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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends 2018 Myanmar Academy Awards event

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the Myanmar Motion Picture Academy Awards event held at the One Entertainment Park, Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, Yangon yesterday evening.

Prior to the event, movie and music artistes and dance troupes provided entertainment for the audience with songs and dances.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi then cordially greeted the veteran motion picture artistes attending the event and then delivered a speech.

May the event attendees, movie enthusiasts observing the event via television broadcast and organizers of the event be happy and well. Last year I attended the event and in the years when I'm unable to attend it, I sent a message.

Academy Awards events were held for the Myanmar motion picture community to value their creation and to show their efforts toward raising their standards. In addition to this, the event renewed the recognition, love and respect accorded to the artistes by the audiences.

I value the art of the movie, the artistes, experts and technicians working behind the scenes. Continuous innovation was required for motion picture and arts to attract the interest and



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi presents the lifetime achievement award to five time academy award winner Sithu Daw Myint Myint Khin at 2018 Myanmar Academy Awards event yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

support of the people. Thus it was understood that the Myanmar motion picture community

would continuously innovate to produce better movies while academy award events would

also be innovated to make them more grand and spectacular. It was learnt that veteran artistes

and experts from the Myanmar motion picture community had put in time and efforts toward assessing, evaluating and selecting the academy award winners and their efforts were hereby given due recognition.

I want our country to prosper, develop and become a union where all ethnic people live in unity. At the moment every country of the world were facing challenges and so too was our country.

A thought came into the mind on how to use the subtle power of creative art in striving for a peaceful, united and developed country. That was because motion pictures greatly influence the hearts and minds of the people. This was the "Soft Power" that I used to mention quite regularly. Use this gentle soft power to benefit not only our country but the world as well. Not only does the creation of our artistes need to change together with the ever changing world, it also needs to develop. That was why when I met with artistes last year, I spoke of my wish to make Nay Pyi Taw the capital of motion picture. It was also understood that the motion picture community need to put in their efforts towards the development of the motion picture sector while the effective support of the State was also required.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends 2018 Myanmar ...



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the 2018 Myanmar Academy Awards event in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-1

As the country was not rich the government could provide only limited financial support. However, relevant ministries were providing enthusiastic support towards easing the difficulties faced in making motion pictures. Business persons were also urged from here to provide support and investments towards development of the motion picture sector that would provide good return on investment in the long run.

It was a joy to hear of the motion picture community's all round efforts and innovation towards development of the Myanmar motion picture sector. Artistes were also given due recognition for using their artistic talents and moral forces for the country. As told repeatedly whenever I had the chance, their efforts towards putting our country onto the path of democracy were also thanked yet again.

The era of Myanmar motion pictures that began in 1920 would reach a hundred years by the coming year 2020. The Myanmar motion picture community that had went through many systems and eras of the country had also gained much experiences and lessons. Success had been achieved to a certain extent today due to the efforts made by the motion picture community. Starting from last year a lifetime achievement award was presented to artistes

who served the people for many years and it had become a good tradition. In fact it can be said to have raised the prestige of the Myanmar Academy Award event.

It was learnt that the academy awards for today was selected from 83 movies that were screened in 2018. It was also observed that a total of 159 movies were produced last year. As the numbers of movies produced increased, the number of cinemas had also increased. As far as I know there were now 126 cinemas that were screening movies with digital system and the num-

ber of screens had increased to 145. There would be more opportunities for movie enthusiasts to watch movies. According to the principal of mutual dependence, as more movies were produced, there would be more investors who would invest in modern cinemas all over the country.

The government on its side would also support the development of Myanmar motion pictures by striving towards creating required studios and locations.

The Motion picture community was also urged from here not to be satisfied with the present

situation and aim towards reaching the quality of international movies while striving to reach the level of the countries in the region that had developed film industries. It must be noted that motion pictures as well as the entertainment industry had an opportunity to make the world understand about our people, history, culture, traditions, thoughts and aspirations. In Asia, movies from Korea, Japan, China and India had shown their countries' historical and artistic heritages

and organizations, especially the people in making those scenes.

