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SUNDAY SPECIAL



Pull-out supplement

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A tanker is seen at the Made Island in July, 2017 after the first transport of crude oil to China through pipeline. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

Vice President U Henry Van Thio visits Rakhine's projects

VICE PRESIDENT U Henry Van Thio, the Chairman of the Central Committee for Myanmar Special Economic Zones, toured Rakhine State yesterday, visiting the Made Island Crude Oil Terminal, the area

chosen for Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone and the On-shore Gas Terminal in Kyaukpyu Township.

During his visit to the project on Made Island between the South East Asia Crude Oil

Pipeline Company-SEAOP/SEAGP, in which Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy is a shareholder, and China National HK Corporation Limited, the Vice President

inspected storage of crude oil, piping to China and worksite safety. Crude oil makes its way through Rakhine State, Magway Region, Mandalay Region and Shan State.

SEE PAGE 2

Aid reaches to people who returned to their villages in Maungta

OFFICIALS from Maungta District Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Department delivered food and mosquito nets to the local ethnic people and Hindus at Kyeinchaung Village, northern Maungta, Rakhine State yesterday.

The aid which includes rice, cooking oil, pulses, fish cans, coffee mix, mosquito nets and dried noodles were distributed to about 154 households.

The total households include 24 Maramagyi ethnic households with 82 people from Phaw Ki Taung Village now staying in Kyeinchaung Monastery and 75 households of Rakhine ethnic people with 388 people and 55 Hindus households with 550 people who return their Kyeinchaung Village after displacement.

The people are now staying in Kyeinchaung Village, northern Maungta, Rakhine State after returning from IDP camps in Sittway.

The Union Government has focused its efforts on northern Rakhine and launched a project last month to help rehabilitation and resettlement in Rakhine. The Union Government has also offered to provide vocational training to local people. —Myanmar News Agency ■

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Vice President U Henry Van Thio visits Rakhine's projects



Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects the control station at Made Island Crude Oil Terminal, in Kyaukpyu Township. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

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At a meeting with personnel, the Vice President heard reports on employment of Myanmar nationals and social corporate responsibilities in the region.

In the afternoon, the Vice President and party went the site chosen for the Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone.

The decision to establish Kyaukpyu SEZ was made in 2011 and the SEZ includes a

deep seaport project, an industrial zone and housing projects.

Following the visit to the SEZ, the Vice President went to the Onshore Gas Terminal and heard a report by officials of the POSCO DAEWOO company on discovery of natural gas and distribution, job creation for local people and the company's corporate social responsibilities including education, health and transportation and environmental conservation.

Before leaving for Yangon, the Vice President also inspected Kyaukpyu's 230-KV sub-power station which supplies electricity to Kyaukpyu Township.

During the visit, Vice President U Henry Van Thio was accompanied by Union ministers U Win Khaing, Dr Than Myint, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, Deputy Ministers U Sat Aung and Dr Tun Naing and members of the Rakhine State Cabinet.—GNLM ■

Maungtau mobile team provides health care to Hindus

A mobile medical care unit consisting of Maungtau township health department personnel and specialists from Magway University of Medicine went to a relief camp in Kanyintan No. 1 Basic Education High School yesterday and provided health care to Hindus who were staying in the camp.

A total of 205 people were

treated at the mobile clinic. Vaccinations against the H1N1 virus were administered to 113 patients. Others were given general health care. The Ministry of Health and Sports is providing health care using mobile units so that Rakhine State residents will have regular access to health care, officials said. —Tin Tun (IPRD) ■



Mobile team medical officer checks up to children in Maungtau, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

“Youth and Job Opportunity” talk to be held at Yangon University

A public talk titled “Youth and Job Opportunity” will be held today at 1pm in the Recreation Centre of the University of Yangon. This public talk is organised by the Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information.

The panelists in today's public talk will be members of the Yangon cabinet, Kay-in Ethnic Affairs Minister Naw Pan Thinzar Myo, Yangon Region Hluttaw Insein Township (constituency) 2

representative U Wai Phyo Han, Information and Public Relations Department Deputy Director-General Dr Thida Tin, Department of Labour Deputy Director-General U Aung Htay Win, U Win Naing JPE Everest Ltd. (Local Employment Agency) and U Than Soe, the CEO & Chief Editor of 7 HR Business Group and Two Four DMA Media Group. Interested persons are invited to attend the public talk. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Academy Swe Zin Htike presented with Order of the Arts and Letters

UNION Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint yesterday evening attended a ceremony by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication to present the Order of Arts and Letters award to Academy Swe Zin Htike, a Myanmar actress and media spokeswoman.

At the event held at the Sule Shangri La Hotel in Yangon, the French Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Olivier Richard explained the reason why Academy Swe Zin Htike was given the award, and then presented the Order of Arts and Letters award of the French Ministry of Culture and Communication. Academy Swe Zin Htike gave a speech of appreciation.

The event was attended by the Union Minister for Information and his wife, the French Ambassador to Myanmar, officials from the French



Academy Swe Zin Htike accepts the French medal of Knight in the Order of the Arts and Letters. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Embassy, officials from the Ministry of Information, artists, literary figures and invited guests.

The Order of Arts and Letters award, or the “Chevalier de L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres”, is one of the four main awards presented by the French gov-

ernment.

In a 21 April letter, the French Ministry of Culture and Communication informed Daw Swe Zin Htike of this award for the principal role she played in the development of the Myanmar-France cultural sector.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Youth and Social Media Public Talk held

THE Ministry of Information, Ministry of Education and Yangon Region Government jointly organised a youth-related public talk titled "Youth and Social Media" for all-round development of youth at Yangon University Recreation Centre yesterday afternoon.

The public talk was held with the aim of creating an opportunity to discuss matters required to be discussed between government officials and the public, in accordance to a democratic system, hopefully creating a habit of public discussion among themselves on matters occurring in their region, and increasing the people's thought capability through participating in the discussion.

The public talk was attended by Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon Region ministers, Yangon Region Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Hluttaw representatives, Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Information U Myo Myint Maung, Rectors, Pro-Rectors and officials of universities in Yangon Region, students and invited guests.

In his opening statement, Dr. Pe Myint said "Today's public talk is mainly arranged by one of the departments of Ministry of Information (MOD), Information and Public Relations Department. The MOI has opened district and township offices to conduct public relations works nationwide. Now these offices are being arranged to be turned into Community Centres where the public can easily access and conduct their activities and hobbies."

The aim is to create a place for the people in their townships to meet among themselves in order to discuss and exchange views on their own community, regional and countrywide matters. Through this, the local populace can meet among themselves as well as Hluttaw representatives, officials and members of state, region and people's government who were assigned duties by the people can occasionally meet with the people to report back. The people can question, point out, suggest and inform their wishes and requirements to their representatives. After the representative speaks with residents, the representative can submit their discussion points to the policy makers and from this progress is hoped to be achieved,



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint delivers an opening speech at the Youth and Social Media Public Talk. PHOTO: MNA

said the Union Minister.

"This is being done to support democratic practices in the country, to involve the participation of the people to manage and create (resolve) political matters in accordance with democracy or system of people's government and increase the inclusion of people's thoughts and ideas", the Union Minister said.

formed into community centres. We are doing this by holding today's public talk programme. According to this programme, events occurring in each region that are thought to be of interest and important for the majority of the populace will be discussed, said the Union Minister.

"Earlier, I said community centres. Today and tomorrow,

cuss from all sides. Relevant people will explain. This is one of the practices of democracy. I would like to end by saying use it by actually practicing it."

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein: Social media in today's talk is reaching an important status. It can guide the whole country to a certain level. In the past, it was difficult to talk about the subject we want to say. Now, with one smartphone, we can say whatever we want on social media. In a democratic era, we need to take care that what we say does not hurt or harm others. It is related to the rule of law too.

With the widespread usage of social media network, opportunities for voices to be heard widely exist. People now have the opportunity to voice the country's requirement so that the destination is reached. While a good leadership is in place, all need to work in unity. Discuss your wishes and wills and strive to reach the destination. All are urged to setup a mature democracy system via people's voices by participating in public talks in their townships.

existence of others like Twitter and You Tube. Many are seen playing games or using Facebook on their phone. Phone bills were spent. Visual efforts were exerted. Those are investment. It needs to be evaluated whether these investments are getting worthwhile news, information, personal development, knowledge, support for their lives.

Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs U Naing Ngan Lin: Youth is the majority in the country and using social media effectively and correctly is important. As youth are the future leader of the country, wrong usage would be harmful for them.

He likes today's youth using Facebook. As a politician, social media plays an important role. In power politics, organising the people, informing the people of one's own acts can be done in a timely manner by social media. At the same time, statements and conduct of the country's leader can be announced in a timely manner on a Facebook page.

Knowledge and information like health and environment

In print media, the facts and words are checked by an editor. In social media, this is not the case. There is weakness in spelling and factual correctness. Readers themselves need to edit (and fact check) and only then can benefit of Facebook can be acquired.

It is not enough for people to elect their representative every four or five years to become a democracy or a democratic country. A democracy and a people's government will become a reality only when the people let the country's policy makers know of their wishes and requirements, insist to include it in the policy, point out, and criticise, said the Union Minister.

Political analysts used to say a democracy is successful only with the people's total involvement. People's involvement mainly means open discussion of their views and thoughts on their own community to the country's political affairs.

In this way, some people say democracy is a government by discussion. In other words, it is a system of listening to the voices of the people and to put full consideration and to respect the wishes and wills included in these voices.

As mentioned before, information and public relation offices and libraries are being trans-

it will be held in what is called Yangon University RC hall or Recreation Centre. Why this is held here is because firstly, a recreation centre is a place freely and easily accessible to the students. It is where events and sports competitions are held. Secondly, the topic we chose for this two-day public talk is specifically related to youth. The areas around Yangon University, Hledan, Kamayut in Yangon are places mostly frequented by Yangon youths."

"That is why Yangon University RC hall was considered as convenient for many youths to attend and requested Yangon University Rector to hold this event here."

"The audience needs to participate and discuss in today's discussion. Freedom is the essence of democracy. Among this, the main thing is to express own opinion freely. Use this freedom. Listen to the lead speakers and ask question if anything is not clear. If required, add in. If there are differences in opinion, dis-

Fake news was widely spread in social media. It is important to know how to respond to this. Whether it was in jest or deliberate, fake news is circulating and the role of traditional media is becoming important again.

Afterwards, Public Talk under the title (Youth and Social Media) was held.

Information and Public Relations Department Deputy Director General Dr. Daw Thida Tin: Facebook is being widely used by young and old alike in Myanmar despite the

could be obtained. But good and bad come together and improper usage could hurt many people. He would mainly like to discuss the ethics of usage. Youth need to use social media correctly, study and acquire knowledge and use it correctly.

SEE PAGE 6

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Local and foreign experts to request government to open Marine Geosciences Research Centre in Myanmar

May Thet Hnin

LOCAL and foreign experts will encourage the government to set up a Marine Geosciences Research Centre in Myanmar.

A conference named "Laying the groundwork for Marine Geosciences in Myanmar" was held Wednesday and over 20 experts from nine countries attended.

A final report from the conference will be submitted to the State within three months. Research plans and studies concerning marine geology will be included in this report, said Dr Moe Kyaw, Deputy R&D Director of the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAM-STE).

"Upon opening of the Marine Geosciences Research Centre, gas extracted from ocean and other minerals can be explored. Further studies concerning earthquake, tsunamis and landslides can be carried out. Research relating to marine pollution and underwater measurement can also be done", Dr. Moe Kyaw said.

Over the last three years, a marine geological module started to be included in the academic curricula of Myanmar universities. But there are yet many challenges to properly conduct practical studies of marine geology, he added.

Myanmar's practical activities and field reports of geology is successful to a certain extent. However, there are

many difficulties and challenges in doing practical research of marine geology in Myanmar, the biggest of which is money.

Based on research and studies, foreign experts discussed matters which are in accord with Myanmar's geology. There will be collaboration with local universities for further projects.

Professor Khin Zaw of the Geology Department at the Economic University of Tasmania said that "international countries with water territory encourage research activities of marine geology providing funding. Myanmar's coastline is about 1,900 km long, and the country possesses rich marine resources. The marine geology of Myanmar will be developed

if there is a collaboration with international organisations".

Professor Sang Mook Lee, Associate Professor of Seoul National University, said that "Marine geology is important for global climate change and marine resources. Many hazardous issues are involved with marine geology. So, marine geology in Myanmar is not just for Myanmar but for the rest of the world. I think marine geology is a good field for young people in Myanmar to take as a profession for the future".

Currently, Myanmar has only a small number of experts on marine geology. Japan provides short-term training for lectures at Myanmar universities. ■

Motorcyclist sustains serious injuries after head-on crash

A MOTORCYCLIST sustained serious injuries after a head-on collision with a car on Kyaukgyi-Natthankwin Road in Taungoo District, Bago Region on Friday evening, according to a police report.

A car and a motorbike collided while travelling in opposite directions on the road near Yanmyaung Village in Naunggon Village-tract, Kayukgyi Township, Taungoo District, Bago Region, at around 7 p.m. on 3 November, investigators say.

A Honda Fit driven by U

Aung Ko Nu, 41, heading to Kyaukgyi Town, struck a motorbike without a number plate driven by Saw Yuwa, who was en route to Paenwegon, resulting in serious injuries to the motorcyclist. The driver of the car was not injured.

The motorcyclist suffered severe wounds to his head and legs and is now receiving treatment at a nearby hospital.

Action has been taken against the reckless driver and motorcyclist under Section 337/338 of the Penal Code.—Ko Tha Gyi (Kyaukgyi) ■



Kyaukgyi Police Station. PHOTO: KO THA GYI (KYAUKGYI)

Electrical fire in Kawkayeik Township damages medical clinic



The outbreak of fire destroyed Myintmo medical clinic. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

AN electrical fire in Kawkayeik Township in Kayin State on Friday night caused extensive damage to a medical clinic, police reported.

