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SUNDAY SPECIAL



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Sunday, 10 December 2017



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi visits the booth of award winning young entrepreneurs in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Young entrepreneurs are the engines of growth: State Counsellor

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi opened the Entrepreneurs Summit 2017 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with an address in which she encouraged the country's young entrepreneurs to use cutting-edge technology for the development of Myanmar and take advantage of the country's unique location and abundant resources.

The Entrepreneurs Summit 2017, with its theme "Leading Entrepreneurs, Building Economy" was organised by the Myanmar Young Entrepreneurs Association, attracting about 1,000 young entrepreneurs from across the country to discuss policies and initiatives that will support the success of young entrepreneurs in Myanmar.

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New livestock research and development centre to be established

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation said it is working to establish a livestock research and development centre, targeting the sustainable growth of the country's livestock sector.

This comes from the recent coordination meeting of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in Nay Pyi Taw.

Dr Aung Thu, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, said efforts are being made to establish a livestock research and development center under a five-year plan between 2018 and 2023.

The establishment of the new centre is aimed at developing research programmes countrywide, said Dr. Aung Thu who urged project implementers to try their best to meet the ministry's target of livestock sector improvement.

In his speech at the meeting, the Union Minister said the ministry is putting forth continuous efforts to boost the country's productivity of agriculture products, meat and fish in anticipation of healthy exports under its sustainable development plan.

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U Aye Tha Aung meets the residents of Kyaintali and Gwa



Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung meets with local residents at the hall in Gwa Township. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung met local residents at the Hall of Kyaintali Township's General Administration Department yesterday morning and at the Gwa Town Hall in

the afternoon.

During the meetings, the deputy speaker explained Hluttaw affairs and discussed the region's developments.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Asia-Pacific Conference on Water to be broadcast live

THE opening ceremony of the Asia-Pacific Conference on Water will be broadcast live on 11 December by

MRTV News Channel, MRTV Entertainment channel, Skynet Uptodate, and Myanmar Radio.

The conference will commence at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon and the live broadcast will begin at 9am.—MNA ■

International Human Rights Day celebrated

THE Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) celebrated International Human Rights Day in Yangon yesterday with the participation of prominent rights activists.

The ceremony to mark International Human Rights Day, which falls on 10 December, was also attended by the chairman and members of the rights commission, judges, law officers, regional lawmakers, diplomats and representatives from civil societies, international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and local NGOs.

The ceremony was opened with remarks by Yangon Region Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister U Zaw Aye Maung and Chairman of the MNHRC U Win Mra.

Writer Min Khite Soe San spoke about human rights; Ma Hsu Myat Mon, a 10th-grade student, on child rights; U Myat Thu Win, Chairman of Shwe Min Thar Foundation; on rights for the disabled; and Actress Soe Pyay Thazin on women's rights.

Following the ceremony, the MNHRC issued a press release in honour of International Human Rights Day.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) released a statement yesterday in honour of the Interna-



A ceremony to mark MNHRC held in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

tional Human Rights Day. The statement said the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) along with the International Community celebrates this historic occasion of the International Human Rights Day which falls on 10 December 2017.

Regarding the promotional activities, in 2017 the Commission visited 15 townships in the States and Regions to conduct human rights talks. Moreover, human rights workshops were carried out for government officials at Lashio District, East Yangon District, Magwe District and Myitkyina District. The Commission was also able to hold four HR workshops for police officials, two human

rights workshops for women organizations and a workshop on child rights for education department officials. In addition, lectures on human rights were conducted at the National Defense College, Staff College and Army Combat Training Schools. Furthermore, the Commission gave lectures at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar) and Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar). The Commission also conducted lectures on human rights at the Institute of Development in Administration for officials of the General Administration Department.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission has been

handling complaints as part of its human rights protection activities and as of 1 January 2017 up to the present moment the Commission has received a total of 359 complaints which were scrutinized according to the standard operating procedures. Field visits have been conducted as and when necessary. During 2017 the Commission visited prisons and detention centers in Nyaung-U, Myingyan, Sittwe, Buthidaung, Insein, Lashio, Myitkyina, Kyaukphyu, Thandwe, Kalay, Monywa, Keng tung, Mine-Hsat, Hinthada, Thaton, Hsipaw, Myaungmya, Patheingyi, Mandalay (Htonbu), Yemethin, Thayet, Taungoo, Nay Pyi Taw, Myeik, Kawthoung and Thayarwaddy to look into the Human Rights situations and submitted its findings and recommendations to the government. Statements were also issued for the general public. A team from the MNHRC visited Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships from 24 to 29 September 2017 to look into the terrorists attacks that occurred in the townships and issued a statement containing the findings and recommendations.

The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission with the aim of finding possible solution to the Rakhine situation held a Seminar entitled "The Affairs of Rakhine, Challenges and Future Prospects" based

on independent exchange of views on 11 October 2017. The Chairman and Members of the Commission, experienced persons well versed in the affairs of Rakhine State, representatives of local NGOs and interested persons took part in the discussions and the recommendations were submitted to the President. In addition, the Commission held "The Workshop on the Abolition of the Death Penalty" in November 2017 in Nay Pyi Taw with the support of Asia Pacific Forum (APF).

The workshop was attended by Parliamentarians, Senior Government Officials and representatives from Civil Society and Members of the Commission. The workshop recommended to the President to consider the official moratorium on the death penalty since Myanmar has not carried out any execution up to the present moment and which will have positive consequences both externally and internally for Myanmar.

On this auspicious Human Rights Day, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission pledged to carry out the human rights promotion and protection of the citizens in line with the provisions of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law.—Myanmar National Human Rights Commission ■

State Counsellor gives guidance in speech at 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi gave a guideline speech at the opening ceremony of the 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 held yesterday morning at Myanmar International Convention Centre 2 (MICC-II), Nay Pyi Taw. The 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 was organized by the Myanmar Young Entrepreneurs Association (MYEA).

The ceremony was attended by the Chairman of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, Thura U Shwe

Mann, Union Ministers, Union Civil Service Board Chairman, Central Bank of Myanmar Governor, Hluttaw Affairs Committees chairmen, Deputy Ministers, heads of departments, businesspersons, the MYEA Chairman, officials and members, local and foreign experts, young entrepreneurs from states and divisions and invited guests.

2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 was opened with musicians and dancers before State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi gave a speech outlining suggestions and guidelines for

young entrepreneurs.

After the opening ceremony, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with MYEA Chairman and officials in MICC-II guest hall and took commemorative photo with the MYEA Chairman, officials, management committee officials, executives and youths from the summit organising work committees.

Next, the State Counsellor visited the 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 Award winning booths and SME (small and medium enterprise) booths. A total of 43 booths were displayed in 2nd Myanmar Entrepre-

neurship Summit 2017.

The summit continued with remarks by MYEA Chairman U Tun Tun Naing, followed by his discussion on the subject "Leading Entrepreneurs, Building Economy."

Next, panel discussions in forum titled "Evolution of Entrepreneurship in Myanmar," "Growing and Scaling Start-Up," "Solving Social Problems in Myanmar through Market Solutions," and "Exit Strategic for Entrepreneurs" were discussed.

The summit was held with an aim to support Myanmar entrepreneurial businesses, young



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. PHOTO: MNA

entrepreneurs, the successful establishment of businesses and SMEs and the country's economic development.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Outstanding young entrepreneurs encouraged, honoured at 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 in Nay Pyi Taw

A dinner in honor of 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 and an award presentation ceremony was held yesterday 7 p.m. at Myanmar International Convention

Centre 2 (MICC-II), Nay Pyi Taw.

At the dinner Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi and Myanmar Young Entrepreneurs Association (MYEA) Vice

Chairman U Zaw Naing Thein delivered a speeches.

Next MYEA Vice Chairman U Zaw Naing Thein explained about the awards and a video about

the three Myanmar Young Start-Up Award winners was shown.

Afterwards, officials presented awards to three Myanmar Young Entrepreneur Award winners,

three Myanmar Young Social Entrepreneur Award winners and three Myanmar Young Start-Up Awards winners.

The ceremony was attended by business

persons, MYEA chairman, officials, members, local and foreign experts, states and regions entrepreneurs, invited guests and officials. —Myanmar News Agency ■



An official presents the Myanmar Young Social Entrepreneur Award to a winner. PHOTO: MNA



An official presents the Myanmar Young Entrepreneur Award to a winner. PHOTO: MNA

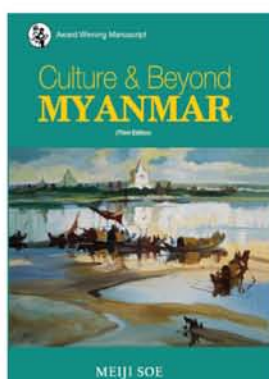


An official presents the Myanmar Young Start Up Award to a winner. PHOTO: MNA

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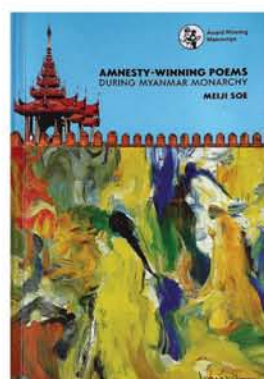


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Old cave discovered in Southern Shan State

THE perceptive powers of a monk led to the discovery of an old cave in a forest near Langkho Township in Southern Shan State on Thursday, officials said.

"The cave was discovered by the sixth sense of Mei Phone Sayadaw, a well-known Buddhist monk of Southern Shan State, and people went on and searched for the cave in a forest, three miles north of Narr Linn Village and they found an old cave," said an official.

The large entrance to the cave was covered with layers of stones. Once inside, the cave was found to be about 25-feet wide, 25-feet high and 30-feet long.

Among those who went to look for the cave in the forest were monks from



Officials and local people receive five precepts from the Mei Phone Sayadaw, and shared the merits gained in an old cave discovered in southern Shan State. **PHOTO: SAI ZAW LATT (LANKHO)**

Lankho Township Sangha Mha Nayaka Committee, army officials, Lankho Police, township

officials, village administrators and villagers.

Officials plan to further ex-

plore the newly found cavern, it is learnt.—Sai Zaw Latt(Lankho) ■

Driver faces charges after road accident

TWO people were injured in a single-car crash after a vehicle overturned on Yangon-Mandalay expressway early Friday morning, according to police.

The accident happened near mile post No. 358/0 on the highway near Ward-2 in Wundwin Township, Mandalay Region, at around 5 am.

Travelling south, the six-wheeled vehicle loaded with 45 barrels of petroleum driven

by Kyaw Myo Hsaing with one other on board went off Wundwin Dam and overturned because the driver lost control of his car, police said.

Both driver and passenger sustained minor injuries and were taken to a nearby hospital.

Police have filed criminal charges against the driver for careless driving under Sections 279 and 337 of the Penal Code.—Ko Ko Aung ■



Overturned vehicle on Yangon-Mandalay highway near Wundwin Township. **PHOTO: KO KO AUNG**

Four arrested for drug possession in Yangon

FOUR people were arrested by police on Saturday after they were in possession of a cache of yaba pills and marijuana, according to a police report.

The four — Nay Myo Win, Zaw Lin Tun, Thiri Shwe and Khine Lay were arrested during a pre-dawn raid on 9 December at around 1 a.m.

Acting on a tip-off, members of an anti-drug squad searched an unregistered house on Kyaukse-in Street in Hmawza Ward, Dala Township in Yangon.

Police found 184 WY brand yaba pills and marijuana weighing 3.66 grams and related equipment to-

talling Ks600,000.

Action is being taken against the suspects under Section 15, 19 (a), 20 (a) and

31 of the existing Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Naing Lin Kyaw (Dala)



Four suspects are seen together with drugs. **PHOTO: NAING LIN KYAW (DALA)**

Police file charges against knife wielder

POLICE have filed charges against a man who was carrying an illegal knife.

Police were patrolling the Ht-one Ai area in Kayin State on 8 December and found a man walking around at midnight. When they searched him, they found a 10-inch long knife in his pocket. The police filed charges against Saw Dar Di, alias Tun Tun Lin, 18, of Hlaing Gabar village, Hpa-An township.

When interrogated, he admitted that he is one of the fugitives who has been charged under section 15/16 (C) the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Laws. He was charged with drugs and weapons offenses.—Min Thu/Tun Tun Htway (Hpa-An)



Flower seller looks at bunches of colourful flowers in the market. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Growers reap healthy profits on sales of Chrysanthemum flowers

GROWERS from Patheingyi Township in Ayeyawady Region said they have reaped handsome prices from the sale of colourful chrysanthemum flowers in the domestic market this season, according to the Myawady Daily.

“Generally, chrysanthemum flowers enter the harvest season in December in the country. Demands for those flowers are high in the local market beginning in the first week of this month,” said U Chit Ko Ko, one of the local planters based in Patheingyi Township, who has been commercially

selling flowers for many years.

