192 countries that there is an urgent need to invest in preparedness at the community

level, to "promote humanitarian action to be as local as possible, as global as necessary [...] We call on governments, partners and donors to invest in preparedness at the community level to save lives and alleviate suffering in the next inevitable emergency."

The role of parliaments and the importance of a multisectoral approach was highlighted by the Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Mr Martin Chungong. The International Association of National Public Health Institutes, and the European Commission's Directorate General for Development and Cooperation emphasized the important role played by partner

organizations in country and global preparedness and financing.

Mr Sami Kanaan, the Mayor of Geneva, stressed an all-of-society approach. "Local governments must not only be provided with the means to implement policies. They also need to be included in the international debates that eventually shape solutions to the humanity's most pressing challenges," he said.

Closing the event, Dr Michael Ryan, Executive Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme, appreciated the participants' remarks, and asked for them to be met with sustained commitment to preparedness. "We cannot, cannot, cannot let the world forget because the next one may not be anything but the worst one," he said. "This (COVID-19) may just be a harbinger of what may come, we are living with too much risk."

This event marked a crucial dialogue among countries, donors and partners on building back better for future emergency preparedness during the current COVID-19 pandemic, and beyond. It comes on the heels of the release of a sobering report by the Global Preparedness and Monitoring Board that also called for urgent action in this area.

According to the report, investments in preparedness would only cost US\$ 5 per person annually, whereas the cost of this pandemic is already over US\$ 11 trillion and counting.

SOURCE: WHO

## PEER-REVIEW IN THE ERA OF COVID-19

# Pandemic creates 'surge' of flawed research

THE Covid-19 pandemic has created a surge in potentially flawed scientific studies as researchers rush to publish results without adequate oversight, a leading medical ethicist said on 2 October.

Since the novel coronavirus appeared late last year there have been more than 4,000 academic papers relating to the virus, many of which have appeared on-

line without the benefit of a full peer-review process.

Writing in the Journal of Medical Ethics, Katrina Bramstedt, a professor at the Bond University Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Queensland, warned that rushed or inaccurate research could put lives at risk.

"Patient harm that is significant, permanent and irreversible could result from using faulty re-

search results from pre-prints as well as published papers," she wrote.

As of the end of July, there were 19 published articles and 14 pre-prints -- papers that have not yet been peer reviewed -- dealing with Covid-19 that were retracted, withdrawn, or tagged with an "expression of concern".

Most of these occurred in Asia, with China alone respon-

sible for 11 retractions or withdrawals.

One of the most high profile retractions was of a paper published in the prestigious Lancet medical journal on the effectiveness of treating Covid-19 patients with the anti-arthritis drug hydroxychloroquine.

The research, released in May, prompted the World Health Organization to pause its trials

of hydroxychloroquine after the results suggested the drug had no positive effects on hospitalised individuals and may in fact increase the likelihood of death.

The study was withdrawn after a group of experts raised "both methodological and data integrity concerns" about it.

In September The Lancet said it had bolstered its peer-review system to ensure at least

one reviewer was an expert on the area of research in question.

Another study -- also in The Lancet -- on a potential Russian vaccine raised concerns among Western scientists over a lack of safety data. An open letter signed by more than 30 Europe-based experts last month cast doubt on the Russian findings, pointing towards potentially duplicated data.

SOURCE: AFP

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INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (2020)

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"It's All About Governance"

အောက်တိုဘာလ(၁၃)ရက်



### Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 4:00 pm Friday 2nd October, 2020)

**BAY INFERENCE:** According to the observations at (13:30)hrs M.S.T today, the low pressure area over West-central Bay and adjoining Northwest Bay of Bengal off North Andhra Pradesh and South Odisha coasts (India) now lies over Northwest and adjoining Westcentral Bay of Bengal Odisha-North Andhra Pradesh coasts(India). Weather is partly cloudy over the North Bay Monsoon is weak to moderate over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 3rd October, 2020:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagoing, Mandalay and Magway Regions and Eastern Shan Stae, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago Region and Southern Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (6-8) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of increase of rain in Taninthayi Region and Kayin, Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3rd October, 2020:** Isolated rain orthundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3rd October, 2020:** One or two rain orthundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3rd October, 2020:** Isolated rain orthundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND:** Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread Nay Pyi Taw, widespread in Yangon Region and scattered in Mandalay Region.

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## National United Democratic Party presents its policy, stance and work programmes

National United Democratic Party Chairman U Sein Win presented party's policy, stance and work programmes through radio and TV on 2 October.



### Greetings esteemed people and farmers.

I am Chairman U Sein Win of the National United Democratic Party (N.U.D), and I will be contesting for the Pyithu Hluttaw seat of Lewe constituency.