It was also noted that during 2018, 3 movies, 3 series and a short story were made in Nay Pyi Taw during 2018. It was a pleasure that Nay Pyi Taw was becoming a capital city associated with entertainment. As the local and foreign investors' interest in the motion picture sector increased, our dream of making Nay Pyi Taw a movie capital would become closer to realization.

In conclusion, I pray on this

As the local and foreign investors' interest in the motion picture sector increased, our dream of making Nay Pyi Taw a movie capital would become closer to realization.

to the world from new and remarkable point of views. If our motion picture industry could do the same, it would herald in a new milestone that would be of great honor to our next generation.

All over the world, people like and were attracted by movies while actors and actresses were also loved. For youth and youngsters actors and actresses became role models. Therefore, actors and actresses of our country were urged to become a role model for their audience and the people through their ethics and efforts as well as love and value of the country.

Nowadays many were considering such love and value as being too old fashioned and thus it need to be renewed in a new and innovative ways. On the other hand, play a part in your own artistic way towards helping to achieve the peace, national reconciliation, establishment of a democratic federal union and socio-economic development that your audience, the people were yearning for. Show the civic force of the motion picture community.

Some scenes from Line Walker (Operation Midnight Shadow) movie produced by Hong Kong based Shaw Brothers Pictures International Ltd were shot in Yangon this year and it could be taken as a good opportunity of showing the world the peaceful image of our country, friendly and helpful nature of our people and our culture and traditions. It was a great pleasure to see the help provided by relevant officials

on the occasion that the motion picture community of our country develop and succeed. Serve the country and people with their skill and ability. May they stand tall as artistes loved by the people and the image and honor of the Myanmar motion picture community shine brightly for centuries.

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint delivers a speech

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint expressed thanks to prominent members of the Myanmar movie community for putting their energy into evaluating the movies and selecting award winning movies, experts and actors from 83 movies produced in 2018.

The Myanmar Academy Awards presentation began in 2013, taking on more significance year after year, he said.

The Minister also said that this year brought development to Myanmar's movie industry, with significant changes seen on screen. He also recalled the complaints about the quality of Myanmar movies heard last year, adding that good movies were accepted by the people and achieved success, being released one after another in 2018.

Regarding the improved movies, he acknowledged that competition among movie productions, and greater prospects for producing good movies, were brought about by increasing investments in movie productions.

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Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint delivers the speech at the 2018 Myanmar Academy Awards event in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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“We heard that income from good movies had broken records. On the other hand, the fact that a good movie can achieve commercial success has become significant” said Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint.

Regarding the progress seen in the nation’s cinemas, he said that the cinema industry had seen an increase in investments, indicating that cinema was seen as an opportunity for investors.

The small number of available cinemas, however, has been a large problem in past years, and was difficult to solve during those years. But the number of cinemas was increasing in Myanmar due to an increase in investments in the sector each year.

Meanwhile, the number of movies which were screened at the nation’s cinemas increased from 33 in 2016 to 83 in 2018, while the number of cinemas had reached 146. Also, some 20 cinemas were expected to be opened in the next two to three years.

While recounting the past glory of the Myanmar’s movie world, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint said about 20 Myanmar movies were exported around 1930 to foreign countries including Japan, Thailand and India.

After the Second World War, Myanmar movies reached to foreign countries including China

The studios were abandoned after they were damaged by the Cyclonic Storm Nargis.

The Union Minister invited the movie community to use the film studios and to use the Film Promotion Centre for paper reading, discussion and movie training. He also expressed the ministry’s readiness to help the movie community and to remove obstacles for outdoor shooting in Myanmar, saying that the recent shooting in downtown Yangon by the Shaw Brothers Film company could be seen as fruits of coordination to overcome challenges for shooting in the downtown sections of Yangon.

Afterwards Myanmar Motion Picture Organisation Chairman U Zin Wine explained about works conducted for the progress and development of Myanmar motion pictures. Following this, announcements and presentation of awards were made. State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi presented the lifetime achievement award to five time academy award winner Sithu Daw Myint Myint Khin.