According to wholesalers, the price of chrysanthemum flowers have almost doubled in price this year. Growers distributing those flowers to Yangon, Kangyidaung, Yekyi, Athoke, Ngaputaw, Danuphyu, Pantanaw, Kyaunggon and Nyaungdon townships using motorways. However, they use rail transport to send the flowers to Kyankhin, Myanaung and Hinthada.

Currently, a branch of flowers is worth between Ks350 and 400 in the market, which is more than that of the same period

of last year. Based on market demand, the Taiwan species of chrysanthemum flowers is more expensive than the native species, a retailer said.

Three different varieties of chrysanthemum are mainly cultivated in Patheingyi Township, including a Taiwan species obtained from Taunggyi of Shan State, with the request of the township agriculture department.

Growers earned Ks200,000 to 350,000 for a 10 ft x 4 ft plantation two months after cultivation this season, U Chi Ko Ko said.—GNLM ■

Border trade with ITC reaches over Ks27.76 billion

INDIVIDUAL Trading Card (ITC) holders traded goods with an estimated value of Ks27.76 billion from 1st April to 24th November in the current fiscal year, according to statistics from the Commerce Ministry.

Exports worth Ks2.38 billion and imports worth Ks25.38 billion were traded as of 24th November. There are a total of 119 businessmen who received approval for individual trading in fiscal year 2017-2018.

The Trade Department has issued 1,383 cards so far,

with 292 cards from 21st Nov 2012 to 31st March 2013, 261 cards in 2013-2014 FY, 317 cards in 2014-2015 FY, 146 cards in 2015-2016 FY and 248 cards in 2016-2017 FY.

The Myawady border gate had the highest trading value with the use of ITC. Individual trading card holders also conduct trade with neighbouring partners at Tamu, Muse, Tachilek, Lweje, Chinshwehaw, Kanpikete, Kawthoung, Reed, , Mawtaung and Keng Tung checkpoints and Htantalan Township.

The trade values with ITC

were over Ks737million from 21st Nov 2012 to 31st March 2013, over Ks6.6 billion in 2013-2014 FY, over Ks9.3 billion in 2014-2015 FY, over Ks6.4 billion in 2015-2016 and over Ks18.9 billion in 2016-2017 FY respectively.

The aforementioned department issued the ITC with an aim to boosting border trade. A businessman can trade Ks3 million worth of goods a day using ITC, and then, the trade department granted trade value up to Ks15 million a day, which is a five-day-trade-value.—Ko Khant ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း: **"Sunday Special"** အချက်အလက် (၈)
မျက်နှာပေါင်သော The Global New Light of Myanmar
နေ့စဉ်ထုတ် သတင်းစာကို အောက်ပါမြို့များတွင် ဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

Three dead, one hurt in IED explosion in Maungdaw Tsp

"Sunday Special"
အချက်အလက် (၈) မျက်နှာ
ပေါင်သော

နေပြည်တော်
ပြည်သူ့ဆေးရုံကြီးတွင် ရှိနေသော (၇) နေပြည်တော်၊
သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊
စီမံခန့်ခွဲမှုဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၄၁၂၁၁၈

နေပြည်တော်
နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)
ဧည့်သည်များ၊ ခရိုင်လမ်းဆုံ၊ နေပြည်တော်၊
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ရန်ကုန်
The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၀၊
ငါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊
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မန္တလေး
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ရောင်းရင်း၊ မန္တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃၂၇၂၉၊ ၀၂၃၂၇၅၀

တောင်ကြီး
ရုံးကြီးလမ်း၊ သစ်တောရပ်ကွက်၊ တောင်ကြီးမြို့၊
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မကွေး
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မကွေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၃၂၃၇၁၂

ကျိုင်းတုံ
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ကျိုင်းတုံမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၄၂၂၄၉၂

ကလေး
အောင်ဇေယျရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊
ကလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၁၃၃

မြင်ကြီးများ
အမှတ် (၄၁)၊ ရေခဲရပ်ကွက်၊ အောင်ဆန်းလမ်း၊
မြင်ကြီးများ၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၄၂၂၄၆၂

စစ်တွေ
ရမ္မာဝတီလမ်းနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ရိပ်သာလမ်း၊
မီးခတ်ကြီးအနီး၊ မန်ကျည်မြို့ရပ်ကွက်၊ စစ်တွေမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၄၃၂၃၀၆၈

လားရှိုး
ဟူးမွန်ကျေးရွာထိပ်၊ ဟူးမွန်ဆည်ဘယ်ဘက်ခြမ်း၊
(၁၂) ရပ်ကွက်၊ မန်ကျည်မြို့ရပ်ကွက်၊ စစ်တွေမြို့၊
လားရှိုးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၂၂၄၀၆၇

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We thought not only profit for our company but also creating job opportunities for the local people



Ko Ponnya, Recycle Myanmar Founder



Ko Nay Lin Soe, Director of Mingalaba Myanmar Goods Store



Ko Aung Zaw Oo, Managing Director of Aung Naing Thitsar Company



Dr. Aung Myat Lwin, Managing Director of Oriental Century Travels & Tours



Kyaw Swa Myint Htoo, Brand Executive of Asahi Loihein

By A One Soe
Photo: A One Soe

THE 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneur Summit 2017 was held in Myanmar International Convention Centre 2 (MICC-II) yesterday morning. The following are interviews with some of the young entrepreneurs who attended the summit.

Ko Ponnya, Recycle Myanmar Founder

Recycle Myanmar will produce innovative products and provide market service. Since 2013, we produced “trash-for-recycle donation boxes” as Karuna Network to accept donations of recyclable trashes. For example, water bottles, cans and other bottles can be donated at these donation boxes. The money earned from recycling are used to teach children who are unable to attend school.

In order to do this more widely, a civil society beneficial business, Recycle Myanmar, was founded. Recycle Myanmar will produce technical trash collectors. These trash collectors will have up to date computer and electronic technologies. It will create a network of (recyclable) trash collectors and those who barter with (recyclable) trash. There'll be melting factories and municipals. A network that can easily collect (recyclable) trash.

There'll be collection boxes for trash. Once the boxes are full, collectors will collect and make money from selling the trash.

There'll be an option to donate the proceeds to where it is required. Trash collectors can now collect the trash more easily and conveniently. The

neighbourhood will have less trash. The plan is to expand the Recycle Myanmar network to many towns and cities.

For now, investment money is difficult. There are also difficulties in technology. It is not that the current technologies are complex and difficult. The reason we are setting this network is to produce trash boxes that are easy to re-collect. Only with technology can we produce such trash boxes.

There is a need to connect with social organisations, as the proceeds from the trash boxes can be donated. Technology will be used to donate. The present way of municipals collecting trash is outdated. Municipals will be connected to use trash boxes made with modern technology.

Ko Nay Lin Soe, Director of Mingalaba Myanmar Goods Store

Our Mingalaba Myanmar Goods Store has about seven of the ten Myanmar traditional arts. There'll be Myanmar sculpture, paintings, gold works, lacquer ware and silverworks. Latest innovations are handicrafts made from coconut shells and dried gourd. We make many such goods.

There are also art works produced from pebbles from the rivers and streams. For now we are doing it in a small scale. To expand this work would require many experts (handymen-like people) as well as financial investment. Myanmar art works could not depend only on foreign tourists. We also need to depend on local tourists. This work will survive and be sustainable only when there are people who value Myanmar arts.

Ko Aung Zaw Oo, Managing Director, Aung Naing Thitsar Company

The Aung Naing Thitsar Company not only mills rice and exports, but also provides farm inputs such as fertilizers and farm machineries to farmers in an installment system. It had been exporting rice since 2004, and after 2008 it became a rice-specialised company and import and provide seeds and inputs such as machineries in a five-six month deferred payment system by requiring payments only when crops are harvested.

At that time, we will try to enter into European and Russian markets instead of exporting only to Asian and African markets. Now we are entering the eastern European markets. When Europe lifted the sanctions, we were able to export more. Compared to the past, farmers are using farm machineries more nowadays. They now know the ease and convenience of using farm machineries. However, farm machineries are expensive, depending on the quality, and this makes it difficult for farmers to purchase it with cash down. We are providing a financial service for the farmers through an installment payment system. State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneur Summit 2017 in recognition of the youths' endeavours. I'm much satisfied to hear her giving a guideline speech encouraging the youth.

Dr. Aung Myat Lwin, Managing Director, Oriental Century Travels & Tours

Our main work are agri and village-based travel busi-

nesses. In our country, travel & tour businesses are gradually developing. But the problem is we are running out of places to visit, as there are places such as Yangon, Mandalay and Bagan only and there are no new travel destinations. When we think about new travel destinations, we thought not only profit for our company but also creating job opportunities for the local people.

When we started village-based travel businesses, we had discussions with interested people in a village. We explained to them the benefits of this business and they became more interested in joining us. This business was started from that village. We let visitors (both local and foreign) live in villagers' homes. We make the place clean and hygienic. Foods are provided just as in a village setting and not in a restaurant-like setting. Foreign tourists are more interested in this.

Afterwards, we took the visitors to Myinmahti cave and visited four or five Danu villages beside the Myinmahti village. The visitors stay two or three nights. Locals pay for lodging as well as food, and the food is prepared by the housewives themselves, so the locals made money from this.

The villagers there can farm only during the rainy season, so they face difficulties during summer and winter. Water is scarce as it is a mountainous region. That is why our village-based travel business provides additional income for the locals.

To expand this business, we'll need much support from the ministry. Support is in co-operating to provide security to

the travellers. Another thing is to make international travellers aware of such places. We also worry of the effect of international travellers on the local's tradition. We need to make adjustments to both sides.

As Myanmar travel businesses progress, the economy will develop. But the recent events in Rakhine have reduced the number of visitors. If media shows how stable and peaceful it is, it is believed that we'll regain the confidence of the visitors and more will come to visit. Another thing is to increase international direct flights. This is believed to develop the Myanmar tourism sector.

We started the village-based travel business in 2016, and this is the first project. We are trying to make it profitable. There are plans to expand if it is successful. There are approximately 50 foreign visitors per year. This is the first time we are doing this, so we start at 50. Later, we'll increase the number.

Kyaw Swa Myint Htoo, Brand Executive, Asahi Loihein

A new energy drink, Honey Gold, is being produced so that consumers have more choices in beverages. Efforts need to be made in distributing a new product into the market so that the consumers know about it. Advertisements need to be made and sponsorships are provided in events like this. Although we have successful products, a new product needs more effort. Introduction of Honey Gold is still in an infant stage. Therefore, we need to make many people know about it, produce more and sell more. Quality raw materials are imported.

SEE PAGE 7

Make efforts for establishing the culture of entrepreneurship

By Khin Yadana
Photo: Hein Htet Zaw

THE Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit – 2017 was held yesterday at MICC 2 - Myanmar International Convention Center 2 in Nay Pyi Taw. The following are quotes from attendees.

Ko Kaung Nyein Soe, Executive of MYEA

The State Counsellor gave guidance to us in the morning, and we are going to hold four plenary sessions in which we will discuss how entrepreneurs formed in Myanmar, and how to overcome the challenges we are going to face in the future. And then we are going to discuss how to develop entrepreneurship, and the role of CSR, which plays an important role in my country. Everyone, especially youths who are doing business, should know all about it so that they can deal with the obstacles and gain win-win solutions.

The main thing is that they are sure to encounter such obstacles, and will need sufficient time to prepare to face them. Our team aims at supporting our youths, who are all under 45 years, to form the culture of entrepreneurship among them. We can help them financially as well.

U Tin Maung Win, MP, Chairman of Transportation, Communications and Construction

It is very useful to hold this kind of summit and we also celebrated a similar summit last year. Our parliament will support them in any way we can in order to develop entrepreneurship. It is of paramount important to develop ICT technology among the youths, and opportunities are within their reach. I think they should make the best use of their potential and ability.

Ma Su Thazin, MYEA member

Being a member of the Myanmar Entrepreneurship Association, I am in charge of the working committee and international relations. I would like to suggest the youths to join membership and learn from senior businessmen. We can give useful counseling to them so that they can create job opportunities without any difficulty. Our UMFCCI (Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry) is located at 29 Min Ye Kyaw Swar Road, Yangon.

Ma Ohnmar Phyto, member of MYEA

As for me, I would like to develop the tourism sector based on agriculture in our country. And



Ko Kaung Nyein Soe, Executive of MYEA



U Tin Maung Win, MP, Chairman of Transportation, Communications and Construction



Ma Su Thazin, MYEA member



Ma Ohnmar Phyto, member of MYEA



Kyaw San Oo, member of MYEA



Nan Sein Lin Naut, a Matric student

I want to urge them to join in it. Our country is in need of SMEs development and we should set up more industrial zones in order to promote economic standards. The future is in the hands of the youths, and they should find ways and means to overcome the challenges ahead of them.

Kyaw San Oo, member of MYEA

There are three reasons why

I attended this panel session today. The first reason is that I want to listen to the speech delivered by our State Counsellor Daw Aung San Su Kyi; the second, to build social networks or social relations with other people; the third, to deal with youths of today.