### Party's policies, work programmes

I will summarize our party's policies and work programmes. We are a party for the farmers formed with farmers, labourers and experts. The farmers and residents of rural areas must be prosperous to elevate their living standards, and the right people with the right skills need to be appointed to suitable positions for actual changes and development to take place.

We are the only party who will bring about the formation of a farmers' union to freely bring development and protection of the rights of farmers in rural areas who make up 70% of Myanmar's population.

We will lay the foundation for improving the agricultural, livestock and fishery sector and raise the national economy. We will prioritize rural development. We will strive for a Constitution that promises a Federal Democratic Union.

We will create jobs so that migrant workers can return home and find employment. We will prevent exploitation and waste of natural resources and set regulations that benefit local people.

We will find peaceful solutions to resolve conflicts and issues with armed organizations. We will work together with experts and ethnic leaders and representatives of the people in agriculture, business, education, healthcare, and ethnic affairs.

N.U.D party will pursue legal routes to prevent losses when resolving unfair land confiscation cases.

We will focus on the issue of low sources of investment for farmers, providing them with farming machinery, getting connected to a water supply and proper use of water, enabling them to produce high-quality products, protection from climate change, and acquiring guarantees for market share and acceptable prices for their products.

N.U.D party will always respect the ideals of

Galon Sayar San, Thakin Poe Hla Gyi and Bo Aung Kyaw and strive to implement their objectives as appropriate.

Our party will have 15 candidates contesting for seats in the following ten townships: Mogok, PyinOoLwin, Myittar, Pyinmana, Zabuthiri, Dekkhinathiri, Lewe, Yedashe, Maubin and Kyaiklat.

While our party may not currently have the strength to form a government, we will bravely carry out our duties in the Hluttaw to bring about a clean and good government with the available power we have. Thus, we request you to vote for our party representatives if you think they have the required qualities.

1. To bring the rural residents out of poverty
2. To assist people in reclaiming unfairly-confiscated-land
3. To work hand-in-hand with experts and professionals
4. To practise correctness about people, place, duties, systems, ethics, spirit, and action,  
Vote for N.U.D.

We have successfully helped people of Lewe Township reclaim confiscated land in Ayelar, Thaekawgyi, Thawmawgone, Kyaungyi, Kuthabeik, Aye-chantha, Pyanchi, Nyaung Motesate, Yaykar, Bogadaw, and Hsipaing.

We worked together with residents of Kyogone and Theyetgone and found solutions to acquiring dam water.

We helped with getting Form-7 for forest space in Zali Nghat Gyi Taung, Thit Kyein, Sanpya and Bogadaw.

We also helped with matters related to trade, road networks, Theyetgone, electricity, Kyogone, and national registration. We helped with all requests from all regions of Myanmar.

We helped Lisu people in Mogok Township get 1,600 national registration cards, and we are cooperating in reclaiming confiscated land in PyinOoLwin and across Myanmar.

We have taken matters relating to regional development, roads, bridges, electricity and schools from respective townships and submitted them as non-asterisk-marked questions in the Hluttaw.

I have served as the Chairman of the farmers, workers and youth affairs committee from 2015 to 2016.

We have submitted proposals to the Hluttaw regarding food reserve, lending short-term and long-term loans to prevent farmers from selling draught animals, crop prices and market share, and forming a market system for farmers. However, we were unsuccessful because we didn't have enough

strength in the Hluttaw. We need representatives for farmers in the Hluttaw.

As a Pyithu Hluttaw representative for Maubin, I participated in the 4th stage of amending 420 articles in the Constitution.

### N.U.D party has made several statements in the Hluttaw:

- (11-7-2012, Pyithu Hluttaw) There needs to be peace at the village level for development at the township level, which will, in turn, drive national growth. That is why we need to develop the village first.
  - (13-7-2012, Pyithu Hluttaw) For the development of the national economy, it's crucial to have a sound system between the people in administration and the people under administration. If there isn't a proper system between the government and the people, it doesn't matter if America or even three other countries come to our aid, we will still be in poverty.
  - (13-2-2013, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw) We need to implement clear and precise work programmes concerning how we will handle the benefits, interests and opportunities of farmers.
  - (13-2-2013, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw) A democratic government needs to give back the unfairly-confiscated-land and offer compensation. You cannot safely allow the tiger to herd the cattle.
  - (17-1-2014, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw) In terms of a democratic agricultural perspective, the roots must spread wide for the trunk to grow well. Many branches will grow on a strong trunk and produce as many fruits. We need to work hard to develop the fruits of democracy.
  - (23-9-2014, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw) The farmers who've had their land confiscated are now like crows staring at a spirit offering; their time wasted.
  - (8-2-2018, Pyithu Hluttaw) Successive governments across multiple systems through the years have shouted for 'changing traditional farming to industrial farming' for nearly 50 years. However, there is still no practical implementation with the situation as unchanged as ever.
- In conclusion, N.U.D party is formed with honesty, purity and reasonable beliefs to establish a Federal Democratic Union through cooperation with farmers and workers from rural areas and experts. Indeed, we are a farmers' party. We will produce tangible results and match our words with our action. We are resolving the unfair-land-confiscation problems as well. If you want to vote for us, put a tick beside the khaki-earth flag with the full moon and farmer image.