No one is believed to have been injured in the fire, according to investigators. The blaze started from a refrigerator safeguard at Myintmo clinic on Panchan Street in Ward-3 in the township at around 10.15 p.m., damaging medicines and clinical equipment worth about

Ks500,000.

According to the investigators, the clinic is owned by Dr. Daw Naing Aye Thet, 41, a paediatrician.

Firefighters used four fire engines to fight the blaze, which was brought under control within 23 minutes with the help of residents and police. The clinic owner has been charged for her negligence under existing law.—Min Thu/Tin Win Hlaing (Kawkayeik) ■

Myanmar imports 140,000 tonnes of petrol, diesel by sea

MYANMAR imported over 140,000 tonnes of petrol and diesel worth more than US\$68 million by sea from 15 through 21 October, according to trade authorities.

The third week of last month saw an increase in imports of both petrol and diesel matched against the previous week before 15 October.

In the previous week, local importers bought over 52,800 tonnes of diesel and over 54,000 tonnes of petrol from international trading partners.

During the same period, the country re-exported 3,700 tonnes of diesel via Muse, a border trade camp between Myanmar and China.

Trading is normal and weekly fuel prices are stable in the market in big cities including



A worker waiting as he fills a car with fuel at a refilling station in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

Yangon, Mandalay and Mawlamyine, according to local filling stations.

In the Yangon market, the retail price of diesel was Ks745 per litre, while high-quality diesel was sold for Ks765 per litre in October. Diesel prices

in the Mandalay market were Ks770 per litre, while a litre of high-quality diesel was worth Ks790.

In the Mawlamyine market, a litre of petrol sold for Ks755 and a litre of high-quality diesel was worth Ks800.—Swe Nyein ■

Gold trade declines during Tazaungdaing Festival

GOLD trading in Yangon market during the period of Tazaungdaing lighting festival has plummeted compared to the same period last year, according to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Friday.

Ko Ye, an owner of the Shwe Pwint Hlwar Gold Shop in Yangon's Bogyoke Market, said: "Normally gold market booms before the Tazungdaing Festival. The gold market saw a significant decrease in demand for gold prior to this year's festival." "The current gold trade in gold and jewellery shops has been on the decline. A drop in gold trade is linked to the increasing prices in the domestic market. Continuous increase in global gold price and the greenback



Gold seen at shop in downtown Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

appreciation have an impact on the local market.

An increase in the number of gold shop in the city is another reason for declining gold trade," he continued. The

opening prices of gold in the world market were 1,279 dollar per ounce on 2 November while the local gold price stood at Ks 931,000 per tical (0.578 ounce). —GNLM ■

Consumer goods imports exceed \$2.4 bn this FY

THE total import of consumer goods in the current fiscal year totalled US\$2.48 billion, including \$83 million from the government sector and \$2.39 bn from the private sector, according to the latest report of the Commerce Ministry.

The current import figures for consumer products are \$426 mn more than that of the similar period of last FY. This time last year, the coun-

try's consumer goods imports totalled \$2.049 bn. Myanmar imports luxury products, personal goods, construction materials, agricultural machinery, raw materials, household goods, foodstuff and electronic devices mostly from neighbouring countries.

The import of consumer goods has continued to increase year after year. The import value was \$1.245 billion

in FY2011-12 and it rose to \$1.4 billion in FY2012-13, \$2.3 billion in FY2013-14, \$2.9 billion in FY2014-15, \$3.5 billion in FY2015-16 and more than \$4 billion in FY2016-17.

China, Thailand, Singapore, India, Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Malaysia, Germany, Indonesia, the US and the UK are major international trading partners of Myanmar.—Khine Khant ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း: **"Sunday Special"** အချုပ်ပိုင် (၈)
မျက်နှာပေါင်သော The Global New Light of Myanmar
နေ့စဉ်ထုတ် သတင်းစာကိုအောက်ပါမြို့များတွင်ဖုန်းနံပါတ်ဖြင့်

Three dead, one hurt in IED explosion in Maungdaw Tsp

"Sunday Special"
အချုပ်ပိုင် (၈) မျက်နှာ
ပေါင်သော

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State Counsellor congratulates MMA Super-Bout winner Aung La N Sang

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi sent a message of congratulations to Aung La N Sang for winning the main bout in the Mixed Martial Art (MMA) One Hero's Dream competition held on Friday evening at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

In the One Championship Hero's Dream Open Weight Super-Bout held in Myanmar on Friday, Aung La N Sang, a middleweight from Kachin State, faced a formi-

dable challenger, the heavyweight kickboxing world champion Alain Ngalani.

Aung La N Sang, also known as "The Burmese Python", won convincingly 4 minutes and 31 seconds into the first round.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi sent a congratulatory message on Friday to Aung La N Sang for his "brilliant and amazing victory" against his challenger. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs delivers aid to people in Maungtaw

UNION Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin met with local people in Yathaedaung in Maungtaw, Rakhine State, clarifying the Union Government's efforts for socio economic development in Rakhine State.

At the meeting, Nai Thet Lwin also delivered the aid to the residents and urged them to live with the Union spirit.

Then, the party went to Mot-segyun, Yathedaung Township and paid homage and offered cash to Alotawpyae Sayadaw



Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin and his wife present aid to displaced people in Sittway, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Baddhana Ariyavunsa.

They also visited No.1 border trade gate and Kanyin Chaung border trade zone. They also visited four IDPs camps in Sittway, encouraging the 1,482

displaced people from 229 households affected by the terrorist attacks and delivering rice, cooking oil, cans, dried noodles, coffee mix and mosquito nets. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Youth and Social Media Public Talk held

FROM PAGE 3

Yangon region Hluttaw representative U Nay Phone Latt of Thingangyun constituency 1: The difference between social media and print media being speed. Today's print media includes yesterday's news, while social media provides today's events. Hearing a fire engine goes by with sirens blaring, you can go out to see which way the fire engine goes to estimate the location of the fire. But now, on social media, you can see where the fire is and see the picture of it. Speed is the advantage of social media.

News and information on social media can be obtained without waiting a day. Speed may be good but speed is also a problem. When a matter is known quickly by people, they may be unable to verify whether it is true or not and unable to make an informed decision on it.

In print media, the facts and words are checked by an editor. In social media, this is not the case. There is weakness in spelling and factual correctness. Readers themselves need to edit (and fact check) and only then can benefit of Facebook can be acquired.

Information Matrix Co. Ltd, CEO U Thaung Su Nyein: The difference between print and social media said that as a print media person, social media is a



The public talk held in progress at Yangon University Recreation Centre. **PHOTO: MNA**

partner as well as a competitor. Print and social media is in the stage of coming together. Print media can use social media as a distribution method. Once a top private weekly journal had about two million readers, but with social media, it can reach the country's entire internet users numbering from 15 to 18 million.

Thus, social media is becoming a distributing platform for them (print media). Social media can be used as a news source for journalists. Social media is place where invention can be made. But a thing to note about social media is correctness of the

information. It can be speedily provided wrong information. It is the fake news that make difference between the print and social media and is dangerous for a country.

Because of fake news on the Rakhine affair, difficulties and problems were being encountered. At the time, fake news was widely spread in social media. It is important to know how to respond to this. Whether it was in jest or deliberate, fake news is circulating and the role of traditional media is becoming important again.

The Door Institute and Social Enterprise CEO U Yan

Naing Oo: The importance of knowing what is being done regardless of what forms of social media exist. Social media was used starting in 1998 and comes out in many forms such as Facebook and Twitter. The bad outcome of social media usage is being attracted to it, becoming less active in sporting activities, development of fake news, ease of being able to attack each other, becoming lonely and alone, and becoming depressed after being overcome by others. The good outcome is it enables people to meet others who could not be met physically, reach people in other regions, share feelings and

increase social interconnection.

Next, audience's questions on organising to use social media beneficially, how the day's suggestions and discussions will be related to the government, ways to reduce the youths' overwhelming attraction to social media were responded by Union Minister and discussion panelists.

Public Talk will be continued on 5 November under the title "Youth and job opportunity" and Yangon Region Minister for Kay-in Ethnic Affairs Naw Pan Thinzar Myo, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Wai Phyo Han of Insein Township constituency 2, Information and Public Relations Department Deputy Director General Dr. Daw Thida Tin, Department of Labour Deputy Director General U Aung Htay Win, U Win Naing of JPE Everest Ltd, a local employment agency and U Than Soe (CEO & Chief Editor, 7 HR Business Group and Two Four DMA Media Group) will participate in the discussion.

During October, three Public Talks were held under the title of "Youth and Social Media" in Kawhmu Community Center and under the title of "Danger of narcotic, an increasing threat to youth" in Mandalay Region Pyigyidagun Community Center and Kachin State Myitkyina Community Center. It is learnt that more public talks will be held. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Promote peace, China's Xi tells soldiers at first overseas base

BEIJING — Troops serving at China's first overseas military base, in the Horn of Africa country of Djibouti, should help promote peace and stability, President Xi Jinping told them in a video chat, encouraging them to promote a good image.

China formally opened the base in August on the same day as the People's Liberation Army marked its 90th birthday. It is China's first overseas naval base, although Beijing officially describes it as a logistics facility.

Djibouti's position on the northwestern edge of the Indian Ocean has fueled worry in India that it would become another of China's "string of pearls" military alliances and assets ringing India, including Bangladesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka.

Speaking to China's Djibouti-based forces during a visit to a joint battle command center in Beijing, Xi "got a good understanding" of the base's operations and the lives of the soldiers there, China's Defence Ministry said late on Friday.



China's President Xi Jinping claps after his speech as he and other new Politburo Standing Committee members meet with the press at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China on 25 October, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Xi "encouraged them to establish a good image for China's military and promote international and regional peace and stability", the ministry said.

The soldiers responded that they would not let Xi or China down, it said.

China began construction of the base in Djibouti last year.

It will be used to resupply navy ships taking part in peacekeeping and humanitarian missions off the coasts of Yemen and Somalia, in particular.

Chinese President Xi Jinping is overseeing an ambitious military modernization program, including developing capabilities for China's forces to operate far from home.

During his visit to the command center, Xi also instructed the armed forces to improve their combat capability and readiness for war, the ministry said.

Xi said progress in joint operation command systems, especially in efficiency at the regional level, was needed and troops must conduct training under combat conditions.

Djibouti, which is about the size of Wales, is at the southern entrance to the Red Sea on the route to the Suez Canal. The tiny, barren nation sandwiched between Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia also hosts US, Japanese and French bases.

There has been persistent speculation in diplomatic circles that China would build other such bases, in Pakistan for example, but the government has dismissed this.—Reuters ■

North Korea calls for a halt to 'brutal' sanctions

GENEVA — North Korea called on Friday for a halt to what it called "brutal sanctions", saying the measures — imposed after its latest nuclear test — constituted genocide.

"Today the US-led racket of brutal sanctions and pressure against the DPRK constitutes contemporary human rights violation and genocide," the North Korean mission to the United Nations in Geneva said in a statement.

The sanctions regime "threatens and impedes the en-

joyment by the people of DPRK of their human rights in all sectors", it said.

The call for an immediate end to the sanctions comes as US President Donald Trump sets off on a trip to Asia — including China, South Korea and Japan — looking for help to pressure North Korea to stand down from the nuclear crisis.

The global community has been ramping up the pressure on the isolated country after it conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test so far, on

3 September.

Last month the United States unilaterally imposed sanctions on seven North Korean individuals and three entities over what it called serious human rights abuses, including forced labour.

In September the UN Security Council strengthened its sanctions, including export bans as well as asset freezes and travel bans on various officials,

North Korea's response follows a UN expert last month saying international sanctions may

be hurting key economic sectors and hampering the human rights of Pyongyang's citizens.

The sanctions meant that "some unprincipled countries have blocked the delivery of medical equipment and medicines", the North Korean mission said on Friday, with the supplies destined for children and mothers in the country.

"All types of anti-human rights and inhumane sanctions against the DPRK should be terminated immediately and thoroughly," it said.—Reuters ■

China says has made best effort on North Korea ahead of Trump visit

BEIJING — A senior Chinese diplomat said on Friday China has made its best efforts to resolve issues on the Korean peninsula, ahead of US President Donald Trump's state visit to Beijing next week when he is expected to press China to do more on North Korea.

Vice Foreign Minister Zheng Zuguang said the North Korean nuclear issue would be an important topic up for discussion at the meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Trump.

China firmly opposes conflict on the Korean peninsula and believes using force is not the correct way to resolve the issue, Zheng told reporters at a briefing in Beijing. China and the United States have a shared interest in peace and stability on the Korean peninsula, Zheng said.—Reuters ■

India successfully tests home-made guided bombs: defense ministry

NEW DELHI — India successfully tested indigenously-developed light weight guided bombs in eastern state of Odisha, defense ministry officials said on Saturday.

The tests were made from an Indian Air Force aircraft at the Integrated Test Range, off

the coast in Chandipur.

The SAAW (Smart Anti Airfield Weapon), released from the aircraft and guided through precision navigation system, reached the targets with high accuracies.

"A total of three tests with different release conditions and

ranges were conducted and all were successful," a statement released by India's defense ministry said.

According to officials, the guided bomb is developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

along with other laboratories of DRDO and the Indian Air Force.

Indian Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman congratulated the DRDO scientists and the Indian Air Force for the successful tests.—Xinhua ■

We will deal with Rakhine State affair in all perspectives!

Khin Maung Oo

IF we are desirous of implementing peace and stability in Rakhine State, we need to take into consideration the importance of security. To provide security in Rakhine State, the role of the Tatmadaw and security forces need to be recognized. If the Tatmadaw and security forces are subjected to targeted sanctions, it would be difficult to get their full cooperation in security matters. A weakened Tatmadaw and Police force is not in the national interest as their duty is to protect the country from foreign enemies and safeguard our national sovereignty. For any army, the morale of the army is very important and the Myanmar Tatmadaw is no exception.