Thanks to modern IT technology, we can expand our business circle and launch marketing strategies in line with e-com-

merce, which is useful to the customer.

Nan Sein Lin Naut, a Matric student

Being a young schoolgirl, I have a keen interest in technology, especially Information Technology. My aim in life is to become a chemist who can make new inventions and discoveries in order to serve the interests of our fellow citizens as much as I can.

Young entrepreneurs are the engines of growth: State Counsellor

FROM PAGE-1

“To stand with dignity and strength among the world, Myanmar needs a strong economy, and we must develop the country by combining the power of the youths and economic power,” said the State Counsellor.

She also reiterated the need to promote the intelligence and quality of the citizens and the role of the government in building a sustainable economy.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has also urged regional governments to support entrepreneurs in their regions and states as the Union Government has been encouraging small and medium-sized enterprises as part of efforts for establishing the culture of entrepreneurship in the country.

The State Counsellor also urged the country's entrepreneurs to share their experiences with young entrepreneurs and to carry out innovation.

She also urged the entrepreneurs to make efforts overcoming challenges and make

the best use of the geographical location of Myanmar, which sits between the two highest populated countries in the world of China and India.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi also invited suggestions from the young entrepreneurs to be taken into consideration about the government's plans for creating a good investment environment in the country.

Despite rich land, favourable weather and natural resources, Myanmar is facing challenges in penetrating the regional market, as the country's crops do not meet the required quality due to lack of innovation.

She urged the entrepreneurs to promote the quality of the country's products with the use of innovation to be able to export value-added products rather than raw material.

In her opening speech, the State Counsellor also highlighted the “3 M's” – money, market and mentorship – that would propel Myanmar's young en-

trepreneurs to compete at the regional and international level.

To achieve a strong market, entrepreneurs should not solely rely on the government, but also use their capabilities to find the market through their quality products, said the State Counsellor. State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi also suggested that entrepreneurs who have achieved success in their businesses to build a Mentorship Network to be able to seek advice from successful businessmen and to assist local young entrepreneurs.

In concluding, she urged the young entrepreneurs to try hard to become honourable businesspersons who can conduct responsible businesses without seeking just profits.

A number of Entrepreneurship Awards were presented at the Summit to outstanding young entrepreneurs from across the nation.—Myanmar News Agency

We thought not only profit for our company but also creating job opportunities for the local people

FROM PAGE 6

Nyein Nyein Ei (Chief Executive Officer, United Myanmar & Asia Co., Ltd.)

Our company is United Myanmar & Asia Co., Ltd. We use Myanmar products and natural medicinal products to produce “Dnae” soap, body lotion, facial mist, roll-on deodorant, general use soap, hand wash, water-free hand cleaner, consumer and beauty products.

Myanmar has many natural products. We can produce many consumer and beauty products from two to three natural products that are available in abundance.

Our “Dnae” brand beauty products were started to be produced in March. By August and September, it is becoming well established. Because people



Nyein Nyein Ei (Chief Executive Officer, United Myanmar & Asia Co., Ltd.)

became weary of chemical products and prefer natural products.

We use online marketing for natural products. We are also selling in supermarkets. As the products are produced in Myanmar, we are trying to make it as cheap as possible for locals to afford.

Practical work that will withstand external pressures

HAD someone lived in a poor condition, another person living in a better condition seldom gives favor or priority to the former. Likewise, those living in crème de la crème status tend to act practices of segregation and bullying over their inferiors, in addition to lack of giving favor or priority. And, some conceived of greed, anger, hatred and false ideas excessively in them would like to influence and put pressure over those with different views and ideas, on the assumption that the latter are their foes.

Here, we would like to say that we are facing such kinds of people presently. Those who regard persons belonging to different beliefs as enemies are making aggressive efforts to openly interfere in our country's internal affairs.

Especially, on the pretext of human rights concerning affairs in the Rakhine State a group of vested interests are repeatedly making false allegations over Myanmar with great momentum. Furthermore, it has been found that they made strenuous efforts to interfere in our country's internal affairs, by threatening to launch Sanctions, Red Alert and R2P which can cause great harm to our country.

No matter how much efforts they have made to cause mischief to Myanmar, if our government has used such a mix of public and private endeavors, that is, if PPP [Public, Private Partnership] the evil efforts of external elements will be successfully removed. Accordingly, all the citizens of Myanmar must cooperate in unity and prove it with our performances.

The People, the Government and the Tatmadaw are the three main pillars of strength in Myanmar. So, we will prove with our practical cooperation to overcome external dangers and pressures.

At the same time, we are not neglecting our efforts to bring peace, stability and development to other Regions and States.

In making efforts for creating a stable and peaceful environment in Rakhine State we are working hard to bring about good opportunities of multi-sectoral development such as raising the standard of living, improving the economy, ensuring security, creating job opportunities, vocational training, education and health, it may be seen that the PPP Concept is practically being implemented with great enthusiasm and determination. Being the most important stage as it is, Rakhine State Affair will be constantly monitored by the strength of PPP.

In building up a democratic nation, it is not strange for us to meet challenges while implementing development tasks with great momentum.

No matter how many challenges we may have to encounter, unity is of great importance. Provided that we collectively cooperate hand in hand with each other, any obstacles and challenges can be overcome, thus pressure upon us per se will vanish. Then, we will reach our destination for sure.

The People, the Government and the Tatmadaw are the three main pillars of strength in Myanmar. So, we will prove with our practical cooperation to overcome external dangers and pressures. ■

Remove the stigma of drug use, decriminalize possession for personal use

By Anand Grover

PEOPLE who use drugs or possess small quantities for personal use engage in a non-violent act that potentially harms only themselves. Yet out of fear and a limited understanding of the complex nature of drug use and dependence, Myanmar has for many years taken a punitive approach to drug control policy, subjecting those who consume drugs to long prison sentences, compulsory registration and mandatory treatment. Farmers who grow opium poppy for their livelihood are also given harsh penalties, while major traffickers remain largely unaffected.

The Narcotics Act reform as an opportunity for better outcomes:

In recent years, however, the authorities in Myanmar have made laudable efforts to review their approach, and address drug use as a health concern, in particular as part of the response to HIV viral hepatitis, and other blood-borne diseases. A draft bill of the proposed revision, adopted in the Upper House of Parliament this summer, included the removal of compulsory registration of people who use drugs, the replacement of prison penalties for drug use with drug treatment and community service, and the delivery of harm reduction services in programming. These constitute important steps towards a more people- and health-centered approach. The Global Commission has long advocated for such an approach, which overwhelming evidence shows is a more effective pathway toward reducing not only the potential harms caused by drugs but also those caused by repressive policies to people, communities and society as a whole, and the right of all citizens to health and dignity.

The draft bill also comprises an exemption from prison for people who possessed small quantities of drugs for personal use. This exemption for possession, however, was removed when the bill was discussed in the Upper House in August, even though using drugs necessarily involves possessing at least some amount of them and carrying the paraphernalia to prepare them. This is worrying, since continuing to



A farmer works in the opium field. PHOTO: REUTERS

criminalize possession for personal use, as well as preparatory acts and paraphernalia, perpetuates a model of punishment as the “best way” to address the presence of drugs in society, which needs to be reconsidered.

Fear appears to have trumped fact and reason – the fear that drug dealing and trafficking would increase if harsh criminal sanctions were not imposed for possession. Yet criminalization has not proved effective in curbing either the supply of or demand for drugs, as shown by ever increasing prison sentences since Myanmar adopted its first Narcotic Law in 1974. The decision to remove the exemption for possession therefore directly contradicts the main objective of the reform, since any perceived for such an approach, which overwhelming evidence shows is a more effective pathway toward reducing not only the potential harms caused by drugs but also those caused by repressive policies to people, communities and society as a whole, and the right of all citizens to health and dignity.



A man harvests opium at a field. PHOTO: REUTERS

around the world shows that prisons deter access to health services for people who use drugs, fuel more risky drug use practices leading to infectious diseases and overdoses, and result in loss of job opportunities, housing and other social needs.

Wrong perceptions lead to the inhumane management of drugs

The issue at stake is the perception of drugs and people who use drugs, and people who are dependent on them, which remains based on prejudice and dogma. Drugs and dependence are not an “evil” that must be eradicated. They are substances with psychoactive properties that can be used for cultural, recreational or medical uses. Indeed, several drugs – cannabis, opium and kratom – were traditionally used and accepted in many countries in Southeast Asia for centuries.

Likewise, people who are de-

pendent on drugs are not selfish individuals, who only care about the immediate gratification of their desires, and who lack the willpower to seek treatment when they develop problematic use. Dependence is, in fact, a medical condition characterized by the compulsive need for drugs regardless of the consequences whereby the person requires a substance to function, much like diabetes. Yet people who use drugs as well as those who developed a dependency have been regularly arrested, interrogated, and shamed in public—even beaten to death. Drugs have been demonized, rather than being addressed from an evidence-based point of view.

Towards a health-centered approach

What is required to overcome this fear of drugs and the stigma and discrimination of people who use them is an approach that offers the prospect of a safer and healthier society. Not a “drug-free society” but a society free, as much as possible, of the harms associated with drugs, including those caused by criminalizing drug use and possession. Such a health-centered approach to drug control policy means treating people who are dependent on drugs as patients not criminals. It entails providing harm reduction measures, such as needle and syringe exchange programs, and treatment services, such as opioid substitution therapy, which can help empower them. There is ample evidence in other

countries around the world that such measures are effective in reducing the harms associated with problematic drug use and have huge benefits for overall public health and safety.

To be viable, however, these measures must be taken on board in the law and widely implemented. There are too few methadone programs dispensed by hospitals and some harm reduction services in Myanmar. But many communities, out of fear and beliefs misguided by 50 years of large scale prohibition-related propaganda, reject these services. The primary misconception is that they promote drug use. In fact, where they have been implemented elsewhere there has been no increase in drug use—and a substantial decrease in drug-related petty crime.

Also, treatment must be offered on a voluntary basis, and people who are dependent on drugs must be able to access health services without fear of legal coercion. This means pursuing reforms that maintain the original objective of the proposed revision in Myanmar to effectively decriminalize the use and possession of drugs, and eliminate mandatory treatment and penalties for possession. This also means that people who use drugs without developing dependency need to be left out of the criminal and the medical responses, since they do not have any specific need to address and exercise effective control over their use.

Overwhelming evidence elsewhere has proven that de-

criminalization does not increase drug use and has huge social and economic benefits. These include a better use of law enforcement resources and direct savings for the criminal justice system, reduced prison populations which represents a major challenge in Myanmar, and better public health outcomes.

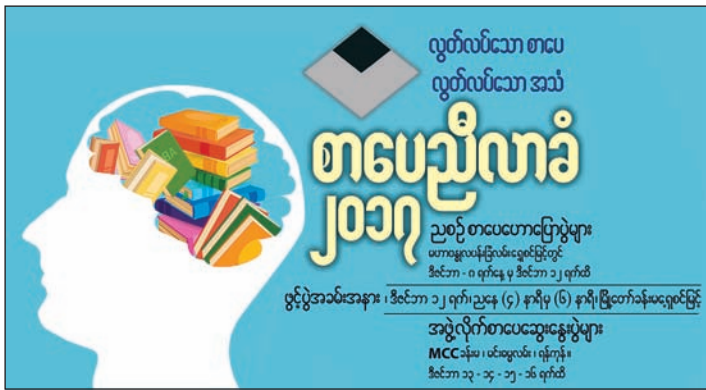
Decriminalization as a path to set trust between the state and the citizens

It is therefore essential that when the revision of the law is discussed in the Lower House, evidence replaces fear and ideology, that the full complexity of the issue of drug use be understood, that the exemption for the possession of small quantities of drugs be reinstated, and that the voluntary nature of treatment be clearly emphasized.

Only in this way can the authorities build an effective drug control framework that respects the dignity and the right to health of all citizens, including people who use drugs, and that allows for a trustful and peaceful relationship between the state and the citizens.

My fellow Global Commissioner, Ruth Dreifuss, former President of Switzerland, visited Myanmar in April this year. She met with several policy makers including State Counsellor, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. She was also impressed by the quality and dynamism of civil society groups calling for drug policy reforms based in human rights and protective of public health, from the locally based “drug policy advocacy group”, to opium farmers in border states or networks of people who use drugs. She asked all these stakeholders, state representatives and civil society, to let the evidence be examined and seriously considered. While the response to drug trafficking is a transnational issue, the health, well-being and safety of the citizens are a national responsibility for the state and best practices from other countries are a compass to guide Myanmar authorities in their reform. ■

By Anand Grover, member of the Global Commission on Drug Policy and former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to health, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India



UN calls for greater integration of macroeconomic assessment, poverty reduction policies and strategies to finance sustainable development in Asia-Pacific

THE Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development closed today at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) headquarters in Bangkok with a call for countries to take a more integrated approach towards macroeconomic assessment, poverty reduction policies, and financing for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Opened by United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, the Committee gathered 120 policymakers from 32 countries including representatives from finance and planning ministries, academia, the private sector and civil society.