## Campaign speeches of political parties for 2020 General Election on 3-4 October

CAMPAIGN speech of Union Betterment Party(UBP) for 2020 General Election will be broadcast on MRTV, Hluttaw Channel, Myanma Radio and MRTV Facebook page at 7 pm on 3 October, and will be published in the state-owned newspapers— the Myanma Alinn, the Mirror and the Global New Light of Myanmar —on 4 October. However, that of Federal Union Party and Shan State Kokang Democratic Party will only be published on 4 October. — MNA

**Elections are the root for development of democracy.**

## Onion stock still abundant in local market despite Bangladesh bulk buy

ALTHOUGH Bangladesh purchased onion in bulk from Myanmar, there remains abundant stock of onion in the local market, according to Bayintnaung Onion Wholesale Depot.

A few days ago, the onion price was on the rise in the local market because Bangladesh was buying Myanmar onion.

“There still remains abundant stock of onion in the local market despite high Bangladesh demand for the onion. As the Ruili border with China is locked down, border trade has halted,

and trucks which transported goods have been forced to turn back, resulting in many stock of onion remaining in the market,” said an onion trader.

At that time, the price of onion suddenly rose to K400-550 per viss as there was a high demand for the local onion by Bangladesh.

At present, the onion price rose to K600-650 per viss from K550 viss in Mandalay online market. —Aye Maung ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)



(FILES) Women sort onion at the compound of a house in Magway Region. PHOTO: THET MAUNG (IPRD)

## Ayeyawady Region grows over 13,700 acres of more monsoon paddy land this year

AYEYAWADY has raised over 13,700 acres of more monsoon paddy land this year compared to last year, according to official statistics of the Regional Agriculture Department.

“Although there are few rainfalls this year, we can meet the target of monsoon paddy cultivation because we are using the irrigated water systematically,” said an official from the Agriculture Department.

At present, the department is providing the paddy seeds and cultivation costs to the local farmers. The department is also providing the cash to the local farmers, whose farmlands were damaged by the floods.

Ayeyawady region cultivated a total of 3,633,678 acres of paddy in six districts last year. This

year, Ayeyawady grew paddy totalling 3,647,456 acres, which has 13,778 acres more land under cultivation this year than last year.

The monsoon paddy is grown over 740,000 acres in seven townships in Patheingyi district, over 530,000 acres in six townships in Hinthada district, over 520,000 acres in three townships in Myaungmya district, over 589,000 acres in two townships in Latputta district, over 98,845 acres in four townships in Maubin district and over 873,523 acres in four townships in Pyawbwe District.

At present, Ayeyawady region cultivated over 3.7 million acres of monsoon paddy and 1.4 million acres of summer paddy. —Zin Yaw Aye ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

## Supportive service system to benefit local entrepreneurs

By Nyein Nyein

MYANTRADE will set up a supportive service system for the local entrepreneurs, according to an officer from the organization.

To set a milestone of the business support in Myanmar, the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization provided advanced trade information service and management technique pieces of training to some 40 government officials from Myantrade headquarters and regional trade centres and 15 Myanmar commercial trade attaches from foreign countries.

The two-day training that started from 22 to 24 September is part of the larger ini-

tiative aims to upgrade the availability and accuracy of businesses, market and trade information available to the local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) which want to reach foreign markets.

