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SUNDAY SPECIAL



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Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (second from right) poses for photo together with other Southeast Asian leaders and Prime Minister of Australia Mr. Malcolm Turnbull. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor attends signing MoU on cooperation to counter int'l terrorism

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other Southeast Asian leaders signed an agreement yesterday with the Australian government to strengthen cooperation and collaboration to counter violent extremism and terrorism within the region.

The 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations signed a mem-

orandum of understanding on cooperation to counter international terrorism at a special summit with Australia, held in Sydney.

Signatories agreed to share intelligence and strengthen law enforcement cooperation, among a host of other joint initiatives.

The State Counsellor at-

tended the New Colombo Plan afternoon tea ceremony, the closing ceremony for the Counter-Terrorism Conference and the signing Ceremony for the MOU on Counter - Terrorism, in which Secretary General of ASEAN Dato Lim Jock Hoi and Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, The Hon Julie Bishop, signed the Memorandum of

Understanding on Counter - Terrorism.

On arrival in Sidney yesterday, the State Counsellor and party were welcomed by Minister for International Development and the Pacific, The Hon Concetta Fierravanti Wells, Myanmar Ambassador to Australia U Tha Aung Nyunt and his wife, Australian

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Nicholas Coppel and other officials.

Later, at 7 p.m., the State Counsellor attended a dinner in honor of the leaders of the ASEAN nations and governmental high ranking officials, hosted by Prime Minister of Australia Mr. Malcolm Turnbull.— Myanmar News Agency ■

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Vice President U Myint Swe delivers address at Crans Montana Forum

VICE President U Myint Swe delivered an address at the opening of the Crans Montana Forum on Africa and South-South Cooperation yesterday, stressing the urgent need to seek solutions to global problems with collective efforts at the national, regional and world levels.

“We all have one common goal, to live in a better world that would ensure peace, security and prosperity for all the peoples. However, the world is facing numerous challenges caused by mankind, including armed conflicts, poverty, hunger, migration, climate change, unemployment, terrorism and violent extremism, cyber security and even the threat of nuclear war,” said U Myint Swe.

In his opening address following the speech of Joint-Chairman of the forum Mr. Jean-Paul Carteron, he said he congratulated African countries for their collective efforts in addressing their challenges through adoption of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development over two decades ago and the implementation of Africa 2063 Agenda with the aim to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and the Kingdom of Morocco.

“Our Government’s strong desire to strengthen relations, friendship and cooperation with Morocco and other brotherly African nations has motivated us to participate in this important Forum on Africa and South-South Cooperation,” said U Myint Swe.

“We hope that this forum will provide opportunities to exchange views on various development issues and challenges facing the developing world, as well as to deliberate ways and means for strengthening trade and economic relations between

Africa and the rest of the world, with the vibrant region of Asia,” he said.

In our part of the region, the ten member States of ASEAN has successfully established a community since 2015 and charted out ASEAN Community Vision 2025. In addition, Myanmar has also been working together with other countries in the region through regional arrangements such as BIMSTEC and GMS cooperation programme which help foster economic corridors to promote connectivity, market access and to conduct other activities supporting trade and development in a comprehensive manner.

In the 21st century, Asia and Africa are the continents of growing opportunities for trade and investments, he said.

“We wish to highlight the tremendous potential in our collaboration in many areas for mutual benefits through south-south cooperation and the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership”, U Myint Swe said.

Myanmar was one of the leading countries in building friendship and solidarity among Asian and African countries over six decades ago, as one of the organizers of the historic Asian-African Conference known as the Bandung Conference. He also pledged that Myanmar will make efforts to revive the solidarity and friendship and explore ways to strengthen trade and economic ties with African friends.

“Our Government has made peace and national reconciliation a top priority to end the seven-decade long internal armed conflicts with the aim of establishing a democratic federal union that will ensure peace, security and prosperity for all the peoples. We have also made significant economic reforms and opened our doors wide to



Vice President U Myint Swe delivers the speech at Crans Montana Forum yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Vice President U Myint Swe attends a dinner in honour of participants of the Crans Montana Forum on Africa and South-South Cooperation. **PHOTO: MNA**

foreign investments,” he said.

Today’s forum is an important venue not only for strengthening solidarity and sustainable development for the African Continent, but also for forging closer partnerships between Asia and Africa. Asian and African countries have an enduring friendship bonded by the spirit of Bandung, a guiding principle for Asian-African Cooperation enshrined in the 1955 Bandung Conference.

In conclusion, Vice President U Myint Swe urged Asian and African countries to work together to enhance people-to-people connectivity, which is key for partnerships, strengthening contacts and networking among businesses and academics so as to bring about equitable prosperity, harmony and peace among them. At a time of a growing trend of retreating from globalization and a climate of uncertainty on the

part of our traditional development partners, the role of South-South cooperation has become all the more important than ever before.

Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung and Myanmar Ambassador to Morocco U Myint Lwin also attended the sector-wise meetings on normal trading, fishery and sufficiency of food and sustainable development of Africa. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Maungtaw Border Trade Zone attempts to increase bilateral trade

THE Maungtaw Border Trade Zone is trying to increase Myanmar-Bangladesh bilateral trade, according to trade zone officials.

After Maungtaw was affected by terrorist attacks, border traders from the two nations requested and were allowed to export goods using Myanmar kyats (MMK) to develop the bilateral trade.

“Last year’s imports and

exports were paid with US dollars. Currently, some agricultural products and light industrial products were allowed to import with Myanmar kyats upon the request of the two nations’ border traders. Fresh ginger, dried turmeric, seed fibers of silk cotton trees, dried plums, tamarind fruits, various kinds of beans and other items are exported as agriculture products along

with shoes, anti-acne cream, sweets, plum jam, Thanaka cake (yellowish-white cosmetic paste), cereal, thin blankets etc. are exported as light industrial products. But other exported goods such as rice and other goods are exported to Bangladesh with US dollars.” said U Cho Htwe, in charge of the Maungtaw Border Trade Zone.

There are some incon-

veniences in exchanging money when imports are being traded with US currency.

Therefore, officials allowed the requests of two nations’ border traders on trading some imported goods with Myanmar kyats.

From April 2017 to 13 March 2018, border trade in Maungtaw, Rakhine State reached over US\$13 million, while in the 2016-

2017 FY it was only \$5 million.

From April 2017 to 13 March 2018, the most exported goods to Bangladesh from Maungtaw Border Trade Zone were agricultural products, aquatic products, forestry products and light industrial products including rice, fish, ginger, plum jam, shrimps, dried fishes, dried plum, turmeric and beans.—Kyaw Thu Win/Aye Min Thu ■

First Lady attends ceremony recognizing protection of abandoned children

FIRST Lady Daw Su Su Lwin attended a ceremony focusing on the protection of abandoned children, held to commemorate the 2018 International Women's Day. The ceremony was held in the People's Park in Yangon yesterday morning. The ceremony was opened by First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, all of whom cut the ceremonial ribbon.

Also, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye delivered an opening speech, saying the public can see the problems caused by changes in society, as advancements in technology occur. Human rights are seen to being frequently violated, and youths are experiencing the undesirable effects of using modern technology. As youths are the engine which drive the country's future, and are the future leaders of the country, so it is important to systematically raise the youth, who are the strength of the nation.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is cooperating with other ministries, volunteer organizations, INGOs and NGOs to secure chil-

dren's rights, and to assist women in learning about their rights. In conducting those works, priority is given to set up policies, drawing up and enacting laws, along with rules and procedures that are appropriate to the current age, said the Union Minister.

Afterwards, the Yangon Region Chief Minister said that Myanmar is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC or CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The development of women is important for all countries, as women are a human resource to be reckoned with in national development, and plays a primary role in the development of society. It can be clearly seen that governments and non-governmental organizations are supporting this.

Meanwhile, the number of children abandoned in hospitals and along roadsides is growing, while the number of newborn children being cared for in welfare care centers is also increasing. There are frequent cases of newborn children being abandoned in wards and townships. The work to prevent the aban-



First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin presents a certificate of honor to Chinese Ambassador's wife Mrs. Wang Xuehong at the ceremony. PHOTO: MNA

doning of newborn children is a truly necessary work. It is also important to provide motherly care for abandoned children, said the Chief Minister.

After the speeches were delivered, students sang songs in honor of the 2018 International

Women's Day, while others performed dances.

Additionally, First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin was presented with a gift in honor of Myanmar-Chinese friendship, and a donation was presented to fund the protection of abandoned children movement

by Mrs. Wang Xuehong, wife of the Chinese Ambassador. The First Lady then presented a certificate of honor to Mrs. Wang Xuehong.

First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin, and those who were in attendance, took a commemorative group photo, toured the display booths and signed up to assist in the movement to protect abandoned children.

The ceremony was attended by First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin, Vice President U Myint Swe's wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Vice President U Henry Van Thio's wife Dr. Shwe Hlwan, Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein, Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Union Attorney General U Tun Tun Oo, Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, Yangon Region ministers, civil society organizations, invited guests and students.

The ceremony was continued in the evening with a talk by Obstetrics and Gynaecology Professor Dr. Mya Thida. The ceremony held today was organized by the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs and Yangon Region Government. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Vice President U Henry Van Thio greeting with local residents of Pan Wine village. PHOTO: MNA



Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects the construction site of the Kengtung substation in eastern Shan State. PHOTO: MNA

Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects development of Loi Mwe town

VICE President U Henry Van Thio visited patients at the leprosy treatment center in Kentung Town, Naung Kan village, and later inspected development in Loi Mwe town.

The Vice President, together with Shan State Chief Minister Dr. Linn Htut, Deputy Ministers

Rear Admiral Myint Nwe and Maj-Gen Than Htut, Permanent Secretaries and officials arrived at Kengtung Town, Naung Kan village, St. Peter's Church, to attend a donation ceremony for patients and orphans at Naung Kan leprosy treatment center, where Father Angelo Sai Pyen explained

the history of the center.

The Vice President and party then provided cash donations for patients and orphans.

From there, the Vice President and officials went to Loi Mwe town and greeted ethnic nationals, after which they toured inside a 100-year old home.

The Vice President then met with local residents of Loi Mwe new village and Pan Wine village, where they discussed the assistance they require.

Loi Mwe town is situated on mountain ranges 5,540 ft. to 6,012 ft. above sea level, located about 20 miles from Kengtung.

For some nine months each year, it is engulfed in cool mists and is a town where winter remains the longest season in the year. As the all-round development of Loi Mwe is continuing, it is becoming a tourist destination town in eastern Shan State.

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Inshore fishery businesses in Kyeintali area to be introduced as local community own

FISHERY Department is planning to introduce inshore fishery business, owned by ten villages in Kyeintali region as local community own.

The project will be implanted cooperation with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) (Myanmar), Rakhine Coastal Region Conservation Association (RCA) and Pyoe Pin, a Yangon-based local NGO.

Community fisheries will be managed by the Kyeintali Inshore Fisheries Co-management Association (KIFCA), organized with local villagers. The livelihood of local people from KIFCA area are fishing, agricultural, breeding and trading. There are nearly 1,300 fishermen in the Kyeintali Township.

"This project will benefit local fishermen while ensuring better management over decreasing fish stocks," an



Workers processing fish to be dried at village in Kyeintali area. **PHOTO: NYI TU**

official from RCA.

According to the survey conducted to some 400 fishermen in the ten villages, 35 per cent of the people said the scarcity of the fish species in the coastal, 91 per

cent said less of fish stocks in the coastal and 85 per cent said they are giving more time in fishing.

Implementing community fisheries will help control the depletion of fish stocks and serve to

educate the fishermen on fishing control regulations and conserving marine resources,

Community fisheries project will be introduced in other coastal region.—Nyi Tu ■

Locals apply for market stalls for Thingyan festival

A LARGE number of applications have been submitted for stalls in the night market in Mandalay City, according to U Than Myint Aung, head of the Revenue Department for the Mandalay City Development Committee.

Since local people are interested in the MCDC's program, the MCDC have received more than 80 applications over a period of four days.

The MCDC invites the public to apply for stalls in the night market that will be located between 20th and 24th streets in which traditional Myanmar food and souvenirs will be sold.

Applications can be submitted from 12 March to 30 March for 180 stalls that are 100 square feet in size. People do not need to pay rental fees for the stalls.

Applications will be reviewed on a first-come first-serve basis.

"The night market will be open from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

and vendors can select their preferred location for their stall. Applicants shall pay Ks.50, 000 as a security deposit and if they abide by the rules and regulations related to the night market, we will give back that money," U Than Myint Aung said.

The night market comprises stalls selling traditional food, souvenirs and books, entertainment booths presenting classic Myanmar movies, puppet shows, elephant dances, music troupes with oh-si (an open-ended drum with long body), a music troupe with doe-pat (short drum), and a chinlone solo performance, and games such as climbing a greasy pole and wearing a Thanakha.