“Growth must be inclusive, equitable and sustainable, underpinned by policy measures fostering the nexus between economic, social and environmental dimensions, to reduce poverty in all its forms and enhance inclusiveness,” she said. “Sustaining long-term and quality economic growth is critical to promote inclusive and sustainable development. Macroeconomic and financial stability is a prerequisite for sustainable development but needs to be accompanied by an enabling policy environment that not only incentivizes private investment but also enhances avenues and opportunities for sustainable investment.” Dr. Akhtar added, “Fiscal support for SDGs cannot be feasible unless accompanied by measures to fully tap the tax potential of economies, while reorienting tax policies to promote equity and efficient investments. Expenditure reprioritization and efficiency is critical to direct spending for SDGs implementation, including diverting resources for enhancing social protection options, while effective debt management is critical to ensure the durability of fiscal space.”

As challenges faced by the region are more severe in countries with special needs, the Committee emphasized the importance of continued assistance and capacity building to the poorest countries in their efforts to graduate from the least-developed country designation, to landlocked countries in overcoming their structural challenges, and to small island developing states in addressing their vulnerabilities. The Committee underlined the importance of sustainable fiscal positions that can make enough fiscal space, both through public resource mobilization and private sector finance, to undertake the investments required to reduce poverty and inequality and achieve the SDGs. The challenge is particularly important in the infrastructure sector. At around \$26 trillion over the next 13 years, the demand for sustainable infrastructure and its financing in Asia and the Pacific is immense. —ESCAP ■

Panel discussions in 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017

AT the 2nd Myanmar Entrepreneurship Summit 2017, successful and well-known entrepreneurs from Myanmar and abroad shared their views and experiences in business management, financial management, marketing and corporate social responsibility in business to young entrepreneurs through four panel discussions.

U Ye Min Oo of Grand National Capital Company Limited moderated the first panel discussion titled "Evolution of Entrepreneurship in Myanmar" The

panelists were Tun Commercial Bank, MGS Group of Companies and Myanmar Consolidated Media (Myanmar Times) Chairman U Thein Tun, Loi Hein Group of Companies (Alpine Drinking Water, Shark, M-150) and Yadanarbon Football Club Chairman Dr. Sai Sam Htun, Dagon Group of Companies and Myanmar SEZ Holdings Limited Chairman U Win Aung and Zeya & Associates Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO) U Zeya Thura Mon. They shared and discussed the transformation of



U Thein Tun, Dr Sai Sam Htun, U Win Aung and U Zeya Thura Mon attend the first panel discussion moderated by U Ye Min Oo.



Daw Mi Mi Myo Win was the moderator for the third panel discussion and the panelists Mr. Martin Pun, Mr. Jonathan Wong, Mr. Peter Brimble and Daw Hla Hla Win. **PHOTO: MNA**



Panelists U Aung Moe Kyaw, U Kyaw Myo Tun, Mr. Rudolf Gildemeister and Mr. AzeemAzimuddin and Dr. Aung Thura was moderated for the fourth panel discussion. **PHOTO: MNA**



A second panel discussion titled "Growing and Scaling Start-Up" was moderated by Dr. Tun Thura Thet and the panelists U Wai Yan Lin, U Nay Aung, Mr. Sahib Anandsongvit. **PHOTO: MNA**

entrepreneurship works during the transition from one era to another and innovations made to overcome difficulties.

The second panel discussion titled "Growing and Scaling Start-Up" was moderated by Myanmar Information Technology (MIT) founder and CEO Dr. Tun Thura Thet with the panelists Myanmar Cars DB CEO U Wai Yan Lin, Oway Group CEO U Nay Aung, and successful Thai digital business Seekster's CEO Mr. Sahib Anandsongvit, who discussed and guided on expanding starts-up rapidly through new technology, good foundations and major inputs

that are required.

Daw Mi Mi Myo Win, who served for 17 years as British Council's Head of Programmes, was the moderator for the third panel discussion titled "Solving Social Problems in Myanmar through Market Solutions". The panelists were Mr. Martin Pun, Vice Chairman of Serge Pun and Associates and corporate social responsibility head of Yoma Strategic Holdings, Chief of Technology and Innovation at United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Mr. Jonathan Wong, DaNa Facility Team Leader Peter Brimble and 360 Ed founder

Daw Hla Hla Win.

Myanmar Young Entrepreneurs Association Vice Chairman and Thura Swiss Company Limited CEO Dr. Aung Thura was the moderator for the fourth panel discussion titled "Exit Strategies for Entrepreneurs", and the panelists were Myanmar Distillery Company (Grand Royal) Chairman U Aung Moe Kyaw, Myanmar Pinnacle founder and financial advisor U Kyaw Myo Tun, managing partner Mr. Rudolf Gildemeister of a private equity firm Golden Rock and AYA Bank Chief Financial Officer Mr. Azeem Azimuddin.—Myanmar News Agency ■

New livestock research and development centre to be established

FROM PAGE-1

As part of the drug elimination scheme, he said creating livelihood opportunities for residents in project areas as a national duty is needed.

According to official statistics, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department produced 1.2 billion viss of meat (a

viss is equivalent to approximately 1.63 kg), over one billion viss of milk and 8.4 billion viss of eggs between April and November of this year.

The livestock manufacturing sector achieved up to 67.32 per cent of its target this FY, said an official of the aforementioned department, adding that the department also distribut-

ed 16.647 million vaccinations across the nation as part of its plan to protect farm animals from infectious diseases.

A draft policy and procedures for sustainable development of the livestock sector has already been submitted to respective departments. In addition, 14 projects on development of the sector have

currently been implemented by the department with the aid of international countries.

According to the scheme to increase the number of working animals, a total of 27,954 cattle were artificially inseminated, while another 118,836 became pregnancy naturally.

Collaborative efforts are being made between the Agri-

culture, Livestock and Irrigation Ministry and its development partners to carry out a wide range of projects, including beekeeping, distribution of veterinary drugs, animal population surveys and prevention against animal diseases such as seasonal flu, rabies, and foot-and-mouth disease.—Myanmar News Agency ■

UK foreign minister arrives in Iran to lobby for jailed aid worker

DUBAI — British foreign minister Boris Johnson arrived on Saturday in Iran, where he is expected to lobby his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif for the release of jailed Iranian-British aid worker Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe.

The visit is only the third by a British foreign minister to Iran in the last 14 years, and takes place against a complex backdrop of historical, regional and bilateral tensions.

Johnson will also meet President Hassan Rouhani, Ali Shamkhani, secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, and other officials, the state news agency IRNA said on Saturday in its report on the visit.

Johnson and Iranian officials will discuss bilateral relations, including banking and economic ties, as well as regional issues and international developments,



Iranian-British aid worker Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe is seen in an undated photograph handed out by her family. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

IRNA added.

Johnson has vowed to leave "no stone unturned" in Britain's efforts to free Zaghari-Ratcliffe, a project manager with the Thomson Reuters Foundation, who was

sentenced to five years in prison after being convicted by an Iranian court of plotting to overthrow the clerical establishment. She denies the charges.

"The Foreign Secretary will

urge the Iranians to release dual nationals where there are humanitarian grounds to do so," a foreign office spokesman said earlier.

Zaghari-Ratcliffe is not the only dual national being held in Iran, but has become the most high-profile case. Johnson said on 1 November that she had been teaching people journalism before her arrest in April 2016, in remarks critics said could have prompted Iran to extend her sentence. The Thomson Reuters Foundation, a charity organisation that is independent of Thomson Reuters and operates independently of Reuters News, said Zaghari-Ratcliffe had been on holiday and had not been teaching journalism in Iran.

Johnson has since apologised for any distress his comments may have caused and said that she was in Iran on holiday.

Zaghari-Ratcliffe has been told she will appear in court on 10 December, her husband Richard has said.

The visit will test Johnson's ability to navigate a political landscape littered with potential pitfalls. Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution turned it into a pariah state for most of the West and many Middle Eastern neighbours.

International sanctions have only recently been lifted as part of a multilateral nuclear deal to curb Iran's disputed uranium enrichment programme. That deal is under threat after US President Donald Trump decided to decertify Iran's compliance with the terms of the agreement.

Britain has voiced its continued support for the nuclear deal but is one of a number of Western powers voicing concerns about Tehran's "destabilising" influence in the region.—Reuters ■

Zimbabwe names diplomat Isaac Moyo as top spy

HARARE — Zimbabwe has named a former diplomat as the head of its intelligence agency, state-owned newspaper The Herald said on Saturday.

Isaac Moyo, who was serving as an ambassador to neighbouring South Africa and Le-

sotho, replaces retired army general Happyton Bonyongwe, the paper quoted chief secretary to the president, Misheck Sibanda, as saying.

No one was immediately available to comment in President Emmerson Mnangagwa's

office. The Herald is a mouthpiece for the government.

Moyo takes over a domestic spy network, the Central Intelligence Organization, that permeates every institution and section of society and has been used by former President Robert

Mugabe to stay in power.

He has served as a member of the African Union's Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA), intelligence provider to the union's 55 states.

Mnangagwa, who was

sworn in two weeks ago in the wake of the de facto military coup that ended Mugabe's 37-year rule, has been ringing in changes in his administration including appointing leading military officials to top posts in his cabinet.—Reuters ■

Iraq describes lifting oil-for-food sanction as success to Iraqi diplomacy

BAGHDAD — Iraq hailed on Saturday the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolution that lifted the sanctions of Oil-For-Food Programme as a success to the diplomacy of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry.

A statement by the spokesman of the foreign ministry said that "a series of diplomatic successes achieved by the Iraqi Foreign Ministry has culminated in the issuance of a resolution of the UNSC" which lifted the sanction of the Oil-For-Food programme that allowed using force against Iraq if not fully complying with the UN severe sanctions.

After its meeting on Friday morning, the UNSC issued a statement, saying that the council members had adopted resolution 2390 (2017) unani-

mously after "all the measures imposed in its resolutions 1958 (2010) and 2335 (2016) pursuant to Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations in relation to the Iraq Oil-For-Food Programme had been fully implemented."

Iraq has been under UN sanctions after the former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein invaded neighbouring Kuwait in August 1990, but the severe sanction created sufferings for the Iraqi civilians, pushing the UNSC to adopt the Oil-for-Food Programme in 1995 which allowed Iraq to sell oil on the world market in exchange for food, medicine, and other humanitarian needs for ordinary Iraqi citizens without allowing Iraq to boost its military capabilities.—Xinhua ■

In push for Yemen aid, US warned Saudis of threats in Congress

WASHINGTON — The United States has warned Saudi Arabia that concern in Congress over the humanitarian situation in Yemen could constrain US assistance, as it pushed Riyadh to allow greater access for humanitarian aid, a US official said on Friday.

The Saudi-led military coalition fighting the Iran-aligned armed Houthi movement in Yemen's civil war started a blockade of ports a month ago after Saudi Arabia intercepted a missile fired towards its capital Riyadh from Yemen. Although the blockade later eased, Yemen's situation has remained dire. About 8 million people are on the brink of famine with outbreaks of cholera and diphtheria.

That has led the White House to take the rare step of issuing two written statements in a week on Yemen, including one

on Friday calling on the Saudi-led coalition to help facilitate the free flow of humanitarian aid and critical goods, like fuel.

"I think there has just been mounting concern over the continued humanitarian conditions in Yemen, and while we have seen progress, we haven't seen enough," said a senior Trump administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"We want to see more in the coming weeks." The White House also called on the Houthis to allow food, medicine and fuel to be distributed and accused them of political repression and brutality.

The Yemen war's heavy toll on civilians has long been a sore point with members of Congress, triggering threats to block US assistance to the Saudi-led coalition. That includes US refuelling of coalition jets and the provision

of limited US intelligence support.

Senator Chris Murphy, a Democrat from Connecticut and longtime critic of US support for the Yemen campaign, cheered Trump's push for humanitarian aid this week. But in the same breath, he warned about US assistance to the Saudis.

"The Trump administration must continue to make clear to Saudi Arabia that the US will not support a campaign that intentionally starves civilians into submission," Murphy said.

Trump administration officials have underscored those concerns in Congress to Riyadh.

"We wanted to be very clear with Saudi officials that the political environment here could constrain us if steps aren't taken to ease humanitarian conditions in Yemen," the official said.—Reuters ■

Russia excludes rail-mobile ICBM system from armament, focuses on Sarmat missile

MOSCOW — The work on the Barguzin rail-mobile ballistic missile system has been excluded from Russia's new state armament plan for 2018-2027 due to lack of financing, a source in the Russian defence ministry told TASS recently.

Instead, Russia has decided to focus on developing Sarmat and Rubezh intercontinental ballistic missiles, the source said.