It should be understood by the international community that although security is important to bring peace and stability in Rakhine State, other factors are equally important. The events that unfolded in the Rakhine State is not solely due to commu-

nal problems based on religion or race. The muslims of Bengali extraction living in the Rakhine State were recruited and encouraged by ARSA terrorists to attack the Border police forces. The soldiers of the Myanmar Tatmadaw were under strict orders to use maximum restraint in the performance of their duties. Their orders were to seek out the terrorists and clear the area of these armed militants. However it should be understood that fighting terrorism is not as straight forward as engaging in a conventional war on the battlefield. In the case of the ARSA terrorists, they had no hesitation whatsoever to use women and children as human shields. It seems that the international press in their eagerness to lay blame on the Myanmar Tatmadaw had perhaps forgotten how difficult it is to ferret out the terrorists when they hide in the villages and mingle among the villagers. The events in Rakhine State are not isolated cases if one were to take a global perspective. Terrorism, especially militant Islamic jihadists have

been cropping up in many places all over the world in places such as the Philippines, southern Thailand and even Bangladesh which is a Muslim country.

At present, the urgent need for solving the Rakhine State affair is to accept the Bengalis who have fled from Rakhine State to Bangladesh after careful scrutiny. The International news media has made exaggerated statements that the fleeing population has now reached up to nearly one million. This type of irresponsible reporting can damage the dignity and image of Myanmar. In fact the UN system and the international community should provide help to the Myanmar authorities in the process of scrutiny and verification so that those refugees who wish to return will be able to return in safety and dignity.

Provided that a computerized data collection system has been implemented, the whole process of scrutiny and verification should go smoothly with the minimum of delay.

It is necessary for the international

community to definitely acknowledge the national policy that those who comply with rules and laws will be granted citizenship rights. At the same time, those who decide to live in Myanmar should live as law abiding residents without making any demands for setting up a separate Islamic entity. This sort of attempt would not be tolerated by the present Union Government. As law abiding citizens they should live in harmony with other ethnic races and refrain from any attempts to impose their religion on other ethnic races. Due to these considerations, the Rakhine State affair should be viewed from many points of view and from all perspectives.

Concurrently, they are required to definitely express their disagreement over demands for ethnic rights under the name the whole populace cannot accept so that worries conceived in the minds of national populace will be erased. Accordingly, Rakhine State affairs full of different kinds of fronts must be dealt with in different corners of perspectives. ■

Myanmar looks to catalyse river transport as growth driver

Proposals to encourage investment in Myanmar's inland waterways could help ease road congestion, as well as provide a cost-efficient route to economic development.

Patrick Cook
Managing Editor
Asia, Oxford Business Group

In July the government announced plans to begin consultations with regional authorities to develop six inland maritime port terminals – four on the Ayeyarwaddy River and two on the Chindwin River.

The Ayeyarwaddy ports will be built at Mandalay, Pakkoku, Sinkham and Magway, while the Chindwin ports will be located at Kalewa and Monywa, U Thant Sin Maung, minister of transport and communications, said in a statement.

Private investment needed to bridge transport infrastructure deficit

Closing the transport infrastructure gap is a key focus area of the National Transport Master Plan, of which the new inland ports are a part.

Launched in 2014, the plan outlines a series of investments, infrastructure projects and reforms that aim to reduce shipping costs and expand transport capacity, with the ultimate goal of increasing transport sector investment from 1-1.5% of GDP to 3-4%. This would put Myanmar roughly on a par with Thailand and Vietnam.

Stakeholders and officials agree that greater spending will be needed to boost domestic connectivity. U Phyto Min Thein, chief minister of the regional government of Yangon, cited road and rail link upgrades as priority areas, along with development



A vessel is operating ferry services on the Ayeyawady River. PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE

of inland waterways, which could become Myanmar's main freight artery.

"Another point of intervention will be the improvement of the navigability of our rivers, since water transport is the most competitive transport solution," Phyto Min Thein told OBG.

However, given limits on state spending, much of the infrastructure development for maritime, road, rail and air set out in the government's plans will need to rely on public-private partnerships (PPP).

"The ministry still has difficulties ... implement[ing] the master plan due to budgetary constraints," U Win Khant, permanent secretary for the Ministry of Transport and Communications, told an investment seminar in late September. "With ... very poor infrastructure, very limited budget and weak legislation, the one and only way to carry out the master plan is through PPPs."

The transport sector as a whole will require some \$60bn worth of investment over the next 20 years to support economic development, according to estimates from the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

This represents approximately half of the \$120bn officials project is needed to close the overall infrastructure deficit, with the balance split between the energy and power industries, which require a combined \$40bn, and the telecoms sector, which is in need of \$20bn.

Inland maritime projects offer attractive returns on investment

In a report issued in July 2016, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) identified investments in river transport as offering some of the best returns. The extensive river network is well placed to serve the primary transport corridors, including

the link between the economic centres of Yangon and Mandalay.

"Cost reduction by up to a factor of three seems possible, with only limited-scale investments," the report said. However, relatively little has been done to date to utilise inland shipping as a means of transport, and the necessary supporting infrastructure remains underdeveloped.

In particular, key inland channels like the Ayeyarwady are hampered by shallow depths, limiting the size of vessels that can use them.

Among the development priorities cited by the ADB is deepening the stretch of the Ayeyarwady flowing north to Mandalay to at least 1.5-2 metres. This would allow 500-tonne vessels to navigate the river year-round at higher speeds. According to the bank, investing roughly \$100m in such improvements could generate \$3bn in transport cost savings. ■

Elevator for Ponnagyun Ooyitawdat Pagoda 40 per cent complete

AN ELEVATOR constructed in the historic Ooyitawdat Pagoda in Ponnagyun, Rakhine State for the ease of worshipers paying homage is 40 per cent complete, it is learnt.

Engineer Ko Thein Shwe from the elevator construction committee said, "Construction of the elevator was started in 1 February 2017. It is expected to be completed in May 2018 or June. As for now, it can be said that 40 per cent is completed. The total cost is estimated to be about Ks400 million."

The Ooyitawdat Pagoda el-

evator is comprised of a steel frame encased in concrete, it is learnt.

"The elevator was started with a startup fund of Ks100 million raised by donors. It will take quite some time to raise enough money from donations and the pagoda trustee requested assistance from the government, and the state government pledged to donate Ks150 million. The elevator was constructed for worshipers, monks, elders and youth to pay homage to the pagoda with ease", said Ooyitawdat Pagoda trustee chairman U Maung Tun

Kyaw.

The historic Ooyitawdat Pagoda is built on the banks of the Kin Creek in Ponnagyun Township and can be reached by road or by water. It is on top of the 188 feet-high Thelapitipabba hill and the pagoda had a height of 158 feet and a circumference of 400 feet, it is learnt.

The pagoda was first built by Rakhine Danyawadi King Thuriyasakka and Queen Rusita in Buddhist era 222. Successive Rakhine kings maintained and built up the pagoda to its present state.— Mawsi(MNA) ■



The construction seen at the historic Ooyitawdat Pagoda in Ponnagyun, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Buthidaung returning to normalcy

BUTHIDAUNG was busy yesterday, with traders conducting business, goods being transported and merchants displaying their wares.

The activity was a sign that stability and security are returning to the region after business in this border town ground to a halt three months ago following the deadly 25 August terrorist attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army, which has been described by the government as a terrorist group.

Buthidaung, a town in northern Rakhine State, is close to the Bangladesh border, making commerce its main activity, with trade and transport providing good job opportunities. The trade and flow of merchandise stopped after 25 August, causing the usually crowded streets and markets to become deserted. Regular work for locals disappeared.

As regional stability returns and the security situation improves, trading activities have started again in Buthidaung. With the re-entry of the traders, markets were reopened.

"The economy of Buthidaung was quite good before the terrorist attacks. About 10 to 15 motor launches (cargo boats) came to town every day. After ARSA terrorists attacked Yathedaung Township and Maungtau Township, the economy stopped", said U Tin Yi, a businessperson who lives in No. 7 port, Buthidaung.

U Tin Yi said the health of the town's economy could be



People walk through downtown Buthidaung in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: HAN LIN NAING**

measured by the number of trucks rumbling through the streets transporting goods

"Rice is the main business in our township. Following it are regional products including dried fish, bamboo and thatched roof material. At the moment, business had declined significantly.

Not even a single truck departed in a day, while in the past there were about 50, 60 trucks plying every day" said U Tin Yi, comparing the past and present commercial climate. Buthidaung Township has seven wards and 85 village tracts. The population is over 300,000, of which ethnic nationals made

up about 50,000.

U Tin Yi said that healthy commerce requires peace.

"The main thing I want is to have peace and stability in the region. Especially security. If security is good, the region will be stable and there will be trust that there'll be more business opportunities.

Ethnic Rakhine nationals and ethnic nationals all over Myanmar are brothers. We seek the help of all when the Rakhine people are facing difficulties." U Maung Mya Tha, a Buthidaung town elder, said the economy is improving, but continued security is needed to ensure future stability.

"Currently, Buthidaung is becoming peaceful. After 25 August, there were the terrorist acts. After the Tatmadaw and border police forces provided regional security, terrorists fled to the other country or they may be hiding in the mountains and forests. For now, it is peaceful. I can't say what will happen in future.

Because terrorists have plans and can conduct terrorist acts, I think", U Maung Mya Tha said.

"The main requirement is security. Security is the main requirement of ethnic nationals. We can stay only when there is security.



U Maung Mya Tha. **PHOTO: HAN LIN NAING**



U Tin Yi. **PHOTO: HAN LIN NAING**

If security is lax, terrorists can re-enter. Security must be tight to prevent terrorist acts. Only when there is full security will the ethnic nationals live with full confidence" he added.

U Maung Mya Tha said the restored prosperity of his town will have a positive effect on the region.

With the government forming a Rakhine State humanitarian assistance, resettlement and development committee, it is hoped that, in the near future, not only Yathedaung, Buthidaung and Maungtau in northern Rakhine State but the entire state will develop in tandem, he said.— Mawsi ■

Trump heads to Japan with North Korea on his mind

HONOLULU — US President Donald Trump heads to Japan on the first stop of his five-nation tour of Asia on Saturday, looking to present a united front with the Japanese against North Korea as tensions run high over Pyongyang's nuclear and missile tests.

Trump, who is on a 12-day trip, is to speak to US and Japanese forces at Yokota air base shortly after arriving in Japan on Sunday and looked to stress the importance of the alliance to regional security.

Ballistic missile tests by North Korea and its sixth and largest nuclear test, in defiance of UN Security Council resolutions, have exacerbated the most critical international challenge of Trump's presidency.

Aerial drills conducted over South Korea by two US strategic bombers have raised tensions in recent days.

In a display of golf diplomacy, Trump is to play a round of golf with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The two leaders also played together in Florida earlier this year.

Trump will also have a state call with the Imperial Family at Akasaka Palace during his visit. Abe and Trump will meet families of Japanese citizens abducted by North Korea.

Joined by his wife Melania on part of the trip, Trump's tour of Asia is the longest by an American president since George HW Bush in 1992. Besides Japan, he will visit South Korea, China, Viet Nam and the Philippines.

Trump extended the trip by



US President Donald Trump sports a flower lei he was given as he and first lady Melania Trump arrive aboard Air Force One at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, US on 3 November, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

a day on Friday when he agreed to participate in a summit of East Asian nations in Manila.

His trip got off to a colorful start in Hawaii. He was taken by boat out to the USS Arizona Memorial, where lies the World War Two ship that was sunk by the Japanese during the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941.

The Trumps tossed white flower petals into the waters at the memorial in honour of those who died at Pearl Harbour.

Trump's trip is to be dominated by trade and how to muster more international pressure on North Korea to give up nuclear weapons.

"We'll be talking about trade," Trump told reporters at the White House on Friday. "We'll

be talking about obviously North Korea. We'll be enlisting the help of a lot of people and countries and we'll see what happens. But I think we're going to have a very successful trip. There is a lot of good will."

Trump has rattled some allies with his vow to "totally destroy" North Korea if it threatens the United States and his dismissal of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as a "rocket man" on a suicide mission.

White House national security adviser HR McMaster, briefing reporters on Friday, defended Trump's colorful language.

"What's inflammatory is the North Korean regime and what they're doing to threaten the world," McMaster said.

Trump will seek a united front with the leaders of Japan and South Korea against North Korea before visiting Beijing to make the case to Chinese President Xi Jinping that he should do more to rein in Pyongyang.

Trade will factor heavily during Trump's trip as he tries to persuade Asian allies to agree to trade policies more favorable to the United States.

A centerpiece of the trip will be a visit to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Danang, Viet Nam, where he will deliver a speech in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific region, which is seen as offering a bulwark in response to expansionist Chinese policies. —Reuters ■

WORLD BRIEFS

IMF gives Venezuela six months to improve data, urges it to 're-engage'

WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Friday gave Venezuela six months to improve the flow of economic data saying it had violated IMF rules on the timely provision of some statistics.

The Fund said in a statement Venezuela had failed to provide timely data on total exports and imports of merchandise, and social security operations.

The IMF's board of member countries said it hoped the decision could encourage Venezuela to re-engage with the Fund. The country remains a member of the IMF but has not had any formal contact with the institution for more than a decade. —Reuters ■

Belgian prosecutor says will study Puigdemont arrest warrant

BRUSSELS — Belgian authorities have received Spain's arrest warrant for ousted Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont and will examine it before handing it over to a judge, federal prosecutor Eric Van der Sypt said on Friday. "We will study it, we will give it to an investigative judge maybe tomorrow or the day after tomorrow," Van der Sypt told Reuters. —Reuters ■

Zimbabwe accuses American citizen of trying to overthrow government-lawyer

HARARE — Zimbabwean police on Friday charged an American citizen with a new offence of plotting to overthrow a constitutionally elected government, her lawyer said. Martha O'Donovan, who works for Magamba TV, which describes itself as Zimbabwe's leading producer of political satire, had earlier been charged over a tweet that appeared to insult President Robert Mugabe. In a statement to police, O'Donovan denied the allegations against her as "baseless and malicious". —Reuters ■

Argentine survivor of New York attack pleads for justice, love

LONDON — "What has the world turned in to?" a friend of the five Argentines killed in the New York attack this week asked at a news conference on Friday, alongside three other surviving members of a group of former classmates.