The MCDC will also furnish 41 stalls on 25th and 26th streets where the stalls are open day and night. Applicants for these stalls shall submit Ks.50, 000 as a security deposit and Ks.500, 000 for rental fees for a stall.

For the permit to con-

struct water-throwing pandals around the palace moat, the MCDC provides 26 pandals that are 100 ft.x 25 ft. There are 7 pandals on 66th road between 12th and 20th streets, 10 pandals between 66th and 80th streets and 9 pandals between 19th street and 26(B) road. The permit for these pandals will be selected under a bidding system.

Among these, a pandal that is 30ft. x 12 ft. large will be allocated. Applicants shall submit Ks.1.5 million plus Ks. 500,000 of guarantee.

The Walking Thingyan festival is at the southern moat, where pandals will be provided under first-come first-served basis.

Applicants who won the permit shall submit Ks. 3 million for a 30 ft. wide pandal, Ks. 2 million for a 20 ft. wide pandal and Ks. 1 million for a 10 ft. wide pandal.

The MCDC will allow construction of pandals from 31 March to 9 April.— Min Htet Aung ■

Yadanabon Zoological Gardens to celebrate 29th birthday next month

YADANABON Zoological Gardens' 29th birthday will be celebrated next month in Mandalay, according to a report in Saturday's Myawady Daily.

U Thein Min Aung, administrator of the zoo, said the celebration is to take place on 7 and 8 April. Celebrations will include a show performed by well-known vocalists in Mandalay, market festivals, magic shows, games and other programmes for children, in a bid to share knowledge about animals, their natural characters and habitats.

Located at the foot of Mandalay Hill, the Yadanabon Zoological Gardens opened in 1989. The zoo has 36 species of mammals, 51 species of birds and 13 species of reptiles.

The cost of visiting the zoo is Ks1,000 for adults and Ks500 for children.—GNLM ■

Thailand proposed to recognize Baht as the designated currency for cross-border trade stability

THAILAND has proposed to Myanmar to designate the Thai Baht as the currency of choice for bilateral trading in order to stabilize the cross-border trade between Myanmar and Thailand, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

“Thailand proposed to use the Baht for trading with Myanmar because Thai traders and investors face difficulties due to the fast fluctuation of Myanmar currency when they conduct business transactions,” said U Yan Naing Tun, director general of the Department of Trade.

At the meeting of the Myanmar- Thailand Border Trade Joint Committee, Myanmar and Thailand discussed how to deploy single-stop inspections at border gates between Myanmar and Thailand, launch new border trade camps, facilitate in importing Myanmar’s rubber and agricultural produce, to maintain equal rights for im-



Vehicles seen at Myawaddy border trade zone. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

migration workers and to exchange trade information.

Bilateral trade between Myanmar and Thailand is annually increasing and the border trade has increased up to 28 %. Both sides agreed to crackdown illegal trade. The main five areas of commerce between Myanmar and Thailand are agriculture, border trade, energy, industry and tourism.

Among the trading partners that Myanmar has, Thailand is the second largest country for exporting goods while it is the third largest country for imports.

Myanmar and Thailand signed a trade agreement on 12 April in 1989, and the border trade agreement was signed on 17 March in 1996.—Zar Lin Thu (AMIA)■

Export value of marine products reaches record high this year

THE export value of marine products has reached a record high of more than US\$660 million, even before the end of this financial year, according to the Fisheries Department, under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

This is the country’s largest export value of marine products during the past decade. The current value has exceeded the ministry’s estimate of \$650 million.

Between April 2017 and this March, Myanmar exported 522,300 metric tonnes of marine products, valued at \$662.973 million, according to official figures released by the Fisheries Department.

In 2007-2008 FY, the country sold 351,652 metric tonnes of marine products

to overseas countries, earning \$561.02 million. In 2011-2017 FY, the country earned \$653.85 million from the export of marine products, exporting 386,981 metric tonnes.

The ministry is working to expand international markets in anticipation of healthy exports. Its efforts resulted in an increase of foreign importers in international markets. At present, Myanmar regularly exports marine products to over 40 countries, including European states. Myanmar exported marine products to only 30 overseas countries during the last decade.

A spokesperson from the department said he expects to see \$700 million in exports from this sector.—Aung Win (Pyapon)■

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Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint attends Tun Foundation (2017) Literary Award ceremony

UNION Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint delivered a speech at the Tun Foundation (2017) Literary Award ceremony held in Zabuyit Shwesin Hall, Myanmar Banks Association building, Yankin Township, Yangon, yesterday afternoon.

In his speech, Dr. Pe Myint said that the main factor for a country's development is the development of literature.

"It is said that the numbers who read are low in our country, and that the youth don't read. It is partly right, but not totally right. There are quite a number of people, both young and old, who read. Compared to the world, it may be low, but it can be said that there are those who read books and literature with interest."

"The support of organizations and individuals are important for good writing and literature to come into existence. Presenting awards like this is, in fact, supporting literature. There may be a few among the award winners today who earn their



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint addresses Tun Foundation (2017) Literary Award ceremony. **PHOTO: YEHTUT**

livelihood solely through writing, but many are simply writing because they want to write. They are not earning their livelihood, but they are creating literature. Nowadays, there are many such people."

"New books in new sectors (subjects) are being written, and this is seen as Myanmar's literature circle becomes more com-

plete. Nowadays, there are many books that ought to be read, books and writings on specific subjects that are being written. It is an indication that our literature is developing. The role of those giving awards is also very important in this development." The Union Minister also spoke about "book street" being organized at the Printing and

Publishing Department building on Theinbyu Road, Yangon, for the development of literature and to raise the public's interest in books. "Arrangements are being made for the 'book street' to become a destination for international tourists visiting Yangon.

Plans are also made to hold events, such as children's

literature festivals and an all-round youth development festival," said the Union Minister. He added that ethnic national literature book reading events, book and literature shows and similar events are to be held in Taunggyi.

"Literature circles are being formed, with the hope to create knowledgeable persons in the townships who can lead. As more knowledgeable persons are created, it is believed that their voices can be listened to in selecting books and writers who should be honored."

"The world of Myanmar books will develop as writers create books and writings to the best of their abilities, award givers present prizes and readers earnestly read, review, comment and support literature." In conclusion, the Union Minister requested those presenting awards to continue offering honors, and for writers to accept the honors and create better literature.

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Independent media gather information in Maungtau

AN independent media delegation, including journalists from local and foreign media agencies, arrived in Maungtau yesterday.

The media delegation was accompanied by Maungtau District Deputy Commissioner U Ye Htut, who also answered questions from the media on matters regarding readiness for repatriation, resettlement for returnees and works for regional peace and development. In the afternoon, the media delegation visited the Khon-Daing and Myawaddy vil-

lages of Mro ethnic nationals, Owe Htane village (Hindu) and Kyein Chaung village (Muslim), where journalists met villagers and freely gathered information, including accommodation being constructed under the UEHRD programme, issuing of NVCs and their living conditions.

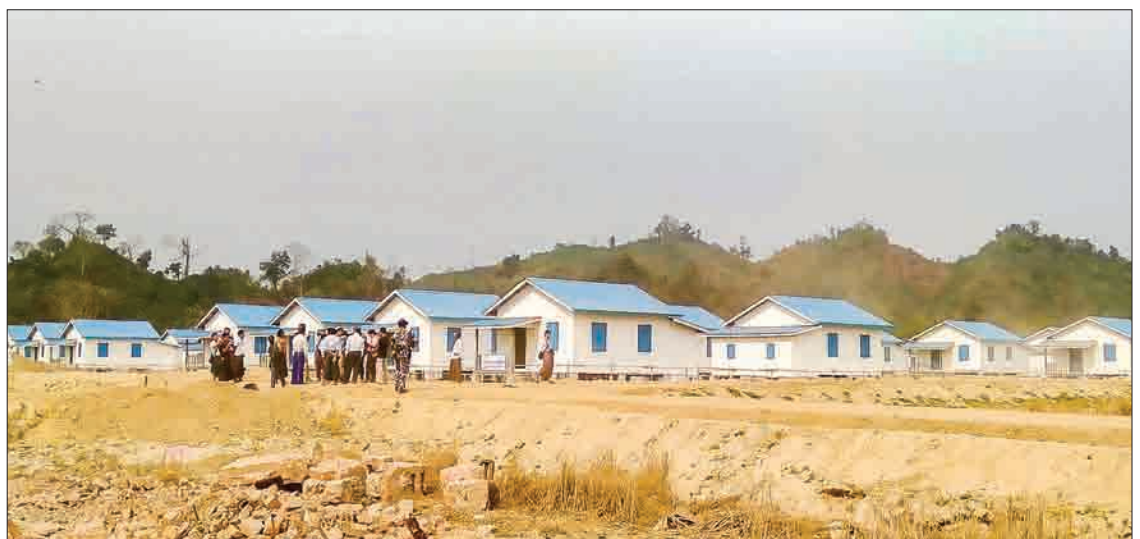
In the evening, they also interviewed the Hindu women from Yebawkya Village, who had returned from the neighboring country and escaped from terrorists. —Thura Zaw ■



Journalists from local and foreign media agencies interview Hindu women from Yebawkya Village in Maungtau yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Independent media delegation meet with villagers in Maungtau. **PHOTO: MNA**



Journalists observe Khon-Daing village of Mro ethnic nationals in Maungtau yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects development of Loi Mwe town

FROM PAGE-3

Afterwards, the Vice President and party went to the construction site of the Kengtung substation, where project manager U Min Naing explained about the current and future work of the project.

A 230 KV Nansang-Mong-ping-Kengtung power line is being built to connect east Shan

State with the national grid, while the Kengtung substation project will be completed in November 2018.

The Vice President and party continued on to Kengtung General Hospital to meet with patients undergoing treatment. The officials also donated money. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Vice President U Henry Van Thio comforts patient at Kengtung General Hospital. PHOTO: MNA



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint presents Tun Foundation Lifetime Literacy award to Dr. Tin Hlaing (Bo Hlaing). PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint attends ...

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Also, Tun Foundation Chairman and Tun Foundation Literary Award Selection Committee patron U Thin Tun delivered a speech and Tun Foundation Literary Award Selection Committee Vice Chairman Dr. Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min – Danuphyu) discussed the selection committee's note.

Union Minister Dr. Pe Thein then presented Tun Foundation Lifetime Literacy awards to Sithu U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit) and Dr. Tin Hlaing (Boe Hlaing).

Following this, awards for various categories were presented. Award winners were Saya Thado Lwin (Geography) on economy, Dr. Hla Kyi (Ahaya Sayawngyi) on health, Saya Boe Hlaing on translation, Prof. Khin Maung Win (Athe) on biography, Saya Dr. Aung Than Ba Tu and Saya Dr. Aung Gyi on biography in English, Thein Than Win (Mahlaing) on culture, Saya Tun

Yi (Shay Haung Thu Tay Thi) on history, U Than Htike on reference, Saya Thape Pan Ko Ko Aung on environment, Saya Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing on youth, Saya Dr. Saw Mra Aung on history in English, Saya Thint Naw and Ma Hnin Phway in the general category, Saya U Thein Swe on health, Saya Gyo Nghet on environment, Dr. Sein Myint on history, Saya Nanda Moe Kyaw on children literature, Saya Nanda Min Lwin on culture and Dr. Khaing Khaing Win on knowledge.

The Tun Foundation has been giving out literature awards since 2006 and began presenting lifetime literacy awards in 2009. This is the twelfth Tun Foundation Literary Award ceremony to be held in which two lifetime literacy awards were presented, along with thirteen book awards and six manuscript awards. Ks 2 million, Ks 1.5 million and Ks 700,000 were awarded for lifetime literacy, as well as the book and manuscript awards, respectively. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint meets new executives of Myanmar Music Association

UNION Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint met Myanmar Music Association (Central) Chairman U Tin Oo Lay and new executive members in the meeting hall of the association in Natchaung Ward, Tamway Township, Yangon yesterday afternoon.

After U Tin Oo Lay welcomed Dr. Pe Myint with a speech, the Union Minister thanked the members of Myanmar Music Association for helping out in the peace music festivals recently held across the country.

He said the ministry is ready to help in matters relating to literature, music and film and urged them to discuss matters relating to develop-

ment of the music sector and matters that support international cooperation. The Union Minister added that the ministry will do its best and implored to discuss openly and in detail about copyright matters.

Vice Chairman U Lwin Myint, general secretary U Zaw Htoo Aung and joint secretary (1) U Khin Maung Htoo discussed and explained about forming of work committees, copyrights, and use of music and arts.

Present at the meeting were Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung, Directors General, executive members of the Myanmar Music Association (Central) and officials.

Earlier in the day, Union

Minister Dr. Pe Myint met with personnel from Myanmar Radio and Television (Yangon) in Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) Studio (A) on Pyay Road in Yangon.

At the meeting, the Union Minister urged them to discuss improving the department with modern technology; coordinate and discuss more interesting programmes; share experiences, views, opinions, ideas and difficulties.