After the presentation of awards Vice President U Henry Van Thio’s wife Dr. Shwe Hlwan, union ministers and their wives and officials cordially greeted and congratulated the award winners.

The 2018 Academy Awards were selected from 83 movies screened during 2018 and screen-

With 10 movies selected for the 2018 Academy Awards and being screened in foreign countries, Myanmar’s movie industry could be said to have been rejuvenated and was now hopeful about its future development.

and Soviet.

With 10 movies selected for the 2018 Academy Awards and being screened in foreign countries, Myanmar’s movie industry could be said to have been rejuvenated and was now hopeful about its future development.

He pledged that the Union Government was willing to help the Myanmar movie community to ensure that they could effectively carry out the development the movie industry.

The Union Minister also informed the movie community that the Ministry of Information which was related with the movie industry has renovated the film studio 1, 2 and 3 in Bahan Township which were used by the movie community in the past.

ing of 83 movies was the second highest record in Myanmar motion picture history. The record for screening was 88 movies in 1962.

The event was attended by Vice President U Henry Van Thio’s wife Dr. Shwe Hlwan, union ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, Dr. Pe Myint, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr. Win Myat Aye and Nai Thet Lwin, Peace Commission Chairman Dr. Tin Myo Win, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyto Min Thein, Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker, Yangon Region ministers, members of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, Thabin and Music Asiayone, artistes, 2018 Academy Award judges and invited guests.— MNA

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi casts advance vote for Yangon municipal elections



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi casts the advance vote for Yangon municipal election in Bahan Township, Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE COUNSELLOR Daw Aung San Suu Kyi casted an advance vote for the Yangon municipal election in Bahan Township, Yangon yesterday afternoon according to election rule. The Yangon municipal elections will be held on 31 March.

Bahan Township municipal elections sub-commission chairman U Than Lwin, members U Nay Win and Daw Thida Aung, secretary township municipal chief U Thein Zaw, ward/village sub-commission member U Win Kyi and U Zaw Aung performed their

respective duties to allow the casting of the advance vote. The Yangon Region municipal elections will be conducted in 33 townships within the municipal area of Yangon Region. There will be six constituencies with 272 candidates competing in the elections, it is learnt.— MNA

Telecom operators directed to sell only two SIM cards to one person

MINISTRY of Transport and Communications has directed the telecom operators to sell only two SIM cards to one person as from 1st April, according to the ministry.

The ministry announced its directive recently.

Four operators MPT, Telenor, Ooredoo and MyTel are providing telecom services in Myanmar. “As from 1st April, a person can buy only two SIM cards and needs to show identity card,” said U Soe Thein, Permanent Secretary of the ministry, said yesterday.

He also advised the people not to buy SIM cards at roadside shops as they are not registered with their names.

“People should utilize the telecom service after regis-

tering SIM cards under their names at legally opened shops,” said U Soe Thein.

The move is aimed at providing security to mobile financial services and the people, according to the ministry.

In Myanmar, unregistered SIM cards are available at illegal shops. “It is found that a person is using more than two SIM cards. Most are not registered. This situation is not helpful for mobile monetary services. Besides, this situation is not helpful for personal security and for the State as well,” said U Soe Thein.

The Permanent Secretary has also advised the people to tell the operators concerned to suspend their SIM cards in case their registered SIM cards are

being used by others.

“The registered user is the most responsible person for possible problems caused by their SIM cards,” he said.

Current situation has shown that SIM cards should reach to those who have not yet got national citizenship scrutiny cards and people in rural areas. “Those who have not yet got national citizenship scrutiny cards can buy SIM cards by showing other identity cards such as driving license cards, students cards. Foreigners can use their passports to buy SIM cards at shops,” said U Soe Thein. The ministry would announce a separate director to take measures against the illegal shops selling unregistered SIM cards.— MNA

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59th World Meteorological Day celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw

59th World Meteorological Day celebration was held at Royal Ace Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the event Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung said the theme of 59th World Meteorological Day “The Sun, the Earth and the Weather” was aimed at participation of all toward improvement of meteorological conditions. A developing country Myanmar had been greatly affected by climate change and to mitigate the effect of climate change maintenance and conservation of natural environment and water resources had to be conducted on one part. On the other part people need to have knowledge about climate change, meteorology, natural environments. People need to take note of weather forecast, notices and warnings issued by Department of Meteorology and Hydrology so that their travels,

The 59th World Meteorological Day Ceremony being convened in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO : MNA**

crops, livelihoods etc. were safe from natural disasters, said the Union Minister.