Guillermo Banchini, an architect, and friends were cycling in New York during a 30-year high school reunion trip on Tuesday when a driver of a pickup truck plowed down a bike path.

"How could someone think of, plan and do something like this? We cannot get our heads around it," Banchini said at the Argentine consulate in New York.

"Let there be justice. Let this not be repeated, not here nor anywhere in the world."

Eight people, including a Belgian woman, a New Yorker and a New Jersey man, were killed and 11 injured in lower Manhattan in the attack along the Hudson River.

The suspect, 29-year-old Uzbek immigrant Sayfullo Saipov, was charged with acting on behalf of Islamic State, whose followers have carried out vehicle attacks in several cities, mostly in Europe.

The five deceased Argentines, businessmen and architects aged 48 to 49, were all alums of a polytechnic high school in Rosario, Argentina's third-largest city. Another member of the group, Martin Ludovico Marro,

was injured and hospitalized in Manhattan and did not attend the televised news conference.

Banchini, speaking on behalf of the other Argentine survivors, said the pain they were feeling would always endure, but they would move forward the way they had learned as close knit childhood friends.

"In the name of those values, and a way of life, we want to make a bet — love conquers hate," he said. —Reuters ■

Eight Iranian security guards killed in clash with rebels on NW border

TEHRAN — At least eight Iranian border guards were killed in the clashes on Friday night with the rebels in the country's northwestern Azerbaijan Province, Tehran Times daily reported on Saturday.

"At Least eight Iranian guards were killed in heavy clashes between Iran's border guards and a group of terrorists in the Chaldoran border area on Friday," said Alireza Radfar, the deputy governor general of the province was quoted as saying.

"The terrorists sustained heavy losses during the clashes which are still ongoing on the border with Turkey," the official said.

The Chaldoran border, around 860 km northwest of the capital Tehran, is near neighbouring Turkey and Iraq's borders.

Northwest of Iran has been the scene of sporadic clashes between the Iranian Kurdish militants and the country's security forces over the past years. —Xinhua ■

Lebanese prime minister resigns, saying his life in danger

BEIRUT — Lebanese prime minister Saad al-Hariri resigned on Saturday, saying in a televised broadcast he sensed a plot to target his life and criticising Iran and its Lebanese ally Hezbollah.

"We are living in a climate similar to the atmosphere that prevailed before the assassination of (his father the late prime minister) martyr Rafik al-Hariri.

I have sensed what is being plotted covertly to target my life," he said.

In his statement, Hariri said Iran was "losing in its interference in the affairs of the Arab world", adding that Lebanon would "rise as it had done in the past" and "cut off the hands that wickedly extend into it".

Hariri became Lebanon's prime minister late last year after a political deal that also brought Hezbollah ally Michel Aoun to office as the country's president.

Hezbollah is politically dominant in Lebanon, but its

ties to Iran and its support for Syrian President Bashar al-Assad have angered some Lebanese.

Hariri has visited Saudi Arabia, a political foe of Iran and Hezbollah, twice in the past week, meeting Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and other senior officials.

Beirut-based al-Jadeed television reported Hariri's resignation statement was made and broadcast from the Saudi capital Riyadh. —Reuters ■

Afghanistan moves to block WhatsApp, Telegram messaging services

KABUL — Afghanistan's telecoms regulator wrote to internet service providers this week ordering them to block the messaging services WhatsApp and Telegram but it was not immediately clear whether they had complied.

Use of social media and mobile instant messaging services has exploded in Afghanistan over recent years. Social media users and civil rights groups reacted with outrage to initial reports of the move and the letter sent by telecoms regulator ATRA was

widely shared on social media.

Some media reports, citing unidentified sources, said the move had been ordered by the National Directorate for Security to thwart the use of the encrypted messaging services by the Taliban and other insurgent groups.

It was not immediately possible to confirm the reports.

The acting minister for telecommunications, Shahzad Aryobee, posted a message on Facebook saying that the telecoms regulator had been ordered to put a gradual block on the services to

improve their functioning after complaints had been received.

"The government is committed to freedom of speech and knows that it is a basic civil right for our people," he wrote.

The letter by telecoms regulator ATRA, dated 1 November and signed by an official of the regulator, directed internet companies to block Telegram and Facebook Inc's WhatsApp services "without delay" for a period of 20 days.

However, the service worked normally this week and still ap-

peared to be working normally on Saturday on both state-owned operator Salaam and private service providers.

On Friday, there were reports of interruptions but it was not clear whether they were caused by a deliberate shutdown or by the unrelated issues with WhatsApp services that were experienced in several countries.

Mobile phone services have been one of the big success stories in Afghanistan since the Taliban were ousted from power by a US-led campaign in 2001, but

there are also frequent complaints from users about quality and coverage.

WhatsApp and similar services, including Facebook Messenger and Viber, are widely used by Afghan politicians and members of the government as well as by the Taliban, which has a sophisticated social media operation of its own. The movement's main spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, wrote to reporters this week giving his Viber number "in case WhatsApp is not working". —Reuters ■

Iraqi Shi'ite militia says will fight IS in Syria border town

BEIRUT — An Iraqi Shi'ite militia fighting Islamic State in Iraq near the border with Syria will also take on the jihadist group in the Syria border town of Albu Kamal, the militia's spokesman was quoted as saying on Friday.

Jaafar Hussaini, the spokesman for the Iran-backed Kataib Hezbollah militia, one of the Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF) fighting alongside the Iraqi army against Islamic State, was speaking to Lebanese television channel al-Mayadin.

Hussaini said the Iraqi resistance forces, a euphemism for Iran-backed Shi'ite militias, would take part in the battle against Islamic State in Syria's Albu Kamal because it borders

Iraq, Al-Mayadin reported.

On Friday Iraqi forces, including PMF, took the Iraqi border town of al-Qaim, near Albu Kamal, from Islamic State.

The Syrian army and allied Iran-backed Shi'ite militias, supported by Russian air power, are approaching Albu Kamal as part of their own offensive against the Islamic State enclave straddling the border between Syria and Iraq.

"Albu Kamal is in missile range of the Iraqi forces in al-Qaim. The presence of our forces on the border with Albu Kamal means there will be a new front in the confrontation with Daesh," Hussaini said using an Arabic acronym for Islamic State.



Shi'ite Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF) fighter looks inside the armoured vehicle after liberating the city of Al-Qaim, Iraq on 3 November, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

The Syrian army and its allies are advancing towards Albu Kamal across the desert southwest of the city and along

the Euphrates river from the northwest.

The Syrian government declared victory over Islamic

State in Deir al-Zor, the biggest city in eastern Syria, on Friday after two months of battle. —Reuters ■

Artificial intelligence to replace pilot in aircraft cockpit — Russian senator

MOSCOW — Artificial intelligence will be able to replace a soldier on the battlefield and a pilot in an aircraft cockpit, former commander of Russia's Aerospace Force and Chairman of the Federation Council Defense and Security Committee Viktor Bondarev said on 1, Wednesday November.

"Yes, of course. And flying robots will be able to act in a formation rather than separately. Perhaps, an operator will be sitting on the ground and controlling a whole unmanned squadron with the help of a computer," the ex-commander said in response to the relevant question.

In Bondarev's opinion, "the day is nearing when vehicles will get artificial intelligence. So, why not entrust aviation or air defense to them?"

It was reported earlier on



Flying robots will be able to act in a formation rather than separately, Viktor Bondarev noted. **PHOTO: TASS**

Wednesday that Russia was already developing a sixth-generation fighter jet that would

be produced in its manned and unmanned versions. Moreover, a pilot in the cockpit of a manned

aircraft will be able to control a whole formation of drones.—Tass ■

Ousted Catalan leader calls for united front for independence

MADRID — Ousted Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont called on Saturday for a united political front in the 21 December election to continue the drive for independence from Spain and to protest the imprisonment of former members of the regional government.

Puigdemont, who went to Belgium after his government was fired following a unilateral declaration of independence, said on Friday he was considering standing in the election from Brussels.

In Spain's gravest political crisis since the return of democracy in the late 1970s, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy called the snap election after taking control of Catalonia a week ago.

Political parties in the wealthy northeastern region that wish to run on a common platform have until Tuesday to register any potential coalition.

"It is time for all democrats to join together. For Catalonia, for the freedom of political prisoners and for the republic," Puigdemont said in a tweet that included the hashtag *llistaunitaria.cat*, a site calling for parties to unite against the Spanish government at the ballot box.

On Thursday, nine members of Puigdemont's sacked cabinet were ordered by Spain's High Court to be held on remand pending an investigation and potential trial.

On Friday, Spain issued an arrest warrant for Puigdemont and four associates to answer charges of rebellion, sedition, misuse of public funds, disobedience and breach of trust relating to their secessionist campaign.—Reuters ■

31 sexual abuse cases against UN personnel filed in 3 months — official

UNITED NATIONS — Thirty-one new cases alleging sexual abuse or exploitation by United Nations personnel, nearly half of which involve the UN refugee agency, were filed between July and September for events stretching back at least three years, the UN said on Friday.

Not all of the allegations have been verified and some are in preliminary assessment phase, said UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric in a press briefing. During the three month period, 14 investigations have been launched and one case has been proven, he said.

Of the 31 cases, 12 involve military personnel from peace-keeping operations including those in the Central African Republic and Mali.

The majority of the civilian staff cases, 15, involve the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Three cases involve the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and one the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

UNHCR and UNICEF did not immediately respond to requests for comment outside

office hours. IOM was not immediately available outside office hours.

For decades, media and UN reports have exposed sexual exploitation and abuse by civilian and military UN personnel in places from Haiti to Darfur, with operations in the Central African Republic most recently in the headlines.

The new type of data collection that began in January, Dujarric said, is part of a UN initiative to increase transparency with regards to allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse.

"We're seeing allegations

that date back a few years," he said, because "people feel freer and safer to come forward."

The UN has deployed victims rights advocates in the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Haiti.

A dozen of the reported alleged cases happened in 2017, two last year and six more in 2015 or prior. Eleven have no known date, Dujarric said.

Ten of the cases involved sexual abuse and 19 sexual exploitation, with the remaining two unknown.—Reuters ■

US State Dept says certain immigrants no longer need protected status — Wash Post

WASHINGTON — Thousands of Central Americans and Haitians living in the United States under special status no longer need to be shielded from deportation, the US Department of State told Homeland Security officials this week, according to the Washington Post.

A programme known as Temporary Protection Status, set up in 1990, exempts foreign nationals from being deported

to home countries deemed unstable because of natural disasters or armed conflict. It protects more than 300,000 people living in the United States.

Citing unnamed officials, the Post reported on Friday that Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said in a letter to acting Homeland Security Secretary Elaine Duke on Tuesday that conditions in Central America and Haiti that had been used to justify the pro-

tection no longer applied.

The Department of Homeland Security has until Monday to announce its plans for about 57,000 Hondurans and 2,500 Nicaraguans whose protections under the programme will expire in early January, the Post said.

A State Department representative said no decisions had been announced regarding the program for nationals of Haiti, El Salvador, Honduras or Nicaragua,

and that the department had no comment on discussions with the Homeland Security Department.

The Homeland Security Department did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment.

The Post quoted a Homeland Security spokesman as saying Duke had made no decision on the programme.

Last month people close to

Republican President Donald Trump's administration said the White House was considering anti-immigration activists' appeals to pull back on the program.

Trump campaigned last year on a promise to deport large numbers of immigrants, a racially tinged political theme that won him passionate support among some US voters.—Reuters ■

Typhoon Damrey kills at least five in Viet Nam

HANOI — Typhoon Damrey killed at least five people in central and southern Viet Nam on Saturday, the government said, after it swept into the country just days ahead of the APEC summit of Asia-Pacific leaders.

The storm reached land at 4 am local time (2100 GMT on Friday) with winds gusting at up to 90 kmph (56 mph) that tore off more than 1,000 roofs, knocked down hundreds of electricity poles and uprooted trees, the government Facebook page said.

At least six people were missing and 20 houses had been destroyed.

It said six ships had capsized with 61 people on board in the South China Sea and that 25 people had been rescued, but gave no details as to the possible fate of the others.



A storm batters a street in Nha Trang, as Typhoon Damrey descends on southern Vietnam, in this still image taken from social media video on 4 November, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

The storm made landfall near the city of Nha Trang, which is around 500

km (310 miles) south of the coastal city of Danang, where the Asia-Pacific

Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit is taking place next week.

There were reports of high winds and rain in Danang, but no immediate

reports of casualties. The storm moved from the coastal area into a key coffee growing area of the world's biggest producer of robusta coffee beans. Traders had expected the storm to delay harvesting, but were not sure whether it would damage the crop. The government said thousands of hectares of sugar cane, rice fields and rubber plantations had been damaged. More than 40 flights were cancelled. Floods killed more than 80 people in northern Viet Nam last month while a typhoon wreaked havoc in central provinces in September. The country of over 90 million people is prone to destructive storms and flooding due to its long coastline. —Reuters ■

Rare manhole cover sale attracts enthusiasts in Japan

MAEBASHI, (Japan) — A rare sale of old manhole covers in an eastern Japan city has attracted a flood of enthusiasts called “manholers,” who are charmed by the designs unique to each region. In pursuit of manhole covers often featuring designs related to nature, history and traditional performing arts in each region, fans have been collecting “manhole cards” distributed for free since last year but often traded at high prices in on-line auctions. Joining the bandwagon, the Maebashi city government in Gunma Prefecture, north of Tokyo, in August put on sale 10 manhole covers with different designs priced at 3,000 yen (\$26) each, in a bid to spark interest in the city's sewage system.