The Union Minister added that matters discussed will be coordinated with responsible persons. MRTV Director General U Myint Htway explained actions taken on matters discussed in the past meeting. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint delivers the opening speech at the meeting of Myanmar Music Association (Central) in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Boost agricultural exports to balance with imports

FOREIGN trade hit a record before the end of the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, exceeding US\$30 billion. Myanmar's trade volume for fiscal year 2017-2018 (from April 2017 to March 2018) was over \$30 billion – over \$13 billion worth of exports and over \$17 billion worth of imports. According to the official list, the country could export \$2 billion more and import another \$2 billion more this fiscal year.

The country exported \$2.8 billion worth of agricultural goods this year. As of 2 March, the country exported over \$3 billion worth of natural gas. Garment exports stood in second place with a value of US\$2.33 billion. Oil and natural gas dominate Myanmar's exports. Other exports include vegetables, wood, fish, clothing, rubber and fruits. Myanmar's main export partners are China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Germany, Indonesia and Hong Kong.

Other oil products including diesel, petrol and airplane fuel, airplane parts, machines and parts, chemical fibers and medicines were imported more this year than the previous year. In fact, these items are essential requirements for the nation, important raw materials of SMEs, and healthcare requirements for the people.

In the agricultural sector, there remain challenges and difficulties. They include climate, natural disasters, rise in production costs, lack of quality strains, rise in transport costs, weakness in value-added goods, dependence on international markets and demand, and lack of modern production methods.

This is mainly due to low-quality seeds. There are not enough rice seed companies in Myanmar. So, farmers recycle paddies from their farms to plant rice the following year.

Also, modern processing machinery and technologies are beyond our farmers' means. There are many other obstacles, including lack of storage facilities. Attracting investment is high on the government's list of priorities, but foreign direct investment in agriculture is still low.

The key problem is that there are still big risks in agriculture, including the lack of a crop insurance system. Investors do not dare make investments in the sector, as the sector cannot guarantee a profit. Myanmar also has logistical problems, including poor infrastructure and lack of electricity in rural areas.

To improve our agricultural sector, we should not forget the impact of climate change. It is therefore essential to research a new system of agriculture that is based on climate change. ■

Effective Management and Conservation of water resources

By Maung Kyee Yay

NATURAL resources are resources that exist without actions of humankind which includes all valued characteristics of sunlight, atmosphere, water, and land along with all vegetation, plants and animal life.

Natural resources are materials and components that can be found within our environment and every man-made product is composed of natural resources. But some natural resources such as sunlight and air can be found everywhere. In recent years, the depletion of natural resources has become a major focus of governments and organizations around the world.

Therefore the necessary steps should be taken by countries and organizations in order to conserve their natural resources. The depletion of natural resources is considered to be a concern-sustainable development issue. Efforts are needed to ensure for future generations to meet their own needs.

In regards to natural resources, depletion is of concern for sustainable development as it has the ability to degrade current environments and potential to impact the needs of future generations. That's why the conservation of natural resources is the fundamental problem unless we solve that problem, it will avail us little to solve all others if we do not solve that problems.

Water resources

Water resources are sources of water mainly used in agricultural, industrial, household, recreational and environmental activities.

In Myanmar, most are normally rain fed and only 8-12 percent of sown has been irrigated for almost the past fifty years. As a result, availability of water plays a vital role in crop production. Although Myanmar is rich in abundant water resources, totaling approximately 870 million acre-feet, only 41 million acre-feet has been utilized for the time being now.



People line up to fetch drinking water in Dala Township, Yangon Region. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Traditionally, agriculture in Myanmar mainly depends upon annual rainfall; it is of utmost importance to use effective utilization of water resources management.

As for the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, long-term plans have been made to formulate the irrigation systems and utilization of pumping irrigation from rivers streams and underground water.

Surface water

Surface water is naturally replenished by precipitation and naturally lost through discharge to the oceans, evaporation, evapotranspiration and groundwater recharge. Nevertheless, over the long term the average rate of precipitation within a watershed is the upper bound for average consumption of natural surface water from that watershed. Natural surface water can be augmented by importing surface water from another watershed through a canal or pipeline.

Water pollution is one of the main concerns of the world today. The governments of numerous countries have striven to find

Nowadays, clean water scarcity becomes one of the global hot issues and people are in need of purified drinking water for their survival. It is of great importance for human beings to get access to portable water so that they can sustain their life.

solutions to reduce this problem.

Gaining access to clean water

Myanmar receives abundant rainfall and other sources form the ground water, river water, lake water, creek water, stream water. Moreover there are plenty of fresh water and salt water resources and very few people encounter water scarcity problem in Myanmar.

In some countries, they are

lack of fresh water resources and receive little rainfall. In this circumstance, the people cannot get safe and clean drinking water so they have to import potable water from foreign countries.

Nowadays, clean water scarcity becomes one of the global hot issues and people are in need of purified drinking water for their survival. It is of great importance for human beings to get access to portable water so that they can sustain their life.

zone, and has many rivers and natural lakes, as well as ground-water aquifers. The demand for clean water in Myanmar's cities has increased with the increase in population and urbanization, while the demand for water in the rural areas has also increased due to expanding cultivation and other rural-based economic activities.

Getting clean drinking water is a nationwide priority in Myanmar. In the future, more drinking water supply will be based on piped water system and Myanmar has many dams and reservoirs for drinking water; villages tend to use open water ponds for water storage.

There is so much potential for the utilization of our water resources. Like many other countries, Myanmar is facing problems of too much water or too little water and water pollution.

The authority concerned is trying to develop the water-related sectors, such as water supply and water treatment, sanitation, personal hygiene and clean environment, agriculture, livestock and hydro power sectors.

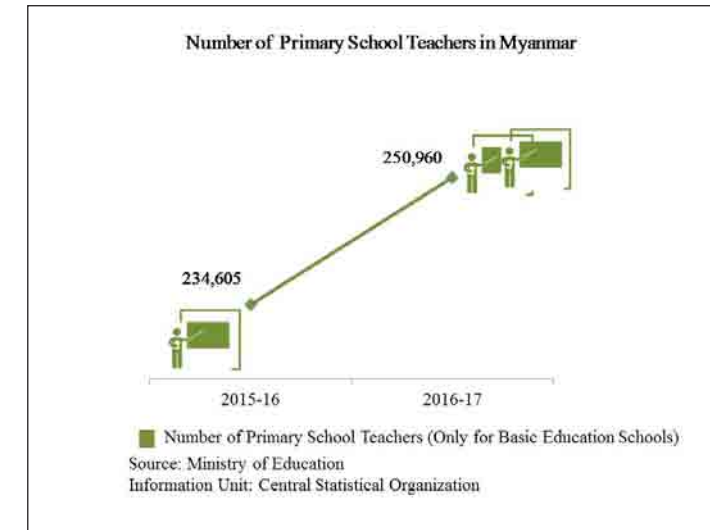
Importance of water resource management

It is needed for the authority concerned to raise awareness to the public through education and to convey the importance of water resources for the economic, social and all-round development of all the sectors.

Therefore concerted efforts should be made to get clean drinking water. We should be aware of the global water-shortage caused by ground water over-pumping and aquifer depletion. The adequate treatment of waste-water is required and it is a solution to this problem.

Whatever it is, it is better to make efforts for implementation of solving water issues such as acquisition of adequate water supply, valuation of water, protection from floods and storms, conservation of water resources with systematic management in the long run. ■

Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

It is very important that we take proper care for our general health for our general well being and to provide long term support for our families, the society and the nation.

A healthy body is the habitat for a healthy mind without which no objective in life could ever be achieved successfully. It does not take too much too much effort or financial support to stay healthy. But it does need some education, awareness, motivation to follow a regular life style with well balanced diet and physical activities like some free hand exercises, stretching, yoga, jogging or brisk walking at least 3-4 times a week.

It is important to eat a balanced diet rich in protein and fibers and low in carbohydrate, avoid eating cheap junk foods and soft drinks and focus on building a healthy life style.

This is an investment in our life that is significant for our overall well being. One would start looking fit and feel energetic with balanced diet and a regular exercise regime incorporated in the life style within a month. If we are healthy then we could achieve lots in our life; continue to be successful, able to handle stress better as well as sleep and relax better.

Thanking you
Sincerely yours
Saikat Kumar Basu

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

Macron, Merkel promise EU reform roadmap by June

PARIS—French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Friday they would come up with a roadmap for a major shake-up of the European Union by June, despite resistance to Macron's ambitious reform agenda from smaller members of the bloc.

Macron has called for a major drive to reinvigorate the EU and deepen cooperation at a time of rising populism, with proposals that include a common eurozone finance minister and budget.

Merkel has given a cautious welcome to his ideas, but had been hamstrung by nearly six months of tortuous talks to form a coalition government, the longest in Germany's post-war history.

Heading into talks on Friday at the Elysee Palace with the newly-reinstated chancellor, Macron sought to accelerate the pace.

Citing Brexit and the gains made by populists in Italian elections as cause for urgent action, he said France and Germany would "propose a clear, ambi-



Angela Merkel's talks in Paris with Emmanuel Macron drew a sharp response from Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte who told Berlin and Paris not to ignore the concerns of other EU states. **PHOTO: AFP**

tious roadmap" on the eurozone, migration policy, defence, trade, research and education by June.

Merkel, who has been weakened by her conservative CDU/CSU party's election losses, backed the deadline, telling a joint press conference: "We have to achieve results by June."

While France and Germany did "not always have the same opinions at first", she said they would attempt to find "common paths".

But even if he manages to win Merkel over, Macron's plans could founder on resistance from smaller northern European

countries wary of being railroaded into sweeping reforms.

Northern Europe sceptics

Merkel's visit to Paris drew a sharp response from Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, who told Berlin and Paris not to ignore the concerns of other EU

states.

"Of course the German government can meet the French government without us being there," Rutte told Germany's Spiegel magazine.

"But that doesn't mean that we and other EU countries agree with everything the Germans and French agree on. We won't just nod along to everything."

Finance ministers from countries including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden and the Netherlands had already called last week for more modest goals, such as completing the eurozone banking union, instead of "far-reaching proposals" for change.

For Macron, however, who made overhauling European institutions a key campaign promise last year, Merkel's return to the helm of EU heavyweight Germany comes not a moment too soon.

Congratulating Merkel on her new Conservative-Social Democrat coalition, he said: "I have to tell you that the joy was all ours when it ended well." — AFP ■

Ex-FBI deputy McCabe, Trump target, fired days before retirement

WASHINGTON—Former FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe, who has endured a year of withering attacks from President Donald Trump, was fired by the Justice Department on Friday just days before he was to retire.

McCabe pushed back hard at the decision, saying he was the victim of a "war" by the Trump administration against both the FBI, and the special counsel probing allegations of Russian election meddling. Announcing McCabe's ouster, the Justice Department said an internal investigation found that he had made unauthorized disclosures to the media, and had not been fully honest "on multiple occasions" with the department's inspector general.

"The FBI expects every employee to adhere to the highest standards of honesty, integrity and accountability," Attorney General Jeff Sessions said in a statement. The decision was taken "after an extensive and fair investigation," Sessions said.

Details of the inspector general's probe were not made public, but it involved the handling of the FBI's 2016 investigation into Trump's election rival, Democrat Hillary Clinton.

Trump has repeatedly accused McCabe and former FBI chief James Comey of having protected Clinton from prosecution over her misuse of a private email server while she was secretary of state, and over the actions of the private Clinton Foundation set up by her husband, former president Bill Clinton. Trump was also publicly upset about McCabe's defence of Comey —whom the president fired in May 2017 in frustration at the ongoing FBI probe into alleged collusion between his election campaign and Russia. McCabe hit out following his sacking in a blistering statement.

"I am being singled out and treated this way because of the role I played, the actions I took, and the events I witnessed in the



Andrew McCabe stepped down as deputy FBI director after months of criticism by President Donald Trump for alleged anti-Republican bias. **PHOTO: TASS**

aftermath of the firing of James Comey," McCabe said. McCabe said the inspector general's probe "became part of an unprecedented effort by the administration, driven by the president himself, to remove me from my position, destroy my reputation, and possibly strip me of a pension that I worked 21 years to earn."

The firing came as the White

House shows increasing frustration with the ongoing probe of alleged Trump campaign collusion with Russia by Special Counsel Robert Mueller — himself a former FBI director. Mueller is notably examining whether Trump obstructed the investigation with his sacking of Comey, an episode that McCabe would be a crucial witness for.—AFP ■

Russia to expel 23 British diplomats, close consulate general in St Petersburg

MOSCOW—Twenty three British diplomats have been declared personae non gratae and will be expelled within a week, Russia's Foreign Ministry said in a statement after the British Ambassador to Moscow Laurie Bristow was summoned on Saturday.

