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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Thursday, 29 October 2020

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Announcement of National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19

12th Waxing of Thadingyut, 1382 ME
28 October 2020

It is announced that public statements, orders, notifications, and directives of the Union-level organizations and the Union ministries effective until 31 October 2020 for protection, control and prevention of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) will be extended to 30 November 2020 as it is required to continue containment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

73rd Independence Day Organizing Committee holds 2nd coordination meeting

VICE President U Myint Swe, in his capacity as Chairman of the 73rd Independence Day Organizing Committee, presided over a coordination meeting via video-conference yesterday regarding arrangements for celebrating Independence Day on 4 January 2021.

In his opening remark, the Vice President called for systematic preparations of the committee and relevant sub-committees which have completed 12 works out of 16 tasks after the first coordination meeting on 9 October and finalizing the remaining four assignments in a timely manner.

He added that the national flag would be hoisted with a military parade at 4:20 am in Nay Pyi Taw and other regions and states; the national flag will be saluted and President's Independence Day message will be read at 7 am; the honorary titles will be conferred at the Presidential Palace at 9 am respectively in line with the directives and guidelines of National-Level



Vice President U Myint Swe chairs 2nd coordination meeting of 73rd Independence Day Organizing Committee on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19.

The Vice President continued to say that it is not likely to host a dinner party in commemoration of the Independence Day due to the spread of COVID-19. Still, fireworks will be displayed during the evening celebrations.

He also discussed campaign

programmes of the Ministry of Information ahead of the Independence Day, measures of security sub-committee, compliance with the guidelines of Ministry of Health and Sports at the celebrations and the Standard Operating Procedure.

Then, Permanent Secretary U Zaw Than Thin from the Office of the Union Government

and Secretary of the Committee presented the implementation of 16 tasks for the committee, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Major-Gen Thaug Htike Shwe talked about preparations for flag hoisting, salute ceremony and parade, Permanent Secretary U Myo Aung from the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee about rehearsals for social

distancing at the celebrations, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin about plans for a dinner party if the COVID-19 situation could be put under control, Director of Ordnance Services Maj-Gen Win Lwin about the safe shooting of firework for the evening celebrations, Deputy Minister for

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Notification on announcement of election results

1. Respective Region and State Election Sub-Commissions will announce the elected persons as Hluttaw representatives in the General Election held on 8 November 2020 in accordance with Section 49 (b) of respective Hluttaw Election Law and Section 72 of respective Hluttaw Election Rule.
2. Therefore, political parties, Hluttaw candidates, local and external election observers, media and other societies are informed to get the election results at respective region and state election sub-commissions in the following phone numbers:

Sr.	Region/State	office phone	hand phone
(a)	Kachin State	074-21678	09-662734014
(b)	Kayah State	083-2223128	09-446849480
(c)	Kayin State	058-23397	09-442638181
(d)	Chin State	070-21599	09-259077988
(e)	Sagaing Region	071-22774	09-420687868
(f)	Taninthayi Region	059-23525	09-781275531
(g)	Bago Region	052-2221024	09-255066061
(h)	Magway Region	063-28691	09-256418707
(i)	Mandalay Region	02-4069042	09-406869944
(j)	Mon State	057-24291	09-444556563
(k)	Rakhine State	043-22887	09-883534410
(l)	Yangon Region	01-2306293	09-899038800
(m)	Shan State	081-2125567	09-899333055
(n)	Ayeyawady Region	042-2021890	09-770837069

3. Union Election Commission will collect the announcement of results every day and re-announce through state-owned Myanmar Radio and Television's 8 pm news programme. Furthermore, the results will also be published on the state-owned newspapers on the following day.

Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission

Notification 203/2020
12th Waxing of Thadingyut 1382 ME
(28 October 2020)

Announcement on rights to conduct election rallies and campaigns

1. The Union Election Commission has announced its notification 173/2020 dated 6-9-2020 that the 60-day electoral campaign period for the General Election on 8 November 2020 is from 6:00 am on 8-9-2020 to midnight on 6-11-2020.
2. In order for the election to be successful and for the voters to be able to freely cast their votes for candidates, the election rallies and campaigns must be stopped from midnight on 6-11-2020 until after the election on 8-11-2020.
3. Election campaign signs/posters must be removed by midnight on 6-11-2020. If the campaign signs/posters are not removed by the deadline, the Township Election Sub-commissions, in coordination with the relevant city development committees or township development committees, will remove the signs/posters. The relevant Hluttaw candidate will have to reimburse the costs of removing the signs/posters.

(Hla Thein)

Chairperson

Union Election Commission



Workers are unloading COVID-19 medical devices imported from China at Yangon International Airport on 28 October. PHOTO: MNA

COVID-19 medical devices imported from China arrive in Yangon

MEDICAL equipment for COVID-19 prevention imported from China and to be used in the 2020 General Election arrived at Yangon International Airport by special flights yesterday.

These devices will be distributed to voters, polling station staff and volunteers.

The special flights yesterday carried medical supplies

for COVID-19 prevention such as KN95 masks, sets of PPE medical protective clothing and medicines.

Special flights for more stocks of COVID-19 medical supplies will land at Yangon and Mandalay international airports from 29 October to 3 November.—MNA

(Translated by TTN)

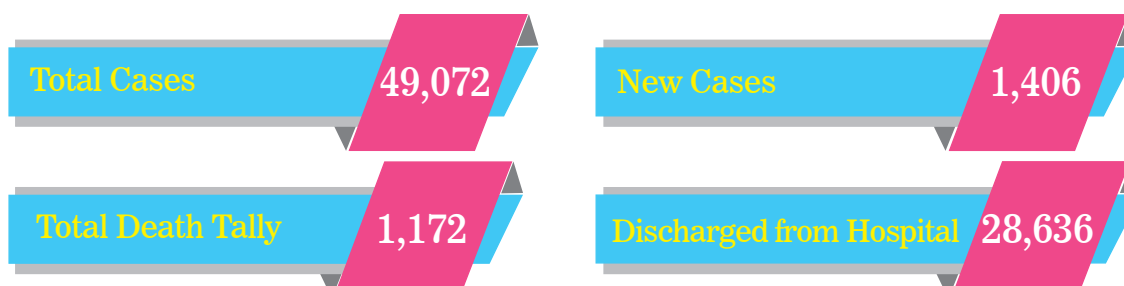
Campaign speeches of two political parties for 2020 General Election will be broadcast for second time

CAMPAIGN speeches of Zo National Region Development Party and National Development Party (NDP) for 2020 General Election will be broadcast on MRTV, Hluttaw Channel, Myanmar Radio and MRTV Facebook page at 7 pm on 29 October for the second time.—MNA

1,406 more new cases of COVID-19 reported on 28 October, total figure rises to 49,072

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rise to 49,072 after 1,406 new cases were reported on 28 October according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these 49,072 confirmed cases, 1,172 died, 28,636 have been discharged from hospitals.—MNA

Updated at 8 pm, 28 October 2020



Daily Death toll until 8 pm 28-10-2020

25

Ministry of Health and Sports

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



73rd Independence Day Organizing Committee ...