“We thought if the cards are so popular, real manhole covers could lure hobbyists,” said a Maebashi city official in charge of waterworks. After posting a

notice of the sale online, the city also held an exhibition of the items. Eventually, 193 potential buyers including those who live outside of Gunma applied for them. The most popular manhole cover attracted more than 40 applications. The iron covers, which are no longer in use, measured 60 centimeters in diameter and weighed around 40 kilograms a piece. Most were manufactured in the 1980s and 90s, with one featuring the design of a rose — the city's symbol. Winners were chosen through a lottery and they received the covers in October in the city. They submitted a written pledge not to resell them. “We were surprised at such huge reactions,” said the Maebashi city official. “We are pleased if (the manhole cover sale) has led to promotion of the city itself.” Another round of sales is also planned, the official added. —Kyodo News ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MATHU BHUM VOY. NO (1044)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATHU BHUM VOY. NO (1044) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.11.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD**
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MAERSK AVON VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAERSK AVON VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.11.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPROT
(S'PORE) PTE LTD**
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV PACITA VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACITA VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.11.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BANDA VOY. NO (070)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BANDA VOY. NO (070) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.11.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINE**
Phone No: 2301185

Ivorian artist puts a twist on #MeToo: she says it with her hair

DAKAR — A 21-year-old artist in Ivory Coast has found an eye-catching new way to draw attention to the #MeToo campaign against sexual harassment — by sculpting her hair into the image of a man lifting a woman's skirt. Laetitia Ky creates elaborate hair sculptures in order to emphasize black women's natural beauty, which is undervalued in the realms of fashion and entertainment, she said. When women around the world began sharing experiences of sexual abuse and harassment on social media using the hashtag #MeToo — sparked by allegations against US movie producer Harvey Weinstein — she knew she wanted to take

part. "Like everyone, I saw the wave of women who were speaking out, and this touched me immensely," Ky told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"I hope women everywhere wake up and revolt." Ky posted a picture of her hair art on Facebook and Instagram along with the story of a friend who had narrowly escaped rape. She invited other women to send her messages if they wanted to share their stories. The testimonies have been pouring in, she said.

In West Africa, many women have said that sexual assault is rampant but so taboo that you can be shunned or considered unmarriageable for speaking out.—Reuters ■



Ivorian artist puts a twist on #MeToo: she says it with her hair. PHOTO: REUTERS

Netflix cuts ties with Kevin Spacey after sexual misconduct allegations

LOS ANGELES — Netflix Inc severed ties on Friday with Kevin Spacey, one of its biggest stars and the lead in its popular drama "House of Cards," after a number of allegations of sexual misconduct against the Oscar-winning actor.

The streaming company suspended production earlier this week of the upcoming sixth and final season of the political intrigue drama, in which Spacey plays US president Frank Underwood.

"Netflix will not be involved with any further production of 'House of Cards' that includes Kevin Spacey," the company said in a statement late on Friday.

Spacey's publicist cut ties with him on Thursday and it was not known who currently represents him.

His departure may not mean the end of the show, however.

"While we continue the ongoing investigation into the serious allegations concerning Kevin Spacey's behavior on the set of 'House of Cards,' he has been suspended, effective immediately," Media Rights Capital, the company that produces the show, said in a statement.

"MRC, in partnership with Netflix, will continue to evaluate a creative path forward for the program during the hiatus," it said.—Reuters ■

Carey Mulligan to play Gloria Steinem in An Uncivil War



Carey Mulligan. PHOTO: PTI

LOS ANGELES — Carey Mulligan has been roped in to play Gloria Steinem in FilmNation's "An Uncivil War," directed by Dee Rees.

The movie will focus on efforts by feminist activist and journalist Steinem, lawyer and activist Florynce Kennedy, and others to ratify the ERA, while conservative organizer Phyllis Schlafly advocates against it, reported Variety.

The ERA was written to guarantee equal rights for all citizens regardless of sex, and although it passed both houses of Congress in

1972 and was submitted to the state legislatures for ratification, it fell short of enactment after receiving 35 of the necessary 38 state ratifications.

Rees has adapted David Kuk-offs script for the project, which goes under production in March 2018.

The project also reteams Mulligan with Rees, who recently worked together on the critically acclaimed film "Mudbound," which is scheduled for release on 17 November.—PTI ■

Country music awards show reverses ban on questions about Vegas shooting

LOS ANGELES — The Country Music Association (CMA) on Friday reversed a ban on journalists asking questions at its annual awards show about last month's Las Vegas mass shooting, hours after singer Brad Paisley criticized the rules as "ridiculous."

In media guidelines issued earlier this week, the CMA asked reporters not to focus their coverage of the 8 November awards show red carpet on "the Las Vegas tragedy, gun rights, political affiliations or topics of the like." It said credentials could be revoked for any media doing so.

A lone gunman shooting from a hotel window killed 58 people and wounded hundreds more when he opened fire on

20,000 fans at an outdoor country music festival in Las Vegas on 1 October in the deadliest mass shooting in modern US history.

On Friday, the CMA lifted, and apologized for, the restrictions, saying in a statement the "sentiment was not to infringe and was created with the best of intentions to honor and celebrate Country Music."

"Bravo CMA awards for doing the right thing & apologizing for this mistake. All are welcome, let's have a great show," Paisley tweeted.

The country music star, who is co-hosting Wednesday's show in Nashville, had earlier tweeted, "I'm sure the CMA will do the right thing and rescind



Brad Paisley performs "My Tennessee Mountain Home." PHOTO: REUTERS

these ridiculous and unfair press guidelines. In 3...2...1....."

Singer Ryan Adams had

joked on Twitter that approved topics at the ceremony might include "Wagon Wheels, Bacon,

repurposed barn wood, (and) cussin' at snakes."

Singers Jason Aldean, Jake Owen and Chris Young were among the musicians either on stage in Las Vegas when the shooting broke out, or watching the show.

Caleb Keete, a guitarist with the Josh Abbott Band, said in October that the shooting had caused him to change his stance on gun control after being a life-long supporter of the right to bear arms.

The CMA awards, one of the biggest celebrations of country music in the United States, will air live from Nashville on ABC television on Wednesday.—Reuters ■

Mission intangible: 'Warm-hearted' Koreans serve up super-spicy kimchi for a cause

SEOUL — Plunging their pink-gloved hands into cartons of cabbages, and slathering the vegetables with a bright-red sauce, more than 2,300 people on Friday got to grips with making the spicy, fermented Korean staple of kimchi.

About 60 tons of kimchi, which is made with salted cabbage doused in a spicy chili paste, and flavored with garlic, ginger, fish sauce and fermented seafood, among other things, were prepared on the first day of the Seoul Kimchi Festival.

An acquired taste for for-

eigners, kimchi is traditionally eaten as a side dish at every meal. South Koreans consumed about 1.85 million tonnes of kimchi in 2016, according to the World Institute of Kimchi.

The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization added the art of making and sharing of kimchi to its Intangible Cultural Heritage list in 2013.

Those taking part in the festival agreed that it was a good learning experience.

"We don't really get much chance to make kimchi usually,

so through this opportunity, I have come to understand how much effort our mothers and grandmothers put into making kimchi", said 18-year-old student Jeung Ji-hun.

Organizers aim to make a total of 120 tons of kimchi over the three-day event, which will be distributed to needy households across Seoul.

"This kimchi, along with our warm hearts, will be shared with our neighbors in need of help," said festival director Shin Myung-ki.—Reuters ■



A woman poses for photographs with traditional side dish 'Kimchi' during the Seoul Kimchi Festival in central Seoul, South Korea on 4 November, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

'Walking Dead' zombie game seeks Pokemon-style success

HELSINKI — Finnish game studio Next Games said on Friday it will launch a new augmented reality smartphone game in the coming months based on AMC Networks' hit TV show "Walking Dead".

The game, in which players fight zombies that are superimposed onto the real world on smartphone screens, is tapping into the trend of augmented reality (AR) which gained mass adoption last year with the release of Niantic Inc's Pokemon Go.

Next Games said the "Walking Dead: Our World" game, which it hopes will mirror Pokemon Go's success, will be available for test users on Apple's App Store and Google Play in selected regions by January before a wider release later next year.

The TV show tells the story of a world overrun by zombies, and the new game will use AR technology to let players battle the zombie characters in real world environments.

Based on the same show, Next Games has previously developed a mobile strategy game which has been downloaded by more than 16 million users.

"I have an optimistic view on (the new game's) potential. I expect this game to reach similar levels of revenue to their previous game," said analyst Jerker

Salokivi at Evli brokerage, with a "hold" rating on the stock.

Shares in the company, which was listed in March, jumped more than 100 per cent in August after the company released its first video trailer of the upcoming game.

The stock fell more than 7 per cent on Friday as the company reported a loss from the first nine months of the year due to investments in game development.

Its sales from January to September rose 30 per cent from a year ago to around 26 million euros (\$30 million).

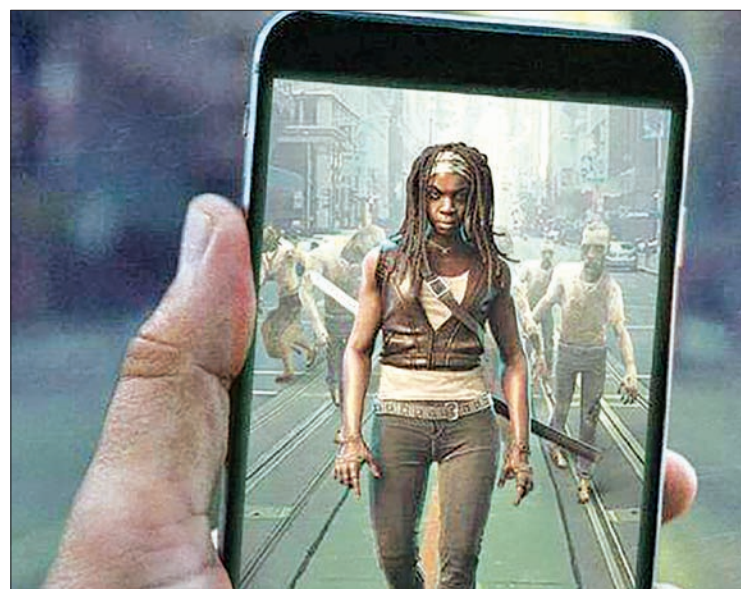
This year, Google and Apple have both released augmented reality applications for their devices to compete for the atten-

tion of customers and software developers building such games.

Pokemon Go, which has players walking around real life neighborhoods to catch and train creatures, has more than 750 million downloads.

"AR games ... need to give the player a reason to look through their cameras, to change their surroundings into something else. With zombies, you don't luckily get to do it any other way," Next Games CEO Teemu Huuhtanen told Reuters in September.

In another recent AR initiative, Mattel and tech company Osmo launched an augmented reality version for "Hotwheels" toy car game.—Reuters ■



A view of the Next Games game Walking Dead is seen in this handout released on 3 November, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Albanians view antique communist-era spyware in 'House of Leaves'

TIRANA — In the days of communist Albania's near-total isolation, Saimir Maloku used his technical knowhow to gain illicit glimpses of the outside world. Unluckily for him, as he and his father watched forbidden Italian television, the regime was watching him.

Maloku was jailed for nine years in 1976 after the secret police bugged his home. Four decades on, he can visit a unique Tirana museum and see for himself the kind of listening devices that betrayed him.

At the Museum of Surveillance, created in the former headquarters of the feared Sigurimi security service, Albanians can now inspect some of the spying paraphernalia used by dictator Enver Hoxha's totalitarian state as well as the files kept on many of them.

"Until now nothing had been done to show how Albanians were spied upon and kept in check, so this is a good step to illustrate the history of spying we were the victims of," Maloku, now 71, told Reuters.

Visiting the museum, Maloku told the story of how he had wanted to help his paralyzed father by broadening his television viewing beyond the drab daily four hours of Albanian state broadcasts.

An electronic engineer, he built a device he called "the can"

to convert UHF signals from Italy's RAI television so they could be viewed on an Albanian set.

"The can opened a window into the West for the Albanians. I made them free of charge for my friends, but later learned some of them had denounced me," Maloku said.

The Sigurimi planted a listening device in a wall to gather evidence against him.

The same model of device — once attached to a broomstick to spy on the Italian embassy in Tirana — is on display in another museum depicting the work of the communist-era interior ministry. In the age of the smartphone, both Maloku's and the Sigurimi's electronic gizmos now look quaintly crude — but they did their jobs, and Maloku went to prison convicted of hostile "agitation and propaganda". He remembers singing Rolling Stones and Beatles songs in his underground cell to preserve his sanity.

Before the collapse of Albanian communism in 1990, the building that now houses the Museum of Surveillance was known as the "House of Leaves" — a pun referring to both its ivy-clad walls and the "leaves" of secret police files kept on citizens. During World War Two it was used by the Gestapo of the occupying Nazi forces.—Reuters ■

MFF U13 Boys' States & Regions Tournament 2017 awards ceremony to be held today

THE final match of Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) U13 Boys' States & Regions Tournament 2017 and its award ceremony will be held today at 4pm on the artificial turf of Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

In the final match, Nay Pyi Taw will face Ayeyawaddy. In this tournament, including the group stage, quarterfinals and semifinals, the two teams have never met. Nay Pyi Taw emerged as the top team came from Group A and Ayeyawaddy team led Group B.

Nay Pyi Taw advanced to the semifinals after defeating Mon State by a score of 1-0 in

the quarterfinals. Ayeyawaddy advanced to the semifinals after beating Kayin State by a score of 1-0.