"Twenty three diplomats of the British Embassy in Moscow have been declared personae non gratae and will be expelled within a week's time. Taking into account the disparity in the number of consulates of the two countries, Russia withdraws permission to open the British Consulate General in St. Petersburg. Related procedures will be carried out in accordance with international law. Due to the unregulated status of the British Council in the Russian Federation it will be dissolved," the statement said.—Tass ■

Chinese president takes oath of allegiance to Constitution for first time



Xi Jinping takes a public oath of allegiance to the Constitution in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China on 17 March, 2018. Xi was elected Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China earlier Saturday at the ongoing first session of the 13th National People's Congress, the national legislature. **PHOTO: XINHUA**



Xi Jinping is elected Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China at the fifth plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on 17 March, 2018. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

BEIJING — “I pledge my allegiance to the Constitution of the People's Republic of China (PRC) to safeguard the Constitution's authority, fulfill my legal obligations ...” Newly elected Chinese President Xi Jinping took the solemn oath in Beijing on Saturday.

This was the first time for a Chinese president to take a public oath of allegiance to the Constitution upon assuming office.

Xi was elected Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC) of the PRC earlier Saturday at the ongoing first session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC), the national

legislature.

Last October, he was elected general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and appointed CMC chairman of the CPC at the first plenary session of the 19th CPC Central Committee. With the national emblem hung up high in an auditorium inside the Great Hall of the People, everybody stood and a hard copy of the Constitution was brought to the stage by honor guards as the ceremony started at around 10:49 am.

After a chorus of the national anthem was sung by all present, 64-year-old Xi, in a dark suit, took the podium, placed his

left hand upon the Constitution, raised his right fist, and read the oath.

“[I pledge to] be loyal to the country and the people, be committed and honest in my duty, accept the people's supervision and work for a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful,” he said.

He then bowed and returned to his seat amid warm applause.

The ceremony was held just six days after the national legislature added oaths of allegiance into the newly-amended Constitution on Sunday.

The amendment also added

Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as a guiding theory for China.

Based on a legislative decision passed by the top legislature in July 2015, China put the system into effect in January 2016, requiring all state functionaries to take a public oath of allegiance to the Constitution when assuming office.

The PRC enacted its first Constitution in 1954. The current Constitution was adopted in 1982 and amended in 1988, 1993, 1999, 2004 and 2018.

Joining NPC deputies in a panel discussion on 10 March, Xi urged officials to uphold rule

of law, oppose rule of man, be in awe of the Constitution, and exercise their duty within the boundaries of the Constitution and laws.

The ceremony was broadcast live via state television and the Internet.

“By taking the lead in swearing the oath, the president is telling the public that every one is equal in front of the law, and there is no exception,” said Xiao Shengfang, an NPC deputy and vice president of Guangdong Lawyers Association. “It shows commitment by the Chinese leadership to rule of law, which will ensure China's journey toward modernization.”—Xinhua

Oxfam faces fresh Haiti sexual misconduct allegations

LONDON — Oxfam faced fresh allegations of sexual misconduct by staff in Haiti, with a report on Saturday claiming the charity kept a senior aid worker in the earthquake-hit country for over a year despite harassment claims.

The British-based charity attempted to “contain” sexual harassment allegations involving Raphael Mutiku, who led Oxfam's installation of water supplies after the 2010 earthquake, according to an internal report seen by The Times newspaper.

The documents claim to show a final written warning was

issued to Mutiku, a Kenyan in his 40s, in June 2010, following accusations of sexual harassment from female colleagues.

However, six months later when it was alleged that the engineer was paying young women for sex at his Oxfam accommodation, his manager at the aid agency's UK headquarters is reported to have said he hoped the charity could “contain this” and it seemed Mutiku was “not being discreet”.

Oxfam has confirmed the decision not to dismiss Mutiku was made by Roland van Hau-

wermeiren — the then country director who was recently at the heart of the aid worker sex scandal.

The Times said Mutiku had “strenuously” denied paying prostitutes. He was sacked in 2011 following an internal investigation.

“The behaviour of some former Oxfam staff working in Haiti following the 2010 earthquake was completely unacceptable,” an Oxfam spokeswoman said in a statement.

“We are very sorry for what happened.”

The statement said the decision “not to sack Raphael Mutiku in 2010 was wrong,” and Van Hauwermeiren “was himself guilty of sexual misconduct. His decision making was therefore compromised”.

Oxfam said it had since introduced a confidential whistleblowing hotline and had this week announced new standards to improve referencing, and had appointed the co-chairs of an independent commission reviewing its culture and practices.

“We are committed to continue to do all we can to help

the millions of people every year affected by humanitarian disasters and to improve the lives of those living in poverty,” the spokeswoman said.

Made public last month, Oxfam's 2011 report into the behaviour of aid workers sent to Haiti following the earthquake revealed that Van Hauwermeiren admitted to paying for sex and that three staff physically threatened a witness.

Four staff were fired for gross misconduct and three others, including Van Hauwermeiren, were allowed to quit.—AFP

Combat robots for Russian troops to go into serial production this year — defence minister

MOSCOW — The serial production of combat robots for the Russian Armed Forces may start already this year, Defence Minister Army General Sergei Shoigu said on Thursday.

The Russian defence minister made this statement at the forum titled: “Russia — the Country of Possibilities.”

When asked by a forum participant about whether it was possible that the role of the soldier in the army would change in the near future and combat operations would be conducted

by remote-controlled vehicles, while the role of humans would boil down to performing the functions of an operator and a coordinator, the defence minister answered: “Why in the near future? This is being implemented today and is being implemented quite energetically.”

As the Russian defence minister pointed out, there were just 160 unmanned aerial vehicles in the Russian army several years ago, whereas today the troops operated almost 1,800 drones.

“We have started creating combat robots and their state and field trials are nearing completion. I hope that already this year we will start serial production,” the defence minister said.

Russia has also completed work on developing robotic vehicles for area mine clearance, Shoigu said. “Today such robots are already serial-produced. We do not stop the work for any single day, for any single hour,” the Russian defence minister stressed.—Tass ■



The serial production of combat robots for the Russian Armed Forces may start in 2018. PHOTO: TASS

**The Republic of Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population
Social Security Board
Open Tenders Invitation for developing and implementation of
Social Security Information System**

- Social Security Board (SSB) wants to acquire a comprehensive Social Security Information System in Myanmar Kyats. Any interested domestic, international or joint-venture companies are eligible to submit the tender proposal.
- The project is to deliver an integrated solution comprises of the followings:
 - Data center implementation
 - Development and implementation of SSB core business processes such as employee/employer registration process, contribution collection process, benefits provision process, claims management process, medical services provision process and e-Money services, etc.
 - Setting up and operate the SSB smart card printing processes
 - Implementation of software packages such as accounting, human resource management, hospital management, and building and inventory maintenance, among others.
- The tender forms including Terms of Reference and Tender Discipline can be purchased at the Administrative Department, Social Security Board (Head Office), No (OU- 77), corner of Thiriyadanar and Naykyar (8) Street, Ottarahiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar during office hours starting from 19-3-2018 to 28-3-2018.
- The closing time to submit tender proposal is 16:30 pm on May 11, 2018 at the above mentioned address. Any tender submitted after the closing time will not be considered.
- For further information, please visit the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population website <http://www.mol.gov.mm> and inquiry the following address within office hour:
 - Information and Communication Department, Social Security Board, Nay Pyi Taw
 - Phone - 067-3417925, 3417951, 3417952
 - Fax - 067-3417926
 Tender Invitation and Appraisal Committee
Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population

**Silaparidhota Panna , Panna Paridhotam Silam
Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University
Invitation of Admission to the Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University**

The Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University was founded on 12 June 2016 with the motto of orthodox elders, “Live in a traditional way but learn through a modern methodology”, with a view to producing a virtuous learned monks. The courses for the 2018-19 academic year are to be opened on 4 June 2018. The diploma entrance examination is to be held for three days from 2nd to 4th May 2018 (from the 3rd to the 5th waning days of Kason, 1380 ME).

The Qualifications of Diploma Candidates (for the 2018-19 academic year)

The candidates must –

- not be older than 30 years but with 10 vassas (rains-retreat) already attained,
- observe the Vinaya rules strictly and love the Sasana so dearly,
- be free from the physical handicaps and
- be able to say at the hostel inside the precincts of the university.

(A) The monks who are the holders of a Dhammacariya degree conferred by a governmental university or by a private Pariyatti Learning-center and the successful candidates in the Pathamagyī religious examination with a thorough knowledge of the prescribed texts for the Dhammacariya course must sit for the entrance examination as follows.

Date of the examination	Time of the examination	Subjects	Venue for the examination	Remarks
2-5-2018	From 8:30 am to 10:30 am	Questions on Dhammacariya (1 st day)	Mahavihara Dhamma-Vanaya University	Interview at 4:00 pm-5:00pm
3-5-2018	From 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Questions on Dhammacariya (2 nd day)	Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University	Interview at 4:00 pm-5:00pm

(B) The monks who are the matriculated, undergraduates and graduates can sit for the entrance examination. However, they must answer the questions on the Vinaya-the Patimokkha and Dvematika Patimokkha with their meanings on the first day and the definitions of the Vinaya on the second day as follows.

Date of the examination	Time of the examination	Subjects	Venue for the examination	Remarks
2-5-2018	From 8:00 am to 11:00 am	Questions on Vinaya (1 st day)	Mahavihara Dhamma-Vanaya University	Interview at 4:00 pm-5:00pm
3-5-2018	From 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Questions on Vinaya (2 nd day)	Mahavihara Dhamma-Vanaya University	Interview at 4:00 pm-5:00pm

(C) All the candidate from (A) and (B) groups must sit for the written examination (two sets of questions) for their English proficiency (with an interview if necessary).

Date of the examination	Time of the examination	Subjects	Venue for the examination	Remarks
4-5-2018	From 8:30 am to 10:30 am	General English	Mahavihara Dhamma-Vanaya University	Written
4-5-2018	From 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Buddhism	Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University	Written

The students who get eligibility to the diploma class must take two four-month semesters for Dip-in-B. Dh and then three four-month semesters for B. A(B.Dh).

Remarks: English is to be used as the medium of instruction at the diploma level and higher ones so that all the monks produced from this university will be equipped with a good command of English. The application form must be submitted by 20th April 2018.

The application form and question-types for the diploma entrance examination are available at the following places and persons.

- The Department of Students’ Affairs, Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University, ph.09798162023
- www.mdumyanmar.org and www.facebook.mahavihara dhammavinayauniversity,
- Rector Sayadaw, Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University, ph:09 73014264
- Pro-rector, Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University, ph:09 5089334
- Professor U Nyan Win Htet , ph: 09 5066306
- Professor Dr. Saw Mra Aung , ph: 09 421040351
- Professor Dr. Han Win , ph: 09 425303699
- Registrar U Ko Ko Naing , ph: 09 798162023

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Newspapers & Journal Printing Service. Contact: 09-254435478

Viet Nam's reformist ex-PM Phan Van Khai dies at age 85

HANOI—Former Vietnamese premier Phan Van Khai, who helped strengthen ties with the US and drive market reforms that ignited the communist country's economy, died on Saturday at the age 85, the government said.

A Soviet-trained economist from southern Viet Nam, Khai held office for nine years starting in 1997, a period of reform that saw Viet Nam transform into one of Southeast Asia's fastest growing economies.

Khai also made history as the country's first post-war leader to visit Washington in 2005, a landmark trip that helped cement ties between

the former war time foes.

A government statement announcing the former premier's death in the early hours of Saturday hailed his "spirit of innovation".

He "brought into play the capabilities of the whole economic sector, especially the private sector, in parallel with the opening up and international integration (of the country)," the statement said.

It did not detail the cause of Khai's death, though his health has reportedly been ailing for several weeks.

While the former premier helped open the communist country's economy and launch it onto a world stage, his ad-

ministration made no departure from Viet Nam's repressive one-party rule at home, where independent media is banned and critics are routinely jailed.

His government was also plagued by corruption.

Born on 25 December, 1933 in Ho Chi Minh City's suburban Cu Chi district, Khai became a political activist at 14 by joining a children's revolutionary movement against the French colonial regime.

He later joined the communist party at age 26, shortly before being sent to study in Moscow from 1960 to 1965.

He became the mayor of Ho Chi Minh city in 1985, and



Former Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai. PHOTO: AFP

six years later entered Viet Nam's top decision-making body, the politburo.

prime minister, Khai was deputy premier to his patron and mentor Vo Van Kiet from 1991-97.—AFP ■

Australia warns on encrypted apps as Southeast Asia vows terror cooperation



Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull pointed to the increasingly trans-national nature of terrorism. PHOTO: AFP

SYDNEY—Use of encrypted messaging apps to plan terrorist attacks is the greatest threat facing intelligence agencies in modern times, Australia warned on Saturday as Southeast Asian leaders vowed closer cooperation to counter extremism.

An ASEAN-Australia special summit in Sydney heard that use of the "dark web" was a spiralling problem and countries in the region must work together to keep on top of it.