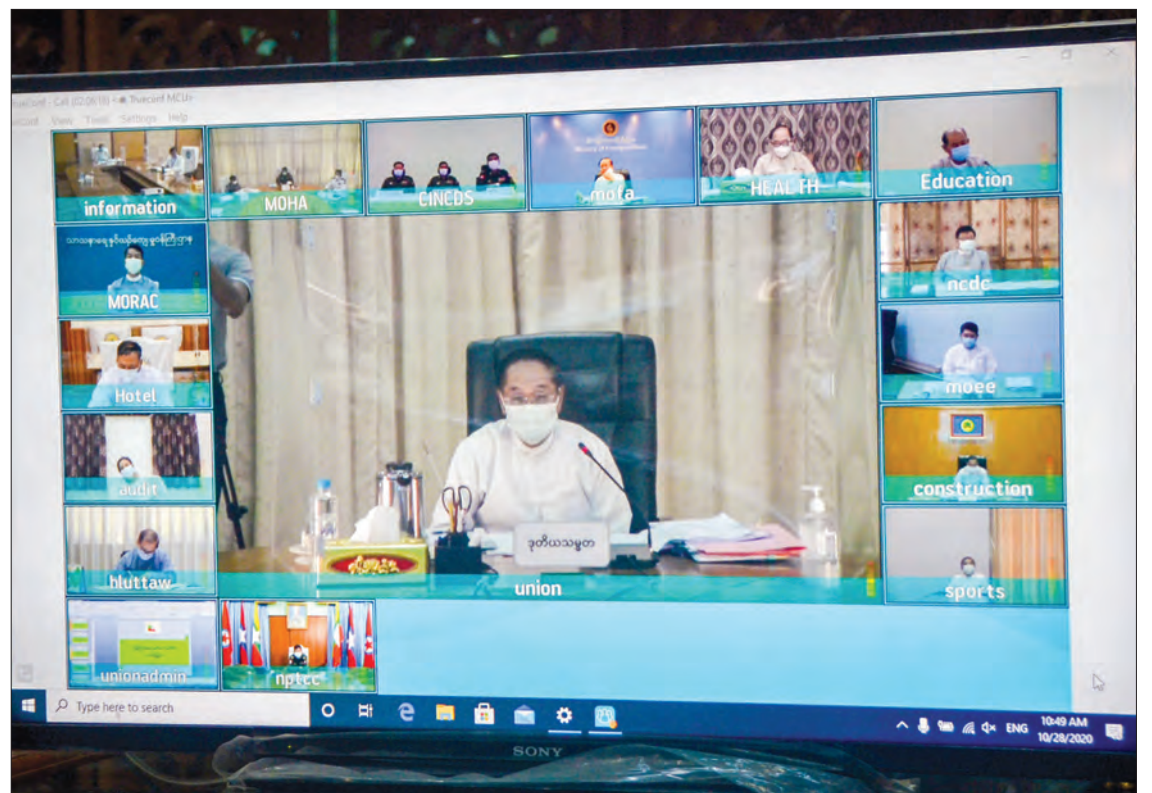
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Home Affairs Maj-Gen Soe Tint Naing, Deputy Police Chief Police Major-General Aung Aung and Head of Traffic Police Police Colonel Soe Myint Oo about security measures, Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint and Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung about campaign programmes through media platforms, Permanent Secretary U Tun Ohn from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture about participation of 32 ethnic youths in the morning celebrations, Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun about preparations for President's message, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe and its Permanent

Secretary Dr Thet Khaing Win about healthcare measures at the event, Director-General U Myo Hlaing from the Department of Sports and Physical Education about organizing sports events if the pandemic is put under control, and Permanent Secretary Daw Naing Thet Oo from the Office of Union Auditor-General about auditing works.

Deputy Minister from the Office of the Union Government U Tin Myint also discussed preparations for the ceremony to confer honorary titles, and Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Khin Maung Win presented regular power supplies to the celebrations.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Vice President U Myint Swe presides over the second coordination meeting of the 73rd Independence Day Organizing Committee via videoconferencing on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Constitutional Tribunal Chair U Myo Nyunt (L) presents certificate of honour to the official. **PHOTO: MNA**

Certificates of honour presented to officials for taking part in e-Court process

THE Constitutional Tribunal of the Union presented certificates of honour to the officials from the Department of e-Government and the Department of Justice for their role in e-Court judgements on Submission Letter No.1/2020 to the tribunal yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Chairperson of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Myo Nyunt, the members and its Permanent Secretary.

The tribunal decided to use the e-Court system amid the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic as it has already adopted an e-Bench System to be able to proceed with the e-Court process without difficulties until the judgements were made.

The chairperson said that he would like to honour the performance of the officials who worked hard to deliver the first-ever e-Court judgements, and that's why certificates of honour were given to the officials. He then expressed thanks to all the stakeholders involved in the process.

Department of e-Government Director U Nyi Nyi Lwin explained the e-Court process. Department of Justice Director U Min Thein and Department of e-Government Director U Nyi Nyi Lwin received the cash award and certificates of honour.—MNA

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

“People are the key”



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein receives Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Hilde Solbakken in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

UEC chairman receives Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar

CHAIRMAN of the Union Election Commission U Hla Thein received Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Hilde Solbakken and party in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed the preparation for the General Election to be successfully held on 8 November 2020 in accordance with the prescribed five criteria, preparation for preventive measures for the voters from the COVID-19, cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Sports to ensure compliance with Standard Oper-

ating Procedure in the campaign period and voting process.

They also discussed completion of advance voting for Myanmar citizens abroad, preparation for advanced local voters, voter education of the UEC on its Facebook page, cooperation with Myanmar Press Council and the Facebook Myanmar Team to prevent the spread of misinformation and electoral hate speech on social media, and the implementation of COVID-19 control and prevention for election observers.—MNA (Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

Myanmar Investment Commission Meeting (14/2020) held via videoconferencing system

MYANMAR Investment Commission (MIC) held its regular meeting (14/2020) via videoconferencing system, yesterday afternoon. Chairman of the MIC, Union Minister U Thaung Tun, Vice-Chairman, Union Minister Dr Than Myint and members of the Commission participated in the meeting.

The meeting approved five new projects in the livestock and fishery, manufacturing, real estate, oil and gas and other services sector as well as additional investment in eight existing projects. The approved pro-

jects amounted to US\$ 105.890 million, Kyats 35,629.479 million and 688 job opportunities are expected to be created.

By the end of September 2020, the countries with the largest investments in Myanmar are Singapore, People's Republic of China and Thailand. The power sector accounted for 26.17 %. This was followed by the oil and gas sector, accounting for 26.09 % and the manufacturing sector, accounting for 14.45 % of the total permitted amount of foreign investment.—MNA



Union Minister U Thaung Tun presides over the MIC 14th meeting via videoconferencing on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**



MoHS receives medical devices, equipment from Thai, Japan



THE Thai Embassy in Myanmar donated surgical masks to the Ministry of Health and Sports in Yangon yesterday morning.

Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Suphatra Srimaitreepithak explained the donations and donated 400,000 surgical masks worth 1.2 million baht.

Director-General for Medical Research Department Professor Dr Zaw Than Tun expressed words of thanks and presented certificates of honour after receiving the donations.

Similarly, the Japanese gov-

Professor Dr Htay Htay Tin receives RT-PCR Machine and Laptop Computer from the Japanese Ambassador. **PHOTO: KYAW ZEYA**

ernment also donated US\$5.18 million worth of RT-PCR Machine & Laptop Computer to National Health Laboratory (NHL) in Yangon in the same afternoon.

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Ichiro Maruyama briefed the donations and Director-General for Medical Research Department Professor Dr Zaw Than Tun expressed words of thanks.

Then, the Japanese Ambassador handed over the RT-PCR Machine & Laptop Computer to Deputy Director-General (Lab) of the NHL Professor Dr Htay Htay Tin and received the certificate of honour in return.—GNLM (Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

International Cooperation Minister receives Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar

Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin received a courtesy call from Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Hilde Solbakken at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

The meeting focussed on promotion of existing bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries, health sector, natural resource management, peace, security, women's role, assistance for the closure of

IDP camps, landmine awareness campaign and fostering the projects between the two countries.

They also discussed organizing bilateral talks between the two ministries of foreign affairs at an appropriate time when the outbreak of COVID-19 could be put under control and closer cooperation of the two countries at the United Nations and international issues.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin and Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Hilde Solbakken seen before holding talks. PHOTO : MNA

MoALI holds coordination meeting on meat production sector development, national nutrition plan



MoALI Union Minister Dr Aung Thu participates in the coord meeting on meat production sector development and national nutrition plan via videoconference on 28 October. PHOTO : MNA

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation held a coordination meeting on meat production sector development and national nutrition plan via videoconference yesterday morning.

At the meeting with heads and officials of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, regions and states administration departments, Union Minister Dr Aung Thu discussed food security to meet the international market standards without affecting the sources.

The Deputy Minister, the Permanent Secretary and the attendees to the meeting pre-

sented the action plans for meat production sector development and national nutrition plan.

The MoALI made efforts for the development of the breeding sector, local food security, official exports of animals and animal products without affecting the local resources and creating job opportunities with breeding industry in line with the Agricultural Development Strategy.

The country has seen the 2.9 per cent growth in this sector in 2019-2020 fiscal year.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting, ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting held via videoconferencing

The 26th ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting and the 11th ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers Meeting were held via videoconferencing yesterday morning.