Nay Pyi Taw team advanced to the final after defeating Shan State (east) in the semifinals by a score of 1-0. Ayeyawaddy reached the finals by beating the Bago Region team by a score of 7-6, thanks to a score in a penalty shootout.

The MFF U13 Boys' States & Regions Tournament 2017 is the first state and region's boy tournament and is being held to nurture the new generation of Myanmar footballers. —Kyaw Zin Tun ■



File photo is taken during the match Ayeyawaddy (black) against Bago (red) at the seminal match. **PHOTO: MFF**

Evra suspended after scuffle with home fan, to be disciplined

PARIS — Patrice Evra has been suspended by Olympique de Marseille following a scuffle with a supporter before Thursday's Europa League game at Vitoria Guimaraes, the Ligue 1 club said on Friday.

OM said in a statement that the France international had been summoned to an interview that will lead to disciplinary action. Video footage showed a Marseille player aiming a kick at a group of fans during a scuffle behind one of the goals but the club did not mention the kick.

France fullback Evra has been regularly targeted by Marseille fans since joining from Juventus during the close season and his poor performances have led coach Rudi Garcia to drop him from the starting line-up.

"As a professional and experienced player, Patrice Evra could not react in such an inappropriate manner," the statement said after acknowledging that Evra has been provoked by OM fans who insulted him. —Reuters ■

Myawady takes 2017 KBZ Bank Women's League Championship



File photo is taken to 2017 KBZ Bank Women's League Championship team, Myawady at Aun San Stadium. **PHOTO: PHOE THAW ZIN**

MYAWADY became the champions of the 2017 KBZ Bank Women's League after defeating Sports and Education by a score of 2-0 at Aung San Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Because the women's football championship is awarded

according to points, Myawady won the crown with 29 points, edging out Thitsar Arman in second place with 28 points. Sports and Education took third place with 26 total points.

After yesterday's match between Myawady and Sports and

Education, the awards ceremony was conducted, with Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) chairman U Zaw Zaw, Myanmar Women's League chairman U Hla Htay and officials from the Myanmar Women's Football Committee presenting

the championship cup, medals and Ks15 million to Myawady. Thitsar Arman was awarded second-place medals and Ks10 million. The third-place team, Sports and Education, were given medals and Ks5 million. —Ye Yint Shine ■

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

5 NOVEMBER 2017

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

**"If thou hast a cup of green tea,
Truly, the glory will be brought,
All great idea will be accomplished."**

THIS quotation mentioned above is taken from a Myanmar traditional poem called Laysitt (kind of four stanzas), which was composed in Mandalay Era, highlighting the advantages of having a cup of tea. Analyzing its theme is preferable. This verse might say it is auspicious to have a cup of green tea.

According to Myanmar custom, the tea time is in the morning. The place to have green tea is the Eain-Oo-Khan (Eastern part of a house). So, the poet seems to describe that having a cup of green tea is auspicious. Moreover, as having green tea means grouping together more than three or four men rather than having alone, more than a piece of idea are available for more than three or four men are being gathered. It will be easier for whether solving the problems, or considering some issue as it means one man with one idea. So, the poet also seems to say having green tea will make the great idea accomplished.

Tea time is a kind of round table discussion. However, it partially differs from that meaning. Saying discussion, it may mean political discussion or a way of challenging before negotiation. It may apparently mean more formal with strict rules and regulations. So, tea time sounds emotionally uncomfortable. And, of course, it is even to be afraid of. Tea time is actually unaware of both politics and challenging each other in formal ways with table manners. It is simply meant to be more free, more comfortable and relaxed. Besides, there is quid pro quo, tolerance, affection and open conversation. These ways of saying are under the term "Tea time".

Hearing the word "Tea time", it can be seen that sitting around centralizing the tea pot, saying effusive words each other, joyful conversations, and the freedom for everyone to take part in discussion and to leave whenever they wish. In truth, "Tea time" is a formal discussion though it seems to be undisciplined.

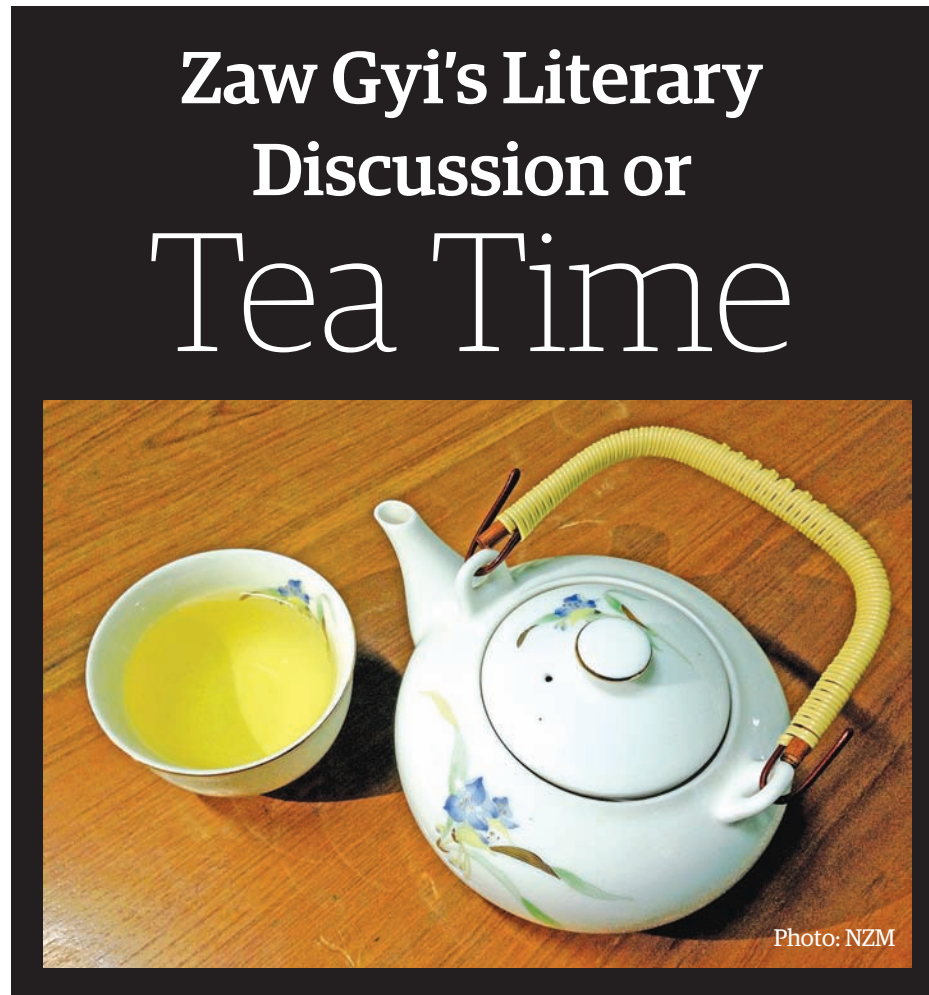


Photo: NZM

In this kind of discussion, it is witty, rhetorical, and it also makes the great idea to be leaked, it makes better literary ideas emerged, it lights over the unrevealed issues, it solves the lumpy issues, it reveals the undiscovered things and it makes clear the perplexed ones.

In this kind of discussion, the custom of sharing the knowledge of Buddhist Philosophy (Abhidhamma), Myanmar History, and poetic philosophy, the ancient tradition of Myanmar people, handed to the generations after generations, can be noticed. This custom can be seen yet either in wedding ceremony or in funeral or in the shrine room or on the rest houses in monastic compound.

This custom can also be found as an example in the novel "Mhar-Daw-Bhone" by Mr. Maung Mhaing. In that novel, the main characters, former Bagayar monk U Kyaw Dhaw, Abhidhamma Sayar Aye, Shwe Mhan Maung Maung

Ywa, and Maung Phone Myint are the participants in the tea time. Bagayar former monk U Kyaw Dhaw, who knows a lot of things, who can share his wide knowledge and who scold the other participants is the moderator. Maung Phone Myint is able to ask so many elicited questions, to angle for information. Though Sayar Aye and Maung Maung Ywa mock the other and quibble over the issues what the others are conferring with, they two sometimes are humiliated by U Kyaw Dhaw. However, tea time is witty, pleasant, pleasure and lively.

One day, I dropped in a tea time. Actually, there was neither tea pot nor hors d'oeuvre. However, it was same as the tea time. It was preferable to have green tea. In that tea time, the participants were over twenties, over fifties, over thirties, retired men, teachers, writers and even students.

What they were conferring were not

very well organized and they were discussing this and that. The participants did not come on the formal appointment and they just joined the gathering, without thinking already what to say in it but they just came across that gathering.

In that discussion, the participants sometimes journey back to the history.

Sometimes, they put on makeup on the face of the modern literature. Sometimes, they take shelter under the cool shadow of the classical literature. A person who flatters the other also involves while a person who says simperingly may take part in a tea time. Not only a person who speaks disagreeably but also a person who answers back wearing smile can be seen in that tea time. In the tea time, one man might think from the beginning while other might be thinking either in the middle of certain issues or against the end of those issues. A person might want to show the others that he is well educated while the others might be paying attention to him only with smiles, but waiting to attack him when his weakness is seen. In this way, the essence of literature rises from being buried, then to its peak. In the other words, I am wondering that tea time is a way to look for the ecstasy of life

Kyat wine (setting up game cocks to fight) is a popular ritual in Myanmar. It is said that Kyat wine can be seen in every parts of Myanmar. It is being wondered it is better to hold tea time in every parts of Myanmar than to set up Kyat wine. Though police might be waiting to catch the gamblers in Kyat wine, they are not doing so in tea time. However, the people setting up tea time are surely caught by the literary spirit. A person who is really getting caught by that literary spirit is a literary lunatic.

So, the one thing to keep in mind before kicking off a tea time is you won't be able to count zealously Kyat, Mat, M-huu, Pya, Pound, Shilling, Penny, and Dollar with precise statics. In other words, you will be neither the ignorant, arrogant and petulant follower after money nor the power-mad person who is after the power, hectoring the other.—Translated by Nwe Soe (Cherryland)

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

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Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

Lesson 26 : Where and When to Use Which Tenses (2)

Hello Dear Students !
Nice to meet you again !

Today Lesson is another Choice of where and when to use which tense .

This time it will be a Choice between Simple Tense and Perfect Tense .

When we have two actions in a sentence , we need to know which action comes first . For the first action, we use “Perfect Tense” (i.e. Present Perfect, Past Perfect and Future Perfect) and for the second action we use “Simple Tense”

(Simple Present, Simple Past and Simple Future).

- e.g. (1) When I reach his house, he has already have his dinner.
(2) He started his trip when the rain had stopped.
(3) When she will arrive at school , they all will have finished their homework.

In sentence (1), the first action is “having his dinner” and the second action is “reaching his house”.

So, we use Present Perfect Tense “he has already have his dinner” for the first action and we use Simple Present Tense for the second action “When he reach

his house”. (Both Tenses are in the Present)

In sentence (2), the first action is “the rain stopping” and the second action is “starting his trip”.

So, we use Past Perfect Tense “when the rain had stopped” for the first action and we use Simple Past Tense for the second action “He started his trip”. (Both Tenses are in the Past)

In Sentence (3), the first action is “ they all will have finished their homework” and the second action is “ she will arrive at school”

So, we use the Future Perfect Tense “they all will have finished their homework” for the first action and the Simple Future Tense “When she will arrive at school”. (Both are Tenses are in the Future.)

Here comes the Exercises now.

Exercise 26 .

I. Make sentences from the followings : ..

- (a) She comes to the party . They all finish their dinner.
(b) He goes back home before . She starts singing .

- (c) She comes back home. Her mother finishes her cooking.
(d) The doctor arrives at the hospital. The patient already dies.
(e) We see the truth. He goes back home.
(f) It rains. We arrives at home.
(g) Maung Maung finishes his homework. The teacher comes to the class.
(h) I sleep . He calls me on phone.
(i) She stays at home. Till the rain stops.
(j) The sun shines again. The storm goes away.

II. Change the sentences you have made into Past and Past Perfect Tenses.

III. Change the sentences you have made into Future and Future Perfect Tenses.

IV. Try to write ten sentences of your own with Present Tenses (Simple and Perfect), with Past Tenses (Simple and Perfect Tenses) and with Future Tenses (Simple and Perfect Tenses).

Hope that you can do your exercises very well !

Now, here comes the answers for your last week's Exercise 25.

I.

- (a) While I am looking at the sky , I see the stars.
(b) We go to Singapore, while my friends are staying there.
(c) He sees the truth, while he is listening to their talks.
(d) While she is staying at home, she sees the young boy.
(e) You go out in the rain, while the wind is blowing so roughly.
(f) I am having my dinner, when he comes into my room.
(g) She sings a sweet song while she is playing the piano.
(h) While he is sitting for the examination , he plays football .
(That means he plays football during his examination days , not in the time of sitting for his examination.)
(i) You come to know the answer , while the teacher is writing the answers on the blackboard.
(j) We dance on the floor , while he is playing the piano.

II. Change the sentences in No I into Simple Past and Past Continuous Tenses.

- (a) While I was looking at the sky , I saw the stars.
(b) We went to Singapore, while my friends were staying there.
(c) He saw the truth, while he was listening to their talks.
(d) While she was staying at home, she saw the young boy.
(e) You went out in the rain, while the wind was blowing so roughly.
(f) I was having my dinner, when he came into my room.
(g) She sang a sweet song while she was playing the piano.
(h) While he was sitting for the examination , he played football .

- (That means he played football during his examination days , not in the time of sitting for his examination.)
(i) You came to know the answer , while the teacher was writing the answers on the blackboard.
(j) We danced on the floor , while he was playing the piano.

That's all for today Class .
Hope that you have done well !
Bye for now Class!

