

NATIONAL

Myanmar to join new Senior Officials Counterterrorism Policy Forum

PAGE-6

NATIONAL

Figures and percentages of 2020 Multiparty Democracy General Election to be published in newspapers

PAGE-10

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Wednesday, 2 December 2020

University of Yangon holds 100th anniversary celebrations



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Vice-President U Myint Swe, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Ministers, Yangon Region Chief Minister and YU Rector are virtually cutting the ceremonial ribbon for 100th anniversary of Yangon University. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE 100th anniversary of University of Yangon was held on virtual celebrations yesterday.

After the opening ceremony of the event with the song entitled 'Centenary Celebrations of Yangon University', State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Vice-President U Myint Swe, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint, Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and Rector of Yangon University

Dr Phoe Kaung used a virtual system in cutting the ceremonial ribbon of the opening ceremony.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, in her capacity as the Chairperson of Steering Committee on Organizing Centenary Celebrations of University of Yangon, delivered a congratulatory message on video.

(Congratulatory speech of State Counsellor is covered on page 3)

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, the alumnus of University of Yangon also sent a video speech of

congratulatory remark on the ceremony.

(Congratulatory speech of Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker is covered on page 5)

Union Minister for Education, the secretary of the steering committee, made his congratulatory remark, explaining collective works on upgrade of University of Yangon after forming a committee on upgrading the university dated on 27 November 2012 with the approval of Pyithu Hluttaw on the proposal of Kawhmu constituency's Pyithu Hluttaw MP Daw Aung San Suu

Kyi (now the State Counsellor) for 'Drawing University New Act and Upgrade of Yangon University (Main)'; she led the committee that worked for upgrade and renovation of the university in line with international standards.

The Union Minister also talked about resuming undergraduate courses in 2013-2014 academic year after the suspension of the courses for many years, plans to upgrade the university, research and coordination under the management of university since April 2016, emphasis on emotional intelli-

gence in appointment, transfer and promotion of academic staff and other issues in relation to the academic sector, administrative sector and infrastructural development of the university by drawing a master plan while focusing on the emergence of university autonomy in the long term.

The Union Government approved the organizational structure of faculties for University of Yangon and 16 universities in August 2020 to encourage reform programmes in the higher education sector.

SEE PAGE-3

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 28/2020
2nd Waning of Tazaungmon, 1382
(1 December 2020)

Appointment of Deputy Minister

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 234 section (a) (d) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and section 16 (b) sub-section (9) of the Union Government Law, U Hau Do Suan has been appointed as Deputy Minister for the Ministry of International Cooperation.

Sd/ Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 29/2020
2nd Waning of Tazaungmon, 1382
(1 December 2020)

Chairman of Anti-Corruption Commission permitted to resign

In accordance with the submission by Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission U Aung Kyi to resign from his position, starting from the evening of 30 November 2020, he has been permitted to resign from his duties of his own volition.

Sd/ Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 30/2020
2nd Waning of Tazaungmon, 1382
(1 December 2020)

Appointment of Chief Justice in Ayeyawady Region High Court

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 308 section (b), sub-section (4) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, article 82 section (b) of the Union Government Law, article 44 of the Union Judiciary Law and article 17 section (d) of Region or State Government Law, U Myo Nyunt, Judge of the Ayeyawady Region High Court, has been appointed as Chief Justice of the Ayeyawady Region High Court.

Sd/ Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 31/2020
2nd Waning of Tazaungmon, 1382
(1 December 2020)

Appointment of Judge in Ayeyawady Region High Court

In accord with the provisions stated in article 308 section (b) sub-section (4) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, article 82 section (d) of the Union Government Law, article 45 of the Union Judiciary Law and article 18 section (d) of Region or State Government Law, Daw Moe Moe Aye has been appointed as Judge for Ayeyawady Region High Court.

Sd/ Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

38,271,447 eligible voters: correct voters list

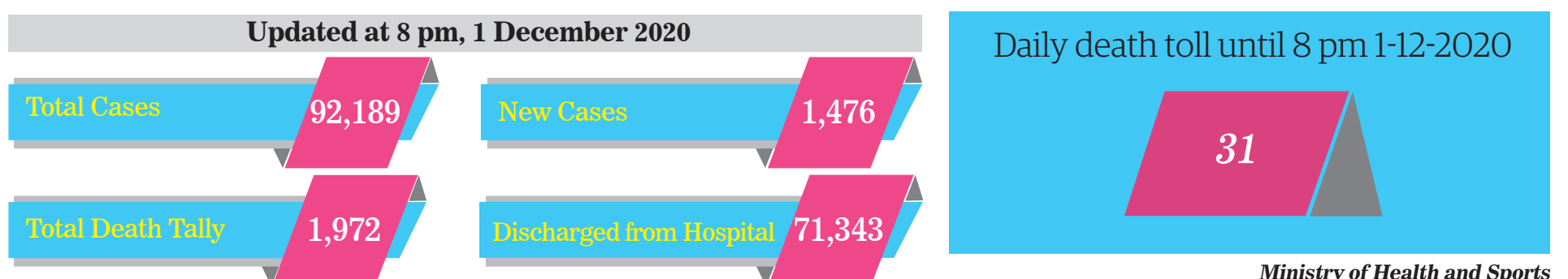
Information about the 2020 multiparty democratic general election has been published in the state-run newspapers for public information. The state-run newspapers on 9 and 10 November reported there were a total of 37,268,876 eligible voters in the general election according to the information received at the time.

That voters list was an unconfirmed basic voters list. That figure was based on the eligible voters list that was announced for the second time from 1-14 October and the list excluded eligible voters in constituencies where elections would not be held. After the announcement of eligible voters

list for the second time, the respective Election Sub-commissions made necessary modifications to the voters list in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations, and the latest figure in the latest correct voters list released by the Union Election Commission (UEC) is 38,271,447.—MNA

1,476 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 1 December, total figure rises to 92,189

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rise to **92,189** after **1,476** new cases were reported on 1 December according to the Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these **92,189** confirmed cases, **1,972** died, **71,343** have been discharged from hospitals.—MNA



Strive for development with united strength

All our ethnic national brothers and sisters need to strive with united strength based on national unity for the success of the peace process, for overcoming the various steps of the democratic transition process, for democracy to take firm root and for it to develop, progress and endure.

Extract from the Message of Greetings sent by President U Win Myint on 4 January 2020 on the occasion of the 72nd Anniversary of Independence Day.)



Landscape of Bagan Cultural Heritage Zone. PHOTO BY: TUN TUN THEIN

University of Yangon holds 100th anniversary celebrations

FROM PAGE-1

He added that crucial role of self-autonomy at the universities to fulfil the requirements of the Union, upgrade of software in education and upgrade of hardware in facility and equipment, the four prioritized plans for promoting self-autonomy at the universities, capacity and skill buildings, development of graduate courses, curriculum, research and services, and infrastructural developments.

The Union Minister continued to say that the need of region/state governments to work together with the Ministry of Education in developing master plans for the universities in respective areas, the ministry's support in forming university management committees with self-autonomy, collaborative efforts among rectors, pro-rectors, deans and officials in developing

effective education for Union nationals, new subjects for diploma and graduate courses at Yangon University commencing 2019-2020 academic year.

He also talked about an upgrade of the world ranking of Yangon University from 13,072 in 2016 and 7,116 (increasing by 5,956) in 2020, the ministry's assistance to develop different teaching methods such as teaching in the classroom, digital method and combined methods.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, in his capacity as the joint-secretary of the steering committee, made a speech on honouring the dignity of Yangon University, the emergence of the university in 1920, anti-colonial movements of former university students, its relation with the National Day, up and downturn of the university under different administrations and

eras, independence movement and the university, outstanding alumni in various sectors, and democracy movements and the university.

After presenting a video of the works of committees on holding centenary celebrations, Yangon University Rector Dr Phoe Kaung extended his gratitude.

Rector of University of Medicine (1) in Yangon Dr Zaw Wai Soe expressed thanks after screening a video clip on research paper reading session that marked the centenary of the university.

A video clip on competition of literary paper and poems was presented, and awards were given to the winners. Rector of the University of Economics (Yangon) expressed thanks for the competition.

A video clip of quiz competition was shown, and awards were given to the winners, and



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi makes the congratulatory remark in the 100th anniversary of Yangon University. PHOTO: MNA



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein makes the speech to honour the dignity of Yangon University. PHOTO: MNA



The virtual celebrations of the 100th Anniversary of Yangon University are held on 1 December 2020. PHOTO: MNA

then Mayor of Yangon City Development Committee extended greeting.

A video clip of competitions for articles, poems, short stories, cartoons, arts and photos was shown, and awards were given to the winner, and then Acting Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Aye Kywe expressed thanks.

Director-General of MRTV U Ye Naing expressed thanks after a video clip on presentation of 100

university songs, Myanmar film and other celebrations.

Director-General of Higher Education Department under the Ministry of Education expressed thanks after the video clip on the performance of Ah Nyeint troupes.

The centenary celebrations of Yangon University were concluded with the song 'University: The Emerald Land'—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Congratulatory speech of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on occasion of Centenary Celebrations of University of Yangon

I am very glad to be given this opportunity to deliver a congratulatory speech at the Centenary Celebrations of the University of Yangon today.

The University of Yangon which was born on 1 December 1920, and which holds a most prestigious place in the history of Myanmar's education would have completed exactly 100 years today, the 1st of December 2020.