The virtual session was participated by Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, the Directors-General, other officials of Myanmar, Labour Ministers of ASEAN nations, Labour Ministers of the ASEAN Plus Three nations (China, Japan and South Korea), and Secretary-General of ASEAN Dato Lim Jock Hoi.

The theme of the meeting was “Promoting ASEAN Workers for Competitiveness, Resilience, and Agility on the Future of Work”.

According to a report of the World Economic Forum, ASEAN experienced an une-

qual level of competitiveness and large productivity gap. The participants discussed improving skills and competitiveness of ASEAN workers, ways to overcome challenges posed by epidemics, natural disasters and other crises and issues related to preparation for enhancing skills that will be needed in the future.

During the virtual meeting, Myanmar Union Minister U Thein Swe said that the theme “Promoting ASEAN Workers for Competitiveness, Resilience, and Agility on the Future of Work” is intended to find solutions for the fourth industrial revolution that the world is facing and to overcome the challenges related to the COVID-19 impacts.

The Union Minister said that rapid transformation into technology-based businesses is

a great challenge for Myanmar.

He pointed out that COVID-19 pandemic has transformed the nature of the businesses and the “digital platform” has become a basic need for the labour market.

He highlighted the need to invest in digital infrastructure and the need to help the workers to acquire new necessary

skills in order to promote the competitiveness of workers in digitalization.

He said that social meetings are essential in finding solutions for the development of the labour and industrial sectors, so Myanmar has been holding tripartite meetings in which the government, employers and employees are involved, as needed.

He said that strong enthusiasm and continuous efforts of member nations would overcome any challenge.

The participants, including officials from China, Japan and South Korea, discussed the situation of workers and jobs affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.—MNA (Translated by Maung Maung Swe)



MoLIP Union Minister U Thein Swe takes part in 26th ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting & ASEAN+3 Labour Ministers Meeting via videoconferencing on 28 October. PHOTO : MNA

COVID-19 National Committee gets cash assistance

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe, in his capacity as the Secretary (2) of the committee, accepted the cash assistance to the National-Level Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19 virtually yesterday.

Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in his capacity as the Chairperson of the Myanmar Investment Commission U Thaung Tun explained the reason for the donation. He also congratulated to all volunteers and medical staff from the Ministry of Health and Sports who has been working together for the fight against COVID-19.

The donations were K30 million from the MPRL E&P Group of Companies, \$25,000 from Ooredoo Myanmar Limited, K13

million from Wilmar Holding Ltd, K23 million from MYANWEN and well-wishers, K10 million from U Tun Naing Oo from Marga Landmark, K5 million from International Beverages Trading Co., Ltd, K5 million from Chairman of Pathein Industrial City U Zaw Win Shein, K5 million from Chairman of Mother Group Companies U Aung Myat and K5 million from Chairman of Super Seven Star.

The COVID-19 national committee will hand over the cash assistance to the Ministry of Health and Sports to be used in hospitals and COVID-19 medical centres, in buying medical equipment and necessary medicines and the installation of Oxygen pipelines and upgrading intensive care units.—MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe receives cash assistance to national COVID-19 committee virtually on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister U Han Zaw joins engineer council meeting

UNION Minister for Construction U Han Zaw, in his capacity as the patron of Myanmar Engineering Council, joined the second

quarter meeting of the council via videoconferencing from Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In delivering an opening

speech, the Union Minister instructed for implementation of the council's objectives which were adopted after its establish-

ment on 28 November 2013 to uphold and upgrade the dignity, ethics and quality of the Myanmar citizen engineers, graduate technicians and technicians; to explore good methods and research that can be applied effectively with the least environmental impacts on natural and human resources through information and communication technologies; and to enforce the guidelines for prescribed standards, to meet norms in engineering services, to ensure suitable technologies and safety measures, and to comply with ethics and rules.

The MEC also scrutinized the grading of 320 companies, and it has reached in global ranking within a seven years short period.

The Union Minister also urged the council to make concerted efforts to gain more success, to protect lives and prop-

erties of public and to generate registered engineers, graduate technicians and engineering experts.

MEC Chairman Dr Charlie Than made a power-point presentation regarding the performance of MEC between June and October 2020 and work plans.

Then, they appointed the new Joint Secretary (1) position, selected a new council member and substituted new member for an executive position in line with the rules and regulations.

The Joint Secretary (2) of MEC presented the approval of the first three-quarter meeting while the working committee chairmen briefed the completed works and the Patrons of MEC coordinated the meeting.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)



Union Minister U Han Zaw takes part in the second-quarter meeting of Myanmar Engineering Council online on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar nationals fly back home from the Philippines, Thailand by relief flights

THE relief flight of Myanmar National Airlines (MNA) organized by the Myanmar Embassy in Manila landed at the Yangon International Airport bringing back a total of 112 Myanmar nationals after they were stranded in the Philippines due to the suspension of international flights yesterday evening.

Another MNA relief flight organized by the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok also brought

back a total of 11 Myanmar nationals from Thailand yesterday night.

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

To bring back the Myanmar citizens and Myanmar seamen

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.—MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)



Myanmar returnees from the Philippines queue for immigration process at Yangon International Airport on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe inspects Nay Pyi Taw 1000-bedded General Hospital

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe inspected the treatment wards for COVID-19 patients, ICU and Special Isolation Units of Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bedded) together with Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein, Permanent Secretary Dr Thet Khaing Win and other officials.

Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Lin Aye and other officials of the hospitals explained extensions of beds, installing of oxygen pipelines and ventilators, preparations for High Dependency Unit and Intensive Care Unit.

The Union Minister appreciated the efforts of healthcare workers, including the Superintendent, specialists and nurses for serving quality healthcare to the public, governmental staff and the Hluttaw MPs from seven

regions and states.

He also discussed the support of the ministry for Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bedded) to be on par with the Yangon General Hospital, the appointment of hospital staff, management of the hospital in line with the positions, cooperation works and transparent negotiation among hospital staff including doctors and nurses, support of ministry to the hospital, organizing a group to maintain the precious lab and X-ray materials, the importance of information system for hospital and proper rules and regulations for the patients and their family members.

The officials of the hospital later presented cooperation works of hospital staff, the web-based information system of hospital and procurement of



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe tours an inspection round at the 1000-bedded Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

medicines and medical supplies. The Union Minister also instructed for the extension of the information system to be conducted by health information

department and eHealth Unit, medicine storages to prevent the drug shortage problems for the emergency patients and plan to spend more for purchasing

medicines and medical supplies this year.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye attends meeting on systematic care of the elderly at homes for the aged



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye discusses systematic care of elderly persons at homes for the aged during the COVID-19 period on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye attended the meeting on the systematic care of elderly persons at homes for the aged during the COVID-19 period through videoconferencing yesterday morning.

The online meeting was also attended by responsible persons from the homes for the aged, region and state Social Welfare Officers and officials from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. At the meeting, the Union

Minister said to the responsible persons of the homes for the elderly in states and regions, including Nay Pyi Taw Council Territory, to follow the guidelines and instructions issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports in caring for the elderly; to provide necessary protection and assistance and to systemically implement the standard guidelines of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Director-General for the Department of Social Welfare

Dr San San Aye explained the standard guidelines for caring the elderly at homes for the aged during the COVID-19 period and discussed the requirements with the responsible persons of these care centres.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister and party met older people with disabilities who received grants during the COVID-19 period and encouraged them.

At the ceremony, the Union Minister said the ministry had provided the monthly social pension to ensure that all seniors to have equal benefits by the 2016 Elderly Law. In addition to that, in 2019-2020 financial year, a total of 101.9 million kyats from the Department of Rehabilitation was provided for a total of 3,397 older people with disabilities and homeless elderly aged 60 and above, at a rate of 30,000 kyats each during the COVID-19 period.

Myanmar Senior Citizens Network, Myanmar Association of the Elderly, International Organization for the Care of the Elderly, supporters of the elderly and people with disabilities and visually impaired responded with a vote of thanks.—MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

China donates 45,000 masks for 11 ministries

PEOPLE'S Republic of China donated 45,000 masks for COVID-19 preventive measures of 11 ministries yesterday.

Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai handed over the masks to Permanent

Secretary U Soe Han at the donation ceremony held at the office of Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Yangon.—Zaw Min Latt (MNA)

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar presents 45,000 masks to 11 ministries of Myanmar on 28 October. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

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.