Next, a message sent by World Meteorological Organization Secretary General was read by Director General Dr. Kyaw Kyaw Moe.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung presented awards to winners of World Meteorological Day essay competition and observed the photographic records and exhibits displayed by Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

The event was attended by Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu, directors general, retired personnel of Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, officials and invited guests.—MNA
(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Kyeintali gets power supply round-the-clock

A CEREMONY was held at Kyeintali Town football ground yesterday morning on the occasion of 24 hours round-the-clock electricity supply from the national grid.

In delivering an opening speech to the ceremony Chief Minister U Nyi Pu said the day's event was a realization of expectations. State Counsellor had remarked that basic infrastructures were to be fulfilled as a priority for a country or a region to develop. Therefore the State government had prioritized basic infrastructure works such as construction of roads and bridges and provision of electricity and water. Due to this all can see the visible progresses being made and more efforts will be made toward regional development works said the Chief Minister.

All towns in the state were now being provided with electricity and it was a great pleasure to see the happiness of the people for this. The expectation was to achieve progress and

Rakhine State Chief Minister delivers the opening speech at the opening ceremony of the 24 hours round-the-clock electricity supply to Kyeintali Town yesterday. **PHOTO : MNA**

development through effective usage of electricity. Relevant departments would also need to inform and educate the people of the dangers in using electricity. The Union Government and ministerial departments that had assisted toward acquiring electricity were thanked on behalf of Rakhine State said the Chief Minister.

Next, state minister U Aung Kyaw Zan explained about works

conducted to provide 24 hours round-the-clock electricity supply to Kyeintali Town. Afterwards Hluttaw representative U Soe Win and a town elder spoke words of thanks. The ceremony commemorating the provision of 24 hours round-the-clock electricity supply to Kyeintali Town was then formerly started by the Chief Minister and officials who cut a ceremonial ribbon.

This was then followed by

Chief Minister U Nyi Pu pressing a button to start the distribution of 24 hour round-the-clock electricity supply. Laying of a 43.34 miles long 11 KV Gwa-Kyeintali power line was completed in March 2019 and 24 hour round-the-clock electricity supply had been provided to 1,303 households in Kyeintali Town and 1,594 households in nearby villages.—Myo Thu Tun

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Coins found in 200-year-old well in Kyaunggon

OVER 40 coins, plus a cabalistic square, were discovered in a 200-year-old well in Natyetwin Village, Kanyinthonehsint Village-tract, Kyaunggon Township, Patheingyi District, Ayeyawady Region, by residents on Friday morning.

Ko Myo Zaw, one of the residents,

said villagers had discovered the coins, which were believed to be made of gold or silver, inside the well on 22 March while they had been renovating it.—Win Kyaing

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)



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Prices of mung beans stable in domestic market

THE price of mung beans was stable this week in the Yangon market, as well as wholesale centres in other regions and states, according to the Agriculture and Market Information Agency (AMIA).

Traders sold a ton of mung bean for K677,000 in Bayintnaung Wholesale Centre, whereas wholesale prices of mung bean remained unchanged in both Monywa and Nay Pyi Taw, with merchants selling the crop at K23,000 per basket. During the period, the price of a basket of mung bean was sold for K23,000 in the wholesale market in Pyay, a decrease in prices by K1,000 per basket.

Merchants expect that prices

of mung bean are not likely to rise again in the local market next week, urging growers to sell their crop when prices are high in the market, and encouraged merchants to monitor the market, rather than just buying and selling. The prices of mung bean decreased in the domestic market last week due to low foreign demand. Mung bean is a marketable export product which is harvested seasonally. Domestic traders tend to make deals during the low season and stock them in their warehouses. At present, mung beans have been exported to India, Pakistan, Dubai, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.— Myanmar Digital News ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)



Traders inspect the quality of various categories of beans in the wholesale market hall at the Bayintnaung Wholesale Centre. PHOTO: AUNG PHYO KYAW

Myanmar Institute of Directors seeks to sharpen skills of directors

By Nyein Nyein

THE Myanmar Institute of Directors (MioD) will conduct courses that seek to improve the administrative skills of directors from public companies, said U Aung Naing Oo, Secretary of the Myanmar Investment Commission.