It is a rare occasion and opportunity for us to experience the 100th-anniversary celebrations of the University of Yangon. Although we planned to hold the 100th anniversary of the University of Yangon on a grand scale, we are celebrating it only on a modest scale in line with the current circumstances and restrictions caused by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

In accordance with the university's motto "There is no friend like learning", the University of Yangon is a place that provides education, which is like a good friend of the citizens. During its first 100 years, the University of Yangon has encountered various experiences according to the vicissitudes of life and is now celebrating its Centenary Celebrations.

The University of Yangon, the first-ever university of Myanmar, is the greatest and most prestigious university in Myanmar's history. Fulfilling the demand for Myanmar's history, the University of Yangon became a pivotal point of Myanmar's education, Myanmar's politics and Myanmar's independence.

The colonial government established the University of Yangon on 1 December, 1920. However, the colonial government's "Rangoon University Act" had the effect of restricting the majority of the people of Myanmar from pursuing their university education, so the senior university students and patriots went on strike to oppose the Act. Because of the boycott based on strong patriotism of the university students and the citizens, the Act was finally amended by the colonial government.

So, the University of Yangon made a good start in the history of Myanmar's nationalist struggle, and the boycott awakened the wishes of all national ethnic people of Myanmar to fight for the country's independence. The university was able to produce good leaders capable of winning Myanmar's independence. Even after independence, the University of Yangon has produced many leaders for the world and the country and many educated young people.

The University of Yangon was one of the top universities in Southeast Asia in the pre-War World II era and in the early years of the post-independence era. Its campus and surroundings were among the most beautiful in Southeast Asia. Students from other Southeast Asian nations came to study at the University of Yangon because it was a top university in Asia. For various reasons, although the standard of the University of Yangon has deteriorated



in recent times, at the present moment, we are all doing our very best to elevate the standard of the university once again with our combined efforts.

In order to create a peaceful, modern and prosperous Democratic Federal Union, the universities need to be of high quality to develop high-quality human resources. We need to focus on nurturing and recruiting intellectuals, and we need universities that can play an important role in the development of the country. We need to be able to nurture human resources that will have knowledge and skills for different communities and workplaces, and we need to conduct the necessary research for the development of the country. What I wish to say is that universities need to be upgraded in order to meet the needs of the country.

To create a modern developed nation, it is important for the students who are pursuing higher education at various universities, degree colleges and colleges, including the University of Yangon, to have high-quality education and become wise, rational and good people. Only good people will become good citizens who will benefit the country and the world. The progress and decline of each nation and the entire world depend on the intelligence and wisdom of the people.

We cannot rely on natural resources to make our country modern, developed, and dignified, and be able to proudly stand side by side with other nations of the region. Sustainable development can only be achieved if it is built with human resources endowed with knowledge, wisdom, ideas and vision.

Moreover, all of us know that in our diverse multi-ethnic country, we are still struggling because of suspicion and mistrust among us.

We will be able to achieve the Democratic Federal Union, which we all aspire only if we are free from mistrust and have a mutual understanding.

That is why we have to prioritize making investments in education in order to

create an educated, open-minded society. In doing so, we believe that the University of Yangon would be able to maintain its good tradition and produce high-quality human resources to participate in the various nation-building tasks of our country.

So, we must pay special attention to upgrading the University of Yangon, not only in this centenary occasion but also in the future. In order to strengthen these processes, working committees and working groups have been formed, and a Master Plan has been drafted and implemented. Our aim is to make the University of Yangon an Autonomous University.

It is learnt that the curriculum will be adapted to the changing world situation and revised to the needs of the country and that the University of Yangon would accelerate cooperation with international universities.

Plans are being implemented to create a better campus environment of the University of Yangon. Classrooms and student dormitories have been renovated. Officials are also working hard to make the university campus a clean, healthy and safe environment. Roads and sidewalks around the university have been renovated and widened, and the Adipadi Road has been renovated to make it more beautiful and green.

In doing so, we will try to conserve historic buildings which are very important for the University of Yangon.

The ceremony to launch the Centenary Celebrations of the University of Yangon was held on 2 December, 2019, at the Convocation Hall of the university.

Five objectives have been set for the Centenary Celebrations of the University of Yangon. They are:

- (1) To maintain and promote it as an honorary university of Myanmar.
- (2) To develop a high-quality university education system that will be compatible with the political, economic and social systems of the country.

- (3) To produce high-quality human resources for education-based socio-economic development.
- (4) To develop an education system that can efficiently promote lasting peace and national unity.
- (5) To make it a world-class university that can benefit the country and the world.

During the one-year period; from December 2019, when the centenary of the University of Yangon was officially announced, to the end of December 2020, we plan to hold various events including discussions among alumni and new generation students, reading sessions of academic research papers, seminars, sports competitions, performances, art exhibitions, ethnic literary and cultural exhibitions, educational talk shows, educational exhibitions, literary and linguistic competitions, fashion shows, book fairs and funfairs. We have planned to make it a well-attended and joyous event from all aspects.

However, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Centenary Celebrations could not proceed as initially planned; only a virtual celebration can be held via video-conferencing. Events in which students' paying homage to teachers have also been held. Daily newspapers published articles marking the 100th anniversary of the University of Yangon. The MRTV broadcast music concerts and traditional Ah Nyeint Performances of students to mark the 100th anniversary of the university. We also published booklets marking the 100th anniversary. Literary contests, such as the poetry competition and essay writing competition, were also held. Despite health-related restrictions and obstacles, we held various events as much as the circumstances allowed. I would like to thank all those who participated in these programmes.

No matter what difficulties or changes we have encountered, isn't it a demonstration of the power of education in finding and implementing ways to achieve objectives?

On 1 December (today) 2020, the University of Yangon celebrates its 100th anniversary, and it has been able to endure many of the vicissitudes of life, overcome several obstacles and maintain its good traditions.

The first 100-year period of the University of Yangon has ended, and the second 100-year period has begun. We must continue working hard to maintain the great tradition of the University of Yangon, and make it a world-class university. I would like to conclude my congratulatory speech on the occasion of the Centenary Celebrations by praying that the University of Yangon will endure for thousands of years till the end of the world.

May you all have good health and well-being!

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Congratulatory speech of Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than on occasion of Centenary Celebrations of University of Yangon

I extend greetings with best wishes at the occasion of 100th anniversary of the University of Yangon for the wellbeing of the national people and overcoming the current pandemic. Today is an auspicious time for the history of Myanmar education, and it is the proud moment of all the Myanmar nationals. I am also pleased to extend my congratulatory remark on the event as an alumnus of this university.

As the University of Yangon was first established on 1 December 1920, it has been 100 years on 1 December 2020. The celebrations have marked its centenary. From the launching ceremony of 100th anniversary on 2 December 2019 to the end of December this year, the centenary celebrations have been holding. It was intended to widely organize the centenary event. However, the celebrations could be held under control measures against the COVID-19 pandemic.

In tracing the history of the University of Yangon back, Myanmar did not have its own university for national people before 1920, except Yangon college under the University of Calcutta and Baptist College of the American Baptist Missionaries in the country. The name of Baptist College was changed into Judson College (Yudathan College). Our country had not a



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than gives the video speech to congratulate the 100th Anniversary of Yangon University. **PHOTO: MNA**

university for higher education, but just only Yangon College and Judson College, before 1920.

Therefore, Myanmar national leaders and people called for an independent and national university which was not under the influence of the University of Calcutta. As the demand accelerated, authorities had to merge Yangon College and Judson College to form the Yangon University on 1 December 2020.

In the early years, only art subjects were available at the university. As the academic field had been widened at Yangon University before the Second World War, more colleges were established in the following

years. During 1940-1950, Yangon University was famous as the best university in Southeast Asia due to its higher academic level and pleasant natural environment. After changing education laws, different subjects of Yangon University were separated into respective universities. Then, the glory days of the university were long behind it, followed by the gradual decline of academic level.

As other universities and colleges emerged from the University of Yangon, it is recognized as a 'Mother University' of other universities, degree colleges and colleges. In the past, University of Yangon was the only university

in Yangon. It was also a foundation of education in Myanmar, and it developed together with a wide range of struggle for education, independence, nationalistic movements and historic events. The role of the University of Yangon cannot be skipped in reviewing education development in Myanmar, and its history cannot also be separated from the history of independence struggles and national political activities.

Currently, the government is making efforts to upgrade the University of Yangon as a high priority project. The government is working hard to make the University of Yangon a world-class university again and to make it a university that can support national interests, as an important project. A Master Plan for the University of Yangon has been drafted and implemented.

Education can play a crucial role in the development of a country. At the "basic education" level, it is important to provide great basic education, and at the higher education level, it needs to provide education and skills that can benefit the country and are compatible with the 21st Century. Myanmar drafted and approved the National Education Law in September 2014 and amended the law in 2015 and approved it again. According to the National Education Law, Myanmar's ed-

ucation system will be compatible with political, economic and social systems of Myanmar, and the law will promote the quality of the education sector.

We believe and hope that all the stakeholders will be able to implement the education policy and plan the curriculum in accordance with this objective. We have heard good news that the Department of Anthropology of the University of Yangon will open diploma courses in languages, histories, geography, businesses, cultures and traditions of national ethnic people.