Promoting new digital skills of youth called key to revitalizing economy

IN only a few months, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has disrupted livelihoods for millions of young people worldwide. The ILO estimates that more than one in six young people have now stopped working due to the pandemic. Education and training opportunities for youths have also been interrupted, creating long-term implications for post-COVID recovery.

Countries around the world are now increasing their investments in digital skills development to ensure that they overcome the stagnant economic situation and respond to a new future to come and create employment opportunities.

Transforming current small and medium enterprises in Myanmar into digital and technology based businesses would bring challenges to our country.

In the post COVID-19 period, understanding that digital platforms would become the basic need for the employment opportunities is very crucial.

Hence, we must invest in digital infrastructures and encourage youths to improve new skills to ensure that they can adapt to digital technology and digital platforms as quickly as possible. Only then, can they take advantage of the benefits brought by the digital revolution.

To turn this crisis into an opportunity through increasing resilience, new skills and agility of workers, learning and sharing of digital transformation experiences of other countries are crucial.

The COVID pandemic has accelerated the digital transformation in industry and in daily life. Without innovation and change, businesses and enterprises will find it difficult to survive even if the pandemic ends.

As the Union Government continues to respond to the ongoing crisis, authorities, businesses, international organizations, and other stakeholders are urged to work together to ensure that youth have the skills they need to seize new employment opportunities in the post-COVID world.

To overcome challenges and recover from COVID-19, the Union Government, on its part, has sought advice from employers and employees through tripartite dialogues, relaxing restrictions and granting loans to the businesses.

To empower youths with the digital skills for new job employment opportunities, the Union Government will work with private sector partners.

Enterprises are also urged to take necessary steps for digital transformation, and to collaborate with other stakeholders to conduct digital skills training programmes.

To gain the benefits of digital technologies, we must invest our money, time, human resources or any other resource efficiently, in a well-structured manner.



THE BEST HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES AND DISCOVERIES CANNOT BE PRESERVED ONLY FOR A FEW

UN agency chiefs appeal for 'open science' beyond COVID-19, citing dangers of secrecy and denial

The heads of three UN agencies joined forces on Tuesday to appeal for a global push towards "open science", citing the value of cooperation in the response to COVID-19 and the dangers of treating evidence-based knowledge as an exclusive asset, or simple matter of opinion.

AUDREY Azoulay, the Director-General of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) and Michelle Bachelet, UN human rights chief (OHCHR), said it was time to ensure the benefits of science could be shared by all.

Science not 'only for the few'

"In these difficult times, the best health technologies and discoveries cannot be preserved only for a few", the WHO chief said.

"They must be available to all. After all, what's the purpose of having cutting-edge technologies if they cannot reach the people that need them the most? Sharing data and information that is often kept secret or protected by intellectual property could significantly advance the speed at which technologies are developed.

"An open research process also promotes transparency and helps to safeguard against misuse and allows others to validate the research process. So I warmly welcome today's call for open science, a call for inclusiveness and

solidarity." Ms. Azoulay said the global fight against COVID-19 had highlighted the need for universal access to science as never before, and the potential of cooperation.

Solidarity 'a model for the future'

"The solidarity shown by the global scientific community is a model for the future. In the face of global challenges we need collective intelligence more today than ever", she said.

"And yet before COVID-19 only one in four scientific publications were openly accessible, meaning millions of researchers were denied the possibility of reading their colleagues' works.

"Today, closed science models do no longer work, because they amplify inequalities between countries and researchers and because they only make scientific progress available to a minority."

There was an urgent need to open up and democratize science, not just by liberalising access to publications, but by making the entire scientific process more accessible, more transparent and more participatory by sharing data, protocols, software and infrastruc-



A laboratory technician works at a health and science centre in Bangkok, Thailand. It is a WHO Collaborating Centre for research and training on viral zoonoses. PHOTO: WHO/P. PHUTPHENG

ture, the UNESCO chief added.

Coherent vision

Concerning the drive towards international laws and standards, UNESCO's 193 Member States have already mandated the organization to draft an international instrument, a recommendation on how to build a coherent vision of open science, with a shared set of overarching principles and values.

The first draft was completed last month and the text was now open for comments, with countries scheduled to adopt a final version

by the end of 2021, Ms. Azoulay said. "The global community urgently needs to ensure that open science does not replicate the failures of traditional closed science systems. It is these failures that have led to a high level of distrust in science, to the disconnect between science and society, and a widening of the science, technology and innovation gaps between and within countries."

Scientific knowledge, a human right

Ms Bachelet said sharing

health is the need for full and honest engagement with the public. Use of force will not mitigate or end this pandemic, but the use of science and fully-informed public consent and compliance will."

She applauded last week's tie-up between WHO and Wikipedia to provide free access to information about COVID-19 and said the pandemic reinforced the importance of non-discriminatory access to the benefits of science such as COVID-19 treatments and vaccines, and states had a clear obligation under international human rights law to cooperate on ensuring access to a vaccine for all.

"When the benefits of science are managed as a purely commercial product reserved for the wealthy, everyone is harmed", Ms Bachelet said. "Everyone's right to share in scientific advances and benefits has been attacked in recent years, particularly in the context of climate change. In some circles the issue of whether climate even exists or is caused by human activity is treated as a matter of personal belief rather than rigorous science", she added.

SOURCE: UN News

THE MASSIVE FALL IN INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL DEMAND

Pandemic slashes international tourism by 70 pct: UN

The Asia and Pacific region, which was hit first by the pandemic, saw the biggest decline in arrivals, on the order of 79 per cent.

INTERNATIONAL tourists arrivals plunged by an annualized 70 per cent during the first eight months of 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic, the World Tourism Organization (WTO) said Tuesday.

The Northern Hemisphere's peak summer season was ravaged by travel restrictions, with tourist arrivals down by 81 per cent in July, and by 79 per cent in August, the Madrid-based UN body said in a statement.

There were 700 million fewer arrivals between January and August than during the same period a year earlier, leading to a loss in revenues of \$730 billion — more than eight times the drop recorded following the 2009 economic crisis, it added.

"This unprecedented de-

cline is having dramatic social and economic consequences, and puts millions of jobs and businesses at risk," WTO head Zurab Pololikashvili said in the statement.

The Asia and Pacific region, which was hit first by the pandemic, saw the biggest decline in arrivals, on the order of 79 per cent.

It was followed by Africa and the Middle East with a 69 per cent drop, Europe with 68 per cent fewer international visitors and the Americas where arrivals fell by 65 per cent.

While the drop in Europe over the summer was less strong than in other regions — 69 per cent in August — fresh travel restrictions imposed to fight a second wave of Covid-19

infections have now curbed a recovery, the UN body said.

The WTO predicts international tourist arrivals will fall by 70 per cent for 2020 as a whole, and will not recover before the end of 2021.

About one in five experts consulted by the body see a rebound only in 2022.

In 2019, international tourism arrivals rose by 4.0 per cent to 1.5 billion, with France the world's most visited country, followed by Spain and the United States.

The last time international tourist arrivals posted an annual decline was in 2009 when the global economic crisis led to a 4.0 per cent drop.

SOURCE: AFP



The Asia and Pacific region, which was hit first by the pandemic, saw the biggest decline in arrivals, on the order of 79 per cent. Tourists visit a beach on the Philippine island of Boracay on 26 October, 2018. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Appointment of Head of Service Organization confirmed

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of U Myo Zarni Win as the Managing Director of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industrial Enterprise under the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry, on expiry of the one-year probation period.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 28 October, 2020)

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

SPECIAL FEATURE: According to the observation at (18:30) hrs MST today, the Typhoon "Molave" which crossed to middle Vietnam Coast has downgraded into tropical storm and reached to Laos. It is moving West- Northwestwards and forecast to reach as a Depression over Thailand during next (24)hrs.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 29 October, 2020: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, fairly widespread in Ayeyawady Region, Kayin and Mon states, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Yangon Regions, Shan, Chin, Ralhin and Kayah States and isolated in Taninthayi Region and Kachin State with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Tan inthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-7) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Southern Shan, Chin and Kayah States and Fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 October, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 October, 2020: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 October, 2020: Likelihood of Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%)

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MoHT holds meeting with tourism federation, affiliated organizations

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung held a meeting with the chairpersons of the Myanmar Tourism Federation and its affiliated organizations through videoconferencing yesterday afternoon.