Australia's Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton told the meeting "the use of encrypted messaging apps by terrorists and criminals is potentially the most significant degradation of intelligence capability in modern times".

He said the only way to deal with the problem, and the increasing use of the internet by groups like

Islamic State to radicalise and recruit new members, was together.

"We have to be constantly alert, constantly working with our neighbours in the region," said Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, pointing to the increasingly trans-national nature of terrorism.

"Sharing of intelligence is critically important. As we all know, what may appear to be a not especially important, not especially consequential piece of intelligence, may be the piece that connects the jigsaw for somebody else's investigation.

"Trust, sharing, collaboration, it is absolutely critical."

Leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations signed a memorandum of understanding after a day of counter-terrorism talks, agreeing to

work together to develop "best practice counter-terrorism legislation".

They also agreed to regional dialogues and workshops covering electronic evidence, financial intelligence, and ways to tackle online radicalisation.

Canberra is already helping Southeast Asian states choke terrorist financing and counter violent extremism.

The problem has been exacerbated by jihadists now being forced out of Syria and Iraq with the Islamic State caliphate mostly crushed, and into other countries. The issue was driven home last year when pro-Islamic State militants seized the southern Philippine city of Marawi, with Australia aiding Manila to win it back.

- 'Warped and evil' -

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak praised Australia's initiative to strengthen cooperation, and said countering online extremist propaganda was especially critical.

"This is our new main battleground, to win the hearts and minds of our youth through social media, so that they do not easily succumb to the warped, perverse and evil ideology of Daesh," he said, referring to Islamic State.—AFP ■

Explanation to public upon the declaration of remainder family property of deceased U San Myint (a) S Guru Swarmi declaration of Advocates U Tin Maung Thein and U Tin Shwe by authorized assignation directive of (1) U Thein Shwe, (2) U Ni Ni (c) Mee Mee, (3) Daw Mar Ra Thi, (4) Daw Khin Mar Lar, (5) Daw Aye Aye Than and (6) Daw Khin Khin San included page (1) of The Global New Light of Myanmar, dated; (12-3-2018).

Whereas, authorize assignation directives of U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe, 12/Pa Za Ta (Naing) 016853, residing at No (120), Maha Bandoola Street, Ward (2), Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region explanation as follow;

U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe, his solely owned by measurement area (0.052) acre (60) yeares Lease Grant Land Plot No. (1-2B), Residential Ward No. (2), Survey Block No. (9-K²), Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region and constructed on that land known as No. (120), (7) Storey Building (1) Unit, Maha Bandoola Street, Pazundaung Township with obtained Lease Grant Contract from City Planning and Land Registration Department, Yangon City Development Committee and U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe aforesaid measurement area (0.052) acre (60) yeares Lease Grant Land Plot No. (1-2B), Residential Ward No. (2), Survey Block No. (9-K²), Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region and constructed on that land known as No. (120), (7) Storey Building (1) Unit, Maha Bandoola Street, Pazundaung Township outright purchased and holding from U Gu Ru Swar Mi (a) U San Myint made with Sale Contract No. 926/08 at Yangon Deeds Registration Department, that U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe legal owned and possessions, therefore explanation to U Thein Shwe, U Ni Ni (a) Mee Mee, Daw Mar Ra Thi, Daw Khin Mar Lar, Daw Aye Aye Than and Daw Khin Khin San without any relevant to that property.

U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe solely commence established from long-time (36) years opened the Myanmar Cotton Bed Shop at No. (120), Maha Bandoola Street, Ward (2), Pazundaung Township, Yangon and up to now performing business of U Mu gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe and then Myanmar Cotton Bed Shop is without relevant U Gu Ru Swar Mi (a) U San Myint and also without relevant of U Thein Shwe, U Ni Ni (a) Mee Mee, Daw Mar Ra Thi, Daw Khin Mar Lar, Daw Aye Aye Than and Daw Khin Khin San, children of U Gu Ru Swar Mi (a) U San Myint, reply explanation to understand by public.

Therefore, declare to understand by public and remainder children of U San Myint (a) U Gu Ru Swar Mi, that deceased U San Myint (a) S Gu Ru Swar Mi without relevant and without benefits entitlement to above Land Plot and constructed (7) storey Building included Myanmar Cotton Bed Shop Business.

Authorized assignation directives by U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe
Daw Aye Aye Thet
LL.B, D.B.L.D.M.L.D.I.R
Dip in English (Advocate)
(Sr. 12586)

No. (16), (Ground Floor), She Laung Street, Lin/South Ward Sanchaung Township, Yangon Region.
Phone: 09-5086148

Drake breaks new streaming record — in video games

LOS ANGELES—Hip-hop superstar Drake has broken a new record in streaming — this time in video games.

The most streamed artist on Spotify, whose latest hit “God’s Plan” has spent the last seven weeks at number one on the US singles chart, made waves this week when he joined the streaming video-game platform Twitch.

His livestream — on which he joined the shoot-’em’-up adventure “Fortnite” with players including video-game star Ninja — drew 628,000 viewers, Twitch said, far outpacing the previous record of 388,000.

Twitch, which is owned by retail behemoth Amazon, saw in the success signs for future

growth of the platform, in which video-game aficionados watch and interact with players online.

“Seeing a top gamer and musician come together on Twitch and unite their large and passionate communities is a cultural moment in terms of building awareness around the appeal of social video and it’s only going to grow from here,” Kate Jhaveri, Twitch’s senior vice president for marketing, said in a statement.

Twitch has drawn followers not only for the games, but also for the talk-show-like chatter that accompanies them.

Drake, who gives few interviews, spoke at length with Ninja as they played “Fortnite” on Wednesday night, for a time

making the episode a trending topic on Twitter.

Among tidbits into his life that drew wide notice on social media, Drake revealed that he is a vegetarian and that he is a fan of pineapple on pizza.

The Toronto star has seized on streaming as he built his career, including through a marketing deal with Apple. His Jamaican-inspired track “One Dance” remains the second most streamed song ever on Spotify.

Drake and Ninja, whose real name is Tyler Blevin, were joined in playing the game by rapper Travis Scott and Pittsburgh Steelers football player JuJu Smith-Schuster.

Twitch, launched in 2011 and



Drake —shown here performing at the 2016 iHeartRadio Music Festival in Las Vegas in 2016— is making waves in the world of streaming video games. **PHOTO: AFP**

bought by Amazon three years later for nearly \$1 billion, has increasingly put a focus on music,

with the DJ Steve Aoki notably contributing to a song library for the gamers.—AFP ■

‘Life of Pi’ star Irrfan Khan reveals struggle with rare illness

MUMBAI—Bollywood star Irrfan Khan, known internationally for his roles in blockbusters “Life of Pi” and “Slumdog Millionaire”, shocked fans on Friday by revealing he has a rare tumour.

In a statement addressing speculation by fans and the media over his health, Khan said he has been diagnosed with a neuroendocrine tumour.

The disease affects the body’s hormonal messaging system and studies suggest it afflicts just 35 in 100,000 people.

“Learning that I have been diagnosed with neuroendocrine tumour as of now has admittedly been difficult, but the love and strength of those around me and that I found within me has brought me to a place of hope,” Khan said on Twitter.

“To those who waited for my words, I hope to be back with more stories to tell,” he



Irrfan Khan is one of Bollywood’s most globally-recognised exports, with a stellar career at home and in Hollywood. **PHOTO: AFP**

said, adding that he would leave India for treatment.

Referring to rumours about his illness, Khan said a neuroendocrine tumour “is not always about the brain and googling is the easiest way to do research”.

The 51-year-old Indian actor, who was in the 2016 film “Inferno” alongside Tom

Hanks, is one of Bollywood’s most globally-recognised exports, with a stellar career at home and in Hollywood.

He had been scheduled to start work on a film by Bollywood director Vishal Bharadwaj, who recently announced the production had been postponed due to Khan’s illness.—AFP ■

Oscars chief being investigated for sexual harassment

LOS ANGELES—John Bailey, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the body which hands out the Oscars, is being investigated for sexual harassment, Variety reported on Friday.

The trade publication said the Academy immediately opened an investigation after receiving three harassment claims against Bailey on Wednesday.

Bailey, 75, a cinematographer whose credits include “Groundhog Day” and “The Big Chill,” was elected to a four-year term as head of the Academy in August. His brief tenure has been marked by the birth of the #MeToo movement started by actress Alyssa Milano and which went global, highlighting accusations of sexual abuse.

Harvey Weinstein, whose studio Miramax was behind hits such as “Shakespeare In Love” and “Pulp Fiction,” was expelled from the Academy in October following accusations of sexual harassment and abuse by dozens of women. In December, the Academy adopted a code of conduct for its members.

At a February lunch for this year’s Oscar nominees, Bailey promised the Academy would adopt a “greater awareness and responsibility in balancing gender, race, ethnicity, and religion.”

“The fossilized bedrock of many of Hollywood’s worst abuses are being jackhammered into oblivion,” he said.

The Academy did not immediately respond to a request for comment.—AFP ■



John Bailey, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, is under investigation for sexual harassment, Variety reports. **PHOTO: AFP**

Ridley Scott in talks to direct ‘Queen and Country’ film

LOS ANGELES—Veteran director Ridley Scott is in negotiations to helm the film adaptation of the graphic novel “Queen and Country”.

The novel, written by Greg Rucka, follows the adventures of Tara Chace, a top agent in

the British Secret Intelligence Service, who is used as bait to draw out a terrorist in the wake of a terrorist attack in London.

If finalised, the “Alien: Covenant” helmer will also produce the project along with

Chernin Entertainment in addition to directing, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Earlier, actor Ellen Page was attached to star in the film adaptation in 2013, with Craig Viveiros directing, but the project failed to take off.—PTI ■

Thai graffiti artists lionise slain panther

BANGKOK—Bangkok graffiti artists painted a mural on Friday of panthers seated at a “Last Supper” table, the latest subversive depiction of an animal that has come to symbolise injustice after a tycoon was accused of poaching the wild cat.

Construction magnate Premchai Karnasuta, one of Thailand’s wealthiest moguls, was arrested in a wildlife sanctuary in February with guns and animal carcasses, including that of a black leopard.

The brazen violation of park rules unleashed a wave of anguish from environmental and political activists fed-up with the impunity enjoyed by the kingdom’s elites.

With public protests still banned under a junta that grabbed power in 2014, the anger

has taken the form of sly street art focused around the image of the panther. But the movement has turned into a cat-and-mouse game with authorities suspected of quickly painting over the panther art cropping up in public spaces around the nation.

An animal rights group recently stepped in to pair street artists with private businesses willing to offer up their walls.

That’s how ten graffitiists found themselves free to decorate the side of a Bangkok veterinary clinic on Friday.

The group spent the afternoon spraying large black cats seated behind a table in a nod to Leonardo da Vinci’s “The Last Supper”, which depicts Jesus’ final meal with his apostles before

his crucifixion.

“There are (panthers) from each artist at the same table having dinner for the last time,” explained a 28-year-old graffiti artist who goes by “Panda Dew”.

Phureerut Ratanavanich, who co-owns the veterinarian clinic, told AFP he hoped the mural would keep the panther story from falling off the front pages.

“This is our silent statement to the world,” he said.

“(The artists) want to show their feelings but they don’t have a platform. We have the platform but we don’t know how to represent it in such an effective way,” he added. The accused tycoon Premchai, who is CEO of Italian-Thai Development, has been charged with a slew of offences



A tycoon’s alleged poaching of a black leopard at a wildlife sanctuary sparked outrage among environmental and political activists in Thailand. **PHOTO: AFP**

for alleged poaching in the protected Thai forest. This week he was read additional charges of attempted bribery of an official and illegal possession of ivory

and guns found during a search of his home.

He has denied wrongdoing and been granted bail while the case proceeds.—AFP ■

Cows throng Bondi Beach for Australia rural health cause



The journey the cattle took illustrates the size of the vast island continent and why people who live in rural and remote areas can struggle to access health services. **PHOTO: AFP**

SYDNEY—Moos sounded across Sydney’s Bondi Beach on Saturday as drovers on horseback mustered dozens of cows across its famous soft sands to raise awareness about rural health needs.

The unusual sight of 40 heifers – who travelled thousands of kilometres (miles) from Australia’s remote outback — and six stockmen and women at one of the world’s most iconic beaches attracted hundreds of excited onlookers.

The “Herd of Hope” cattle drive was the brainchild of double transplant recipient Megan McLoughlin, 36, who wanted to raise awareness about organ donation and the need for more support for health services in rural areas. “I received a double transplant seven years ago

and I realised that there’s little-to-no services in regional and rural areas for all those affected by organ and tissue donation,” McLoughlin, who is also legally blind, told AFP. The mother-of-two has spoken about how the procedures gave her a second chance at life. The journey the cattle took illustrates the size of the vast island continent and why people who live in rural and remote areas can struggle to access health services.