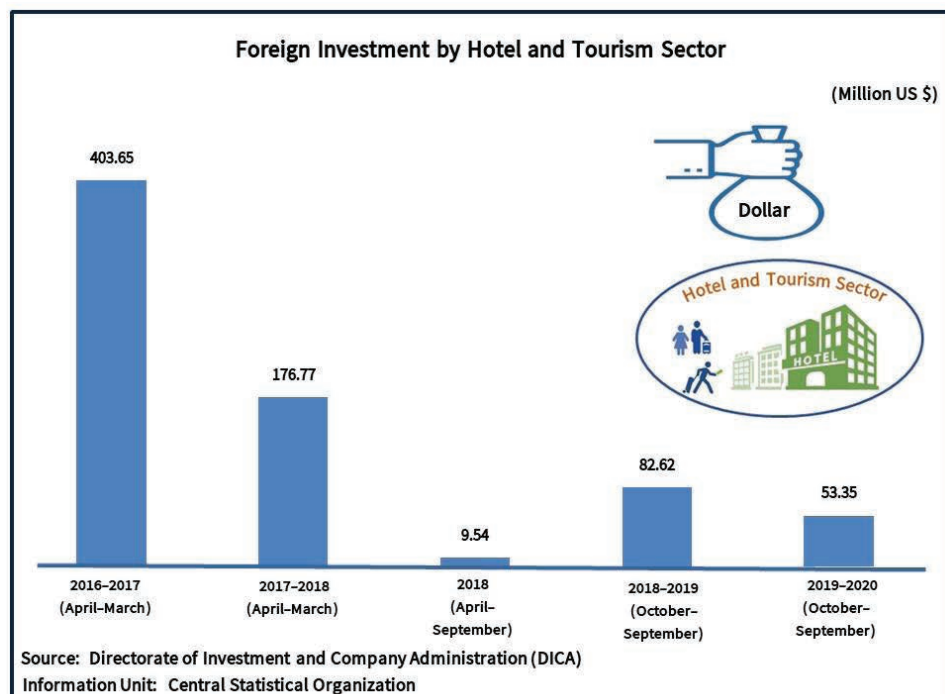
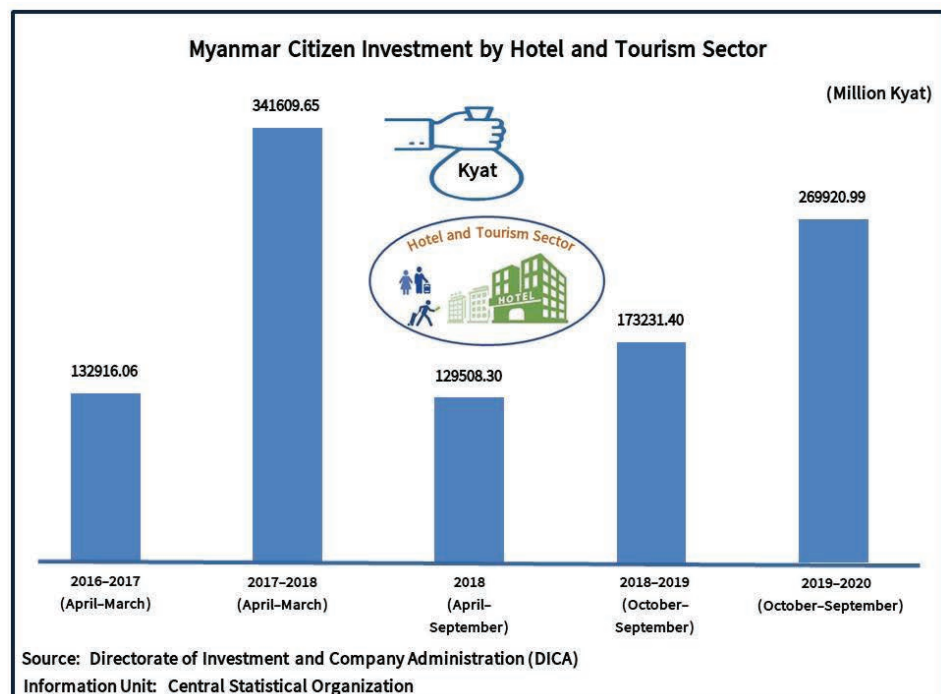
The training gave Myantrade’s trade information officers the practical skills on how to analyze trade and market information resources. Providing reliable and timely trade information will enable the officers to assist their small businesses better to make them competitive in the global markets using up to date market intelligence. So, the exporters can get information safely online during COVID-19 crisis.

“Embracing these new

tools and methodologies can improve our capacity to provide modern and effective information services to everyone interested in trading,” said Naw Mu Ta Kapaw, the director-general from Myantrade.

Myantrade is the Trade Promotion Organization of Myanmar which is aimed at promoting the trade and export of Myanmar through the building of the capacities of the local companies to make effective competition in the regional and global markets. Moreover, Myantrade aims to tag the label of “Made in Myanmar” brand on Myanmar’s goods and services. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)



# 201 Myanmar nationals from Cambodia, Singapore arrive back home by relief flights

THE relief flights of Myanmar Airways International and Myanmar National Airlines landed at the Yangon International Airport yesterday bringing back a total of 201 Myanmar citizens-stranded in Cambodia and Singapore.