As the Russian daily Rossiyskaya Gazeta reported earlier, the issue of developing new-generation missile-carrying trains has been closed at least for the near future. As the source told TASS, the Barguzin project had been put on hold since the autumn of last year and the pop-up tests of the Yars missile from the Plesetsk cosmodrome in north Russia were the last work carried out under this programme.

"The rail-mobile ICBM system will also be excluded from the new state armament programme through 2027 over a shortage of financing; there are no sufficient funds to finance all missile programmes for Russia's Strategic Missile Force and Russia has sacrificed the Barguzin project for the time being for the



RS-24 Yars ballistic missile systems. PHOTO: TASS

sake of the Sarmat and the RS-26 Rubezh ICBMs included in the new state programme," the source said.

Another source in the defence industry told TASS in May 2016 that the design documentation for the Barguzin project was ready and work had started to create the system's individual elements. It was planned at that time that a new 13th missile divi-

sion comprising five regiments armed with Barguzin rail-mobile ICBM complexes would become operational in Russia's Strategic Missile Force in the early 2020s. Barguzin, Sarmat and Rubezh ICBMs

The development of the Barguzin rail-mobile ballistic missile complex began in 2013 on instructions from Russian President Vladimir Putin. Each complex

was expected to comprise six launchers of Yars solid propellant missiles each containing four independently targetable warheads. The Yars ICBM weighs 50 tonnes and with its length of 22.5 metres it easily fits into a 24-metre rail car designed to carry 60 tonnes of cargoes. One such train was equaled to a regiment and a total of five such regiments consolidated into a division were

planned to be operational. Simultaneously, work began to develop the Sarmat silo-based heavy liquid propellant intercontinental ballistic missile intended to replace the operational R-36M2 Voyevoda missile. Its payload will reach 10 tonnes compared to 8.75 tonnes carried by its predecessor. As Russian Deputy Defence Minister Yuri Borisov said earlier, the first pop-up tests of the Sarmat missile should begin until the end of 2017. According to the deputy defence minister, this missile will be so powerful that it will be able to fly towards its targets both through the North and South Poles and will therefore have a practically global firing range. At about that time, work was launched to develop the RS-26 Rubezh mobile ground-based missile platform derived from the RS-24 Yars project with new targetable warheads for breaking through anti-missile defence. In experts' estimates, the system has a maximum range of 12,000 km but can be launched against targets at a range of 2,000-6,000 km (which, as the United States claims, violates the INF Treaty). The missile was accepted for service in late 2016.—Tass ■

Firefighters race to contain California wildfires as winds set to strengthen

VENTURA, (California) — Firefighters in Southern California were under pressure on Saturday to contain six raging wildfires, which have destroyed hundreds of buildings and forced tens of thousands of people to flee, before fierce winds are expected to strengthen again.

Forecasters predict wind gusts to increase in intensity by Saturday night, challenging the 8,700 firefighters who have been battling the fast-moving blazes for five days from the San Diego area up the Pacific Coast to Santa Barbara County. The fires killed at least one person, destroyed 500 structures, hurt six people and injured four firefighters. The strengthening winds "potentially put the fires that are currently burning at risk of spreading," said Lynne Tolmachoff, spokeswoman for California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. "Firefighters have been taking advantage of the past 24 hours to



A US military aircraft drops fire retardant on the Thomas Fire, a wildfire in Fillmore, California, US on 8 December, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

try to get containment lines and strengthen them so that does not happen." At the peak, about

212,000 people were forced to flee their homes. Evacuation orders were lifted in some areas, wel-

come news for many in shelters waiting to see if their homes survived. California governor Jerry

Brown on Saturday will meet with residents affected by the fires and tour the wildfire damage in Ventura County northwest of Los Angeles, where the largest of the blazes, the Thomas Fire has charred 143,000 acres (57,870 hectares) and destroyed 476 structures.

"We're keeping our fellow neighbors and Californians in our hearts and minds. We're going to recover," he said on Twitter on Friday.

A 70-year-old woman died in a car crash on Wednesday after smoke inhalation and burns along an evacuation route in Santa Paula, the Ventura County Star newspaper reported, citing medical examiner Christopher Young.

More than 3,800 firefighters from as far away as Portland, Oregon, and Nevada, battled against the Thomas Fire which was 10 per cent contained on Friday, up from 5 per cent on Thursday.—Reuters ■

Indians vote in first stage of election seen as acid test for Modi

SURENDRANAGAR, (India) — Tens of thousands of Indians voted in the first stage of assembly elections in the western state of Gujarat on Saturday, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi faces his toughest electoral test since coming to power with a landslide victory in 2014.

Modi has himself led the campaign to ensure that his Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) retains power in his home state, as a combined opposition mounted the biggest challenge ahead of the general election in 2019.

Three big polls carried out in the run-up to the vote on Saturday and next week have predicted a victory for BJP but with a greatly reduced majority.

Voters started turning up early in the morning and some had to wait for

about 15 minutes due to a malfunction in the electronic voting machine.

In the first few hours, more than 15 per cent of voters in Surendranagar district cast their ballot, according to state government officials.

An ABP-CDS poll this week gave the BJP 91-99 seats in the 182-member state house and the main opposition Congress 78-86, suggesting a close fight. To win, a party needs 92 seats.

The surveys have often gone wrong, though, and Modi himself remains far more popular across the country than his rivals, including Rahul Gandhi who is leading the Congress charge to weaken Modi in his home base.

Votes from the election will be counted on 18 December and the results announced the same day.



A policeman checks identity papers of women as they arrive to cast their votes at a polling station during the first phase of Gujarat state assembly election in Panshina village of Surendranagar district on 9 December, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

In the first stage of state assembly elections on Saturday, 977 candidates are trying their luck in 89 constituencies

spread across 19 districts of Gujarat, according to the Election Commission. More than 21 million people will vote during the

first stage of the election on Saturday.

Modi has thrown himself into the campaign, addressing dozens of rallies

over the past month, saying he alone could deliver on development.

Gujarati businesses, which form the core of Modi's support base, have complained that the Goods and Services Tax introduced this year and late last year's shock move to abolish 500 and 1,000 rupee bank notes, accounting for 86 per cent of cash in circulation, aggravated already tough economic conditions.

Hindu-majority Gujarat is one of India's richest and fastest growing states but also one of its most communally divided. About 1,000 people, mostly Muslims, were killed after a wave of riots rocked Gujarat in 2002, when Modi was chief minister. A Supreme Court investigation found no case against Modi, who denied any wrongdoing.—Reuters ■

China warns of imminent attacks by “terrorists” in Pakistan

BELJING — China on Friday warned its nationals in Pakistan of plans for a series of imminent “terrorist attacks” on Chinese targets there, an unusual alert as it pours funds into infrastructure projects into a country plagued by militancy.

Thousands of Chinese workers have gone to Pakistan following Beijing's pledge to spend \$57 billion there on projects in President Xi Jinping's signature “Belt and Road” development plan, which aims to link China with the Middle East and Europe.

Protecting employees of Chinese companies, as well as individual entrepreneurs who have followed the investment wave along what is known as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, has been a concern for Chinese officials.

“It is understood that terrorists plan in the near term to launch a series of attacks against Chinese organizations and personnel

in Pakistan,” the Chinese embassy in Pakistan said in a statement on its website.

The embassy warned all “Chinese-invested organizations and Chinese citizens to increase security awareness, strengthen internal precautions, reduce trips outside as much as possible, and avoid crowded public spaces”.

It also asked Chinese nationals to cooperate with Pakistan's police and the military, and to alert the embassy in the event of an emergency.

It did not give any further details.

Pakistan's foreign ministry could not be reached immediately for comment.

China has long worried about disaffected members of its Uighur Muslim minority in its far western region of Xinjiang linking up with militants in Pakistan and Afghanistan.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.12.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO (163)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO (163) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.12.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV RATANA THIDA VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV RATANA THIDA VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.12.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC DHAKA VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC DHAKA VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.12.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT
(S'PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

More 'Big Little Lies' on its way to television



Cast members (L-R) Laura Dern, Nicole Kidman, Shailene Woodley, Zoe Kravitz and Reese Witherspoon pose at the premiere of the HBO television series "Big Little Lies" in Los Angeles, California US on 7 February, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LOS ANGELES — "Big Little Lies," the Emmy-winning drama starring Reese Witherspoon and Nicole Kidman, is returning for a second season, HBO announced on Friday, with most of the cast expected to return.

Kidman said the decision to make a second series was "inspired by the overwhelming response by audiences around the world."

"I'm so grateful to have this opportunity to keep exploring these female characters and make this series with my friends," she added in a statement.

The dark female-driven drama centring on a murder mystery was released in February as a limited series based on the novel of the same name by Liane Moriarty.

But it proved a huge hit for HBO with an average 7 million

viewers per episode and won eight Emmys in September, including a best actress trophy for Kidman.

HBO did not announce a broadcast date for the second season and gave little details of the plot except to say that David E. Kelley had written seven scripts based on a new story by Moriarty.

The cable network said the second series "will explore the malignancy of lies, the durability of friendships, the fragility of marriage and, of course, the vicious ferocity of sound parenting."

Kidman and Witherspoon, who both served as executive producers, will reprise their roles. HBO said that "most of the cast," which also included Laura Dern, Shailene Woodley and Zoe Kravitz, are expected to return.—Reuters ■

JK Rowling defends Johnny Depp casting in next 'Fantastic Beasts'

LOS ANGELES — "Harry Potter" author JK Rowling on Thursday defended the decision to cast Johnny Depp in the next "Fantastic Beasts" movie after a backlash from fans unhappy about the circumstances of the actor's recent divorce.

In a statement on her personal website, Rowling said filmmakers had considered recasting the role of villain Gellert Grindelwald for "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald," the sequel to 2016's "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them".

But she said the circumstances of Depp's 2016 divorce from actress Amber Heard were private and should be respected.

The Warner Bros movie, due to be released in November 2018, is the second of a planned five movie spinoff franchise from the blockbuster "Harry Potter" films.

"'Harry Potter' fans had legitimate questions and concerns about our choice to continue with Johnny Depp in the role," Rowling wrote.

"The agreements that have been put in place to protect the privacy of two people, both of whom have expressed a desire to get on with their lives, must



Writer JK Rowling. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

be respected.

"The filmmakers and I are not only comfortable sticking with our original casting, but genuinely happy to have Johnny playing a major character in the movies," Rowling said.

Depp's marriage to Heard ended in divorce amid bitter allegations of domestic abuse and blackmail.

After reaching a private settlement in August 2016, the couple issued a joint statement saying their relationship was "intensely passionate and at times volatile but always bound

by love," and that there was "never any intent of physical or emotional harm."

Warner Bros said in a statement on Thursday that it supported the decision to keep Depp. Director David Yates and producer David Heyman also said in a joint statement that while recognizing "the magnitude of the issues raised" they stood by the decision to cast Depp.

Depp's representatives did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Thursday.—Reuters ■

'X-Men' film director Bryan Singer sued for alleged sexual assault

LOS ANGELES — Brian Singer, the director of the film series "X-Men", has been sued for allegedly sexually assaulting a 17-year-old boy in 2003, according to a lawsuit filed in King County Superior Court in Washington state.

Singer has denied the accusation. The lawsuit, filed on Thursday on behalf of a man named Cesar Sanchez-Guzman, said the alleged assault took place in the Seattle area at a party aboard a private yacht at which alcohol was served, according to court documents. In the lawsuit, Sanchez-Guzman alleged that Singer was a guest at the party and took him on a tour of the yacht and sexually assaulted him. The lawsuit charges Singer with sexual assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress and sexual exploitation of children.

Singer's spokesman, Andrew Brettler, said the allegations were false, and this case would fail like another case brought against Singer in 2014 did.

"Bryan categorically denies these allegations and will

vehemently defend this lawsuit to the very end," Brettler said in an email. Reuters was unable to independently confirm any of the allegations made in the lawsuit. The lawsuit asks for damages to be determined at a trial. The accusation against Singer is one of a number against prominent American men in politics, media and entertainment who have been accused in recent months of sexual harassment and misconduct.

The lawsuit comes days after Singer, 52, was dropped as the director of 20th Century Fox film "Bohemian Rhapsody."

Entertainment trade publications including "Variety" and "The Hollywood Reporter", citing unnamed sources, said Singer had clashed with the film's lead actor and failed to turn up on the movie set.

Singer was previously sued for sexual misconduct in 2014 by a man named Michael Egan, who accused the director of abusing him as a minor. Singer called the claims "completely false" and a "sick, twisted shakedown" at the time. The lawsuit was later dismissed.—Reuters ■

Children's literacy festival held in Baw La Khae Township, Kayah State

A children's literacy festival supervised by the Kayah State Cabinet and organised by the Information and Public Relationship Department and Basic Education Department was held yesterday morning at Saw La Phaw Hall, Baw La Khae Township, Kayah State.

The festival was held with a vision to sharpen children's intellect and thinking skills, nurture their creativity, and expose them to reading as a contented and fun pastime.