The heifers were donated by Ben Hayes, who runs the Undoolya Station just outside Alice Springs in central Australia more than 2,000 kilometres (1,200 miles) from Sydney. The campaign’s volunteers told AFP they had to travel great distances just for regular check-ups after undergoing transplants.

“I had to travel some distance each time I come down to my clinic (for my heart transplant),” said transplant recipient Steve Ernst, who lives in a regional area some five hours by car from Sydney.

“It’s not a cure, it’s a treatment, so it’s ongoing and I’m continually down here and having the medication changed and fine-tuned just to keep me alive.”

The Australian Medical Association, the peak body representing doctors, has said that timely access to medical professionals was a “key problem” for rural residents, with a shortage of doctors in more remote areas.

About one-third of Australia’s 24-million people live outside the country’s major cities, according to the nation’s statistics bureau.—AFP ■

Spring comes to Tokyo with first cherry blossoms

TOKYO—Spring officially arrived in Tokyo on Saturday as Japan’s weather agency declared the start of the cherry blossom season, prompting viewers to party under the trees with cherry-related items flooding the capital.

Forecasters watching trees at Yasukuni Shrine said the city’s first blossoms had appeared, marking the beginning of two weeks in which Tokyo’s parks, temple grounds, schools and streets will explode in pinks and whites.

The meteorological agency said this year’s first blossoms appeared nine days earlier than average.

“Warm temperatures in late February and early March hastened the growth of buds,” an agency official told reporters to the cheers of visitors at the shrine in central Tokyo.

The story hit the headlines with Jiji Press reporting it as breaking news, while weather forecast companies compete to give the most accurate prediction on major cities’ first blossoms.

Trees in Tokyo will be in full bloom in about a week’s time, turning parks into huge picnic areas where friends, family and colleagues gather for sometimes raucous, alcohol-fuelled celebrations that can last for hours.

Restaurants scrambled to offer special delicacies inspired by cherry blossoms, while beverage firms have launched seasonal soft drinks and beer whose packages feature the blossom.

Cafeterias and bars are serving cherry-flavoured sweets and cocktails. Trees in several western cities are already in bloom, while the north will see flowers as late as May.—AFP ■



Trees in Tokyo will be in full bloom in about a week’s time, turning parks into huge picnic areas where friends, family and colleagues gather for sometimes raucous, alcohol-fuelled celebrations. **PHOTO: AFP**

Myanmar-Thai traditional lethwei matches to be held in Twante

IN memory of Myanmar hero Major Aung San Thuriya Aye Cho, Myanmar-Thai traditional lethwei challenge fights will be held at Aung San Thuriya Aye Cho Hall in Twante Town on 24-25 March, according to the Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation (MTBF).

Major Aung San Thuriya Aye Cho, who died on 21 August 1948, was the Bamar recipient of the Aung San Thuriya Award, the highest and most prestigious award for gallantry and bravery in the face of the enemy that can be awarded to members of My-

anmar Armed Forces.

He is also the first recipient of the Aung San Thuriya medal in Myanmar.

He won the award for his bravery during the Battle of Po Tha Aung Gon Bridge during the outbreak of Communists insurgency in Myanmar.

Even though his small police battalion was outnumbered by Communist insurgents 30 to 1, he and his men fought valiantly and forced the enemy to retreat. He died of injuries he received in the battle.

The lethwei fights are be-

ing held under the supervision of the Ministry of Health and Sports and the Myanmar Traditional Lethwei Federation.

There will be 6 bouts on each day of 24 and 25 March.

The main bouts will include Thein Nyi Nyi (Myanmar) and Feisi Toung (Thailand) on 24 March. Tun Naing Oo (Myanmar) will fight against Futhai (Thailand) on 25 March.

The entry fees are Ks5,000 for the 25 March fights and Ks7,000 Ks for the 26 March matches, according to the MTBF.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Shan United 'tough and very good', says Filipino football star

CERES Negros, the Filipino football club, still has a perfect record with no losses in Group F of the AFC Cup knockout stage after a difficult 1-0 win over Myanmar's Shan United on Wednesday in Yangon.

The Ceres Negros win was due to the lone goal of the match on an early penalty shot by Ceres player Bienvenido Marañón.

The victory could be vital, according to Ceres midfielder Mike Ott.

"Shan United were tough, they were very good," said

Mike Ott, the 23-year-old German-born star. "We expected them to do a good job at home, and we definitely did well defensively. So it was a very important win and we feel great.

He also added that the win makes things much easier for his team to step up to the next stage in the AFC tourney.

The match also showed the quality of the team from Myanmar, a fan pointed out.

"Ceres Negros, a well-regarded team, edged Shan United by only one goal. They were incapable of adding an-

other goal with dominating play and garnered the narrow win over our favorite Shan team, showing we are not very much different in tactics and skills compared to the Filipino team, but the luck is not on our side", said Shan United fan Khuu Shar Lhu from Taunggyi.

After four matches, with one win and three losses, Shan United stands in third place with 3 points. Ceres is in first place with 3 wins and 1 draw after playing 4 matches.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Raonic books semi-final showdown with Del Potro

INDIAN WELLS—Milos Raonic, coming off an injury-riddled 2017, booked a semi-final clash with comeback king Juan Martin Del Potro at the ATP Tour's Indian Wells Masters on Friday.

The 27-year-old Raonic defeated American Sam Querrey 7-5, 2-6, 6-3 to pick up just his fourth match win of the season and is seeking to capture his ninth career ATP Tour title.

He'll be up against the eighth-ranked player in the world in Argentina's Del Potro, who beat German Philipp Kohlschreiber 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the day's other quarter-final.

"I am very happy I was able to put it together today," Raonic said. "I'm in the semis. I am happy with that. I know I can play better."

Raonic lost in the final of this event in 2016 and has now made it to the semi-finals in his last three appearances.

- "Thank God I'm healthy" -

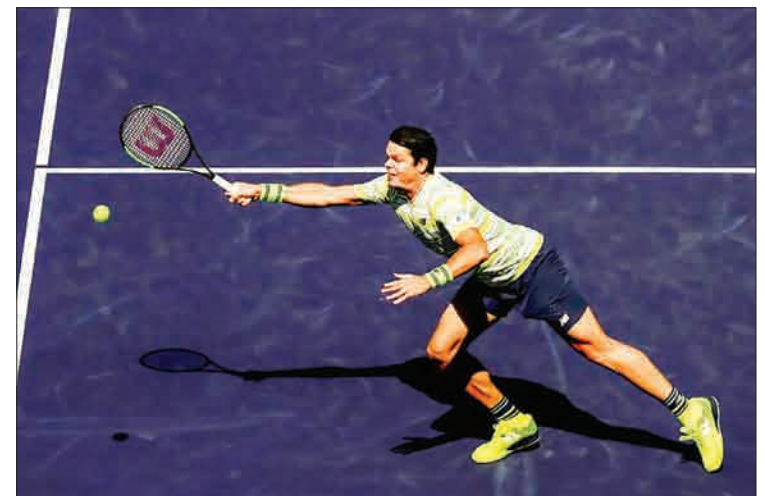
Del Potro dropped to No. 1,045 in the world before beginning his comeback from three left wrist surgeries in 2016.

"But thank God I'm here and healthy," he said. "I'm playing tennis again. I'm in the top 10 again. I have too much love from the crowd, for my fans, and I'm doing this because I love it."

Del Potro hit five aces, had no double faults and won 75 percent of his first-serve points against world No. 37 Kohlschreiber.

Del Potro said his back is giving him some trouble but he can still play with it.

"All my body feels tight," he said. "But this is the last effort of the weekend, and I'm in the semi-finals, and I'm trying to keep winning. "It's going to be a really tough, tough match tomorrow. But after that my body will have a few days to recover and I will need it."—AFP ■



Milos Raonic defeated Sam Querrey 7-5, 2-6, 6-3 to pick up just his fourth match win of the season and is seeking to capture his ninth career ATP Tour title. PHOTO: AFP

Liverpool draw City, Real and Juve in Champions League final rematch

LONDON—Manchester City will face Liverpool in a mouthwatering all-English Champions League quarter-final while Juventus have a chance to gain revenge on holders Real Madrid in a repeat of last year's final.

Lionel Messi's Barcelona were paired with AS Roma in the draw made in Nyon on Friday, while Sevilla's reward for defeating Manchester United in the last 16 is a quarter-final against five-time European champions Bayern Munich.

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said City would not relish playing his free-scoring side.

"We take what we've got. Now it's Manchester City, let's go," Klopp told Liverpool's website.

"We've lost once and we've won once against them in the league. I don't think they thought before (that) the best draw they could have got is Liverpool. That's a sign for us and how strong we can be."

The first leg will be played at Anfield on April 4 with the return at Eastlands on 10 April. It will be the first meeting of two English clubs in the last eight of the



Liverpool have inflicted Manchester City's only Premier League defeat of the season and the two sides will now meet in the Champions League quarter-finals. PHOTO: AFP

Champions League since Manchester United overcame Chelsea at that stage in the 2010-2011 season on their way to the final. City's director of football Txiki Begiristain said: "We know each

other very well, they are a very offensive team, the truth is it is going to be a great couple of games." Real Madrid thrashed Juventus 4-1 in last season's final in Cardiff, but the Italians' vice-president Pavel Nedved vowed there would be no repeat this time.

"We know that we'll face the best team in the draw, the team that have won the last two Champions Leagues," Nedved said. "I don't think the team will suffer like they did in Cardiff, this is a new start."

Real and the Champions League all-time record scorer Cristiano Ronaldo will be happy to be playing the second leg at their Santiago Bernabeu stadium against Juventus after the Turin side's European know-how proved lethal to Tottenham in the last 16.

Real Madrid director Emilio Butragueno said it would be a "very special match".

"Juventus played against Tottenham, which had extraordinary results and was superior, and yet, despite the difficulties, came through. They have a competitor's mentality."—AFP ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

18 MARCH 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR



TIME is always moving in a steady pace. There isn't any delay for it to move. Every second, you are doing something and it can be counted as doing something good. Thus, it becomes a valuable time for you. Children might play games, play with toys or watch TV. It is a valuable time for them because they are doing something of doing nothing. They may receive certain happiness during that time.

When you hear the word "valuable time", you don't need to see it as if you need to do something that trains your brain in some way but you can also see it as a time you sleep, eat, or play. They are valuable to you because that is the time when you can relieve your mind and gain new energy. This can even be more valuable time because you have more energy and rest. You need to do more things for. Anything can be a valuable time because doing anything might probably fulfill your daily needs. When you do something bad, you come to think you are wrong. However, it is also a valuable time because you can

teach something from your mistakes and don't do it the next time.

When you are in school, learning each subject is valuable. And playing with your friends is also a really valuable time. You get to understand each other and enjoy yourself to play with them. There, you

A valuable time



Min Zaw Thit
Grade-8, I.S.M

are not alone and have many partners to play with.

Anything can be done to have a valuable time. You can also have a valuable time when you are thinking of random things. You just think about the past or the things that you've done which will bring

your memories.

To make a valuable time, you don't need to learn, study or even be always. You can sleep, rest, play or do something. If your daily needs and rest time are filled in, it can be as valuable as anything you have done.

In the same way, your parents have to earn money, look after you, arrange family affairs and others by spending time. Sometimes, they travel to new and strange places such as the pagodas, the beaches and so on. Each time they use for themselves or for you is a valuable time. Your teachers also pay attention to all students, including you, without hesitation. This shows that their valuable time is always spent for your improvement. Moreover, saying prayers, counting beads, keeping meditation, wishing for all or sharing good merits to others is a valuable time for every religion group. Therefore, it is very important to do something good at every length of time. Whenever you live, whatever you do, it is very easy to have a valuable time.

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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City Hero Kit provided by City Mart Holding Co., Ltd is available free of charge at The Global New Light of Myanmar for those who contributed their works to our Next Generation Platform of the Sunday Special Pull-out of The Global New Light of Myanmar.





Decorated bronze bells: 10 cm, 8 cm



Bronze bells: 0.5 cm, 1.5 cm

Bronze bells of Pyu

By Tin Win (Beikthano)



Stone mold for making bronze bell: 11 cm.

FROM the Pyu ancient cities and their graveyards, interesting discoveries have been made, including small metal bells that have been silent for thousands of years since the end of the Pyu Kingdoms in AD 900.

Some of the bells that were found are remarkably similar to the ones we use today, made of bronze in a spherical shape with a split in the bottom and a ring at the top. There is a small bronze ball inside which rings the bell. The smallest bronze bell found is 0.5 cm. The largest is 1.5 cm. There are beautiful decorations in the shape of a spiral on each side of the bronze bells. The small bronze bells likely made pleasant sounds when people wore them as accessories such as necklaces, bracelets or anklets.