The centenary celebration of the University of Yangon is a ceremony that belongs to all the people of Myanmar and the entire education sector of Myanmar. I am a former student at the University of Yangon, so the university is like our mom. So, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the University of Yangon, which falls on 1 Dec, we all remember the great history of the university and its great image, and all the people of Myanmar will be proud to have it. I would like to conclude my congratulatory speech, calling on people to conserve the great image and the dignity of the University of Yangon and work hard in order for the university to exist for infinite years.

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Effective Period for Temporary Measures to Prevent Importation of COVID-19 to Myanmar through Air Travel extended till 31 Dec 2020

WITH the approval of National-Level Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19, the directive on the effective period of 'Temporary Measures to Prevent Importation of COVID-19 to Myanmar through Air Travel' issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports on 29-3-2020 was extended until 23:59 Myanmar Standard Time on 30-11-2020 for effective control measures against COVID-19.

For the return of Myanmar citizens from abroad and the suggestions of Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the state visits and necessary visits of foreigners for local or international organizations, the above-mentioned directive will be extended until 23:59 MMT on 31-12-2020 to be able to continue the ongoing containment measures in line with the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Sports, with the approval of national-level committee.—Ministry of Transport and Communications

Myanmar seamen, nationals brought back home by relief flights

A total of 126 Myanmar seamen arrived back home by an MAI relief flight organized by Myanmar Embassy in Seoul and the Crew Change Supporting Committee (CCSC) via Incheon International Airport yesterday morning.

The returnees included 71 Myanmar citizens from ROK, 12 from Singapore, 2 each from Netherland, Indonesia and the UAE, 6 from Ivory Coast, 14 from Egypt, 1 each from Kenya, Bangladesh and Panama and 14 from the Philippines.

Then, the 33rd MAI relief flight organized by Myanmar Embassy in Seoul brought back 168 Myanmar citizens in the same evening.

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Health and Sports and the Yangon Region government arranged 7-day quarantine



The returnees are seen in the Immigration process at the Yangon International Airport. **PHOTO: MNA**

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 Na-

tional-Level Central Committee on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs cooperated with the relevant ministries, companies and Myanmar embassies from respective countries.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

Tatmadaw releases statement on ceasefire, eternal peace

THE Office of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services released a statement on the ceasefire and eternal peace in the country on 1 December.

The full text of statement said— the Tatmadaw ceased all military operations during the period from 1 to 30 November 2020 in all areas, except from the places where groups declared by the State as terrorist groups are active to carry out Covid-19 prevention, containment and treatment undertakings with accelerated momentum and for the success and effectiveness of the processes for restoring eternal peace in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. In addition, the Peace Talk Committee of the Tatmadaw was established for the effectiveness of the endeavours for peace.

The Tatmadaw issued a news release on the further suspension of its military operations from 1 to 31 December 2020 in all areas except the places where groups declared by the State as terrorist groups are active to enable ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) to continue the peace dialogue with the Tatmadaw for the success in restoring eternal peace if necessary, to continue the talks in order to cement peace with signatories to the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), to hold talks with non-signatories till they also become signatories, to look into the requirements till the success has been achieved in restoring eternal peace, and to increase the momentum of Covid-19 prevention, containment and treatment undertakings.—MNA

Myanmar to join new Senior Officials Counterterrorism Policy Forum



Union Minister U Thaung Tun addresses the Third Sub-Regional Meeting on Counterterrorism and Transnational Security via videoconference on 1 December. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and National Security Advisor to the Union Government, U Thaung Tun yesterday attended the Third Sub-Regional Meeting on Counterterrorism and Transnational Security jointly chaired by Mr Mohammad Mahfud, Coordinating Minister for Political Legal and Security Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, and the Honourable Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Home Affairs of Australia.

While addressing the event via videoconference, the Union Minister noted how the threat of terrorism and transnational crime had evolved in the context of COVID-19.

“...we can be sure that terrorists will seek to continue exploiting grievances and tensions that may exist in this world to advance their reprehensible objectives.”

The Union Minister used the opportunity to call for enhanced multilateral cooperation including strengthened partnerships with relevant United Nations Specialized Agencies and INTERPOL, and for greater investment in and access to regional counter-terrorism capabilities, technologies, and tools.

The Union Minister also drew attention to new and emerging forms of terrorism and cross-border criminality, including the misuse of digital technol-

ogy, and cyber-attacks, calling for all present to ensure that social media platforms were not used to sow seeds of mistrust, or to spread terrorist-inspired disinformation, conspiracy theories, and propaganda. In this regard, the Union Minister drew specific attention to the elevated risk posed to the region’s youth who are today turning to e-learning platforms to continue their studies. The Union Minister also drew attention to the specific ongoing threat posed by Foreign

Terrorist Fighters, relaying Myanmar’s experience with crimes committed by ARSA in 2016 and 2017 while also noting that “Myanmar rejects any attempt to identify terrorism with a particular religion or ethnic group” and that “while religion is often cited as a driving factor, other factors, including ideological, economic, social, and psychological factors, must also be seen as decisive.”

The meeting concluded with the issuance of a Joint Statement which included the creation of a new Senior Officials Counterterrorism Policy Forum, under the auspices of the Sub-Regional Meeting on Counterterrorism and Transnational Security.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The Union Minister was accompanied by senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs.—MNA

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin participates in 23rd ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting online Ministers agree to elevate ASEAN-EU relations to strategic level

UNION Minister for International Cooperation, U Kyaw Tin, participated in the 23rd ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting via video conference on 1 December at 2:30 pm from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

The Meeting was co-chaired by Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore, Country Coordinator of the ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations and Josep Borrell, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission. The Meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers and representatives from ASEAN Member States and 27 EU Member States, as well as the Secretary General of ASEAN.

The Ministers exchanged views on matters relating to strengthening ASEAN-EU Di-



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin joins the 23rd ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting via videoconference on 1 December from Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

alogue Relations, development of framework for a future ASEAN-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA), and expeditious conclusion of a mutually beneficial ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (CATA), including on regional and international issues. The Meeting decided to elevate the ASEAN-EU

Dialogue Relations to a strategic level. Union Minister U Kyaw Tin stressed the need to strengthen ASEAN-EU relations especially during challenging time of the COVID-19 pandemic. He also expressed thanks to the EU for its Team Europe Package of over Euro 800 million to combat COVID-19 and mitigate its impact in

ASEAN and encouraged EU to support ASEAN initiatives to address COVID-19 challenges, including ASEAN Response Fund and ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework.

He also stressed the need for further strengthening of cybersecurity cooperation to realize safe, secure, and resilient cyberspace

supportive of the growing digital economy and to further strengthen cooperation in countering the misuse of technology advancement. The Union Minister also thanked the EU for its support to Myanmar in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly for providing assistance to Myanmar garment workers who lost their jobs due to COVID-19. He also expressed his keen interest in strengthening trade and economic relations with EU.

The meeting adopted the ASEAN-EU Joint Ministerial Statement on Connectivity and released Co-Chairs’ Press Release.

Together with the Union Minister, Permanent Secretary and Senior Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also attended the 23rd ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting.—MNA

“People are the key”

Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM) 2019 Results launched online



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi participates in the launching ceremony of Southeast Asia PLM 2019 Results online on 1 December. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi joined the launching ceremony of Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM) 2019 Results organized by UNICEF and SEAMEO was held online yesterday morning.

The event was also attended by Education Ministers from Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Viet Nam respectively.

Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi said the SEA-PLM is a regional programme to as-

sess learning outcomes while Myanmar is the very first country that conducts data assessment at the schools among Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

He also discussed two assessments conducted in My-

anmar -- Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) and Early Grade Mathematics Assessment (EGMA), the objective of SEA-PLM to contribute a more equitable and meaningful education for all children across the region, SDG target 4.1 and SDG target 4.7 of Sustainable Development Goal 4, KG+12 system in Myanmar, Myanmar National Performances on SEA-PLM Proficiency Scales results based on 5715 Myanmar students conducted by Australian Council for Education Research (ACER), National Education Policy and National Education Strategic Plan (2021-2030).

The Union Minister continued to say about better abilities of Myanmar students than other three member countries out of six showed in the results, the

contribution of school textbook per student only in Myanmar and Malaysia among six countries and the performance of one-third of student that brings above the average in math skills while one-fourth of student in reading skill and one-fifth of the student in writing skill.

He also briefed the improvement of the positive opinion of students in their learning, the participation of parents in education, KG+12 system, poor knowledge and lower interest in the education of students before the school days.

Then, the officials discussed policies, practices regarding the SEA-PLM (2019) results and further work plans.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

Health ministry commemorates World AIDS Day 2020

WORLD AIDS Day 2020 was commemorated at the Ministry of Health and Sports yesterday, and Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe delivered a speech.

The Union Minister said while the ongoing treatment against COVID-19 is important it is equally necessary to continue implementing the ministry's more than 40 health directives, which include preventing communicable and non-communicable diseases. He said AIDS require lifetime medication and failure to do so increases the chance for opportunistic infections, which can lead to death.

There were about 240,000 cases of HIV in Myanmar in 2019, of which over 9,900 were new cases in Myanmar, but this was a 36% decrease compared to 2010. HIV prevalence was 0.58% during that time, according to an AIDS epidemic model. The vulnerable demographics include drug abuses, sex workers, same-sex partners, prison inmates and migrant workers, and the ministry prioritizes them for treatment.

The leading factors that drive HIV/AIDS in developing countries are low socio-economic standards and a lack of knowledge on the subject. The five most important facts for preventing any disease is the

public interest, public participation, public health literacy, public perception on its importance, and exchange of accurate information between those affected.