Kayah State Chief Minister U L Paung Sho, Kayah State Hluttaw Speaker U Hla Htwe, State City Development Committee and Social Affair Minister Dr. Aung Aye Htay and three outstanding students of Baw La Khae Township cut ceremonial ribbons to open the festival. The Children's Festival Team Song and the Myanmar School song were sung by the students of Baw La Khae Basic Education High School.

State Chief Minister U L Paung Sho delivered the opening speech, and State Chief Minister and wife, ministers of state cabinet members, State Hluttaw Speaker and State Maternal and Child Welfare Association handed over donated cash to the officials.

The State Chief Minister and state cabinet members gave presents to the students and viewed the children's literacy festival and book bazaar. —Kayah (IPRD) ■



Yamaha JANUS motorcycle performing stunts at Feel The Exciting YAMAHA program in Mandalay. PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)

Denmark, Yangon Film School, and University Law Faculties mark International Human Rights Day 2017

The Embassy of Denmark in Myanmar through its Denmark-Myanmar Programme on Rule of Law and Human Rights is joining with the Yangon Film School and its partners from the Law Departments of East Yangon and Dagon Universities to mark International Human Rights Day. Human rights are the core international rules that are valid for all human beings globally. The Embassy of Denmark and Yangon Film School have joined forces with the Law Departments of Dagon and East Yangon Universities to spread this message.

At Nawaday Cinema in Yangon yesterday, lecturers from these two universities will use a selection of documentaries produced by multi-ethnic students of Yangon Film School to talk about human rights, challenge the views of law students and filmmakers, and present national legislation relevant to human rights issues.

A workshop on the rights of people living with disabilities (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law) will begin with a screen-

ing of the Human Rights Human Dignity Film Festival award-winning "Lovely Bones" by Nwaye Zar Che Soe and "Beyond the Light" by Myo Min Khin, followed by a Q&A session with the film directors.

The second session of the day will focus on children's rights (the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Labour laws connected to child labour, the right to education and the Child Law) where the documentaries "Far from Home" by Thiha Thwe, "Water Boy" by Tay Zar Win Tun, "Now I can read" by Khin Khin Hsu and

"To School" directed by Soe Moe Aung will be screened.

Denmark is supporting the two Law Faculties to use new teaching methodologies and new ways of presenting content. The goal of the event is to show how film and documentaries in particular can be used as a resource to discuss international human rights and Myanmar laws related to the protection of all human beings. Members of the press are invited to the opening of the event on 9 December at 11:00 am at Nawaday Cinema. —Denmark Embassy ■

Shinhan Bank holds Seminar at UMFCCI

Trade Finance Seminar organized by South Korea's Shinhan Bank, International Business Division, held recently at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry-UMFCCI in Yangon.

The Seminar was attended by more than 180 entrepreneurs and officials from the Central Bank of Myanmar, local banks and financial institutions.

At the seminar, Mr. Jeong Ji Ho, Shinhan Bank of International Trade Business Division,

and Mr. Hong Seok Woo, CEO of Yangon Branch, discussed global payment procedures and financial rules.

They also discussed with the CBM, UMFCCI and local financial institutions cooperation in promoting bilateral trade between Korea and Myanmar.

Shinhan has opened its Yangon branch in Myanmar, and starts its operation for customers for the first time as a Korean Bank in 2016.—GNLM ■



Myanmar defeated by Viet Nam in M-150 Cup

Kyaw Zin Lin

MYANMAR was defeated yesterday by Viet Nam, an ASEAN football power, in a M-150 Cup match at Burriram Stadium in Burriram, Thailand.

The Myanmar U-23 team was comprised of Sann Sat Naing, Nann Wai Min, Htike Htike Aung, Soe Moe Kyaw, Captain Si Thu Aung, Hlaing Bo Bo, Lwin Moe Aung, Yan Paing Soe, Yan Naing Oo, Maung Maung Lwin and Win Naing Tun.

The Vietnam U-23 squad lined up with goalkeeper Tien Dung, Van Hau, Xuan Truong, Duc Huy, Van Toan, Cong Phuong, Duy Manh, A Hoang, Van Thanh, Quang Hai, and Dinh Trong

Myanmar decided to use very young players, most under the age of 19, which could have been the difference in the match.

With the difference in form, age and experience, Viet Nam dominated play from the first few seconds of the match and overwhelmed the short, narrow play.

At 11 minutes, Vietnam's Cong Phuong coordinated with teammate Quang Hai, the Hanoi



Players from Myanmar and Viet Nam vie for the ball at yesterday's match in Stadium of Burriram, Thailand. **PHOTO:MFF**

FC midfielder, to launch the ball into the far corner of the net for the match's first score.

Ten minutes later, the collaboration between Viet Nam's Cong Phuong and Quang Hai continued as the ball was left-footed into the net from the outside of the penalty area for the second goal.

Myanmar appeared to score in the latter part of the first half, but referees ruled players were over the line and the goal was not allowed.

In the second half, despite a concerted Myanmar attack, Viet Nam still dominated. In the midfield area at the 64-minute mark, midfielder Phan Van Long

received Van Thanh's pass, and in the face of the goalkeeper, he easily lifted the score to 3-0. About five minutes later, Van Long passed to Cong Phuong to cross the corner, setting a 4-0 victory for Vietnam.

On December 11, Myanmar will meet Uzbekistan in their second match. ■

Yangon win a confidence builder in football friendly

Kyaw Zin Lin

YANGON United FC played a friendly football match against Rakhine United FC in the Yangon United Sports Complex in Yangon as both teams prepare for the upcoming 2018 MNL season.

Yangon defeated Rakhine by a score of 3-2 in yesterday's match.

Yangon United used its main players including Suan Lam Mang, Kyi Lin, Yan Kha Yanku, Lewis, Johnathan, Koffi and Thaigo in the match, while Rakhine United also relied on its usual lineup of players including goalkeeper Soe Arkar, Kaung Chit Naing, Bo Bo, Sithu Than Soe, Ye Win Hlaing and Shwe Win Tun.

Yangon's Yan Kha scored an opening goal early in the match. Although Yangon got a penalty chance, they could not convert the opportunity into a goal.

Yangon's second goal was scored on the header of Suan Lam Mang into the net over the assist of Kyi Lin.

In the second half, Rakhine changed tactics, and Rakhine's Bo Bo scored at the 61-minute mark and David leveled the match at 77 minutes.

The winning goal for Yangon was scored suddenly by Yangon's striker Thiago over his teammate's support just before the end of the match.

Yangon will play against Japan's JFL club on 14 December. ■

Over 300 cyclists attend event in Thanlyin

Thet Khaing (Thanlyin)

OVER 300 cyclists participated an event of the Thanlyin Cycling Club yesterday morning in Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region, including Bicycle Network Myanmar and Battle cycling groups.

The event was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Lwin Ko Latt, region Hluttaw representatives U Aung Naing Htun, township head U Aung Ko Htun, bike lovers, members of bicycle groups, students and many foreigners. ■



PHOTO: THET KHAING

Bristol City snatch late winner to maintain promotion push

LONDON — Bristol City's Aden Flint scored in stoppage-time to snatch a 2-1 victory at fellow promotion chasers Sheffield United on Friday that kept them third in England's second tier Cham-

pionship.

Flint steered the ball home at the far post to decide an absorbing contest after the hosts had John Fleck sent off for a two-footed lunge with 30 minutes

remaining.

United had hit the woodwork three times in the first half before Jamie Paterson put the visitors ahead two minutes before the break.

Leon Clarke levelled three minutes after the restart before Fleck was dismissed and Flint volleyed in the decider.

City have 40 points, seven adrift of leaders Wolverhampton

Wanderers, who host Sunderland on Saturday, and three behind second-placed Cardiff City, who face Reading on Monday.

Sheffield United are fourth with 37.—Reuters ■

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

10 DECEMBER 2017
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Ava seen in the Twilight



Translated by
Nwe Phyo
(Cherry land)

OUR team is complete in quality though its quantity is limited. In our group, there are a member of parliament, artists, and a scholar of stone inscriptions and a person who always gazes and thinks about this and that is also part of us. Although the participants are in different natures and from diverse works, their aim to get Ava is identical. It has been for nearly six hundred years Ava was founded. Besides, Ava stood as the royal capital for four times though ancient Myanmar monarchs used to shift the royal capital from one place to another place according to predestinated event. So, hearing this glorious name “Ava” repeatedly in our ears, at one evening, we left Mandalay where we put up at for Ava by a jeep.

We have to pass Amarapura first. Then, after taking the route where grove of lettpan (red silk cotton tree) grows in a row for some minutes, the forepart of Ava Bridge is seen. This bridge is built crossing over Ayeyarwady River and heading to Sagaing. The confluence of Ayeyarwady River and Myitnge River is where Ava is located. The poem “The Golden Ava, our land is so prosperous that it is at the top of island (Jambudipa)” illustrates the location and form of Ava. Before we approach the bridge, we need to take left flood plain area to get sandbank. Then, we get the other side of the river by a ferry. When we reach there, the sun already dips down the horizon. We turn back to see the way we took. On the left bank, there are two pagodas in fading lime color and their ornamentals are leaning. In the backyard of these two



Mai Nu Brick Monastery is located in Innwa, Mandalay Region, on the East bank of the Ayeyawady River.
PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE

pagodas, there is an old monastery and a palm tree. Boats are being harbored at water's edge* in front of those two pagodas. Boats are paddling calmly in the river. We gaze this scenario in the background of sunset. Only for awhile, artists said they would prefer to leave behind here and the rest of us continue to get the place where Ava palace once situated before the sun goes down.

I say the place where Ava palace once situated because the signs of a royal capital can be rarely seen there for it has been a very long time it was established. When we follow cart wheel tracks slowly, the old moat, the old wall, the old tower, the old

brick monastery come to the sights of our eyes. These are symbols which indicate Ava was once a prosperous royal capital. But, now, there is no water in the moat, the wall is ruined; some parts of the wall are buried beneath the ground, the tower is leaning to the other side because of earthquake and there is no monk in the brick monastery.

It is remembered that King Tadoem-inphyar is the very first King to choose Ava as the royal capital. It might be because of the fact that Ava is surrounded by water which is the natural protection for the capital at that time. Another two reasons might be that Ava is close to

11 districts of agriculture where staple grains and crops are prosperous and the weather is fine. Every dynasty which could receive good foundation mended Ava. As they fixed, Ava was complete with the characteristics of a royal capital. Food supplies were sufficient. Celebrations which adults and young took part were hold. Literary festivals were popular not only in the court but also in countryside. Civilization and culture were improved in every sector. Among them, the palace built during the reign of King Shwenankyawtshin, the descendent of Tadoeminphyar is included.

SEE SUPPLEMENT-H

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the Global New Light of Myanmar at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Real name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.). – Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

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Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

Lesson 30: Voices (Active Voice and Passive) 2

Hello Class!

Here again with another Lesson of Voices (2).

Last week, we have studied about the Active and Passive Voices for Simple Tenses (i.e. Simple Present, Simple Past and Simple Future).

Today, let's continue with the Continuous Tenses (i.e. Present Continuous, Past Continuous and Future Continuous).

See the examples first. Note how we change into Passive Voice from the Active Voice.

- (1) The girls are plucking the flowers.
The flowers are being plucked by the girls.
- (2) Children are eating ice-creams.
Ice-creams are being eaten by the children.
- (3) Mother is cooking rice and curry.
Rice and curry are being cooked by mother.
- (4) She was feeding the cats.
The cats were being fed by her.
- (5) They were playing football.
Football was being played by them.
- (6) Daddy was practicing tennis.
Tennis was being practiced by Daddy.
- (7) I will be watering the plants.
The plants will be being watered by me.
- (8) She will be writing the letter.
The letter will be being written by her.
- (9) They will be doing the cleaning.
The cleaning will be being done by them.

Let's see how we change the Active Voice into Passive Voice in the Continuous Tenses. (i.e. the Pres-

ent Continuous, the Past Continuous and the Future Continuous.)

The changing formula is the same as we have done in the Simple Tenses.

Here, for the Continuous Tenses, the key word is "being".

We need to put "being" to show the Continuous Tense. But, for the other changes, the formula is the same.

For Present Tense, "am, is, are" ("am" for 1st Person Singular, "are" for the 1st Person Plural, and for the 2nd Person, Singular and Plural, and for the 3rd Person Plural, and "is" for 3rd Person Singular.)

For the Past Tense, "was and were" ("was" for all Singulars and "were" for all Plurals.)

For the Future Tense, "will be" and "shall be" (for all Persons and for all Numbers, i.e. both Singular and Plural.)

Let's see the steps here.

Step (1) Put the Object to the Beginning of the sentence.
Step (2) See which "Verb to be" is going to be used. (whether am, is, are, was, were, will be)

Step (3) Put "being" for the Continuous Tense.

Step (4) Put the "Past Participle" of the Verb.

Step (5) Put "by" and the "Subject" at the end of the sentence.

Let's see..

The girls are plucking the flowers.