The other types of the bronze bells are larger and made in the shape of cones, cylinders and ovals, all with a bell stick, a small metal clapper inside, to make the sound. The ring at the top of the bell stick and the one inside of the bell are connected very nicely and professionally. The outer parts of some bells are decorated with human figures or curved lines. There are also different sized holes on each side of the bells. Some bells have two, some have four, some up to six, and it seems like those holes are made for the low and high tones of the bell sounds.

The bell sticks have been distorted into thinner shapes as they have been hitting the walls of the bells. It is clear that these bells hung for a long time because the part connecting the ring at the top is very thin. These bells were supposedly used on animals, as they are up to 19 cm in size.

A Pyu stone stamp with a figure of cow was found in nearby Minn Bu in 2010. A bell can be seen hanging from the neck of the cow, helping us assume that people in the Pyu era used bells on the animals they owned.

In 1995, a stone mold for bronze bell making was found nearby Pyaw Bwe, and from this we assume that people in the Pyu era had already learned bronze casting techniques.

(This article appeared in Vol 1. No. 5 of the Art Monthly Magazine in March, 2018)



Bronze bells with different sizes of holes at the each side: 6 cm, 8 cm



Bronze bells: 2.5 cm

Introduction to CYBERNETICS in Education

By Dr. Khin Zaw
Retired Rector, Yangon University of Education

(Continued from the last week)

Communication is an extremely important area for Psychology and Education: the development of a powerful, new theory of communication or information was bound to have important consequences for the study of human behaviour. For example, psychologists and pedagogues today know that it is impossible to predict how accurately a man will perceive a stimulus (for example, a word or sentence spoken to him) on the basis of a physical analysis of the properties of that stimulus alone.

It is also necessary to know what the other stimuli might have been from which this particular stimulus must be discriminated. A stimulus selected from a small set of alternatives may be correctly perceived even though exactly that same stimulus would not be perceived correctly if it were one of a large set of alternatives. This fact was not obvious to pedagogues or psychologists before they began to think in terms of information theory.

The last, but not the most important,

of the Cybernetical problems is that of the role of consciousness or cognition in the teaching-learning process; at a time when Cognitive Theories are gaining wide popular support throughout the world. Cybernetics and Cyberneticians are holding offering new ways of viewing consciousness and cognition.

Traditional Cybernetics, as contrasted to neo-cybernetics, demands that little or no use shall be made of the subjective elements of experience in its functioning. At times, its extremely rigid adherence to the objective point of view exposes Cybernetics to the accusation that it is ignoring an essential factor consciousness.

Consciousness and its related subjective elements are rarely if ever described in Cybernetics, Cybernation, and in Cybernetical Education. This is not true for the recently developed school of Cybernetic Control on social organisms, directed by a group of professors at the State University of Moscow(MGU) in Russia, the former Soviet Union.

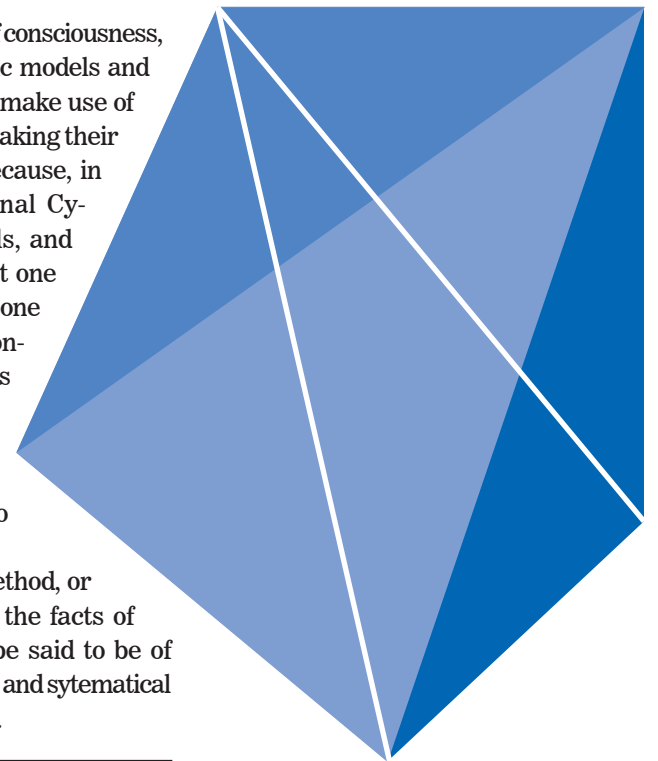
Traditional Cybernetics acknowledg-

es the simple existence of consciousness, nevertheless, Cybernetic models and processes rarely if ever make use of consciousness in undertaking their functions. This is so, because, in the opinion of traditional Cybernetics, Science deals, and can deal, only with what one man can demonstrate to one another. Vivid though consciousness may be to its possessor, there is as yet no method known by which he can demonstrate his experience to another.

And until such a method, or its equivalent, is found the facts of consciousness cannot be said to be of much use in the scientific and systematical methods of Cybernetics.

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NEXT GEN PLATFORM

Advantages and Disadvantages of using Gadgets



Raymond Hein Aung
@ Raymond
Grade 3 (Y.I.S)

A gadget is a small device that replaces computers. It is lighter than most computers. It is useful in searching information about Math, Science or any other subjects that you want to find out at any place.

Using gadgets has advantages and disadvantages. One of the advantages is that children can learn from educational games. They can also promote independent learning. Then, they can build investigation skills and creativity.

One of the disadvantages of using gadget is that using too much gadgets can become short-sighted very soon. Furthermore, they may neglect their school work.

In my opinion, we should have a limit of using those devices.





Myeik has possessed prospects for booming tourism industry as its natural beauty and eco-system is unspoiled. PHOTO: NAY LIN



The eco-tourism in Myeik District has attracted local and foreign tourists. PHOTO: NAY LIN

Myeik Archipelago, the last island paradises left on Earth

By Thi Thi Min and Min Thit

MYEIK, which is formerly known as Mergui, is a city in Taninthayi Region in southern part of Myanmar on the coast of an island on the Andaman Sea.

From the 16th century on, the city was an important seaport and trading center with the Europeans, who would land at Myeik (then called Mergui), travel upriver to Taninthayi (Tenasserim) and then cross the mountains to reach Thailand.

Fishery businesses and job opportunities

With more than 4170 boats for on-shore fishing and about 800 boats for off-shore fishing, the local fishery businesses are operating in Myeik. Local people also engaged in production of natural rubber and coconuts, manufacture of fermented shrimp paste, the collection of edible bird's nests and pearl farming. As the government has encouraged the fishery related businesses including cold storage factories and dock yards in Myeik District, local people and youths from other areas have found the jobs in the district.

Tourism and Job Opportunities

Myeik archipelago in Taninthayi Region is becoming a popular tourist destination while Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is extending new tourist destinations in every region and states.

After finding that Myeik archipelago has good potential for attracting visitors, the ministry decided to introduce the Myeik archipelago in regional forums related with tourism. Mergui is a gateway to the 800 offshore islands of the Mergui Archipelago, which are developing a tourist trade.

There are a lot of beautiful places in Myeik archipelago, but not many people visited there yet. The new designation will create job opportunities for the local people.

Located in the southern part of Myanmar, the Myeik Archipelago consists of over 800 islands, all lying in the Andaman Sea. It is the natural habitat of 42 species of fish, 518 kinds of coral and 228 varieties of birds.

A number of local travel agencies has offered tours to Cocks Comb Island in Myeik Archipelago for the first time last year.

The southernmost part of Myanmar has seen very little tourism to date due to the high prices charged to sail through the archipelago. Its main visitors are wealthy Thais; however this tourist season have seen tours aimed at attracting local holidaymakers for the first time. Many in Myanmar's tourism industry believe that the unspoiled archipelago will become one of the country's premier tourist destinations in years to come and that Cocks Comb, the island with a heart-shaped lake, will be one of the area's main focal points.



Fishermen camp on bamboo rafts as they are preparing for fishing. PHOTO: NAY LIN

Myeik, a coastal area in Taninthayi Region, is a topographically distinct region. The friendliness and hospitality of local people make visitors feel home and relaxed alongside their customs and traditional festivals as well as historic places.

Economic development deriving from growing trade with Thailand and successful businesses has given the region a facelift.

The numbers of tourists visiting Myanmar is augmenting year upon year. The local authorities are expanding the eco-tourism projects making it possible to survey the country's flora and fauna in order to protect natural wildlife.

The pristine natural beauty of one of Southeast Asia's last untouched groups of islands is an attractive business opportunity for foreign investors as well as domestic entrepreneurs.

Edible nest swiftlets (*Collocalia fuciphaga*)

The visitors to Myeik can see breeders of edible nest swiftlets (*Collocalia fuciphaga*) along the Strand Road in Myeik.

Edible nest swiftlets are induced into making nests using bird-noise techniques at houses along the Strand Road in Myeik. This breeding business has become popular in the region, and many breeders are thriving.

Previously, they had to find nests on the walls of the mountain. Later, the experimental breeding at the



Edible nest swiftlets.



Foreign visitors enjoy a cruise tour on way to islands in Myeik archipelago. PHOTO: NAY LIN

houses achieved success, allowing breeders to earn handsome profits.

Two types of nests are sold at the market: those from islands and those collected from breeding houses. The edible nest swiftlets naturally make their nests here without the use of imitated voice.

To maintain the ecosystem of the islands, two islands in Myanmar's marine territory have been designated as sanctuaries.

The period of collecting lasts around three months a year, up to the first week of November. The period for working permits is up to the end of November.

Modern Fish Auction Market

Taninthayi Region Government is planning to establish a modern fish auction market in Myeik as part of efforts for development of the fishery sector in Myeik.

"The time comes to establish a modern fish market to promote the fishery sector here because we see prospects for development of fishery sector in Myeik," said U Hla Than, Chairman of the Taninthayi Region

Fishery Federation.

Myanmar's foreign income from fishery exports reached more than US\$535 million from 1 April to 19 January in the current fiscal year (FY), which increased by \$97 million compared with the same period last FY.

The export volume of fishery products was more than 38,000 tons, according to Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

Despite an increase in the export volume and value, Myanmar's fishery exports cannot keep up with the neighbouring countries.

The Myanmar Fishery Federation is making concerted efforts to increase the earnings from fishery exports by developing fish farming lakes that meet international standards and by adopting advanced fishing methods.

Fishery products, including prawns, crabs, squid, eels, shrimp, dried shrimp and dried fish, were exported to Thailand through the Kawthoung and Myeik border trade gates and to China through the Muse gate.

SUNDAY COMICS



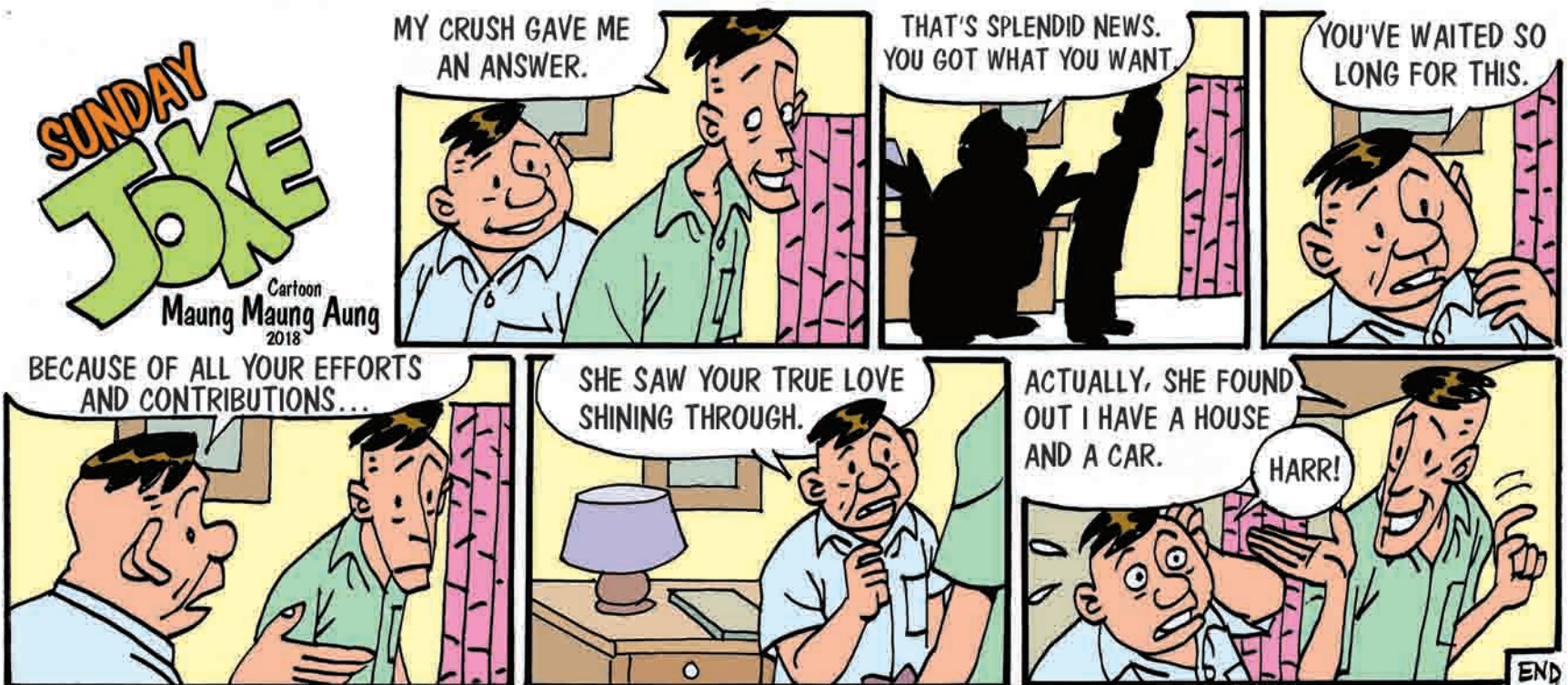
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2018