Myanmar joined UNAIDS and the Global HIV Prevention Coalition Group in May 2018 and has been implementing its own National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS (2016-2020) prior to that. A new 5-year strategy from 2021 to 2025 is currently in the works. The main supporter for Myanmar financially in this endeavour is the Global Fund while technical assistance is provided by UNAIDS and WHO. The Myanmar government has been allocating \$14m for HIV prevention since the 2016-17FY and an additional \$1m for purchasing the opioid methadone used for pain relief and treating drug addiction.

There has been progressing as Myanmar was able to provide lifelong ART to only 106,000 of the 240,000 cases in 2016 but now provides up to 82% of all affected persons as of last September. The ministry was able to expand 362 ART centres in 273 townships in November and expanded prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) to 326 townships; a 99% coverage.

The ministry was able to

test 790,000 pregnant women in 2016, and it increased to over a million in 2019. HIV transmission from mother-to-child went down from 0.84% in 2011 to 0.50% in 2019. There are currently 24,000 people seeking treatment in 80 methadone maintenance therapy centres.

UNAIDS Country Director Mr Oussama Tawil read a message from the UN Secretary-General which said World AIDS Day is a reminder of the disease's effect on society for

more than 40 years amid the current COVID-19 pandemic. While there have been significant advances in preventing the spread of HIV, about 1.7 million people are infected by HIV every year with a death toll of 690,000. COVID-19 has made the unequal reach of medical treatment apparent across the world, and the safety of the entire world depends on the safety of the individual.

WHO Representative to Myanmar, Dr Stephan Paul

Jost, and US Chargé d'Affaires' Gwendolyn Cardno also spoke at the commemoration. U Sai Aung Kham, representing civil society organizations, spoke on the importance of World AIDS Day and the aspirations of the CSOs.

Director Dr Tun Nyunt Oo explained the National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS, and the Union Minister and officials observed the commemorative exhibition after the event.—MNA
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe and officials are looking into the commemorative display on World AIDS Day on 1 December. **PHOTO: MNA**

Firm commitment key to reducing risk of human trafficking during post COVID-19 period

IN the past 11 months, about 160 people including women and children fell prey to traffickers in 106 cases in our country, according to the Myanmar Police Force. In connection with the cases, 160 traffickers were arrested.

The number of cases is not high when compared to other countries, however, the fallout from the coronavirus pandemic is driving people to become victims of human trafficking, exploitation and forced labour.

Job losses and lack of access to critical services caused by the pandemic causing authorities to tighten measures at borders can drive more people to become vulnerable to exploitation by traffickers.

Our achievements in tackling trafficking in persons year by year must not be undone by the coronavirus pandemic.

About 25 million people worldwide are estimated to be victims of trafficking - a trade worth \$150 billion-a-year - according to the U.N. International Labour Organization (ILO).

Under COVID-19, the root causes leading to human trafficking have been exacerbated, according to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and several civil society organizations. Financial hardship on families, limited labour protections, closing of schools, mass movements of people and an increasing lack of social or economic opportunities may lead to a further development of human trafficking networks.

Besides, they point out that the massive increase in the use of digital technologies during the pandemic may make

children more vulnerable to online sexual predators.

From the 7th Anniversary of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day which fell on 30 July last year to 8th anniversary this year, 148 trafficking in person cases have been identified and actions have been taken on a total of 475 offenders comprising 170 males and 305 females.

Our achievements in tackling trafficking in persons year by year must not be undone by the coronavirus pandemic.

The COVID-19 does not affect people equally. The recession resulting from the COVID-19 crisis makes people more prone to accept help from smugglers, especially if they come from an already unequal economy.

The five major causes of human trafficking in Myanmar are forced marriage, forced prostitution, forced labour, trafficking in children, and debt bondage.

Ending trafficking in persons requires a firm commitment, and not just at the institutional level. It also requires a broad involvement of international civil society organizations which are working tirelessly with government departments. And, most of all — we need the involvement of men.

The Ancient Heritage of King Kyansittha Preserved in the University of Yangon Library

Dr Aung Myint Oo

AS a visitor enters the campus of University of Yangon, and walks along the Chancellor Road, before he (or she) reaches the Convocation Hall, close to the Thit-pok, the massive Tetramelaceae hardwood tree, the University of Yangon Library is there on the right side of the road, a well-known treasure house of knowledge and learning. Many a time have many a scholar, engaged in academic pursuits related in some way or other with University of Yangon, visited this precious resource centre; however, not many have discovered the rare existence of the genuine ancient heritage of King Kyansittha of Bagan Period, housed in this modern building. This might lead the reader to ponder over the relationship between University of Yangon and King Kyansittha. It was a short while after University of Rangoon (University of Yangon) was established that this ancient heritage was brought to University of Rangoon Library for the sake of the preservation of Myanmar culture. This historic heritage, which dates back to the 11th century, marking the reign of King Kyansittha, now remains through the life span of nearly one thousand years. It now stands in University of Yangon Library as an invaluable part of the history of University of Yangon.

What is that ancient her-



The Kyaik Ta Lan Pagoda.

itage of King Kyansittha preserved in University of Yangon Library? How did it find way into this house of knowledge? What historical values and essence have been immortalized in it? As a visitor entering the Library, he may be attracted by a huge stone inscription, erected on a cement base, next to the Loan Section on the right side of the entrance. It is over seven feet high and over three feet in breadth. There it stands tall and heavy but many might have failed to notice its existence.

If the visitor takes a close look at the inscription, first he will see a small label reading, "THE STONE INSCRIPTION OF KING KYANSITTHA OF PAGAN (THE 11th CENTURY)". Though this ancient column dates back to nearly one thousand years ago, it has remained intact, housed inside the Library, free from winds and weather through time and changes. Thanks to the Library, many characters have remained free from damage. Though resembling the ancient Myanmar characters, it is rather hard to decipher what the inscription reads. Because the history of this stone inscription has remained unknown, and the meaning of the lines unfathomed, many visitors to the Library have failed to turn to their curious eye to this stone inscription.

A close study will reveal that this stone inscription has

remained a genuine artefact of ancient heritage. Moreover, it would be of scholarly interest to make a trace of its arrival to this Library. Before the label was hung on it, reading it had been the work of King Kyansittha, this stone inscription had remained a brains-racking riddle for some time. During the colonial period, before University of Rangoon (University of Yangon) was established, it was displayed at Phayre Museum, Yangon, which was attached to the Zoological Gardens, which was located in the present site of Yangon General Hospital. Since the British colonists were avid collectors of artefacts of ancient heritage, as soon as they had occupied the whole country, they began the collection of the ancient artefacts of Myanmar culture from all over the country, and had them on display in Phayre Museum. The ancient stone inscription of King Kyansittha was brought from one part of the country and had for some time been on display in the Museum.

However, though the inscription gave an impression of ancient writing, nobody was able to decipher its meaning until the ancient Pyu and Mon expert Dr C.O. Blagden of the School of Oriental Studies, London University took the task of deciphering. He was a great scholar who taught ancient Phyu and Mon language to Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin, who had come to England

Dr Blagden was successful in deciphering the sources of the characters of the epigraph and its content, but the original location of the pillar remained unresolved: to use his own terms, " The original location of this record is unknown to me." But with reference to Line 47 reading "Ceti kyauk-talin", the possible original location could be that of a pagoda in the region of the Mons in Lower Myanmar, but no exact location was identified.

In 1930s, the Zoological Gardens, formerly situated at the present site of Yangon General Hospital, was moved to the present site of Yangon Zoological Gardens, and the Phayre Museum, attached to the Zoological Gardens, was disbanded. The inscription pillar was temporarily kept at the Secretariat Yangon. In 1933, the authorities of the University of Rangoon moved the pillar to University of Rangoon Library, the transportation charges being paid by the University. However, since its original location had remained unresolved, it carried the label: Place of Origin Unknown.

(To be continued)



The Myanmar Language specialization students from Ma-U-Bin University observing the Inscription.

အမျိုးသမီးများအပေါ် အကြမ်းဖက်မှုပျောက်ရေး (၁၆)ရက်တာလှုပ်ရှားမှု အထိမ်းအမှတ်အခမ်းအနား

“အမျိုးသမီးများအပေါ်အကြမ်းဖက်မှု ကာကွယ်တုံ့ပြန်ရေး ဘဏ္ဍာရင်း ဖန်တီးရေးအတွက် အချက်အလက်ကောက်ယူရန်”

“Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!”

အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာမာန်စွမ်းသူများနေ့

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

“Building Back Better: toward a disability-inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 World”

“ပို့ဒီကောင်းမွန်သည့် COVID-19 အလွန်ကမ္ဘာတည်ဆောက်ပုံ မာန်စွမ်းသူများ လက်လှမ်းမီပါဝင်ပြီး ရေရှည်တည်တံ့ရေးရှိ ကြိုးစားရန်”

နေပြည်တော် ၃၁.၂.၂၀၂၀

Myanmar Daily Weather Report
(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 1 December, 2020)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (17:30) hrs M.S.T today, the Deep Depression over Southwest Bay and adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal has moved Westwards and it is centered at about (250) Nautical miles East-Southeast of Trincomalee (Sri Lanka) and about (465) Nautical miles East-Southeast of Kanyakumari (India). Weather is cloudy over the Westcentral Bay and Southwest Bay of Bengal and a few cloud to partly cloudy over the Andaman sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 2 December, 2020: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (60%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, (Northern and Southern)Shan, Kayah, Kayin, Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong easterly winds may reach (30-35)m.p.h. Sea will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (6-9) feet in Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (3-5) feet Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Eastern Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 2 December, 2020: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 2 December, 2020: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 2 December, 2020: Generally fair weather

management@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

သတင်းစာ၊ ဂျာနယ်၊ စာအုပ်များ အား နိုင်ငံတကာအဆင့်ရှိ ပုံနှိပ်စက်ဖြင့် ပုံနှိပ်ပေးပါသည်။

Newspapers & Journal Printing Service. 01-8604530

Contact: 01-8604530

Figures and percentages of 2020 Multiparty Democracy General Election to be published in newspapers 1-12-2020

- The Union Election Commission held the multiparty democracy general elections in 315 constituencies for Pyithu Hluttaw, 161 constituencies for Amyotha Hluttaw and 641 constituencies for Region/State Hluttaw (including 29 for ethnic nationals) on 8 November. The figures and percentages from these elections have been published on announcement (268/2020) dated 30-11-2020.
- The following table shows the number of eligible voters and actual voters in Region/State Hluttaw.

Sr	Region/State	Pyithu Hluttaw			Amyotha Hluttaw			Region/State Hluttaw (including ethnic nationals)		
		Number of eligible voters	Number of voters	Voting per cent	Number of eligible voters	Number of voters	Voting per cent	Number of eligible voters	Number of voters	Voting per cent
a	Kachin	1150407	761850	66.22%	1150407	760366	66.10%	1938363	1306700	67.41%
b	Kayah	212916	162557	76.49%	212916	162821	76.47%	255417	193814	75.41%
c	Kayin	1236838	661698	53.50%	1236838	658263	53.22%	1694838	900237	53.12%
d	Chin	286308	222905	77.85%	286308	223018	77.89%	286308	222789	77.81%
e	Sagaing	4305403	3383183	78.58%	4305403	3383061	78.58%	4649996	3618032	77.81%
f	Taninthayi	1191890	792725	66.51%	1191890	790327	66.31%	127371	843392	66.24%
g	Bago	3951637	2839370	71.85%	3951637	2838946	71.84%	4132683	2958457	71.59%
h	Magway	3310132	2577560	77.87%	3310132	2576557	77.84%	3397815	2644683	77.83%
i	Mandalay	5847697	4561388	78.00%	5847697	4556910	77.93%	4986705	3891804	78.04%
j	Mon	1847780	1068525	57.83%	1847780	1067855	57.79%	2803350	1648134	58.79%
k	Rakhine	477957	329264	68.89%	477957	329520	68.94%	496172	343056	69.14%
l	Yangon	6137047	4188249	68.25%	6137047	4183613	68.17%	6498460	4395977	67.65%
m	Shan	3634283	2421348	66.63%	3634283	2420009	66.59%	4711284	3163498	67.15%
n	Ayeyawady	4681152	3541933	75.66%	4681152	3544289	75.71%	5742125	4328540	75.38%
	Total	38271447	27512855	71.89%	38271447	27495555	71.84%	42866741	30459113	71.06%

- The lists of eligible voters, actual voters (polling station/advance vote), voter turnout, cancelled/lost ballot papers, confirmed votes for each Hluttaw candidate (polling station/advance vote), per cent of confirmed votes and related data will be published in the newspapers.

Union Election Commission

Figures of voters and votes for Pyithu Hluttaw from regions and states in 2020 General Election

Sr	Region/State	Number of eligible voters	Number of voters			Per cent of vote	Number of cancelled/ lost			Confirmed vote			Per cent of confirmed vote
			Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total		Cancel	Lost	total	Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total	
1	Kachin	1150407	597856	163994	761850	66.22	30077	259	30336	572302	159212	731514	96.02%
2	Kayah	212916	128700	34157	162857	76.49	8218	92	8310	121023	33524	154547	94.90%
3	Kayin	1236838	475928	185770	661698	53.50	37287	1854	39141	444526	178031	622557	94.08%
4	Chin	286308	179511	43394	222905	77.85	7841	90	7931	172737	42237	214974	96.44%
5	Sagaing	4305403	2650094	733089	3383183	78.58	69403	9037	78440	2581498	723245	3304743	97.68%
6	Taninthayi	1191890	624646	168079	792725	66.51	30445	705	31150	597788	163787	761575	96.07%
7	Bago	3951637	2180513	658857	2839370	71.85	71029	1888	72917	2117827	648626	2766453	97.43%
8	Magway	3310132	2050689	526871	2577560	77.87	55710	3111	58821	2002845	515894	2518739	97.72%
9	Mandalay	5847697	3688860	872528	4561388	78.00	105289	3818	109107	3589907	862374	4452281	97.61%
10	Mon	1847780	786192	282333	1068525	57.83	41314	3141	44455	747896	276174	1024070	95.84%
11	Rakhine	477957	250929	78335	329264	68.89	15994	580	16574	235245	77445	312690	94.97%
12	Yangon	6137047	3325622	862627	4188294	68.25	87461	5608	93069	3240033	855147	4095180	97.78%
13	Shan	3634283	1948314	473034	2421348	66.63	143386	3733	147119	1814870	459359	2274229	93.92%
14	Ayeyawady	4681152	2740581	801352	3541933	75.66	102969	2880	105849	2642161	793923	3436084	97.01%
	Total	38271447	21628435	5884420	27512855	71.89	806423	36796	843219	20880658	5788978	26669636	96.94%

Numbers of vote for each candidate of Pyithu Hluttaw in 2020 General Election

Sr	constituencies	Number of eligible voters	Number of voters			Per cent of vote	Number of cancel/ lost vote			Name of candidate	Party/ individual	Winning confirmed vote			Per cent of confirmed vote	Remark
			Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total		Cancel	Lost	total			Vote in polling	Advance vote	Total		
	Kachin State	1150407	597856	163994	761850	66.22	30077	259	30336							
1	Khaunglanphu Constituency	8909	6382	948	7330	82.28	123	1	124							
										U Sin Sone	USDP	2637	493	3130	43.44	
										U Hngar Zar Di	LNDP	1450	127	1577	21.88	

Figures of voters and votes for Pyithu Hluttaw from regions and states in 2020 General Election

FROM PAGE-10

										U Ar Moe Si	Individual	882	132	1014	14.07		
										U Arr Khi Hsar	NLD	790	147	937	13.00		
										Daw Sar Li Htway	KSPP	407	29	436	6.05		
										U Khin Le Phone	NUP	102	10	112	1.56		
2	Sumprabum	2786	1625	846	2471	88.69	112	-	112			1542	817	2359			
										Daw Lashan Ban Htwee	USDP	446	410	856	36.29		
										U Kwan Gaung Aung Kham	KSPP	562	225	787	33.36		
										U Lord Htwal (a) U Lauk Htwal	NLD	534	182	716	30.35		

(To be continued)

Figures of voters and votes for Amyotha Hluttaw from regions and states in 2020 General Election

Sr	Region/State	Number of eligible voters	Number of voters			Per cent of vote	Number of cancelled/ lost vote			Confirmed vote			Per cent of confirmed vote
			Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total		Cancel	Lost	total	Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total	
1	Kachin	1150407	596510	163856	760366	66.10	23520	229	23749	577370	159247	736617	96.88
2	Kayah	212916	128464	34357	162821	76.47	6465	99	6564	122492	33765	156257	95.97
3	Kayin	1236838	475242	183021	658263	53.22	31305	4297	35602	449116	173545	622661	94.59
4	Chin	286308	180021	42997	223018	77.89	6579	62	6641	174116	42261	216377	97.02
5	Sagaing	4305403	2662189	720872	3383061	78.58	106839	4546	111385	2555999	715677	3271676	96.71
6	Taninthayi	1191890	622811	167516	790327	66.31	24419	807	25226	601045	164056	765101	96.81
7	Bago	3951637	2180560	658386	2838946	71.84	63986	2130	66116	2123597	649233	2772830	97.67
8	Magway	3310132	2049310	527247	2576557	77.84	50168	3336	53504	2006722	516331	2523053	97.92
9	Mandalay	5847697	3700579	856331	4556910	77.93	98255	3716	92971	3616819	847120	4463939	97.96
10	Mon	1847780	785140	282715	1067855	57.79	32625	3831	36456	753777	277622	1031399	96.59
11	Rakhine	477957	251243	78277	329520	68.94	13227	721	13948	238203	77369	315572	95.77
12	Yangon	6137047	3320211	863402	4183613	68.17	65709	6082	71791	3254664	857158	4111822	98.28
13	Shan	3634283	1945389	474620	2420009	66.59	127333	3262	130595	1830801	458613	2289414	94.60
14	Ayeyawady	4681152	2741893	802396	3544289	75.71	88824	2025	90849	2658277	795163	3453440	97.44
Total		38271447	21639562	5855993	27495555	71.84	730254	35143	765397	20962998	5767160	26730158	97.22