Fifty-four Myanmar citizens were taken by the second relief of MAI from Cambodia, and 147 citizens by 20th relief flight of MNA.

The relief flights

were organized by the Myanmar embassies in these countries.

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Health and Sports and the Yangon Region government arranged 14-day quarantine at specific places or designated hotels, followed by the 7-day home quarantine.

To bring back the Myanmar citizens who are stranded in foreign countries by relief flights

and chartered flights in accordance with the instructions from National-Level Central Committee on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs cooperated with the relevant ministries and Myanmar embassies from respective countries and brought back a total of 17,640 citizens to date. —MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)



Myanmar returnees from foreign countries line up for immigration service at the Yangon International Airport on 2 October 2020. PHOTO: MNA

# No YBS drivers test positive for COVID-19: YRTA



Picture shows YBS buses in downtown Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

By Nyein Nyein

THE YBS drivers from different bus lines operating in Yangon region are not yet coronavirus positive, said U Hla Aung, the joint secretary of Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

“There is no report from the bus lines that YBS drivers are found COVID-19 positive,” he added.

However, officials from a township informed a bus line that one passenger was sent to a COVID-19 treatment centre. He is said to have taken the YBS 37 bus to Taikkyi a few days ago. So, the bus line isolated that YBS 37 driver, he stated.

“Additionally, the YBS 37 bus line was restricted in conformity with the guidance of the related Health Depart-

ment, according to YRTA. Till now, the related bus line has not reported as to whether the bus drivers are found COVID-19 or not,” the YRTA joint secretary confirmed.

The number of commuters onboard the buses had dropped after authorities had declared stay home announcement in 44 townships in Yangon except for Cocyun township when the

COVID-19 second wave started.

Before the outbreak of COVID-19, over 4,500 YBS buses are running on 135 routes, with 1.8 estimated passengers. Now, YBS operates more than 900 buses from 107 bus lines, providing service for over 80,000 passengers in Yangon Region, according to YRTA.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

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## GM, Fiat Chrysler sales drop 10 pct in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter

CHICAGO -- Sales of new vehicles of General Motors Co. (GM) and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) dropped 10 per cent year over year in the third quarter of this year, according to the quarterly sales results posted on the websites of the automakers.

GM sold 665,192 vehicles in the third quarter, and the sales improved sequentially each month within the quarter. GM sales actually rebounded significantly in September, finishing the month with year-over-year sales increases. GM's large

pickup trucks sold well, with Chevrolet Silverado heavy-duty truck sales up 9 per cent and GMC Sierra heavy duty up 11 per cent in the third quarter compared to a year ago. Total Sierra sales posted its best third quarter ever with more than 67,800 sales.

FCA sold 507,351 vehicles in the third quarter. While its profit-heavy Jeep and Ram brands sales went down 9 per cent and 2 per cent, Jeep Gladiator mid-size truck sales increased by 37 per cent; and Chrysler sales increased by 8 per cent in sales.—Xinhua

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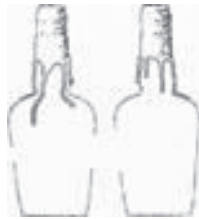
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### Notice

ZICOLaw Myanmar Limited, (Company Registration No. 105606680), having registered office at Unit #6-#7, Level 4, Uniteam Marine Training Building, No.84, Pan Hlaing Street, Sanchaung Township, Yangon announces that in accordance with the special resolution of the shareholders dated [1 October 2020], the company has reduced 450,004 ordinary shares for the value of 652,505,800 Kyats from its current share capital of 954,575 ordinary shares.

For and On Behalf of ZICOLaw Myanmar Limited  
Daw Thuzar Tin  
Advocate (License No.15760)  
Dated: 3 October 2020

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# Historic Yandabo monument

By Maung Tha (Archaeology)

**Y**ANDABO, the historic village beyond Myaung Town and Hsimeekhon Village, takes a position on the eastern bank of Ayeyawady River, 40 miles south of ancient Inwa city and six miles upstream of Myingyan.

Yandabo Village, significant area for pottery industry in successive Myanma monar-

chical eras, was famous for signing the treaty to surrender the war against British. Globetrotters make trips to Yandabo along the waterway so as to observe Yandabo pottery industries and Yandabo monument.

It was well-known that British bully forced Myanmar to sign Yandabo Treaty. As a

ceasefire treaty for the first Anglo-Myanmar war, the treaty signed in Yandabo Village was known as Yandabo Treaty in the history.