See you next Sunday!
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By Dr. Khin Zaw
Retired Rector, Yangon University
of Education

(continued from last week)

One's own alma mater is also a source or route of professional growth. Follow-up questionnaires, alumni magazines, and the opportunity to keep in touch with the former teachers are all connections to be nurtured. The wisdom of going back for post-graduate work depends on various factors such as time, money, personnel, courses offered, and alternatives available elsewhere. A rule of thumb is that it is better to have degrees from DIFFERENT PLACES, but there are too many variables for one to generalize.

There are many other less formal ways to expand one's professional horizons. They may even be more fun, but that does not make them any less valuable. It is the old story of man not living, thriving, or gaining by work alone.

No one can make anyone extend his or her activities beyond his / her work. There is a vast expanse of enrichment possibilities open to any person entering the profession of teaching. Samples are Working



on a hobby, being a collector, travelling, attending conventions or colloquies, making friends, experimenting, keeping up with world events, but by balancing the printed "facts" from the various, conflicting sources available, etc., etc.

Professional growth can also come in a way that teachers too seldom consider, the WRITING they might do for professional or popular publications.

A list of publications is often just the weight needed to swing a wanted position in one's favour.

Growth into a full professional teacher is also aided by reading of three types

- (i) Professional
- (ii) Expansive, and
- (iii) Slice-of-life or variety reading.

All of the suggestions in this

chapter on professional growth are ways of aiding breadth to pedagogues as both a person and a teacher. Whether it is formal course work or travel or writing or reading, the objective remains the same of filing away the ragged edges of professional immaturity and inexperience.

A concrete summary of what and who you are is the cumulative personal record of your education, teaching experience

and related information, a realistic picture of your professional potential, status, accomplishments, and growth.

If two or more candidates apply for the most desirable position in the world and they all look and sound equally good, then the next step is their personal and professional record. How will you stack up in years to come on questions like these: ..

"Does he change jobs often?

What are the reasons?

Are his professional references good?

Has he been PRODUCTIVE IN WRITING?

What EDUCATION has he acquired BEYOND a BACHELOR'S DEGREE?

Thus it is quite evident from this, that the two main or crucial points in evaluating the level of professionalism and professional growth are the pedagogue's technical expertise as indicated by his technical or publications and his acquired (formal) academic degree.

References

1. Abraham, op.cit.
2. Brubacher, op.cit.
3. Martin Mayer, The Schools (New York: Harper and Row, Publishers Inc., 1961.)

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Kayah ethnic women harvest rice. PHOTO: KO HTET

History of Kayah Race

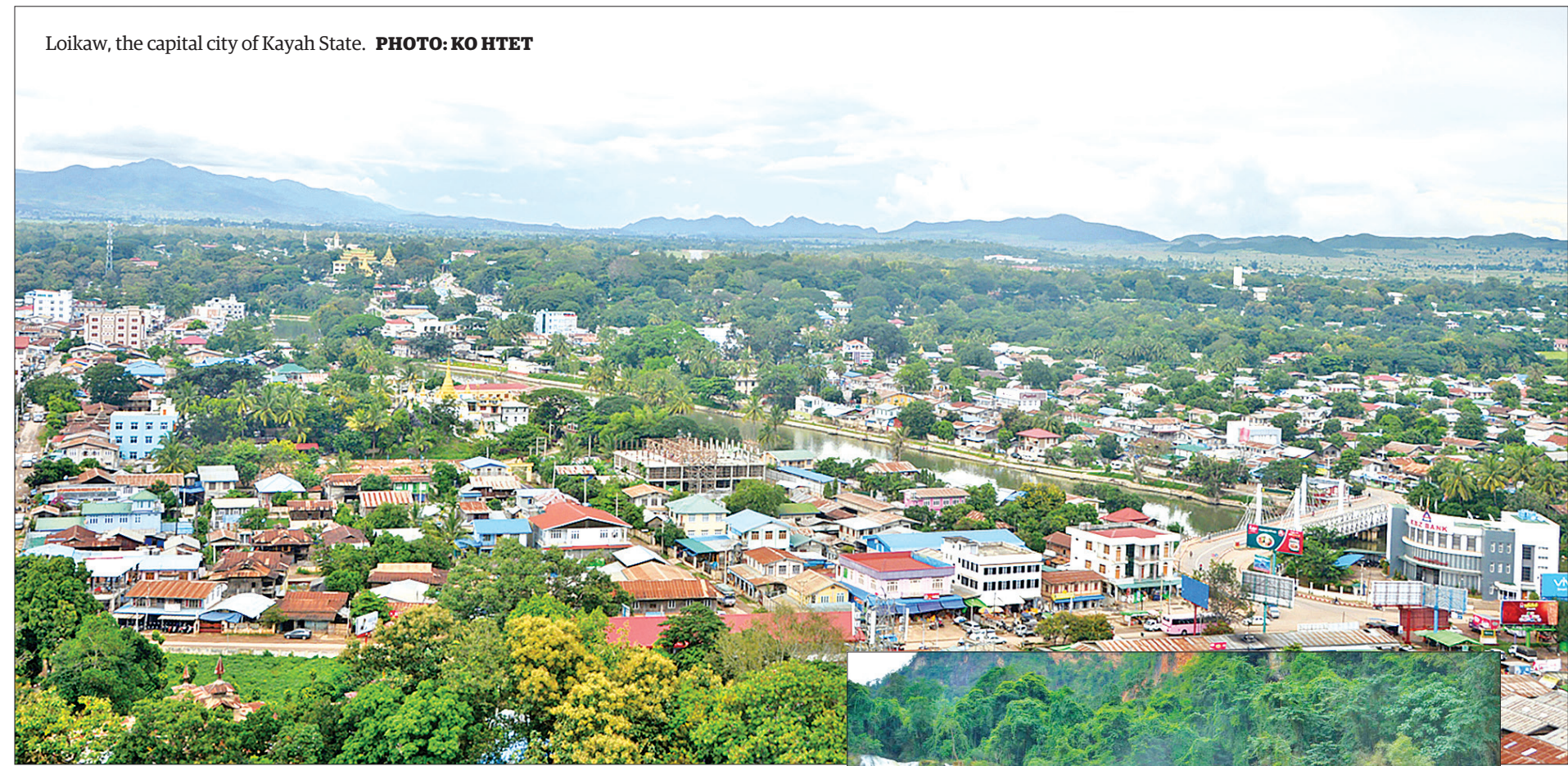


Kayah ethnic woman prepares to pull thread from wool of cotton. PHOTO: KO HTET

By Ramnya

ACCORDING to the anthropologists there are three major races, White Men, Yellow Men and Black Men in the world. All the ethnic people in Myanmar came from the Mongol lineage of Mongoloid Stock who are inhabiting in Mongol Highland of Central Asia. So, all the ethnic people living in Myanmar are in one way or another related to each other by blood as they came from the same stock. However, due to different localities separated by land and water barriers and difficult communication between plain and hilly region the people had been separated for a long time and settled in group in the area that they had migrated to and consequently different languages, dialects, dresses, living styles, behaviour, tradition, trait and culture came into existence among the separated groups.

It is noted from the historical record that due to the high population growth and climate change, mongoloid



Loikaw, the capital city of Kayah State. PHOTO: KO HTET



Three Kayah women grind paddies manually to get rice. PHOTO: KO HTET

people had migrated in search of the land for better life and livelihood and finally settled in the land of Myanmar.

The Kayah race is living in Kayah State in different parts and consequently the names of the race became different depending on the areas they settled. Kayah, Yinbaw, Yintale, Manu Manau, Paye, Gekho, Gebar and Kayan are the tribes which became diverted from Kayah race. All those tribes are dispersed throughout the Kayah State. Most of the Kayan and Yinbaw tribes are living in Demawso township whereas Manu Manau and Paye tribes are settling in Pharuso township. Majority of Yintales are living in Bawlekhe and Phasaung townships while Gekho and Gebar are living in Demawso township near Loikaw. Most of the Zayein also called as short-headed people are staying in Moby region.

The separate lands where the tribes mentioned before are living are collectively called as Kayah State. The name Kayah has changed from Karenni after the independence of the country. Kayah State has been formed from the combina-

tion of Kantarawaddy region, Bawlekhe region and Kyephogyi region. The major groups living in those areas are Kayin, Shan, Myanmar and other miscellaneous racial groups. Then the smaller racial group with some variations in character has appeared and spread. Now we can see 17 different groups such as Kayah, Padaung, Gaungto (Zayein), Kayin Phyu, Kayin Net, Bwe, Bayet, Yinbaw, Talaing, Keko, Kepa, Kayin Kyar, Manu Manau, Taungthu, Intha, Myanmar and Yun in Kayah State.

Out of those 17 variations, Kayah (Kayin Ni) is the dominant group in the Kayah State. They occur abundantly around Kantarawaddy, Loikaw, Kyephogyi and Nyaungzin area.

Kayah ethnic people have white complexion and clear-minded. The height of the body in general is about average as other people of Myanmar. They have their own language, but slight variation occurs among the different groups.

Variable ethnic groups in Kayah State

Kayah ethnic includes Kayah, Kayan



Lawpita waterfall in Kayah. PHOTO: AUNG TUN LAY



Naungya Lake in Loikaw, Kayah State. PHOTO: AUNG TUN LAY

(Padaung), Kayan Ka Ngan (Yinbaw), Kayan Kedot (Gekho), Kayan Lahta (Zayein, Gaungto), Kayaw (Paye), Kaya Monu (Kawyaw), Yintale and Gebar.

Name of the race

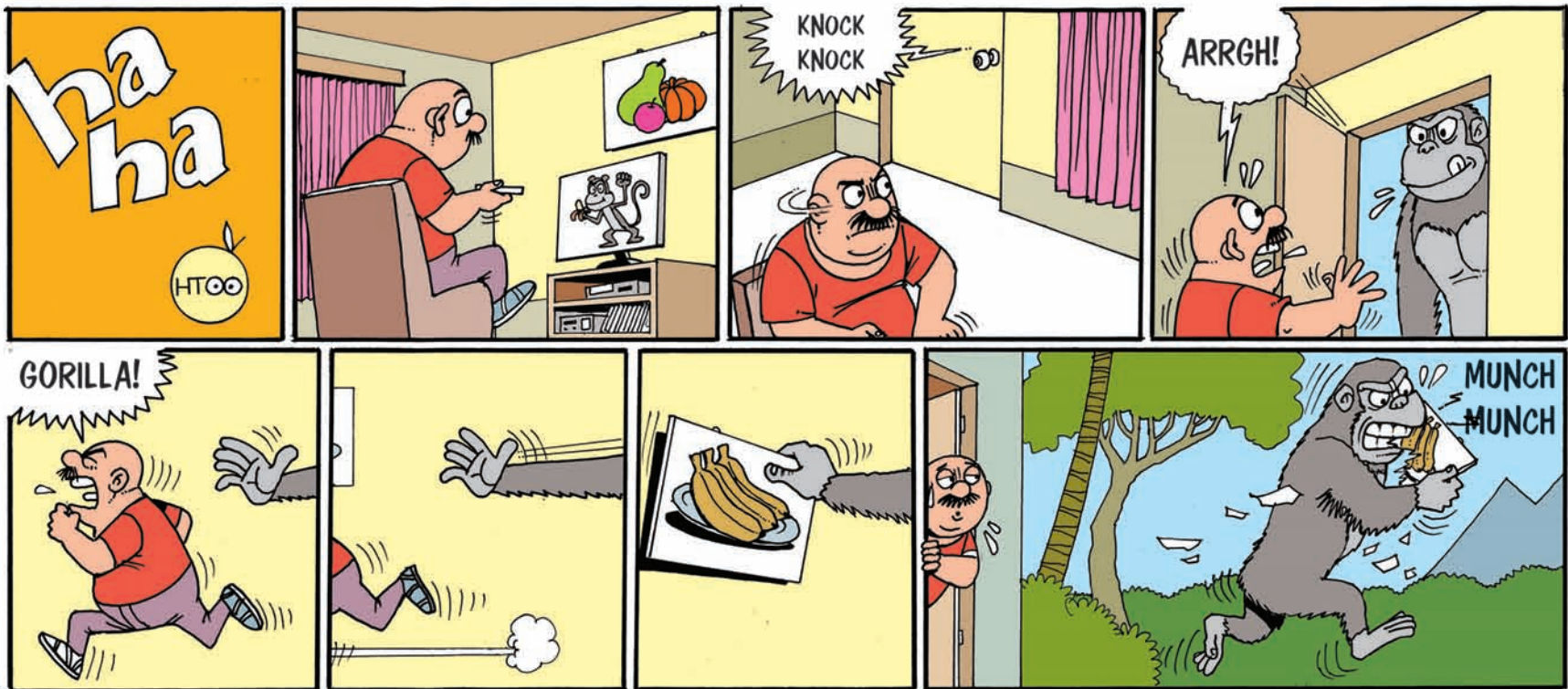
Kayah ethnics used to call themselves Kayah, Kayaw, Kayan and etc. However, when they meet they never called each other as Kayah or Kayan. They used to call each other by the name of the place where they live. For instance, the Kayahs who live in the eastern part are called Mi Htai. Mi Htai means the direction from where the sun rises. So also Kayah people who live in the western part are called Monu which means the place where the sun sets. Those living in the southern part are called Lawk-

ya that means the downstream direction. Kayah people in the northern part are called Lawkhee that means upstream direction.