The online meeting was also attended by Deputy Minister U Tin Latt, Director-General for Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Maung Maung Kyaw and officials.

The Union Minister said the experts of the World Tourism Organization estimated the industry would be hit by 70 per cent if it could be resumed in October, or 80 per cent in November due to the second wave of COVID-19.

The ministry was coordinating with the relevant associations to implement the COVID-19 Myanmar Tourism Rescue Plan through Surviving, Reopening, Relaunching approach, which was suspended due to the COVID-19 second wave.

However, the ministry has developed the Myanmar Tourism Strategic Rescue Roadmap MTSRR (2021-2025) for the next steps in collaboration with the development partner association.



Union Minister U Ohn Maung holds talks with tourism stakeholder organizations via videoconferencing on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

As per the guidance of the State Counsellor and the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Sports, the ministry is drawing up the Enchanting Myanmar Health & Safety Regime (HSR).

It will be implemented in regional, national and international levels.

At the regional level, restaurants will be allowed to reopen after the joint inspection of the current regional tourism committees and the Ministry of Health and Sports.

The national level includes the inspection of the certified inspectors the implementation

of the regime, which is recognized by the Ministry of Health and Sports.

Plaque with the logo of the ministry will be allowed to use and posted on the ministry's website, and web portal and WTTC Certified will be the international level.

The Union Minister added that his office is coordinating with the relevant ministries to remedy the tourism industry during the COVID-19 crisis, and called the federation and its members for their cooperation.

Then, the chairman of the federation explained the new version of organizational rules, The chairpersons of the 11 associations discussed their difficulties during the COVID-19 period and the work plans.

Deputy Minister U Tin Latt called on the 11 associations to provide accurate and complete statistics for economic impact mitigation measures caused by COVID-19 and discussed the matters relating to loan and benefits.

Director-General of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Maung Maung Kyaw presented the implementation of Tourism Working Group, recognizing the skills of workers in the tourism sector, implementation of digital marketing and drawing up the Barrier-Free Tourism Pilot Project.—MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

Ayeyarwady Foundation sets up 300-bed COVID-19 treatment centre in Mandalay

THE Ayeyarwady Foundation constructs 300-bed COVID-19 treatment centre in Mandalay under the guidance of the Ministry of Health and Sports and Mandalay Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung.

The 300-bed treatment centre is being constructed in Mandalay Thiri stadium,

and it will include 100-bed for HDU and Oxygen Therapy. The tents and hospital-related materials like beds imported from foreign countries have arrived in Myanmar, and it will also include Test and Care centre.

The Ayeyarwady Foundation has been participating in

measures against COVID-19 since March, together with the Ministry of Health and Sports. It constructed temporary treatment centres including ICU and HCU centres in Yangon.—Ye Yint Shine

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)



Construction of 300-bed COVID-19 treatment centre funded by Ayeyarwady Foundation is underway in Mandalay. **PHOTO: KO MOE**



Officials from Myanmar National Human Rights Commission receive computers and equipment donated by UNDP on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNDP donates computer, related equipment to MNHRC

THE United Nations Development Programme donated 22 laptops and 11 printers to the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission on 27 and 28 October to be used in the activities of the promotion and protection of human rights in Myanmar.

The computers and related equipment were donated as part

of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024 being implemented by the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Director-General and Commission members accepted the donation. —MNA

(Translated by Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)

Yangon Region Tourism Committee endorses over K8 bln worth hotel projects

By Nyein Nyein

YANGON Region Tourism Committee gave the green light to hotel businesses with an estimated capital of over K8 billion, according to the regional tourism committee's meeting 6/2020.

The regional committee held a videoconference on 27 October and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, in his capacity as chair of regional tourism committee, attended the meeting along with other committee members.

The committee has granted licences to two hotels with 75 rooms, and one hotel construction permit, bringing in the capital of K8,215 million.

Those hotel businesses are domestic investments to create

local job opportunities.

As per the regional tourism committee meetings 1/2020 to 6/2020, the local tourism committee has issued licences to 22 hotels with 1,570 rooms, four guesthouses, and construction permits to 14 hotels and two guesthouses. Meanwhile, the committee has also given grants to 291 inbound tours. The total capital for hotels and guesthouses is estimated at K89,165 million and US\$38.865 million. The endorsed projects have created over 1,300 jobs.

Yangon, the commercial hub of the country, is attracting tourists due to its cultural significance and heritage. The ministry has been issuing licences to hotels and guesthouses, ensuring sufficient rooms, the

Ministry of Hotels and Tourism stated.

Yangon's most famous landmark is the Shwedagon pagoda, and the city boasts several gilded pagodas besides British colonial buildings, heritage sites, and business complexes. The Inya Lake and Kandawgyi Park are among other tourist destinations in the city.

Additionally, a community-based tourism (CBT) site was created in Twantay Township, Yangon Region in February 2017. More than 2,000 local and foreign travellers have visited the village as of 30 September last year.

Earlier, the hotels and tourism sector was regulated by the Union Government. With the implementation of the Myanmar



Yangon Region Chief Minister and regional tourism committee chair U Phyo Min Thein attends 6th committee meeting. **PHOTO: U PHYO MIN THEIN FACEBOOK**

Tourism Law 2018, the industry has been decentralized and more power according to the region and state governments,

Yangon Region government stated.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar earns \$69.2 mln from e-Visa in 4 years

MYANMAR has received US\$69.2 million as revenue from e-Visa and over 1.75 million of tourists and business travellers applied for e-Visa, according to the report issued by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Myanmar is granting ordinary passport holders from 100 countries and China (Taipei) e-Visas for tourist purposes and from 54 countries and China (Taipei) e-Visas for business.

The Ministry's data showed that revenue from e-Visa stood at \$10.8 million from 289,205 foreign nationals in 2016, \$14.3 million from 377,310 in 2017, \$16.3 million from 417,523 in 2018, \$21.5 million from 531,998 in 2019 and \$6.3 million from 138,277 as of August, 2020.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, e-Visa service was temporarily suspended from 20 March 2020 and 30 November 2020 so far, according to the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population.

Visa processing fees are set \$50 for a tourist visa, \$56 for tourist visa express and \$70 for a business visa. The tourist visa is valid for 28 days, while the business visa is valid for 70 days.

Passengers with e-Visa can enter the country through the Yangon International Airport, Mandalay International Airport and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, and the Tachilek, Myawady and Kawthoung land borders with Thailand,

and Tamu and Reedhorda land borders with India.

The e-Visa scheme was launched in 2014 to facilitate visa processing for the foreign nationals who want to come to Myanmar. For more details, people can visit www.evisa.moip.gov.mm.

Additionally, Myanmar has allowed citizens from 13 countries for Visa on Arrival starting from 1 October 2018. A total of 21.785 million of arrivals from China, Germany, India, Italy, Australia, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Czech, Austria, Hungary, New Zealand and Luxembourg were recorded, and Visa on Arrival scheme generated revenue of \$71.52 million so far, the ministry's data indicated.

Myanmar has extended the preliminary trial for granting visa exemptions to ordinary passport holders from Japan, the Republic of Korea, Macau SAR, and Hong Kong SAR until 30 November. Thus, visitors from the four countries do not need to apply for a tourist visa for visits of up to 30 days, and they can enter and depart from all international checkpoints.

As of August 2020, 116,114 Japanese, 130,460 Korean, 42,926 nationals from Macau SAR and 6,078 from Hong Kong SAR entered the country with visa exemption status.