Step (1) The flowers

Step (2) The flowers are (for 3rd Person Plural in Present)

Step (3) The flowers are being (put "being")

Step (4) The flowers are being plucked (Past Participle of the Verb "pluck")

Step (5) The flowers are being plucked by the girls.

So, here comes the Exercise for you.

Exercise 30.

I. Change the following sentences into Passive Voice.

- (a) Children are playing football.
- (b) I am singing a new song.
- (c) We are having our breakfast.
- (d) You are doing your homework.
- (e) He is watering the plants.
- (f) Aunt Mary is baking chocolate cakes.
- (g) Uncle Sam is driving his new car.
- (h) She is painting a new portrait.
- (i) They are packing up their clothes.
- (j) Teachers are preparing their lessons.

II. (A) Change the sentences in No.I into Past Tense first and then

(B) Change them into Passive Voice.

III. (A) Change the sentences in No.I into Future Tense and then

(B) Change them into Passive Voice.

That's all for today Class.

Hope that you can do the Exercises very well.

See you next week Class! Bye for now!

Your English Teacher (GNLM)

Email: <<dr:nunuwintin.rose.dawn@gmail.com>>

Now, here come the answers to the last week's Exercise 29.

I. (a) Active, (b) Active, (c) Passive, (d) Passive, (e) Active, (f) Active, (g) Active, (h) Passive, (i) Active, (j) Passive.

II. Change into Passive Voice.

- (a) Chocolates are liked by us.
- (b) Little pets are loved by children.
- (c) The baby is fed by Mother.
- (d) A sweet song is sung by me.
- (e) Christmas songs are sung by us.
- (f) Mary is followed by the lamb.
- (g) Her clothes are washed by Mi Mi.
- (h) The coffee is made by John.
- (i) Telling stories is fond by Grandma.
- (j) His car is driven by Daddy.

III.

(A) Change into Simple Past Tense.

- (a) We liked chocolates.
- (b) Children loved little pets.
- (c) Mother fed the baby.
- (d) I sang a sweet song.
- (e) We sang Christmas songs.
- (f) The lamb followed Mary.
- (g) Mi Mi washed her clothes.

- (h) John made the coffee.
- (i) Grandma fond telling stories.
- (j) Daddy drove his car.

(B) Change into Passive Voice.

- (a) Chocolates were liked by us.
- (b) Little pets were loved by children.
- (c) The baby was fed by mother.
- (d) A sweet song was sung by me.
- (e) Christmas songs were sung by us.
- (f) Mary was followed by the lamb.
- (g) Her clothes were washed by Mi Mi.
- (h) The coffee was made by John.
- (i) Telling stories was fond by Grandma.
- (j) His car was driven by Daddy.

We can also change the sentences from III into Future Tense as follows:...

(A) Change into Future Tense.

- (a) We will like chocolates.
- (b) Children will love little pets.
- (c) Mother will feed the baby.
- (d) I will sing a sweet song.
- (e) We will sing Christmas songs.
- (f) The lamb will follow Mary.
- (g) Mi Mi will wash her clothes.

- (h) John will make the coffee.
- (i) Grandma will fond telling stories.
- (j) Daddy will drive his car.

(B) Change into Passive Voice as follows too.

- (a) Chocolates will be liked by us.
- (b) Little pets will be liked by children.
- (c) The baby will be fed by mother.
- (d) A sweet song will be sung by me.
- (e) Christmas songs will be sung by us.
- (f) Mary will be followed by the lamb.
- (g) Her clothes will be washed by Mi Mi.
- (h) The coffee will be made by John.
- (i) Telling stories will be fond by Grandma.
- (j) His car will be driven by Daddy.

(We put just "will be" and then followed by the "Past Participle of the Verb". All other steps are the same.)

For No. IV and No.V do the correction by yourselves as you know very well what to do.

And you can also make the same thing with the Future Tense.

Wish that you can do all smoothly and easily.

That's all for today.

Bye Bye Class ! See you !

Mental Health of Teachers (3)

Dr. Nu Nu Win
(Retired Professor and Head of Department)

THE author has been discussing about the Mental Health of teachers for two weeks. This time the author wants to point out the “Overloaded Work Burden of Teachers” as the serious cause that hurts their Mental Health.

It is natural that there are many many different kinds of jobs, teachers have to carry out. They have to teach the children (i.e. their very basic job), to take care of the children, to treat them and nurture them to develop in all different matters (such as physical, mental, emotional, social, moral developments and so on), to let them have proper attitudes towards the country, nation, races, environment, and so on, to let them grow up according to their own paces etc.

As the different kinds of jobs of a teacher is not a simple one from the very beginning, to carry out their daily routines such as calling out attendance, inquiring why a student is absent for this day, if in case the teacher has to get contact with the parents to see what happens really to a student, to help him in such matters as financial, social, health, mental and so on, then to write diaries for this day, to write teaching plans for the coming days, do corrections, teach again or explain again to the students if it is necessary, to take care of discipline in the classroom, to adjust anything we need in the classroom, to negotiate whenever there are quarrels or fights among the students, and so on.

As we all know very well, it is really a very very busy job indeed according to its nature.

But, most of the teachers carry out all these daily routines happily and easily as if all these are natural to them.

But, sometimes, there comes the outside extra jobs they have to carry out. If there are some important occasions in their area, they have extra duties, such as to welcome the VIPs (i.e. to go and wait for the VIP guests to come up since very early in the morning up till the time they come up, although it may be in the afternoon without any meals) and one more thing is they have to take care of their students too during these waiting hours.

And as for this day, they miss their classes, both teachers and pupils, so they have more job of teaching to do so on the next day to cover up the course they have missed in the last day. Such is an unfair burden to the teachers.

In the past, we have experience, welcoming not only the VIPs, but also their wives and daughters who just come round for a pilgrimage to the

area, so teachers have to go and not only welcome them, but also to present them with flowers and candles to offer at the pagodas, and sometimes even to carry the guests' slippers.

The author thinks these are the extra jobs unsuitable for the teachers, but all these experiences had been appeared really once in our country, especially in the distant areas from the Big Cities.

That is what the author wants to mention as improper extra jobs for teachers.

And one more extra matters they need to carry out is when the persons in authority from the Ministry of Education or from the Basic Education Department come to schools as school supervision. Before they come up, all the daily routines of the schools were being carried out smoothly in its own fashion. But, it's a great “But”, just because they have to prepare what to show to these supervisors as TEOs, ATEOs and so on. Sometimes, they need to do some make up things so that they can be supervised well at the front of their Supervision Team. If everything goes smoothly, it will be nice for the whole school. But, if not, that's the danger point they all have to face at the mercy of that Supervision Team. That is why all these corrup-

tions such as Bribing to the Supervision Team or giving presents to the team or treating them with very good and expensive luncheons and dinners to all these from the team and so on.

These will take place for at least three or four days ahead before they are coming. During these days, teachers have to work and prepare specially for these teams, so they also miss their own duties of teaching again. That will make them very exhausting to overcome their teaching and to make all these missing lessons up again in the days after the Supervision Team's return.

These are extra overload to the teachers. And all these cause their mental and physical health.

At the present days, the Chapter-end Tests are also a great burden over not only the teachers, but also over the students and parents. They have to teach in such a prescribed time, then prepare for the test questions and test rooms, supervising these Chapter-end Tests, then do the corrections, and then to announce the results, then prepare report cards to send to the parents and so on. After that, their daily routine to teach a new chapter comes up and then a new chapter-end test for that one and so on, never-ending stretch of Chapter-end

Tests.

All these such things will hurt the Mental Health of teachers so much.

Moreover, the present day's opinions and attitudes on teachers by parents and students are also serious causes to hurt the Mental Health of teachers these days.

Where is their period for relaxation? Where is their time to enjoy with their family? Where is the time to study more for their profession? Where is the time for them to carry out their own hobbies? Where is their dignity as teachers in their social surroundings? (Once we have, but not now.)

And so on

Therefore all these never-ending stretch of overloading extra jobs are the ones that hurt the Mental Health of Teachers.

All Persons in Authority and all Educationists should take their eyes upon these facts and should take it into consideration for the Mental Health of Teachers, if they really want to carry out their Education Plans come up with very good results for improving our Education of the Country.

Dr. Nu Nu Win, Retired Professor and Head of Department, Department of Educational Psychology, SUOE.





Photo: Chan Thar (Meikhtila)



Photo: Chan Thar (Meikhtila)



Photo: Chan Thar (Meikhtila)



Photo: Chan Thar (Meikhtila)

Shan State, a photogenic paradise for all photographers

By Chan Thar (Meikhtila)

As I opened my eyes after a deep sleep, my eyes catch the early morning dew clinging on the rooftops. Winter is doing its job well and the chilling cold reminds me of a hilly region in Shan State which I visited last year. The vision of the cold hilly scenery transports me back into the past from my memories.

I had seen breathtaking images of the hilly Shan State through pictures on Facebook and that inspired me to go visit them in person. One day a photographer from Taunggyi happened to arrive in Meikhtila and, seizing the opportunity, I invited him to tea.

After asking him for advice on the

best time and places to visit the Shan State, I went on my trip without delay. The chilly November weather sank in our skin as we rode motorbikes to our destination. When we arrived in Pyi Nyaung we were greeted by two signs that read 'Welcome to Mandalay' and 'Welcome to Shan State' placed side by side. We arrived in Aungban around 4pm and 20 minutes later, we arrive in a small village called Kyone in Pindaya Township within the Danu Self-Administration area. There were only 5 miles to our destination. On our way we saw carts full of vegetables being carried away and the faces of the local Danu people portrayed an innocence.

From there, we arrived at the fa-

mous Shan hilly regions 15 minutes later. As I tell my friend we may have arrived at our destination, the motorcyclist parked his bike nearby and the two of us took out our cameras and snapped away.

We made our way to a small place called Myin Muu Kone village. The scenery there is a mixture of cold and beauty. The first rays of light shine upon the place and we saw some of the residents busily going about their daily chores. If given the choice, we would go visit Myin Muu Kyone again and participate in all of its beauty and breathtaking views. It is a haven for photographers and I knew that as long as I have a pair of hands, I will continue to travel around and take photos of vividly natural scenery.



Photo: Chan Thar (Meikhtila)



Photo: Chan Thar (Meikhtila)