“The formation of MioD is aimed at improving the skills and law-abiding practices of directors from public companies, enabling them to follow rules and regulations and understand the duties associated with a director. We established the MioD in cooperation with the government, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and the International Finance Corpora-

tion (IFC) under the World Bank Group,” he added. “On 1 April, the MioD will open a three-day certificate course for directors. We will continue offering encouragement to company directors from public companies, on an alternative basis. In addition, those from private companies can attend the course. We will operate the courses continuously. Experts from Singapore and Myanmar will conduct the courses,” he continued.

In addition, the Myanmar Investment Commission is drafting a manual on corporate administrative codes to be followed by all companies, in cooperation with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar. ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Mineral exports decline almost 56% since October

Mineral exports between Myanmar and foreign traders totalled US\$416 million in the current 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, down notably by \$578 million, or over 55.7 per cent, from the corresponding period last 2017-2018 FY, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

At this time last FY, mineral exports were \$1.039 billion, with \$560 million in the public sector and \$479 million reported by the private sector.

Between 1 October and 15 March in this FY, public exporters sold minerals valued at \$32.016 million, declining by

nearly \$528 million from the corresponding period last FY.

Also during the five and a half months of this FY, the private sector's export of the same reached \$429 million, a decrease in value by over \$50 million against last FY.

Other products which saw a downward trend in export growth in the current FY covered forest-based products and other miscellaneous items. When compared with the corresponding period last FY, the current export value of forest products declined by nearly \$6.5 million, while the export of miscellaneous prod-

ucts this FY dropped by \$202 million.

During the 2018 mini-budget period (April and September), the country's exports of mineral products were \$1.034 billion.

As per the ministry's yearly trade report, the value of mineral exports were \$897 million in the 2011-2012FY, \$399 million in the 2012-2013FY, \$1.339 billion in the 2013-2014FY, \$1.498 billion in the 2014-2015FY, \$968 million in the 2015-2016FY, and \$1.010 billion in the 2016-2017FY.—Khine Khant ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

External trade exceeds \$15 bln, with over \$700 mln in deficit

MYANMAR'S foreign trade totalled US\$15.5 billion between October and mid-March this Fiscal Year 2018-2019, up by over \$185 million compared with the same period in the last 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, the Ministry of Commerce reported this Friday.

During five and a half months, Myanmar sold almost \$7.4 billion worth of domestic products to international buyers, and bought \$8.1 billion worth of goods, resulting in a trade deficit of over \$700 million, which decreased by over \$1.2 billion, as against the corresponding period

last FY, when Myanmar recorded a trade deficit of \$1.979 billion.

When compared with last FY, the current import value declined by \$511 million from both border and non-border trade, whereas the current export valued went up by nearly \$700 million.

Myanmar conducts foreign trade mainly through by sea. During the period, the country's maritime trade amounted to \$11 billion, whereas its external border trade stood at \$4.465 billion. When compared with this time last year, the country's non-bor-

der trade went down by over \$100 million while its border trade increased by over \$293 million.

Normally, the country exports seven main groups of commodities—agricultural commodities, forest, marine and animal products, minerals, manufactured products and other miscellaneous items. It usually imports four major categories of commodities—capital goods, intermediate products, consumer goods and CMP raw materials.—Shwe Khine ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

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Winners of Academy Awards for 2018



Dr. Shwe Hlwan, wife of Vice President U Henry Van Thio, and Union ministers and their wives greet Academy Award winners for 2018 in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Dance troupe entertains the audience with folk dance and song. **PHOTO: MNA**



Attendees are seen at the Academy Awards Presentation Event in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**



Shalom M Yawnam accepts the best music award for 2018. **PHOTO: MNA**



Actor Thu Htoo San celebrates as he wins the best actor award for 2018. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar rejects EU's Draft Resolution on situation of human rights in Myanmar at Human Rights Council

THE draft resolution on "Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar" tabled by the European Union (EU) was considered for action on 22 March 2019 at the 40th Regular Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Myanmar categorically rejected the draft resolution.