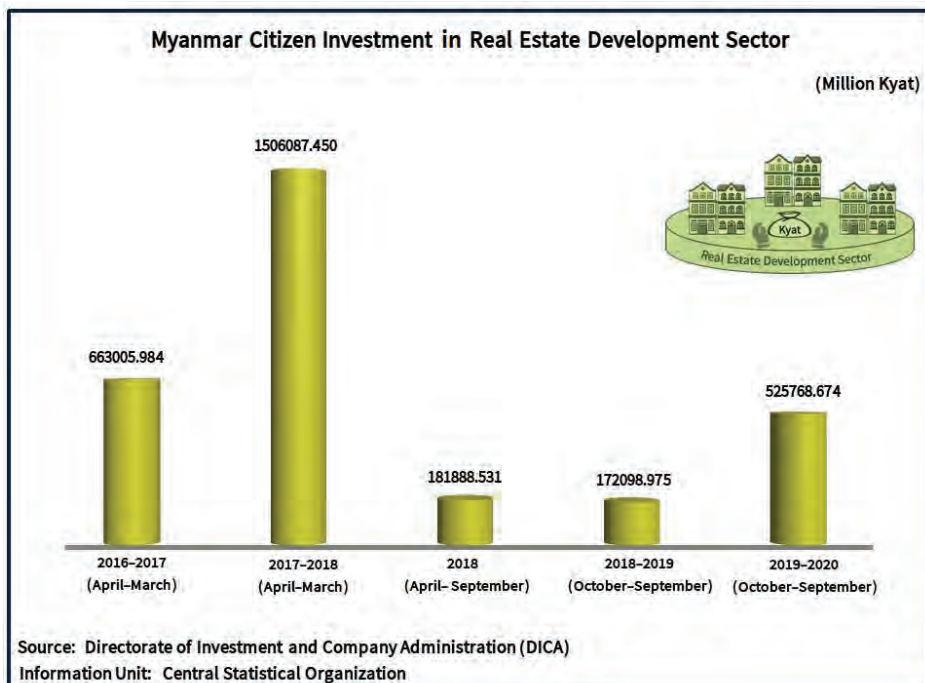
According to the ministry, Myanmar received 3.44 million international visitors in 2017, an uptick of 18% compared to 2016,

with 2.5 million registered. In 2018, the international arrivals rose to 4.5 million in 2018 and slightly dipped to 4.36 million in 2019. This year, 862,676 visitors have entered the country as of August 2020.

The foreign nationals entered the country through international airports, land borders and seaports.

Package tours, caravan tours, yacht tours, and riverine tours along the Ayeyawady and Chindwin rivers, and cruises and chartered flights require permission from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, which is sought through local tour agencies. —Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



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AYA Foundation donates for building COVID-19 diagnostic centres in Taikkyi and Hlegu

By Nyein Nyein

THE Ayeyarwady Foundation donated for the construction of COVID-19 diagnostic centres in Taikkyi and Hlegu, according to the foundation.

Max Highway Co., Ltd paid for the costs of testing of COVID-19 infection on truck drivers and conductors under the supervision of the Yangon region government, and the foundation contributed to the construction of diagnostic centres in Taikkyi and Hlegu. The foundation handed over the centre to the Ministry of Health and Sports on 27 October.

Moreover, the foundation also donated other necessary things such as air condition for the dormitories of the health staff and 14 patient rooms and 40 hospital beds, mattress, chairs and other necessary items for Myaungdagat station



Ayeyarwady Foundation donated for the construction of COVID-19 diagnostic centres in Taikkyi and Hlegu townships in Yangon Region. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

hospital where the COVID-19 positive patients from COVID-19 diagnostic centre in Taikkyi will be hospitalized.

Additionally, the foundation donated K1 million, 5,000 surgical masks, 150 PPE suits and 200 face shields for the people's hospital in Hlegu Township and

K500,000, 2,000 surgical masks, 50 PPE suits and 200 face shields for the volunteers from Hlegu Township.

On 19 October, the Ayeyarwady Foundation donated 22,000 masks, K22 million and 220 rice bags to 11 nunneries and monasteries. That foundation man-

ufactures the donated surgical masks.

The foundation ordered the mask production machines six months ago to prevent COVID-19 infection and global air pollution. The devices have now arrived and are being operated under the supervision of foreign experts.

The mask factory produces 50,000 masks per day, and the foundation donated 5 million masks to the public with less income and the needy.

The Ayeyarwady foundation has been cooperating with the Ministry of Health and Sports since March when COVID-19 started to break out in Myanmar. The foundation is building the treatment centres, making arrangement for the daily food for the patients and donating necessary things for the doctors and health staff recently.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

YRTA management fund supports K80 mln worth foodstuffs to YBS drivers

By Nyein Nyein

YANGON Region Transport Authority (YRTA) has donated K80 million worth food supplies such as rice, edible oil and food items to YBS drivers from YRTA management fund, said YRTA Joint Secretary U Hla Aung.

He said so at a YRTA media conference held on 28 October through Zoom application.

"Only 46 per cent of YBS buses are currently operating in Yangon. Some are driving on alternate days while others are driving on a one-out-of-three-days basis. That is why we have to provide the food supplies including eight pyis of rice and one viss of edible oil from YRTA management fund to nearly 7,000 YBS drivers, who have registered themselves for smart cards in YRTA," he confirmed.

YRTA has already issued over 9,000 smart cards to YBS drivers. However, some are still denied the

cards for different reasons, and only around 7,000 YBS drivers are currently registered on our list.

YRTA has already set a deadline for exemption from paying in the management charges of K4,000 by 27 March, and this deadline has been extended till now.

During the first wave of COVID-19, YRTA supplied the YBS buses with CNG, health equipment, the necessary chemicals for spraying their buses and foods to the YBS drivers.

According to YRTA's official statistics released on 27 October, a total of 2,094 YBS buses from 95 bus lines transported 265,308 passengers, according to YRTA.

Previously, more than 100 bus lines were running 4,500 buses on 135 routes, along with the airport shuttle and city transit. The number of daily commuters was estimated at 1.8 million.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Fish species added into development reservoir in Pinlebu township

PINLEBU Township Fisheries Department added fish species into development reservoir in Kankon village in Kinpan village-tract in Pinlebu Township, Sagaing Region on 27 October.

The department is aimed at increasing fish consumption in rural areas, facilitating catching of fish on the part of the rural people, increasing fisheries resources in the township and developing the fisheries sector.

The fish adding ceremony was attended by U Thet Naung, chairman of the township management committee,

the officials from the related departments in the township, Daw Khet Khet Wai Khine, the head of Township Fisheries Department and her staff and the villagers. They added 15,000 Rohu species of fish into the development reservoir.

"There are about 154 manageable-scale fish breeders in Pinlebu Township, and there are about 208 fish breeding ponds, which are 95.58 acres wide," said the head of Township Fisheries Department. — Myo Lwin (Pinlebu)

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Fisheries Department added fish species into development reservoir in Kankon village in Kinpan village-tract in Pinlebu township. **PHOTO: MYO LWIN (PINLEBU)**

20GB MOBILE PLANS

Major mobile carriers to introduce cheaper plans amid gov't pressure

TWO of Japan's three major mobile phone carriers said Wednesday they will roll out cheaper plans under their low-cost service brands in response to government pressure to slash rates.

KDDI Corp. will start offering a 20-gigabyte plan for 3,980 yen (\$38) per month in February or later under its UQ Mobile brand, while Softbank Corp. will introduce a 20-gigabyte plan with up to 10 minutes of free voice calls for 4,480 yen a month under its Y!Mobile brand from late December.

The cheapest voice call option for KDDI's new plan will cost 500 yen for up to 60 minutes of calls a month, putting the new service on a par with Soft-

Bank's.

The Japanese government released an action plan Tuesday to spur competition among telecommunication carriers in line with Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga's push to lower domestic mobile phone fees.

In a related development, the Japan Fair Trade Commission said Wednesday it has launched a survey on mobile phone services such as access rates paid by mobile virtual network operators which do not own network infrastructure.

NTT Docomo Inc., the country's largest mobile communication firm, is expected to follow suit.

SOURCE: KYODO



File photo taken Nov. 7, 2018, in Tokyo's Shinjuku Ward shows the logos of Japan's three major mobile phone companies -- NTT Docomo Inc., KDDI Corp., the operator of "au" services, and SoftBank Corp. PHOTO: KYODO

"WE ARE READY FOR TAKE-OFF!"

Berlin's ill-fated new airport finally ready for take-off

NINE years late and eye-wateringly over budget, the Berlin region's new international airport will finally open on Saturday -- in the middle of a global pandemic that has crippled air travel.

"We are ready for take-off!" insists the management team at the new Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER), set to replace the German capital's ageing Tegel and Schoenefeld airports.

But the mood is one of relief rather than celebration.

Ever since construction began on BER in 2006, the project has been dogged by one failure after another, becoming a financial black hole and a national laughing stock -- not exactly an example of German efficiency.

The airport, located in the south-east of the capital, was originally due to open in 2011.