Numbers of vote for each candidate of Amyotha Hluttaw in 2020 General Election

Sr	constituencies	Number of eligible voters	Number of voters			Per cent of vote	Number of cancelled/ lost vote			Name of candidate	Party/ individual	Winning confirmed vote			Per cent of confirmed vote	Remark
			Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total		Cancel	Lost	total			Vote in polling	Advance vote	Total		
	Kachin State	1150407	596510	163856	760366	66.10	23520	229	23749			577370	159247	736617		
1	Constituency 1	61764	38804	11137	49941	80.86	1380	9	1389			37688	10864	48552		
										U Rakwi Pung	USDP	10523	3973	14496	29.86	
										U Hngar Si Yaw	NLD	11454	2772	14226	29.30	
										U Karo Layein	KSPP	6842	2036	8878	18.29	
										U J Yaw Woo	NUP	4873	1366	6239	12.85	
										U Hngar Kyaw Sa	LNDP	3996	717	4713	9.70	
2	Constituency 2	94244	52214	18891	71105	75.45	1669	16	1685			50857	18563	69420		
										U Thein Lwin	NLD	28524	9420	37944	54.66	
										U Thet Win	USDP	11781	5056	16837	24.25	
										U Malan Moon Shaung	KSPP	3853	1665	5518	7.95	
										U Kyaw Win	T N D - P (Shan-ni)	3095	1064	4159	6.00	
										U Paung Kham	SNDP	2683	844	3527	5.08	
										U Zaw Zaw	PPP	579	291	870	1.25	
										U Kyaw Swe	UBP	342	223	565	0.81	

(To be continued)

Figures of voters and votes for Region/State Hluttaw from regions and states in 2020 General Election

Sr	Region/State	Number of eligible voters	Number of voters			Per cent of vote	Number of cancelled/ lost vote			Confirmed vote			Per cent of confirmed vote
			Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total		Cancel	Lost	total	Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total	
1	Kachin	1150407	596739	163828	760567	66.11	19775	233	20008	580666	159893	740559	97.37%

SEE PAGE-12

Figures of voters and votes for Region/State Hluttaw from regions and states in 2020 General Election

FROM PAGE-11

2	Kayah	212916	128655	34169	162824	76.47	6174	101	6275	123036	33513	156549	96.15%
3	Kayin	1236838	474045	183694	657739	53.18	29126	1379	30505	450397	176837	627234	95.36%
4	Chin	286308	179460	43329	222789	77.81	6200	102	6302	174149	42338	216487	97.17%
5	Sagaing	4305403	2654748	728530	3383278	78.58	61381	5334	66715	2593783	722780	3316563	98.03%
6	Taninthayi	1191890	622002	169000	791002	66.37	20343	743	21086	605036	164880	769916	97.33%
7	Bago	3951637	2181951	657592	2839543	71.86	55237	2385	57622	2131802	650119	2781921	97.97%
8	Magway	3310132	2048247	527453	2575700	77.81	43803	3290	47093	2011954	516653	2528607	98.17%
9	Mandalay	4941471	3156225	707768	3863993	78.20	62257	3331	65606	3099824	698563	3798387	98.30%
10	Mon	1847780	786845	282011	10688856	57.85	29935	3014	32949	758476	277431	1035907	96.92%
11	Rakhine	477957	251402	78558	329960	69.04	12550	249	12799	239528	77633	317161	96.12%
12	Yangon	6137047	3322310	865884	4188194	68.24	61924	5702	67626	3264197	856371	4120568	98.39%
13	Shan	3634283	1948435	474376	2422881	66.67	112712	3922	116634	1847650	458527	2306177	95.19%
14	Ayeyawady	4681152	2739475	804186	3543660	75.70	77069	1327	78423	2669430	795808	3465238	97.79%
Total		37365221	21090539	5720378	26810917	71.75	598531	31112	629643	20549928	5631346	26181274	97.65%

Numbers of vote for each candidate of Region/State Hluttaw in 2020 General Election

Sr	constituencies	Number of voters Vote in polling station	Number of vote			Per cent of vote Cancel	Number of cancel/ lost vote			Name of candidate	Party/individual Vote in polling	Winning confirmed vote			Per cent of confirmed vote
			Advance voting	total			Lost	total				Advance vote	Total		
	Kachin State	1150407	596739	163828	760567	66.11	19775	233	20008			580666	159893	740559	
1	Khaunglanphu Township (1)	4559	3258	678	3936	86.33	83		83			3178	675	3853	
										U Shwe Lay	LNDP	1383	205	1588	41.21
										U Dee Ram (a) Ci Dee Ser	NLD	1147	323	1470	38.15
										U Mi Kaw Phue	USDP	543	129	672	17.44
										U Gu Sar Per	KSP	105	18	123	3.20
2	Khaunglanphu Township (2)	4350	3124	270	3394	78.02	36	1	37			1542	817	2359	
										U Phee Ram Ser	USDP	1413	153	1566	46.65
										U Se Ye Wu (a) J Law De	LNDP	783	42	825	24.58
										U Nan Sein Sai Lin Aung	KSP	550	35	585	17.43
										U See Li Yet	NLD	243	28	271	8.07
										U J See Yet	NUP	81	5	86	2.56
										U J Yaw See	UBP	20	4	24	0.71

(To be continued)

Figures of voters and votes for Region or State Hluttaw (Ethnic National) from regions and states in 2020 General Election

Sr	Region/State	Number of voters	Number of vote			Per cent of vote	Number cancel/ lost vote			Confirmed vote			Per cent of confirmed vote
			Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total		Cancel	Lost	total	Vote in polling station	Advance voting	total	
1	Kachin	787956	428404	117729	546133	69.31	13063	312	13375	416986	115772	532758	97.55
2	Kayah	42555	22545	8445	30990	72.82	773	12	785	21811	8394	30205	97.47
3	Kayin	458000	167366	75132	242498	52.95	6736	810	7546	163400	71552	234952	96.89
4	Sagaing	344593	190539	44215	234754	68.13	7647	447	8094	182892	43768	226660	96.55
5	Taninthayi	81281	42850	9540	52390	64.46	2675	207	2882	40195	9313	49508	94.50
6	Bago	181046	94134	24780	118914	65.68	4082	115	4197	90156	24561	114717	96.47
7	Magway	87683	52826	16157	68983	78.67	2691	261	2952	50265	15766	66031	95.72
8	Mandalay	45234	22741	5070	27811	61.48	739	18	757	22023	5031	27054	97.28
9	Mon	955570	433399	145879	579278	60.62	19653	235	19888	413787	145603	559390	96.57
10	Rakhine	18215	10692	2404	13096	71.90	835	19	854	9893	2349	12242	93.48
11	Yangon	361413	165936	41847	207783	57.49	6245	912	7157	159973	40653	200626	96.56
12	Shan	1077001	554448	186239	740687	68.77	29863	1823	31686	529810	179191	709001	95.72
13	Ayeyawady	1060973	615548	169331	784879	73.98	24609	531	25140	590441	169298	759739	96.08
Total		5501520	2801428	846768	3648196	66.31	119611	5702	125313	2691632	831251	3522883	96.57

(To be continued)

COUNTING COSTS

Canada virus measures push deficit to record Can\$382 bln



Canadian Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland - here with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau - said the government was preparing to spend up to Can\$100 billion over three years to jolt the economy once the pandemic is over. PHOTO: AFP

CANADA'S budget deficit is projected to balloon to a record Can\$382 billion (US\$284 billion) as government spending skyrockets to combat the spread of the novel coronavirus, the fi-

nance minister announced Monday. The amount for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, which began on April 1, is higher than an estimate of Can\$343 billion announced

in July and almost 20 times higher than the shortfall in the last budget released in March 2019, before the pandemic.

Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland also said the government was preparing to spend another Can\$70 billion to Can\$100 billion over three years to jolt the economy once the pandemic is over.

The aim, she said, is to build back the economy to be greener, more inclusive, more innovative and more competitive.

"When the virus is under control and our economy is ready for new growth, we will deploy an ambitious stimulus package to jump-start our recovery," Freeland told the House

of Commons.

"Spending roughly three to four per cent of GDP, over three years, our government will make carefully judged, targeted and meaningful investments to create jobs and boost growth," she said.

The pandemic shut down large swathes of the Canadian economy in March, and several regions are now under lockdown again as a second wave of Covid-19 - worse than the first - sweeps across the country.

The government has spent hundreds of billions to support out-of-work Canadians and businesses that were forced to close temporarily.

SOURCE: AFP

CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM

World economy back to pre-pandemic level in 2021: OECD

THE global economy may get back to pre-pandemic levels by the end of next year as vaccines help propel recovery, but growth is likely to be uneven, the

OECD said Tuesday. Signs that vaccines could now be weeks away from distribution have injected cautious optimism as the year limps to a

close with Covid-19 having claimed some 1.4 million lives. "For the first time since the pandemic began, there is now hope for a brighter future," OECD

Chief Economist Laurence Boone wrote in her introduction to the organization's latest review of the global economic outlook.