## First Anglo-Myanmar War

Myanmar fought against British colonialists in wars for three times. The first Anglo-Myanmar war occurred in

the reign of King Sagaing from 5 March 1824 to 1826, based on dispute over Shinmaphyu Island. In the war, Myanmar was defeated by British because Myanmar did not have capacity to keep abreast of British in arms and technology. As such, Myanmar left Rakhine, Taninthayi and Manipur regions. In the war, Supreme Commander General Maha Bandoola was dead in Danugyu battle. In encountering British colonialists who attempted to establish a great empire, Myanmar did not have capacity to shoulder with military upper hand of British.

Myanmar and British had not smoothed relations since the reign of King Badon due to Rakhine-Chittagong border problems. Manipur Chieftain Majit Singh did not attend the royal consecration ceremony of King Sagaing. As such, Myanmar assumed absent attendance of Majit Singh to the royal ceremony showed his act to rebel against Myanmar. It was a root cause of breaking out the war. King Sagaing sent his troops to Manipur, so Majit Singh and his troops fled to Cachar.

Cachar Chieftain Govinda Chandra asked help from British as troops of Majit Singh entered his area. Myanmar deployed its troops in Silahat and Assam border line in November 1823. Hence, British were worried about falling of Cachar into the hand of Myanmar. As British calculated that if Cachar fell, Myanmar would easily attack eastern Bengal. So, British occupied Cachar and declared Cachar was its under control. In 1823, Myanmar troops attacked Majit Singh's troops in Cachar where clashes happened between Myanmar and British.

At that time, British stationed on Shinmaphyu Island at the mouth of Naff River, so Myanmar occupied the island. The Governor-General of India demanded Myanmar to hand over the island to British. Myanmar arrested two British officers who were sent to carry out border affairs and attacked Cachar.

Due to Cachar issue, Governor-General Lord Amherst declared war with Myanmar on 5 March 1824. A total of 11,500 soldiers led by British General Sir Archibald Campbell marched to Yangon along waterway. The British water borne troops occupied



Manaung Island, Mawtinson and Haingyi Island.

Myanmar Supreme Commander General Maha Bandoola supplicated to King Bagyidaw, saying that although Myanmar conquered over Chittagong and Panwa, enemies would not be stable. It was expected they might disturb Hanthawady-Yangon. It should assign powerful ministers in Hanthawady. So, King Bagyidaw assigned Minister Thadoe Mingyi Maha Minkhaung and Minister Thadoe Maha Thenapati on 7 May 1824.

On 10 May 1824 when British troops arrived in Yangon, Myanmar deployed its strengths just for protecting the city, so they retreated to Kyimyindine where they built a fort. When General Maha Bandoola controlling his troops arrived at Yangon front line in a short time, Myanmar troops violently attacked British ones. Due to lack of ability to compete with arms of British, Myanmar troops led by Maha Bandoola retreated to Danubyu. Then, he fell in Danubyu Fort on 1 April 1825.



Yandabo Village Signboard.



Yandabo Monument.

After General Maha Bandoola had fallen, Myanmar troops retreated to upper Myanmar. British troops on land and along waterway marched to upper Myanmar. Both sides engaged each other near Pyay. But, Myanmar withdrew from Pyay and attacked British near Wethtigan again. Five British officers including a British colonel and soldiers fell in Wethtigan battle. However, British strongly counterattacked Myanmar.

After Pyay and Wethtigan had fallen, Myanmar fought against British troops in Myede, Malun, Bagan, NyaungU and Hsimeekhon. On arrival at Yandabo, Myanmar government sent Dr Judson and Dr Price to British troops for negotiating ceasefire.

The Myanmar side led by Lekaing Governor Minister Mingyi Maha Minghla Kyawhtin and Granary Minister Mingyi Maha Minhla Thiha Thura met with Sir Archibald Campbell and officers from British

in Yandabo Village where they signed the ceasefire agreement called Treaty of Yandabo but referred to by British as Treaty of Commonwealth.

The Treaty of Yandabo was signed by Lekaing Governor Minister Mingyi Maha Minghla Kyawhtin and Granary Minister Mingyi Maha Minhla Thiha Thura and General Sir Archibald Campbell, Civil Commissioner Robertson and Naval Captain Richard Bergh. According to the treaty, Myanmar firstly released its territories to invaders.

**Treaty of Yandabo**

The treaty comprised 11 paragraphs mentioning that Myanmar king missed chance to govern Assam while British occupied Rakhine leaving Mawtinsoo as border. British also occupied Taninthayi with Thanlwin River as boundary line. Moreover, Myanmar signed the treaty to give one crore kyats to British as war

compensation.