Now it is opening its doors in the middle of the worst crisis the aviation industry has ever seen, as Covid-19 restrictions continue to suffocate air travel.

SOURCE: AFP

PARIS CHARLES DE GAULLE

Heathrow says Paris now Europe's busiest airport



Travel restrictions instead of testing has led to Heathrow losing the top spot among European airports to Paris Charles de Gaulle. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

LONDON Heathrow on Wednesday said Paris Charles de Gaulle had overtaken it to become Europe's top airport in terms of passenger numbers, blaming delayed coronavirus testing and travel restrictions.

"For the first time, Paris Charles de Gaulle has overtaken Heathrow as Europe's largest airport, with Amsterdam Schiphol and Frankfurt

close behind," Heathrow said in a trading update, warning that the UK has ceded commercial advantage.

"All three continental rivals have implemented testing regimes. The UK government has announced an intention to introduce testing for passengers from high risk countries by 1st December to help restart the UK economy."

Heathrow said 2020 passenger numbers up to end of September totalled 19.27 million for Paris and 18.97 million at Heathrow.

The London hub has meanwhile slashed its forecasts.

Heathrow, which lies west of the British capital, said it expects to carry 22.6 million passengers this year and 37.1 million in 2021.

SOURCE: AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR SOLO VOY. NO. (921N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR SOLO VOY. NO. (921N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2020** 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 LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (104N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (104N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2020** 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 BOX ENDEAVOUR VOY. NO. (043W/044E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BOX ENDEAVOUR VOY. NO. (043W/044E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2020** 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 SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

Future prospects for Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX)

By Swe Oo Wai

YANGON used to be busy and have a lot of people everywhere, but now number of vehicles and people has become smaller and smaller due to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis. The number of those who are staying at home has been gradually increasing as they curb possible contacts in their daily relationship. At such a time, much of the work is shifted to online. In the financial market, the trading on Yangon Stock Exchange is moving more sluggishly than normal.

The value traded on YSX by normal trading system during August reached K747.5 million worth of 118,850 shares. The value traded on YSX by block trading system reached K197.45 million worth of 54,874 shares. The total value traded on YSX during August touched K944.95 million and the value traded daily was around K47 million, cited for the announcement of the YSX.

The YSX's trading decreased by about 5% when it was compared to July this year. As a new development step, the YSX allowed the foreigners and external organizations to buy shares of YSX listed companies starting on 20 March in 2020. It was learnt that the foreigners and external organizations bought more than 53,200 shares from YSX listed companies during five months following the official announcement of the YSX.

The official statistics recorded on 9 September indicated that the foreigners and external organizations bought 9,606 shares from FMI, 37,974 shares from MTSH, 5,465 shares from Ever Flow River Group Public Co., Ltd and 200 shares from TMH Telecom Public Co.,

Ltd.

The YSX allowed foreign investors and organizations to participate in the share trading with the purpose of picking up stock share trading speed among YSX listed companies. The foreigners have to open designated bank accounts and trade in stock shares. It is already informed by Securities and Exchange Commission under the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry. The foreigners living inside the country and those from foreign countries are allowed trading in stock shares of YSX listed companies.

In a bid to extend YSX

share trading into the international community, regulatory procedures have to be observed as Myanmar instructed. If the return on the investment is wanted to be sent to the relevant foreign country, the foreign listed company will have to be under supervision by the Central Bank of Myanmar following rules and regulations as well as directives issued by the Central Bank of Myanmar besides the provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Law.

It is aimed at ensuring a systematic financial flow when the YSX carries out share trading. Only then can errors be re-

duced at a time when financial matters are being carried out and stock shares are being traded in. The global pandemic of Covid-19 slowed down the favourable prospects for economic growth and local and foreign investments in Myanmar. Businesses and investments are moving to the countries having better economic potentials in the future right now when there has been an increase in the number of business contacts.

The YSX is one of the interesting businesses of international investors. There is also a plan to change State-owned businesses into YSX listed com-



PHOTO: SWE OO WAI

panies in order to attract the attention of local and foreign investors in the YSX running with slow share trading. It is to intend local and foreign in-



PHOTO: YE HTUT TIN (NLM)



investors to pay more attention to share trading among the strong businesses.

The international investors have shown great interest in doing business in Myanmar. The foreign investment volume reached USD5.2 billion during 2019-2020 financial years reported by Myanmar Investment Commission. The MIC has so far allowed more than 330 new foreign investments. The foreign investment volume the MIC expected for this financial year is USD5.8 billion.

According to investment promotion project of the State, foreign investment volume has been expected to be USD5.8 billion by the MIC year on year until 2020-2021FY. Moreover, foreign investment volume has been expected to be USD5.8 billion from 2021-2022 to 2025-2026FY as well. With such expectations, investment volume will increase and businesses will develop. At the same time financial flow will be smooth and secure and then the YSX's share trading will make progress.

The YSX started on 25 March in 2016 has been in operation for more than four years. The FMI, the MTSH and the Myanmar Citizens Bank and the First Private Bank became

YSX listed companies within one year of its birth. The share volume among these four listed companies reached 3.6 million and was valued at K800 billion within one year.

At such a time, the YSX is planning to invite the public to the share trading encouraging profitable State-owned businesses to participate in the stock exchange. This move will be able to make the share price go down, thereby revitalizing slow-running YSX livelier than now. A Japanese company named Daiwa Securities suggested that Myanmar government should privatize State-owned businesses and encourage them to participate in the YSX.

The share volume in the hands of YSX listed companies reached more than 300,000 with 33,000 people opened bank accounts. The share trading is now running slow affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, but share prices are not expected to be going down too much.

The FMI stood at K9,900 on closing market price chart, the MTSH at K3,700, the MCB at K8,000, the FPB at K22,500, the TMH at K2,700 and the EFR at K3,050 respectively.

The YSX's share trading went on to some degree de-

spite Covid-19 crisis. The share trading of some listed companies went well but some didn't. The share value for the whole month of August stood at K47 million. The YSX Expo that is held every year was held via online in order to avoid crowds as the Covid-19 cases were still going on.

When taking a look at share trading throughout the year, the share trading valued at K72 billion in 2016, K29 billion in 2017, K14 billion in 2018 and K14.5 billion in 2019. When reviewing the share trading on the YSX, it is like running slow. The YSX allowed foreigners to own 32% to the listed companies. The share trading did not become brisk as expected although it went well.

At such a time, the stock market is expected to be better in the post period of Covid-19. Some State-owned businesses should be changed into public ones and they should be YSX listed ones. If investments and businesses enormously increased, the stock share trading would develop a lot, attracting the attention of local and foreign investors.

Translated by Htut Htut (Twantay)

Useful Information

JAPANESE CUISINE

AJISHIN

No.192, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Myanmar Plaza, 4th Floor, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph: 09-970890390, Time- 10:00 to 23:00 (Open Daily)

ANAIMO

No. 300, Mahabandula Park Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-378022. Time- 11:30-14:00/ 17:30-22:00 (Saturday only evening and Sunday off)

BIKKURA SUSHI & SASHIMI JAPANESE RESTAURANT

No. 16, Natmawk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-799566917, 09-36714873. 10:30-22:30 (Open Daily)

BUSHIDO

No. 75/ AB Boyar Nyunt Street, Dagon Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-260031197/ 09-420231330. 10:00-22:00 (Sunday Off)

CHO JAPANESE DINNING & BAR

Level (1), Garden Wing, Beside Lobby Lounge. (Inside Sedona Hotel), Yangon Ph: 09-258322223/ 09-261322223. Lunch 11:30-14:30/ Tea Time 14:30-18:00/ Dinner 18:00-23:00 (Open Daily)

DINNING FUKUROU

No. 37, Kabar Pagoda Road, Inside of Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon. Ph: 09-260031197 09-420231330. 11:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

EDOZUSHI

A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khaik Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon. Ph: 056-23150-53/ 056-23313-318 (Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020. 11:00-21:00 (Open Daily)

(3) YAKINIKU FUKAGAWA

A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khaik Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon. Ph: 056-23150-53/ 056-23313-318 (Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020. 11:00-21:00 (Open Daily)

FUJINOBO

(Cherry Hill Hotel) No. 520/4 A, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Shwe Gone Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-450067052, 06:00-09:30/ 11:30-14:00/ 17:00-22:30 (Open Daily)

FURUSATO

No. 137, West Shwe Gone Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-556265/ 09-73081914. 11:00-14:00/ 17:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

GEKKO

535, Merchant Street, Kyauktada Township, 4th Quarter, Yangon. Ph: 01-386986, 09:00-23:00 (Open Daily)

HIMARI MYANMAR

Pearl Condo, Block D, Ground Floor, Units-G-10, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-775330494. 11:30-14:00/ 14:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

HOKKAIDO JAPANESE RESTAURANT

No. 24/ 26, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Golden Hill Tower(A), Bahan Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-250537315. 11:00-14:00/ 17:00-21:30 (Open Daily)

HOT POT KING and Hot pot and BBQ Buffet Restaurant

No - 26/27, Thitsar Road and Corner of Wai Za Yan Dar Road, South Okkalapa, Yangon. Tel- 09 777777 008, 09 09 777777 009, 09 777777 883.