SOURCE: AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SANIA

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SANIA VOY. NO. (0620)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-11-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **WILMAR** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (108N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (108N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **02-12-2020** 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 LINES

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ENTERPRISE
Invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI) - Consulting Services

Date : 2nd December 2020
Project No. : 53223-001
Project Title : Myanmar: Accelerated Rural Electrification Project (AREP)
Title of Assignment : Project Implementation Consultant (PIC)
Deadline for Submission of EOI: 5th January 2021, 14:00 hr (Myanmar Time)

- The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has applied for financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Accelerated Rural Electrification Project (AREP), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments for the Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) ("the Assignment"). The project consists of design, supply, installation and commissioning of expansion and rehabilitation of 66 kV and 33 kV lines 1006 km and 44 substations; establishment and pilot testing of computerized distribution automation system (DAS) in the four regions/states and Nay Pyi Taw; and enhancement of social and gender inclusive capacity of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE), Electricity Supply Enterprise (ESE), and village electrification committee (VEC) in the project areas.
- ESE of the MOEE of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar ("the Client") invite firms from eligible source countries of ADB to submit EOIs through ADB's Consultant Management System (CMS) (<https://cms.adb.org>).
- The PIC of the project is required to assist ESE and MOEE throughout the implementation of the Accelerated Rural Electrification Project. The main tasks are: (i) conduct procurement of project packages from contract packaging, bidding, evaluation and award of contract; (ii) update and implement resettlement and ethnic group development plan (REGDP); (iii) construction supervision and supervision supply and construction contracts; (iv) preparation of environmental management plan (EMP) and environmental supervision and monitoring; (v) gender equality mainstreaming (vi) overall project administration; (vii) reporting; (viii) financial management, and (ix) public communication and consultation. The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found on CMS. The location of the Assignment is in Myanmar, and the duration is six years.
- Quality-Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) process will be used in accordance with the *Guidelines on the Use of Consultants for Asian Development Bank and Its Borrowers*. A Full Technical Proposal (FTP) will be required from shortlisted firms. For further information, please visit <https://cms.adb.org>.
- EOIs must be submitted through CMS (<https://cms.adb.org>) on or before **5th January 2021, 14:00 hr (Myanmar Time)**. Firms that are not yet registered with CMS are required to register. The deadline for the submission of EOIs will not be extended by ESE.
- ESE will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by firms in connection with the preparation or submission of EOIs.

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Notice of Completion of Draft EIA Report and Consultation Update

The members of the BJV Company Limited (BJV) plans to redevelop the existing Bawdwin lead, zinc and silver mine, located in Namtu township, Kyauk Me District, Northern Shan State, Myanmar.

Redevelopment will involve demolition of some existing infrastructure and construction of new infrastructure to support mining and processing activities within the 24.6 km² existing Bawdwin mineral concession area.

A Draft Environmental and Social Impact Assessment has been prepared in accordance with Myanmar's Environmental Laws and Procedures.

As a result of the travel and public gathering restrictions related to the the Covid19 pandemic, BJV plans to share updated information on the project and the draft ESIA by distributing a video presentation, in the form of three stand-alone modules:

- Module 1: Project information
- Module 2: Information relating to proposed resettlement of Bawdwin and Tiger Camp communities
- Module 3: Draft ESIA overview, impacts and mitigation measures

The videos will be distributed within the community on 14 December, 2020 and will also be available on the BJV website. Questions can be lodged at the Information Centers in Bawdwin or via the website. Meetings in small groups to discuss the content of the videos will be carried out in Namtu and Bawdwin when next permissible.

For further information, to submit comments, or to lodge a grievance, please visit the Information Centers located at Bawdwin Upper Village, Bawdwin Lower Village and Tiger Camp or send us an email by visiting <https://bawdwinjv.com>



BJV Co., Ltd.

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

Nearly K250 mln provided for insured workers from 3 townships in Mandalay region

MANDALAY Region Department of Social Welfare (MRDSW) has provided nearly K250 millions of social security benefits for insured workers in three stay-home declared townships of Mandalay region, according to MRDSW.

The regional government had declared stay-home announcements in the following three townships – Mahar Aungmye, Chanayethazan and Amrapura – in Mandalay region when the COVID-19 started to break out. Under the stay-home period, the authorities paid 40

per cent of the social security fees to the insured workers from the factories and workplaces, which are temporarily suspended.

"In these three stay-home townships, there are over 3,800 insured workers who are regularly paying in social security fees. The department has provided a total of K249,409,874 to 3,866 insured workers from 198 departments," said Daw Lwin Lwin Myint, the head of Department of Social Welfare in Mandalay Region.

Besides, about 322 work

establishments from those three townships have applied for receiving the social security benefits. The authorities have granted the benefits to only 224 of them, and the remaining 98 are still needed to be granted the benefits. A total of 198 out of 224 workplaces have already been given compensations and over 300 workers from the rest 26 will be provided with the social security benefits continuously.

Daw Lwin Lwin Myint, Head of Department, added that the department had not set up a deadline of the applying for

receiving social security benefits. The organizations can apply directly to the related township social welfare offices or through ssbmyanmar.org and ssb.gov.mm.

According to the official statistics of the department, there are over 700 work establishments which are temporarily suspended in the said three declared home stay townships in Mandalay region and over 20,000 workers are entitled to receive the social security benefits. —Aung Thura

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Female Tapir (rare rhino) found in Taninthayi Township



An injured female Tapir was found on 22 November and is now undergoing medical treatment. **PHOTO : NAM THAR YI-HTEIN WIN (IPRD)**

A rare rhino (Tapir) was found near Nine Village in Mawtaung Town in Taninthayi Township

on 22 November. The rhino was found by a local named U Aung Moe Soe (aka) U Aung Aung, 28,

on his farmland. He informed the relevant authorities from Taninthayi township. On 30 No-

vember, the Forest Department Head U Aung Thiha Zaw and five staffers together with Mawtaung Police inspected U Aung Moe Soe's farmland and took necessary action.

According to the investigation, the female rhino is 6.6 feet long, 3.7 feet high and 6 feet in circumference and the tail is five inches.

The Tapir was injured in the right hand, and she could not walk. She is undergoing medical treatment. Then, the township forest department brought her to their office on 1 December 2020 with their department arrangement. As soon as she arrived at the department, the township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department will continuously provide the treatment. When she gets well, she will be sent to the department concerned.—Nam Thar Yi-Htein Win (IPRD)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Police record 106 human trafficking cases in 11 months

By Nyein Nyein

MYANMAR'S anti-human-trafficking police force has handled 106 human-trafficking cases in 11 months of 2020, and 160 victims of which were trafficked, according to Myanmar Anti-Human Trafficking Police Force.

The task force's record showed 15 reported human trafficking cases in January, seven in February, nine in March, six each in April and May, 15 in June, 14 in July, 16 in August, six in September, four in October and eight in November.

During the 11 months, 106

human-trafficking cases involving 160 victims, including 37 children, were investigated and 296 suspects were charged.

Forced marriage, forced labour and forced prostitution were blamed for the cause of human trafficking in the country. The victims were trafficked to China, Thailand and Malaysia as well as inside the country with the majority of victims sent to China for forced marriage, according to the Anti-Trafficking Police Force.

Myanmar recorded 106 cases of human trafficking, 79 of which were related to the forced

marriage to Chinese men, two to forced marriage in the country, one to forced marriage in Thailand, 12 to forced prostitution in the country, seven to forced labour in the country, two to forced labour in Malaysia, one forced prostitution in Thailand, one to forced labour in China and one to surrogacy in China.

Shan state registered most trafficking cases with 35 cases, followed by the Yangon region with 29 cases, Mandalay with ten cases. The human trafficking cases were also reported in Kachin state with nine cases,

Ayeyawady region with seven cases, Bago region with six cases, Magway, Taninthayi regions and Nay Pyi Taw with two cases each and Rakhine state, Kayin state, Mon state and Sagaing region with one case each.

Under the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, people who smuggle women and children are sentenced to at least ten years or up to life sentence or fine while money or property received through trafficking will be confiscated by the government.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Black bean price down by over K100,000 per tonne due to no demand

By Nyein Nyein

THE price of black bean plunged by over K100,000 per tonne as the demand has dried up, said U Min Ko Oo, the secretary of Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

The black bean fetched K1,152,500 per tonne in October-end on the back of India's demand. It plummeted to K1,041,000 per tonne on 1 December, with a sharp drop of K100,000 per tonne.

Before the General Election, the black bean was priced K1,072,500 per tonne on 7 November. The price slipped to

over K1,050,000 per tonne on 12 November.

"Before Deepavali Festival, the beans were highly demanded. India traders purchased Myanmar's beans at US\$900-940 per tonne for Fair and Average Quality due to the consumption requirements in their side. The prevailing price of bean stands at \$800-810 per tonne. The price fell by \$100, which is valued K100,000 on local currency. India's low demand causes the price to plummet in domestic markets," said U Min Ko Oo.

The domestic bean market is positively related to the law of

supply and demand, he continued.

Myanmar has a stock of below 100,000 tonnes of black bean, and about 30,000 tonnes of pigeon peas are left in warehouses, the association stated.

On 1 October, India issued a notification to purchase 150,000 tonnes of black beans instead, and the import deadline is March 2021. The licence will be equally granted for India's companies.

Although Myanmar does not have adequate stock, for now, it can reach the quota of 150,000 tonnes, along with the beans which will be harvested next season, the MPBSSMA secre-

tary affirmed. On 22 May, India rapidly changed the import period of black bean (400,000 tonnes) to three months by August-end 2020 from the earlier set deadline of March 2021, prompting Myanmar's bean body to call for an extension of the deadline, as per its official notice.

Although the bean body asked to extend the August-end deadline, India still has not responded to the request. Myanmar exported only 100,000 tonnes of black beans then, the association stated.

Since 2017, India has been setting import quota on beans,

including black bean and pigeon peas. Therefore, the growers face difficulties to export their beans to India market.

Myanmar has to export black bean and pigeon peas under a quota system and limit period. Consequently, there is no guarantee that we could get the prevailing market price next year; the market observers shared their opinions.