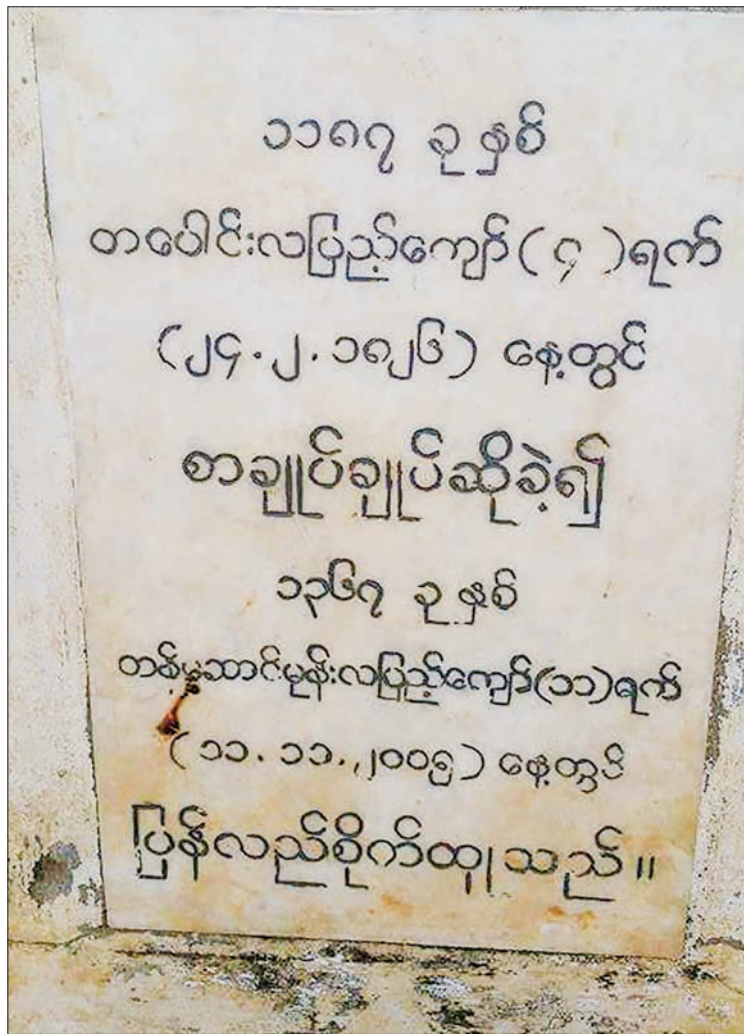
Following is the summery mentioned as eleven points in the treaty. They were:

British and Myanmar should practise ceasefire of the war and establish friend relations in successive eras. Myanmar king should miss chance to interfere in Assam, Cachar and Manipur states. If Gambhir Singh wished to govern its area, Myanmar king did not have chance to disturb him. British would govern Rakhine, Yanbye, Manaung and Thandwe in Rakhine region with the border line to Mawtinsoon Pagoda. Those who were appointed by Myanmar King and British had to decide right solutions for boundary affairs. Those appointed had to be officers or counsellors.

Myanmar king ceded Ye, Myeik, Dawei and Taninthayi of Taninthayi coast as well as islands in the seas to British. Thanlwin River would be border. Myanmar king had to pay



Sign indicating 50 metres to the place where Yandabo Treaty was signed.



A stone slab to remark the Yandabo Treaty.

one crore of coins in Myanmar kyats as war compensation to British. Action should not be taken against defectors from both sides to each other.

As part of cementing friendly relations, 50 troops led by an officer with full military equipment appointed by British would be assigned in Myanmar royal palace whereas 50 troops led by Myanmar officer in capital of British company. They had to buy or build houses for their residences in relevant areas. Both sides had to sign agreements to solve problems on commercial trading process. The property of dead persons without successors had to be handed over to respective authorities.

All walks of life had to pay debts borrowed before the war without fail. Any British or Myanmar did not have to seize other's property. Vessels of both sides had chance to stand tall without any disturbances at ports not only in Myanmar territory but also in British one. The king of Yodaya which established relations with British would include the programme of the treaty of commonwealth. The treaty had to be signed and sealed by Myanmar officials. British and American detained by Myanmar had to be handed to British diplomats. The treaty signed by the governor of British company in India would be

handed over to Myanmar king in same month. All Myanmar troops detained by British had to be handed over to Myanmar king as soon as possible.

Myanmar people had fought against British for regaining it lost territorial areas for 122 years. And then, Myanmar regained its independence in 1948.

Anglo-Myanmar wars showed Myanmar people should establish a firm, modern force so that aliens cannot disturb the State. The Yandabo Monument erected in Yandabo Village was evidence that colonialists signed a bullying treaty over Myanmar. As such, historic Yandabo monument highlights the important role of national unity.