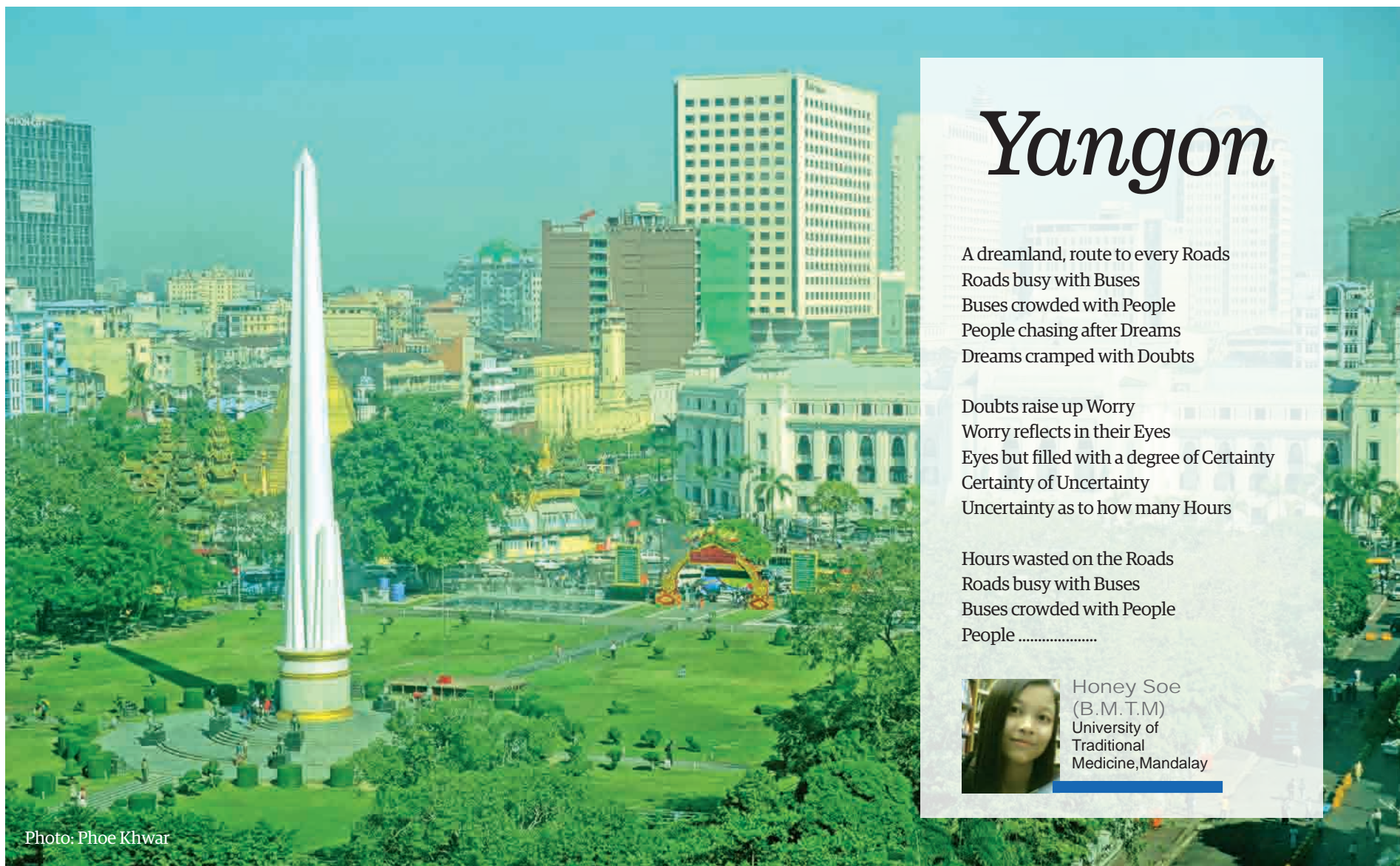


Photo: Phoe Khwar

Yangon

A dreamland, route to every Roads
Roads busy with Buses
Buses crowded with People
People chasing after Dreams
Dreams cramped with Doubts

Doubts raise up Worry
Worry reflects in their Eyes
Eyes but filled with a degree of Certainty
Certainty of Uncertainty
Uncertainty as to how many Hours

Hours wasted on the Roads
Roads busy with Buses
Buses crowded with People
People



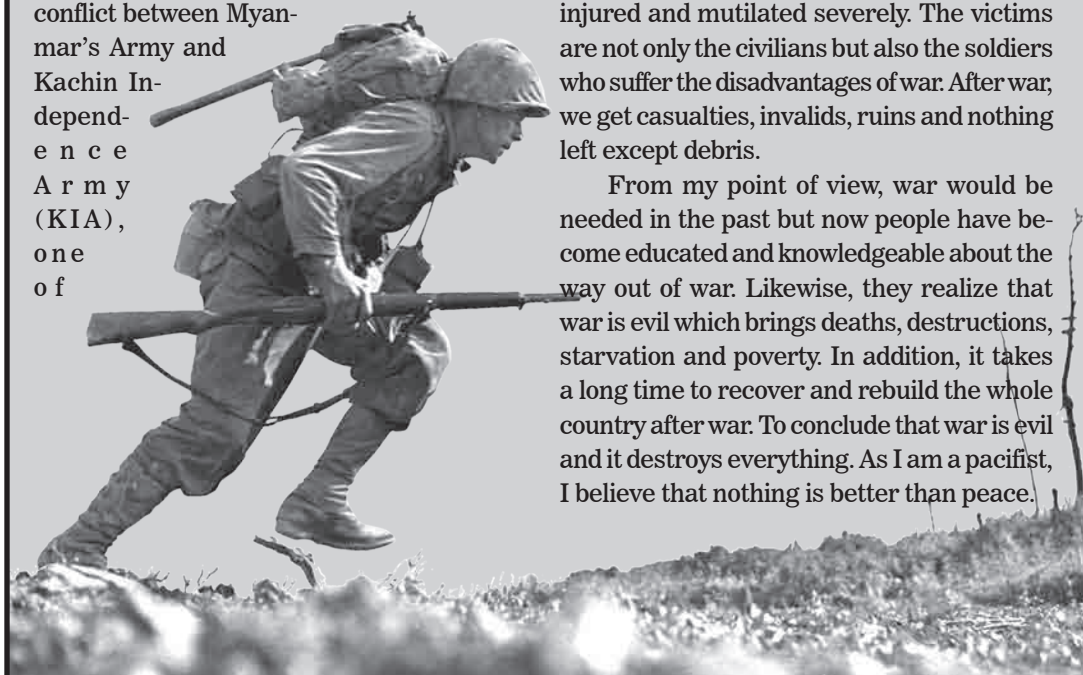
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War is evil

May More
Final Year(UDE)

SINCE the beginning of mankind, wars have been happening and there are many reasons for wars to start. In the past, the only reason for wars was to invade other country and create a great empire. Later, natural resources, racial conflicts and religious clashes are considered as the primary reasons for wars. Besides war has become one of the most concerned issues all over the world as it leads to environmental and economical damages.

Currently, I have heard about the civil war which is happening in Kachin State, the northern part of Myanmar. The conflict between Myanmar's Army and Kachin Independence Army (KIA), one of



the non-signatories to the Nationwide Cease-fire Agreement (NCA), has become seriously since January 2018. As the result of fighting, local residents are killed and injured. Moreover, thousands of people have been suffered the shortage of food and housing. The worst thing is that children are fleeing and hiding behind bushes instead of studying at schools.

Anyway, war bring negative impacts on economy, environment and social behaviors of the people. During the war, people have to evacuate from their homes and also struggle for survival. In some violent area, people get injured and mutilated severely. The victims are not only the civilians but also the soldiers who suffer the disadvantages of war. After war, we get casualties, invalids, ruins and nothing left except debris.

From my point of view, war would be needed in the past but now people have become educated and knowledgeable about the way out of war. Likewise, they realize that war is evil which brings deaths, destructions, starvation and poverty. In addition, it takes a long time to recover and rebuild the whole country after war. To conclude that war is evil and it destroys everything. As I am a pacifist, I believe that nothing is better than peace.

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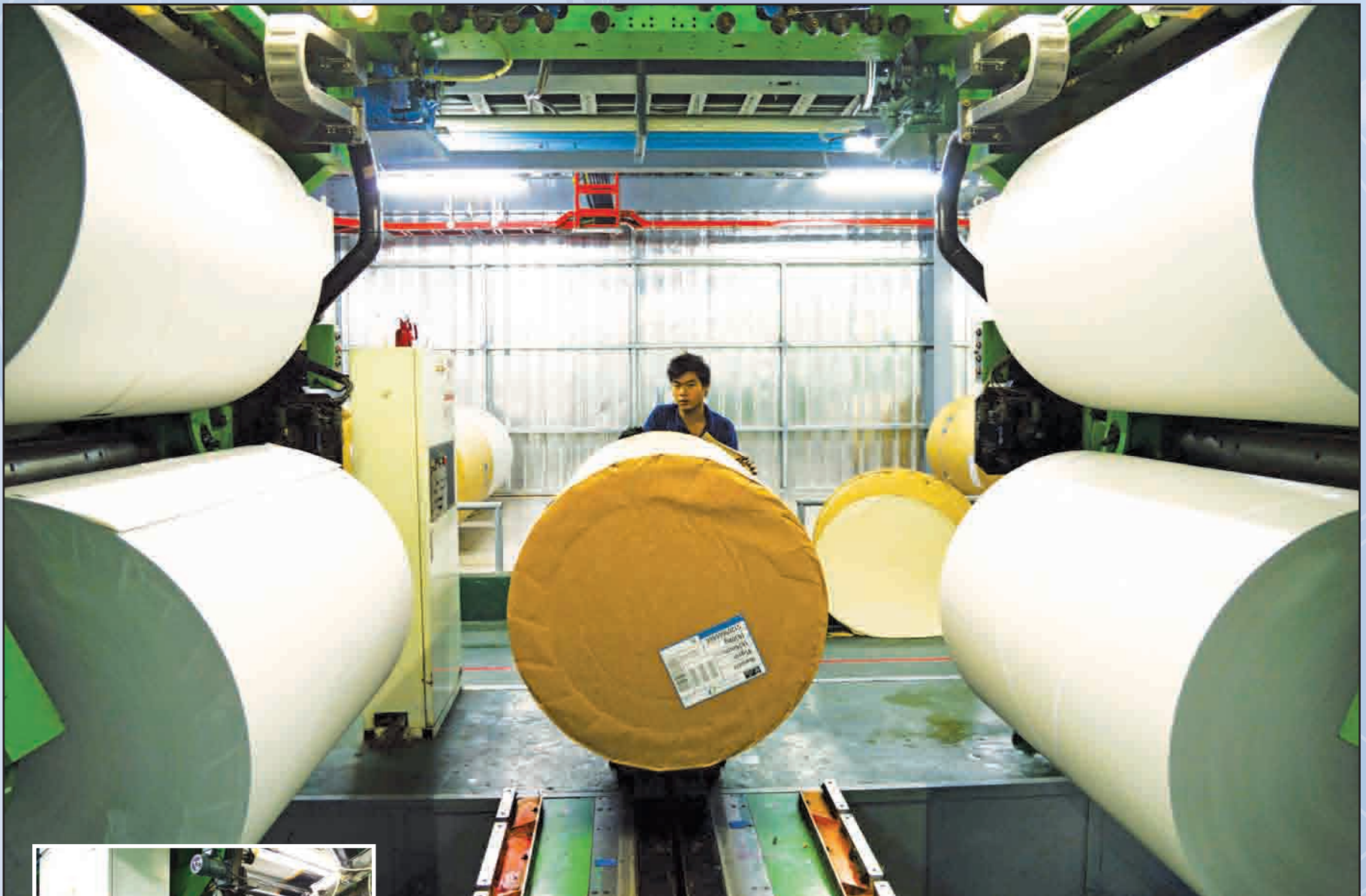
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