Following the uncertainty in markets of black bean and pigeon peas, the association suggested, in October-end, that the growers cultivate black-eyed bean more.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Foreigners hold 13.4 per cent of FMI shares in equity market as of Nov-end



The Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECM) has allowed foreigners to invest in the local equity market from 20 March 2020. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

FOREIGN investors have purchased 4,460,060 shares of First Myanmar Investment (FMI) on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) as of November-end, holding 13.47 per cent of shares, according to statistics released by the exchange.

The upper limit for foreign shareholding amount is at 14 per cent with 4,635,357 shares. The foreign investors are about to reach the limit for shareholding, and consequently, the status of buy order acceptance is suspended on 1 December 2020.

The Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECM) has allowed foreigners to invest in the local equity market from 20 March 2020. The foreign shareholding amount stood at 4,509,475 shares of three listed companies on the exchange as of November-end. At present, shares of six listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co. Ltd, and Ever Flow River Group Public Co., Ltd (EFR) — are available for local in-

vestors for trading. Of them, FMI, MTSH, TMH and EFR accepted foreign shareholding, and FPB is for block trade only. The foreign shareholding ratio of the companies on the exchange, except FMI, is less than one per cent.

As of November-end, foreigners hold over 4,460,060 shares of FMI, over 38,520 shares of MTSH, 4,405 shares of TMH and 6,490 shares of EFR. The SECM, under the Ministry of Planning and Finance, issued a notice on 12 July 2019, announcing that foreigners would be allowed to invest in shares listed on the YSX.

After opening bank and securities accounts, an investor can send buying/selling orders under the stock trading rules stipulated in the Trading Business Regulations, the SECM notified.

Senior Executive Manager U Thet Htun Oo of the Yangon Stock Exchange highlighted, at the seminar held last year, how foreign participation would entail better capital inflows, long term and sustainable investment, encourage good corporate governance, and support market orientation.

Regarding the share trading, the foreign investors must strictly comply with the rules stipulated by the Central Bank of Myanmar.

The security companies will monitor the daily trades of foreigners, in keeping with the rules and regulations, so that they do not exceed the limit set for each listed company. Under Section 42 (a) of the Securities and Exchange Law and Section 4 of the Trading Participant Business Regulations, the YSX has granted trading qualifications to the following securities companies — Myanmar Securities Exchange Centre Co. Ltd. (MSEC), KBZ Stirling Coleman Securities Co. Ltd. (KBZSC), CB Securities Limited (CBSC), AYA Trust Securities Co. Ltd. (AYATSC), KTZ Ruby Hill Securities Co. Ltd. (KTZRH), and UAB Securities Limited (UABSC).

Investors have to send their buy or sell orders to the YSX through the securities companies who have been issued a licence by the SECM as well as a trading qualification by the YSX, according to the stock exchange.

The YSX was launched three years ago to improve the private business sector. It disseminates rules and regulations regarding the stock exchange and knowledge of share trading through stock investment seminars. The stock exchange has also sought the government's support to get more public companies to participate in the stock market and help more institutional investors, such as financing companies, investment banks, and insurance companies, to emerge. Amid the COVID-19 crisis, Myanmar's securities market has been able to continue operating without stopping trading. —Ko Htet (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

CMP raw materials import plunges to \$264.7 mln as of 20 November

IMPORTS of raw materials by CMP businesses touched a low of US\$264.7 million as of 20 November in the current financial year 2020-2021, which fell from \$332 million registered in the previous 2019-2020FY, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The figures reflected a decrease of \$67 million, the Commerce Ministry's data showed.

At present, some CMP garment factories have shut down due to the COVID-19 negative impacts, leaving thousands of workers unemployed. The Covid-19 badly batters the labour-intensive enterprises, the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration stated.

To deal with the shortage of raw materials for the CMP garment factories in Myanmar, the Ministry of Commerce, the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association and the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar, the China Enterprise Chamber of Commerce in Myanmar (CECCM) have jointly imported raw materials through border trade channels and airlines. However, import values of raw materials by CMP businesses in the past FY2019-2020 dropped to \$2.17 billion, which plunged from \$2.37 billion registered in the FY2018-2019.

Myanmar's manufacturing sector is primarily concentrated in garment and textiles produced on the Cutting, Mak-

ing, and Packing basis, and it contributes to the country's GDP to a certain extent.

The CMP garment sector in Myanmar has been hit hard by the coronavirus impacts amid the global demand slump, as per Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association. Supply chain disruptions and cancelling customer orders following the coronavirus outbreak hurt the global textile industry. Similarly, the CMP garment sector which contributes to 30 per cent of Myanmar's export sector is bracing for downward trend owing to cancel of order from the European countries and suspension of the trade by western countries amid the pandemic.

Since an outbreak like Covid-19 might happen in the future, it is necessary to prepare for a sufficient supply of raw materials. The public and private sectors will cooperate in setting up the supply chain on our own sources, including weaving, knitting, dyeing, and sewing factories.

Japan is the largest market for Myanmar apparel, followed by the European Union.

The MGMA has more than 500 members, and garment factories in Myanmar, employing more than 400,000 workers. Investors prefer to invest in countries with inexpensive labor, such as Myanmar. —Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Olympic rings reinstalled in Tokyo Bay after checkups



The Olympic rings are reinstalled in Tokyo Bay on Dec. 1, 2020, after undergoing safety inspections and maintenance. **PHOTO: KYODO**

TOKYO — A giant floating monument of the Olympic rings was reinstalled in Tokyo Bay on Tuesday after undergoing safety inspections and maintenance since the summer.

The monument, standing 15 metres high, 33 metres long and weighing about 69 tons was temporarily removed in August from the capital's Daiba waterfront area following the games' postponement for a year due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

Repainted for a fresh look, the Olympic rings will be displayed until the end of the games next August and lit up in the evening every day, according to the Tokyo metropolitan government.

The monument was first set up in January but sent back to the factory in Yokohama, near

Tokyo, where it was made for a series of examinations and some maintenance work.

Around 9 am, a barge carrying the monument was towed into Odaiba Marine Park against the backdrop of the capital's landmark Rainbow Bridge and skyscrapers in the bay area.

Takayuki Kojima, a 70-year-old Tokyo resident who stopped to watch the operation, said "I hope (the reinstalled monument) will lift up people's spirits in the run-up to the Olympics."

The metropolitan government originally planned to set up Olympic-themed monuments in other locations including the peak of Mt. Takao in western Tokyo and at Yoyogi Park in Shibuya Ward. But the plan has been postponed due to the pandemic.—Kyodo ■

Australian Open finalized 'very soon', says tournament chief

MELBOURNE — The arrangements for next year's Australian Open are close to being finalized, the tournament director said on Tuesday, following a report it could be cancelled over coronavirus difficulties.

Tennis Australia CEO Craig Tiley said details of the event, whose January 18 start date has been the subject of intense speculation, should be settled "very soon".

"We are confident we will be in a position to finalize details for the Australian Open 2021 very soon," Tiley tweeted.

"Everything will require approval and agreement from the Victorian (state) government before it can be confirmed," he added. Victoria's sports minister last week said he expected the year's first Grand Slam to be delayed for one or two weeks. The tournament's fate appears to hinge on when the state government will allow players to arrive, and whether they'll be able to train during their mandatory 14-day quarantine.—AFP ■

France's Frappart first woman to referee men's Champions League game

LAUSANNE — France's Stephanie Frappart will become the first woman to referee a men's Champions League match on Wednesday when Juventus host Dinamo Kiev in Turin, European football's governing body UEFA confirmed.

The 36-year-old has already made history as the first woman to referee in the French top flight, and took charge of the 2019 UEFA Super Cup final between Liverpool and Chelsea.

She also made her Europa League debut in October.

It is the first time that a woman has been assigned to referee a game in Europe's most prestigious club competition.

Italian giants Juventus host Ukrainian side Dinamo in Group G at the Allianz Stadium.

Juventus, second in the group, are already through to the last 16 along with leaders Barcelona, with two games to play.—AFP ■



Stephanie Frappart will become the first woman to referee a men's Champions League match between Juventus and Dynamo Kiev. **PHOTO: CHRISTOPHE SIMON AFP/FILE**

Manchester United's Cavani apologizes for social media post, insists he is not a racist

LONDON — Edinson Cavani apologized on Monday (Nov 30) after his joy at scoring twice for Manchester United against Southampton was dampened by an investigation by the Football Association into a social media post he subsequently deleted.

The 33-year-old Uruguayan striker sent an Instagram post thanking a friend for his congratulations after scoring twice as United came from 2-0 down to win 3-2 on Sunday that included the Spanish

word "negrito" (small black person).

United said the word was clearly used in an affectionate manner and has different connotations in South America.

The former Paris Saint-Germain forward had been informed such terms are viewed as derogatory in Britain and he subsequently deleted the post.

"The message I posted after the match on Sunday was intended as an affectionate greeting to a friend, thanking

him for his congratulations after the game," Cavani said in a statement.

"The last thing I wanted to do was cause offence to anyone. I am completely opposed to racism and deleted the message as soon as it was explained that it can be interpreted differently. I would like to sincerely apologize for this."

The FA issued guidelines in pre-season clamping down on racist and discriminatory language and behaviour, with offences on social media car-

rying a minimum three-game ban.

Manchester City's Bernardo Silva and Dele Alli of Tottenham were both suspended for one match last season after posts that breached the guidelines.

"It is clear to us that there was absolutely no malicious intent behind Edinson's message and he deleted it as soon as he was informed that it could be misconstrued," United added in a club statement.—AFP ■