Hot Pot City 8 Miles

No(33), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road (7.34 km) 095 Yangon, Ph: 09 797 799111, 11:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

101 Hot Pot & Sushi

No.141, West Shwegondaing Road, Bahan T/s. near Yuzana Hotel. (1.78 km), 11201 Yangon.

Get Directions

Highlights info row image, Ph: 09 777 799101. 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Little Sheep Hot Pot Myanmar

14/14B Kanbawza Street Golden Valley (1) Bahan Township (1.71 km), Yangon. Ph: 09443399701, 09443399702, 11:00-23:00

HOTEL

BELMOND GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE

No. 35, Taw Win Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-229860 01-229861.

CHATRIUM

No. 40, Natmawk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-544500/ 01-544244.

CHERRY HILLS HOTEL

No. 520/4 A, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Shwegon Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-559722.

HOTLE 51

No. 154/ 156, 51st. Upper Pazundaung Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-200823/ 09-429918554.

HOTEL KAN KAW

No.93(A), Hnin Si Gone Road, Ahlone Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-228566/ 01-2301700/ 01-1221731.

HOTLE SIDNEY

No. 8L/Mindhama Road, Between Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road and Parami Road, Mayangone Township. Ph: 01-655770/ 01-9669600-02.

INYA LAKE HOTEL

No.37, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yangon. Ph: 01-9662866/ 01-9662857-9.

LOTTEE HOTLES AND SERVICED APARTMENTS YANGON

No.82, Sin Phyu Shin Avenue, Pyay Road, 6 mile, Hlaing Township. Ph: 01-9351000.

MERCURE HOTEL

No.17, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon. Ph: 01- 650933.

NOVOTEL YANGON MAX

No.459, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-2305858.

PAN PACIFIC YANGON

No. Corner of Bogvoke Aung San Road and Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Yangon, Ph: 01-9253810.

PARK ROYAL

No.33, Alan Pya Phaya Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, Ph: 01-250388.

PULLMAN YANGON CENTREPOINT

No.65, Corner of Sule Pagoda Road and Merchant Street. Ph: 01-382687.

ROSE GARDEN HOTEL

No.171, Upper Pasodan Road, Yangon. Ph: 01-371992/09263440500.

SAVOY HOTEL

No.129, Corner of Dhammazed Road and Inya Road, Yangon. Ph: 01-526289/ 01-526298/ 01-526305.

SEDONA HOTEL

No. 1, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-8605377.

SULE SHANGRI-LA

No. 223, Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-242828.

SUMMIT PARTVIEW HOTEL

No. 350, Ahlone Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-211888/ 01-211966.

SUPER HOTEL

No. 51/ D, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, 10th Quarter, Mayangone Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-797109000/ 01-658210/ 01-658220.

Judo, Karate Championships postponed amid pandemic

WITH the emphasis on preventing the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and the health of athletes, Embassy of Japan in Myanmar, the Myanmar Karate Federation and the Myanmar Judo Association recently announced the postponement of the 11th Japan Cup Karate Championships and the 16th Japan Cup Judo Champion-

ships to be held in 2020, according to the statement with the sports federation.

“We sincerely apologize to all the athletes who worked hard to prepare for both events and to the karate and judo fans who are looking forward to watching the intense competition of these highly skilled and mentally

challenged athletes.

The Embassy of Japan in Myanmar is committed to overcoming this challenge and holding both competitions next year. We look forward to meeting more and more talented athletes, Karate and Judo,” authorities stated on their official webpages.

Both Karate and Judo

are popular fighting sports in Myanmar, and children in Myanmar are participating in the special contest and events of Karate and Judo.

There are two types of competition in the Karate event—Kata and Kumite. Kata is a formalized sequence of movements which represent various offensive and defen-

sive postures. In Kumite, two participants have to fight with each other.

In Judo, there are three main categories and are divided into NageWaza (throwing techniques), KatameWaza (grappling techniques), and AtemiWaza (vital-point striking techniques) respectively. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Djokovic wins Vienna opener to close on Sampras record

VIENNA — Novak Djokovic defeated Filip Krajinovic in the first round in Vienna on Tuesday to edge closer to Pete Sampras’s all-time record of ending the year as world number one on six occasions.

Djokovic beat compatriot Krajinovic 7-6 (8/6), 6-3 and needs to win his next match in Austria against Borna Coric to ensure he equals the achievement of his childhood idol. The 33-year-old Serb has been the top-ranked player at the end of a season five times: in 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2018.

He shares that mark with career rivals Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

Sampras achieved the feat six years in succession between 1993 and 1998.

Djokovic was playing in Vienna for the first time since he won the title there in 2007, and dropped serve twice in a tricky opening set.

Krajinovic served for the first set at 5-4 and then held a set point in the tie-break but couldn’t take advantage.

A couple of breaks in the second set allowed Djokovic to clinch victory — his 38th in 40 matches this year.

“First set, I think he was the better player. He was serving for the first set and I was lucky. He missed a smash at 6/6 in the tie-break,” said Djokovic.

“A few points here and there can change the momentum of the match. In the second set, I stepped it up, I played better and I am just pleased with the way I finished the match.”—AFP ■

Football: FIFA President Infantino test positive for COVID-19

LAUSANNE — FIFA president Gianni Infantino has contracted coronavirus, the world’s governing body announced on Tuesday (Oct 27).

The 50-year-old has mild symptoms and will remain in isolation for a further 10 days.

“All people who came into contact with the FIFA President during the last few days have been informed accordingly and they are being requested to take the necessary steps,” the body said.

“FIFA sincerely wishes President Infantino a speedy recovery,” it added.

Infantino’s last public appearances was at FIFA’s Compliance Summit which ended on Oct 16 when all attendees were present via video.

Cases, hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19 in the body’s base, Switzerland, have doubled from one week to the next throughout October.



FIFA President Gianni Infantino. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

The country’s government is expected to decide Wednesday on new measures to control the spread of the virus.

The spread of the illness has cast doubt over Wednes-

day’s potential meeting between Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi in the Champions League after the Juventus attacker tested positive for the illness earlier this month.—AFP ■

Bartomeu resigns as Barcelona president, drops European Super League bombshell



Josep Maria Bartomeu resigned as Barcelona president on Tuesday after months of crisis at the Camp Nou. PHOTO: JOSEP LAGO AFP/FILE

MADRID — Josep Maria Bartomeu resigned as Barcelona president on Tuesday, along with his board of directors, and left with a bombshell admission that he had accepted a proposal for the club to play in “a future European Super League”.

Bartomeu’s departure comes following mounting pressure from fans and his public falling out with Lionel Messi.

His resignation could even affect the future of Messi, who will now be given a new project after the Argentinian tried to leave in August, citing a lack of

direction at the club.

“I want to communicate my resignation along with the rest of the board,” said Bartomeu in an official announcement. “It’s a composed and relaxed decision, agreed with all my fellow directors.” However, it was his revelation about a Super League which seems certain to make the biggest waves beyond Catalonia.

Bartomeu said he accepted a proposal on Monday for Barcelona to play in “a future European Super League” which “would guarantee the financial

stability of the club”.

An election for Bartomeu’s successor will take place within the next three months, although it is expected to happen sooner, while an interim board will be put in charge in the meantime.

Bartomeu will go down as arguably the worst president in Barcelona’s history. His six-year tenure saw a dramatic decline in the performances of the team and he oversaw Messi, the club’s greatest ever player, trying to leave the club for free.—AFP ■