Diversification of Kayah Race

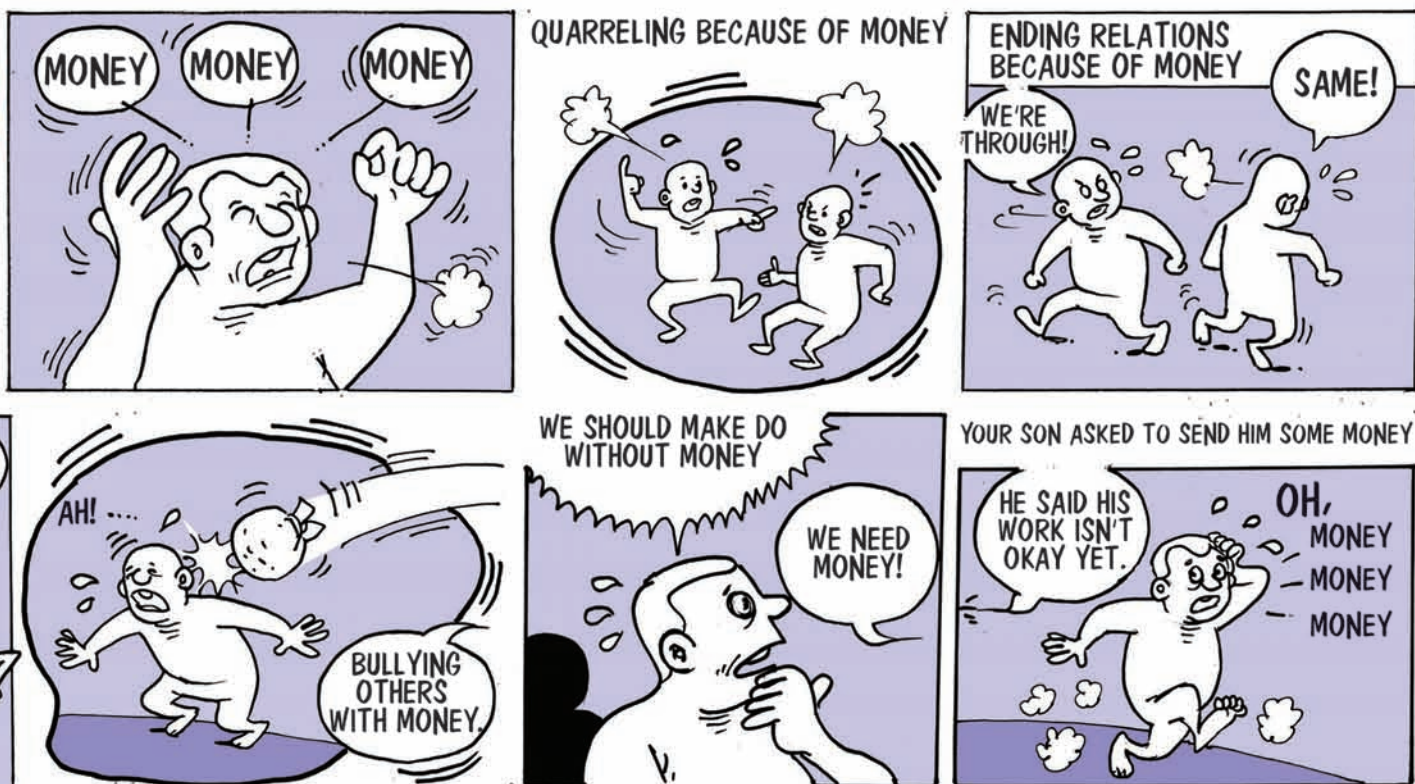
Kayah ethnic people came down from a single origin, however when they live in separation in groups for long period, there has been slight changes in language, accent, cadence and dress. No significant change in tradition, culture, traits and social mores are seen in separated groups of Kayah ethnics. Kayah (Kayin Ni) has no diversification into different small groups (tribes). They use just different name based on the localities where the group lives. Nevertheless, Kayan ethnic group has divided into smaller different groups, it is learnt.

SUNDAY COMICS



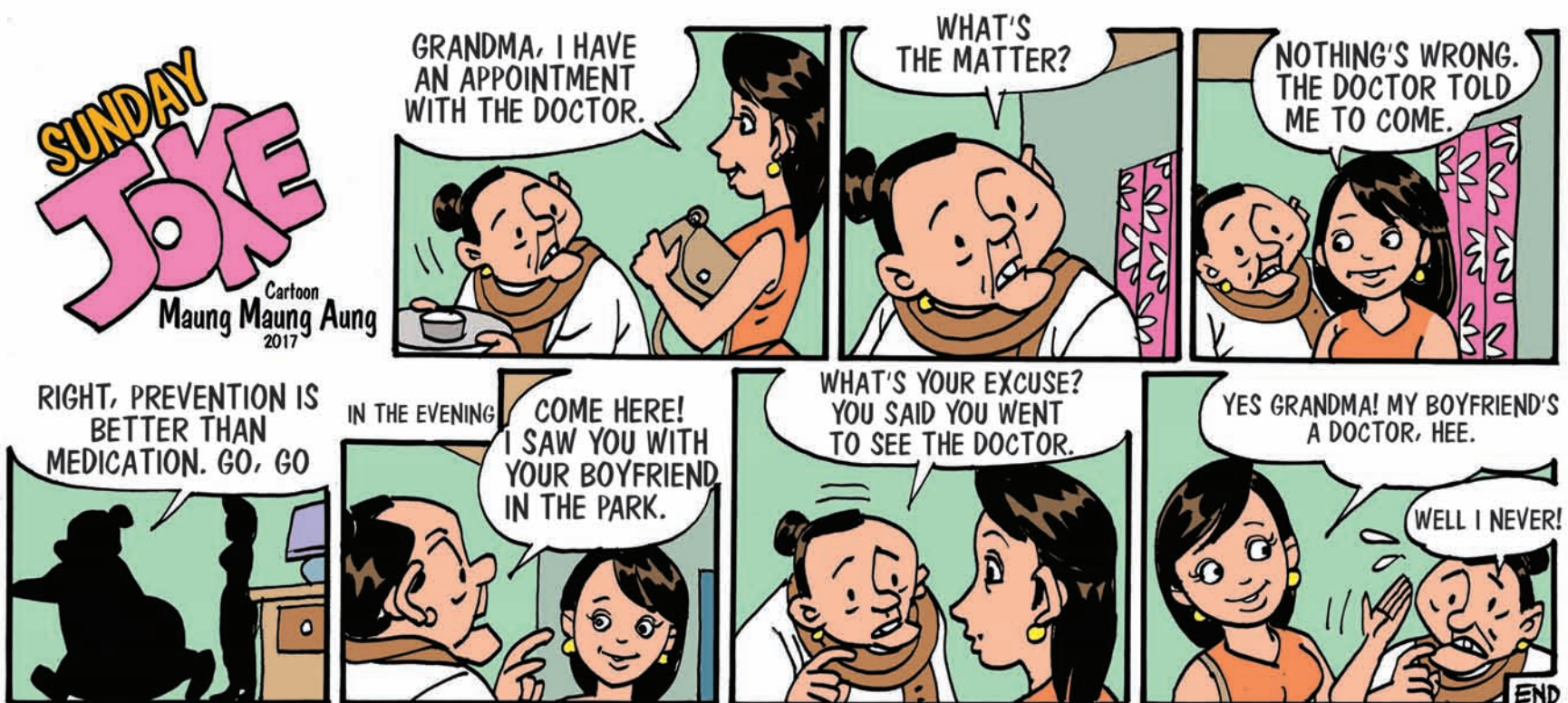
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2017



Village administrators voice their opinions on situation in Maungtaw

Interviews with various village administrators on 31 October in Maungtaw

By Han Linn Naing and Aung Kyaw Oo, Photo: Nay Thit Oo



U Mya Aung Kyaw (Yaymyattaung Village Administrator, North Maungtaw Township)

Most of the villagers who fled have returned to the village. Officials from regional and district administrative bodies are currently providing food and shelter for us and we have received about 150 sacks of rice. Businesses are still at a standstill and schools are still closed. We still haven't gotten a replacement for the last health official who transferred away. Hence, we have to travel to Ngakuya for health related cases. There are currently over 200 people in the village and many more have not returned. We need better security or else the residents here will always be living in anxiety. When will another terrorist attack happen? That's what they all worry about. I think food and clothing will be resolved slowly but the roads are in such bad conditions that what should be a 45 minute trip to Maungtaw takes around 2 hours. We want better roads.

U Aung Hlaing (Thatchaung Village Administrator, Maungtaw Township)

We have Mro and Thet ethnic people in our village. Our roads and phone lines are in bad shape and we're having difficulties purchasing foodstuffs since the market is still closed. We're currently relying on the rice grown in our area and humanitarian aid, which we have to go carry for ourselves. The appointed teachers for our schools have still not arrived yet. The schools in the cities are opening but our village schools are still closed. Health officials arrive periodically and we haven't reaped our crops yet. What we would like to ask for is better roads and phone lines so that we can be up-to-date with the news and relay information.



U Zaw Htoo (Alethankyaw Village Administrator, Maungtaw Township)

There aren't any particular problems right now. The Tatmadaw, regional and district administrative bodies and humanitarian organizations are providing us with food and safety. The people who fled during the incidents are regrouping. Schools in our village are closed so we have to send our kids to Mawyawadi school. We wish for our schools to reopen soon. Health inspections come every month and we have doctors in our hospitals. The district and township officials are discussing with the agricultural department to reap our crops.

U Gyor Gyi Aung (Ngakuya Village Administrator, Maungtaw Township)

Currently, everyone is coexisting peacefully and we have Rakhine, Hindu and Muslims in our village. There is a need for teachers here but thankfully we have one health specialist here. We are receiving food and aid from District officials and humanitarian organizations. We're hoping to reap our crops next month.



U Hla Thein (Temporary Administrator of Maungtaw Myoma North Ward)

The situation is calm in Maungtaw and the various administrators are working together to ensure there are no problems. We've given the people vaccination pills and there were announcements that schools for children will be opened soon. The different communities are coexisting peacefully right now. Only then will the region develop.

U Nur Islam (Tayetout Village Administrator, Maungtaw Township)

Our village is peaceful right now and we have security forces here. We also get aid regularly. Rakhine and Muslim people are living side by side here and there are no problems. There is a problem for the children to get an education since all the schools are still closed. Businesses have also stopped running and there are no health officials at the local health department office.





Discovered In Myanmar

Scientists in China and Myanmar have documented a new species of orchid from northern Myanmar

A China-Myanmar joint field expedition has uncovered a new orchid species native to northern Myanmar. The researchers have reported their findings in *Phytokeys*.

The genus *Coelogyne* in the orchid family of plants consists of approximately 200 species. More than 10 new species and 40 new records of Orchidaceae species have been added to the flora of Myanmar since 2001.

During a China-Myanmar joint field expedition of Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden of the Chinese Academy of sciences, researchers found specimens of *Coelogyne* originating from Putao, Kachin

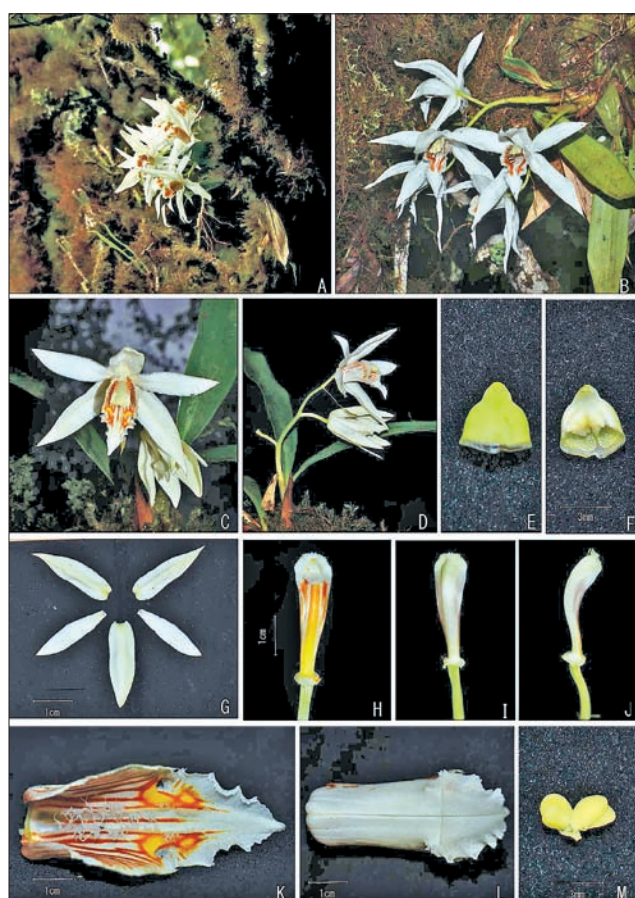
State in northern Myanmar.

Based on a detailed examination of the morphological and anatomical characters of these specimens and that of presumed closely-related species, the researchers confirmed that the specimens belong to an orchid species that is new to science. They named it *Coelogyne magnifica*.

Morphologically, *C. magnifica* is most similar to its close cousin, *C. corymbosa*, with both having white flowers. However, *C. magnifica* has slightly smaller pseudobulbs, shorter leaf blades and a greater number of larger flowers compared to *C. corymbosa*, among other structural differences. Such differ-

ences were also observed when *C. magnifica* was compared to *C. taronensis*, another related species of orchid.

C. magnifica is a predominantly epiphytic species, meaning that it grows on moss-covered branches, tree trunks and sometimes also on rocks in humid mountainous forests, at an elevation 2400 to 2500 meters above sea level. Based on current information and according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List category (IUCN 2012), *C. magnifica* is assigned a preliminary status of 'Least Concern', meaning that it is not an endangered species.— Asian Scientist



More than 10 new species and 40 new records of Orchidaceae species have been added to the flora of Myanmar since 2001.

Coelogyne magnifica Y.H. Tan, S.S. Zhou & B. Yang sp. nov. A-D Habit E Anther cap (abaxial view) F Anther cap (adaxial view) G Tepals H Column (adaxial view) I Column (abaxial view) J Column (lateral view) K Lip (adaxial view, showing the two lateral keels and two patches) L Lip (abaxial view) M Pollinia. Photographed by Y.H. Tan, Q. Liu & X.L. Zeng.

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