SUNDAY COMICS

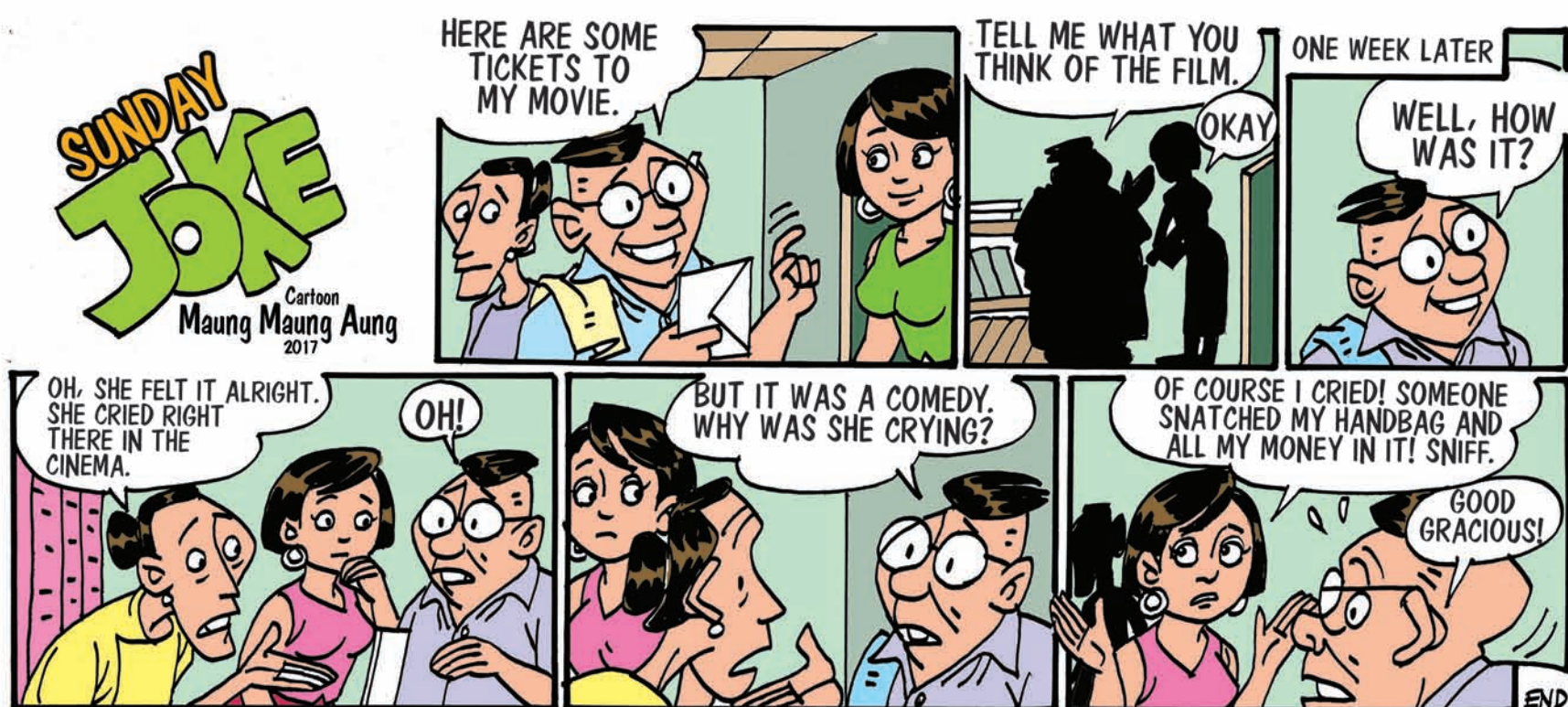
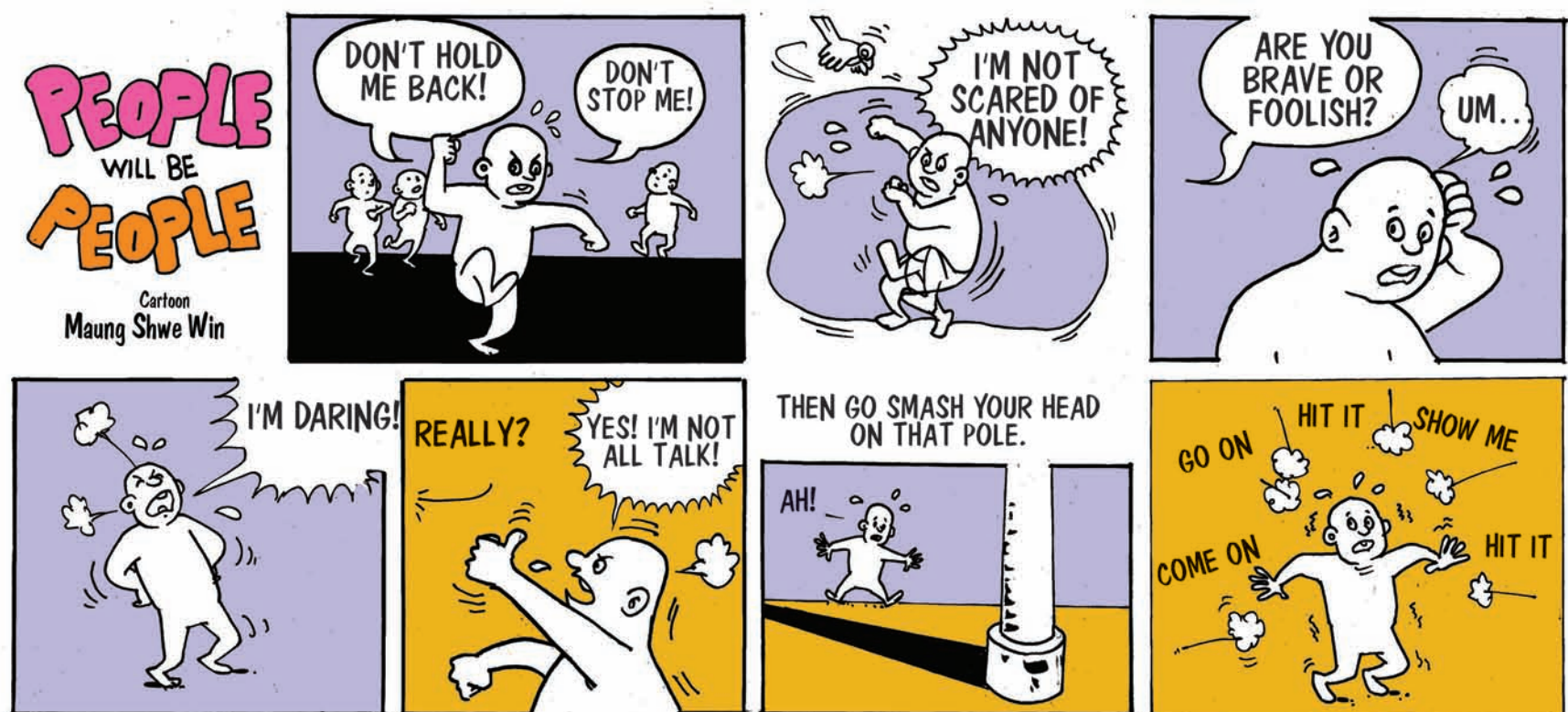




Photo: Phoe Khwar

Three reasons why tourists are prohibited from climbing popular temples in Bagan

TOURISTS often head to the top of the famed pagodas at sunrise and sunset in order to snap the coveted shot of countless hot air balloons rising above the city.

But, they would be banned from it for three reasons.

“There are three reasons for the ban. We are concerned about the danger of hurting visitors and about damaging the pagodas. The another reason is the religion because some visitors drink alcohol at the pagodas that we prohibited them,” said U Aung Kyaw, Director of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum.

The decision was made at the meeting of the Bagan Ancient Archaeological Zone Management Committee on 30 November.

Measures would be taken to enforce the rules in Bagan by Mandalay Region Government as from December.

“The popular pagodas in Bagan are very old monuments, and some could collapse at any time. Banning climbing is a necessary precaution to protect our cultural heritage,” said an official of the same department.

Ministry has banned climbing at a handful of popular temples, including Thagyarhit, Thagyarbone, Pyathada and Thitsarwady. There is no date set for a complete ban on climbing all other temples, including Shwesandaw, the most famous sunset-viewing temple.

Other improvements are in the works to help Bagan secure Unesco status. These include beefing up security, improving access roads, and removing all billboards that block views of pagodas. Following a ban on new developments in the archaeological zone in 2014, a new hotel strip is springing up near Bagan’s airport.

The authorities are considering a range of options to ensure holidaymakers can still get good views of the region’s sensational sunsets. They include the installation of a tethered helium balloon and the construction of man-made hills near the temple complex.—Nadi Hlaing



Photo: Nadi Hlaing



Photo: Nadi Hlaing

Courtesy is home-brew



Htet Zaw Htoo
(SUOE)

THEODORE Roosevelt said, "Courtesy is as much a mark of a gentleman as courage". Sophie Turner also said, "Courtesy is a lady's armor". As they said, courtesy is very important like courage for a man and dress for a lady. Courtesy is like a great equipage of the polite society. However, it is not behaviour that is set aside for special occasions. According to Robin Thompson, "Behaving politely is a way of life, not just something you pull out when you are at a wedding or a fancy restaurant". Courtesy should be automatic in a person's life that is, people need to be used to it as naturally as they do everyday chores.

Most people would define courtesy as polite behaviour that reflects good manners and respect and kindness to others. As much as most of the parents would desire, courtesy and respect are not traits that are innately ingrained in a child. However, children can be taught to be polite and courteous from the time he or she is young. By raising courteous children, their courteousness will help them feel comfortable and confident

in any social setting. Besides, teaching courtesy to children is part of parent's five responsibilities for their children instructed by Our Lord of Buddha. Therefore, children should be taught good table manners and polite



behaviour since their childhood. It is said that parents are the very first teachers for a child. So whether a child is courteous or not directly depends on his or her parents and environment they live. Children should be taught systematically how to live, talk and behave politely since their childhood. According to William Wordsworth, the child is the father of the man. It means that all what we do in childhood hardly change when we become adults. Therefore, courtesy and mutual respect should be taught at home since children are young. Home is the very first place where all of good and bad behaviours start to be rooted in. Besides, parents should send

their children to the schools or organizations which are open to everyone to learn good manners and courtesy. Such kind of school is Dhamma school by Buddhist organization. Especially in today's high tech world of computer, tablets and smart phones, children learn quicker become smarter at a younger age. These advances in their intellect, however, will do them little good if parents fail to teach them social skills, courtesy and respect needed for getting along with others. These reasons show that why children should be taught to be polite and courteous since they are young and at home.

As Shinshi Suzuki once said, "Children learn to smile from their parents". So it is clear that a child always learn and imitate what to do from their parents. It is their parents who a child sees and lives closely since he or she was born. It is their home that starts all of their behaviours.

Therefore, it can be totally said that courtesy is born at home and it is home-brew. Parents need to be courteous and polite themselves and should be role models for their children. In this way, children can turn courteousness into a lifelong habit till they become adults and they will be able to discover that common courtesy offers in their personal and professional lives.

Pray

My Lord
Give me the heart
Made out of steel
Which can react joy or sad
With the same equanimity

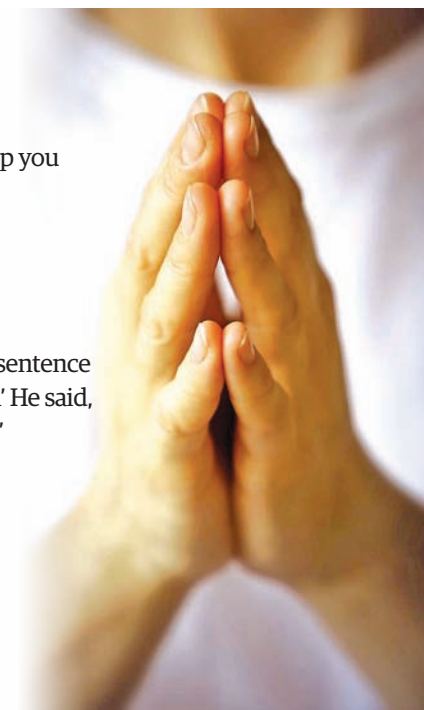
My Lord
Give me the head
Made out of concrete
Which can reflect stone or festoon
With the same amity

'Instead'
The Lord's reply I heard
'I'll give you' He said,
'Wisdom and Courage'

'Wisdom will lead you
To differentiate
What is right
Or what is wrong'

'And Courage will help you
To embrace
Right is right
And Wrong is wrong'

'My Lord, but I....'
Before I finished my sentence
'Once you have them' He said,
'They will do the rest'



Honey Soe (B.M.T.M)

Ava seen in the Twilight

FROM SUPPLEMENT-A

The monument of founding the Golden palace in front of the wall of the brick monastery evidences the establishment of that palace by King Shwenankyawtshin. That monument is looked after by the department of Archeology. But the stone inscription is now so ruined that it is difficult for our scholar to read all the facts in it. As much as he can read, we know a little bit about the arrangements in founding the palace; devotion to spirits, sprinkling water endowed with power through recitation, applying a kind of earth mixing with muck, milk, butter, and molasses, playing pipe and bugle, and driving in a golden stake and a silver stake.

Then, we enter the brick

monastery. Its benefactor is Mai Nu, the Chief Queen. That monastery suffered from the effects of earthquake and weather. However, seeing from the pavilion of jorana (gateway), the monastery with its three leveled spire-like roof can be seen without changing among tamarind trees. This monastery still looks impressive with its structures; pinnacles, vertical ornamental embellishments, and flamboyant ornamentals on its roof and arches in the same way of seeing impressively the characteristics of youth which are still left with an old man who was once well built and handsome but is now suffering from getting old, pains and social misery.

We sightsee every parts of that monastery as if there is

nothing left to look round. The MP who is with us comments "It had to use a lot of mass participation." nodding his head. To continue his opinion, ancient monarchs had many palaces built and donated extensively for Sasana. There were times for Ava, when its territories were limited and when clashes between Ava and its neighbor tribes happened. But, when Ava's domination was all over Myanmar, many rulers could occupy the Ava's throne. On that throne of Ava, both Myanmar and Shan could sit on in turn. At that time, those rulers had to rely very much on people or peasants. Of course, when we see there, bushes, banyan trees, fields of corns, peppers and peas, and small thatches can be seen. Beyond that, groves of

toddy-palm, farmlands and paddy fields can also be perceived indistinctly. People who rely on those fields are farmers and peasants whose ancestors were also cultivators. They earned a living by plowing, trading salt and fish paste, climbing palm-tree to tap the sap. They also gave levies on what they could do business. Besides, if someone was a single atheta (man of wealth)*, he had to tribute twelve royal measurements; gum of neem tree (*Azadirachta indica*), plant fiber, bael fruit (*Aegle marmelos*), Oun-toun-khau (a kind of vine which can give us glutinous gum) etc. When someone was from a section of a certain race or occupation settle, he had just to serve the duty of his section. Because of those men of wealth

and members of sections, Ava was magnificent. Because of their colors, Ava was bright.

It's getting dark. Glinting light appears at Sagaing Hill. We see the artists are finishing their works when we take the route we walked over. They are full with great happiness for they could be able to paint the scenery which appears in their Katina (circular spot to concentrate on) on their sketch pads. They don't look sorry for missing the chance to see the place where Ava palace once situated. Whether Ava palace is glorious or not, for them, they feel there is nothing to do in its home affairs. They just concentrate on such delightful scenery which will be seen in every evening of winter. (Translated from Thaik Soe's essay.)