(Translated by Than Tun Aung)

**References:**  
History of Anglo-Myanmar war (Natmauk Phone Kyaw)  
Myanmar Encyclopaedia Volume XI  
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## Shan United gets best player, coach awards for consecutive months



Shan United's goalkeeper Myo Min Latt (Right) receiving the MNL best player award for September and October. **PHOTO: MNL**

SHAN UNITED Football Club won Best Coach and Player Award of MPT Myanmar National League 2020 for the months of September and October according to the statement of the MNL.

Shan United head coach U Aung Naing won the best coach award while Shan United's goalkeeper Myo Min Latt garnered the best player award for a couple of months.

The awards were selected by the football authorities of the Myanmar National League and Myanmar Football Federation.

The two awards were presented at the end of the MPT Myanmar National League 2020 season matches at Yangon Unit-

ed Sports Complex on 1 October.

The coaching award was presented by Shan United Chairman U Khun Naung Myint Wai, and the best player award was presented by U Soe Moe Kyaw, Chief Executive Officer of Myanmar National League.

The best coach award was K150,000 kyats with a commemorative medal, and the Player Award was a cash prize of K200,000 with a medal.

Shan United head coach Aung Naing won the Coach of the Year award for the second time this season, and the first time was in the previous month while Shan United goalkeeper Myo Min Latt earned the award

for the first time.

In January, Hantharwady United head coach U Myo Min Tun got the best coach award while Hantharwady's striker Donald Bissa won best play award. Also in February, Yangon United head coach U Tin Maung Tun won best coach, award while Maung Maung Lwin won best player award.

Next, Hantharwady United head coach, U Myo Min Tun, earned best coach award for March and August and Shan United player David Htan also won the best player award for March and August.

—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

## Arsenal reach League Cup quarter-finals after Liverpool shoot-out

LONDON—Mikel Arteta praised Arsenal goalkeeper Bernd Leno for repaying his faith after the German's two penalty saves clinched a 5-4 shoot-out win over Liverpool that sent the Gunners into the League Cup quarter-finals. Arteta's side had already beaten Liverpool on penalties in the Community Shield earlier this season and they repeated the trick in the fourth round tie. Joe Willock scored the winning penalty after Leno saved from Divock Origi and Harry Wilson. Adrian kept out Arsenal's third spot-kick from Mohamed Elneny, but Alexandre Lacazette, Cedric Soares, Ainsley Maitland-Niles and Nicolas Pepe all netted before Willock set up a last eight clash with Manchester City. Asked about facing City, where he worked as Pep Guardiola's assistant until December, Arteta said: "I was waiting and enjoying the victory and then we have to play Manchester City.—AFP ■

## West Ham sign Czech defender Coufal



Czech defender Vladimir Coufal has joined Premier League side West Ham. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON—West Ham have signed Czech Republic defender Vladimir Coufal from Slavia Prague for a fee reported to be around £5 million (\$6.5 million). The right-back has signed a contract with David Moyes' side until 2023, with the option of a further two years. Capped eight times by his country, the 28-year-old joins his former Slavia and current national team-mate Tomas Soucek at the London Stadium. "I'm very happy I am part of the West Ham family," Coufal said. "I will do everything so that West Ham will be successful. "I know about the interest West Ham had in me for a long time but now finally I am here and I am so happy."—AFP ■

## Messi v Ronaldo in Champions League group stage

GENEVA —Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo will meet in a mouthwatering clash in this season's Champions League after Barcelona and Juventus were placed in the same group in yesterday's draw (Oct 1).

Messi and Ronaldo will resume the rivalry they developed when the Portuguese superstar was at Real Madrid. Between them they have won 11 of the last 12 Ballons d'Or.

The two heavyweights were drawn in Group G along with Dynamo Kiev of Ukraine and Ferencvaros, the Hungarian club returning to the group stage for the first time in quarter of a century.

"The match against Barcelona will be a great challenge and it will be fascinating because it confronts those who, in my opinion, are still the two best players in

the world," said Juventus vice president Pavel Nedved. Meanwhile, beaten 2020 finalists Paris Saint-Germain will have a chance for revenge against Manchester United, who ousted the French club in the last 16 two seasons ago. PSG will also come up against RB Leipzig in Group H. The sides met in last season's semi-finals in Lisbon in August, with Paris winning 3-0 before losing to Bayern Munich in their first ever final appearance.

Completing the group is Istanbul Basaksehir, who are appearing in the tournament proper for the first time.—AFP ■

Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo will face off in the Champions League group stage after Barcelona and Juventus were drawn together. **PHOTO: AFP**