In the statement delivered as a concerned country before taking action on the draft resolution, Permanent Representative of Myanmar U Kyaw Moe Tun highlighted the following main reasons why the resolution is not accepted by Myanmar :-

1. First, the EU's justification for the draft resolution is mainly based on the one-sided narratives, highly politicized and seriously flawed reports of the FFM and the Special Rapporteur that Myanmar has categorically objected.
2. Second, the draft resolution clearly demonstrates its intent to garner international pressure against Myanmar by passing one resolution after resolution and heaping mechanism over mechanism on our country. It contains a number of paragraphs, based on sweeping allegations, aiming to impose unprecedented discriminatory scrutiny on Myanmar by abusing various UN mechanisms under the name

of human rights. Today, Myanmar is under the scrutiny of multiple UN mechanisms.

3. Third, the tone and tenor of the draft resolution demonstrates a total disregard for the dignity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of a sovereign UN member state. It is seen a "classic example" of double standards and, selective and discriminatory application of human rights norms on a developing country in democratic transition.
4. Fourth, although the draft resolution is labelled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar", a large number of paragraphs narrowly focus, with negative perspective, on the rights of a particular group in Rakhine. Myanmar will never allow any attempt that can have negative impact for the social cohesion and unity among different ethnic and religious communities in the country.
5. Fifth, the EU's draft resolution sows the seeds of mistrust and further polarization not only among different communities in the country in particular in Rakhine but also between Myanmar and the international community. It is imbued with retributive



and punitive undertone rather than seeking solution, understanding and reconciliation.

6. Sixth, the draft resolution deliberately ignored the threat of terrorism which is the real cause of present humanitarian situation. This calls for a great concern with regard to the true intention and sincerity of the cosponsors.
7. Seventh, as a principle, Myanmar is against country-specific resolutions.

The Permanent Representative said, "Myanmar categorically rejects the draft resolution L.19", due to these reasons and stressed, "Myanmar shall not be bound by this unfair resolution."

The Permanent Representative stated that although some paragraphs, contained in the draft resolution, acknowledged

and welcomed a few parts from many positive developments in Myanmar, the aforementioned factually-flawed, intrusive, politically driven sovereignty-infringing paragraphs had far surpassed them.

He stressed, "The adoption of yet another ill-intentioned, selectively targeted and politically motivated resolution will not help Myanmar".

"If there is genuine will, there is room for the EU and other cosponsors to play a more constructive role in assisting Myanmar's democratic transition", he added.

In his statement, U Kyaw Moe Tun also emphasized the importance of constructive approach and genuine cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights. He reiterated the firm commitment by the government and people of Myanmar to continue working towards achieving the goal of building a

democratic federal union.

The Permanent Representative also stated that Myanmar "is resolute to find a sustainable solution to the issue in Rakhine State" and welcomed the "constructive cooperation with sincere intention" from the international community.

He concluded by expressing Myanmar Government's sincere gratitude to the delegations standing firm on their principled position in supporting Myanmar and requested the member states of the Council to vote against the draft resolution.

The Chinese Representative, exercising its right as a member of the Council, called for a vote by stating that the draft resolution will further complicate the situation on the ground rather than solving problems; positive progress including economic development and peace process of Myanmar should be much recognized; the concerned country, Myanmar rejected the draft resolution; and the international community should respect Myanmar's sovereignty.

The draft resolution was put to a vote at the 47-member Human Rights Council, and adopted with a vote of 3 against, 7 abstentions and 37 in favour.

China, Cuba and the Philippines voted against the resolution in support of Myanmar. The other 7 countries - Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Japan, Nepal and Senegal - did not support the EU's resolution and abstained in the voting according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA

Tatmadaw column ambushed by AA group near Yaygaungchaung Village

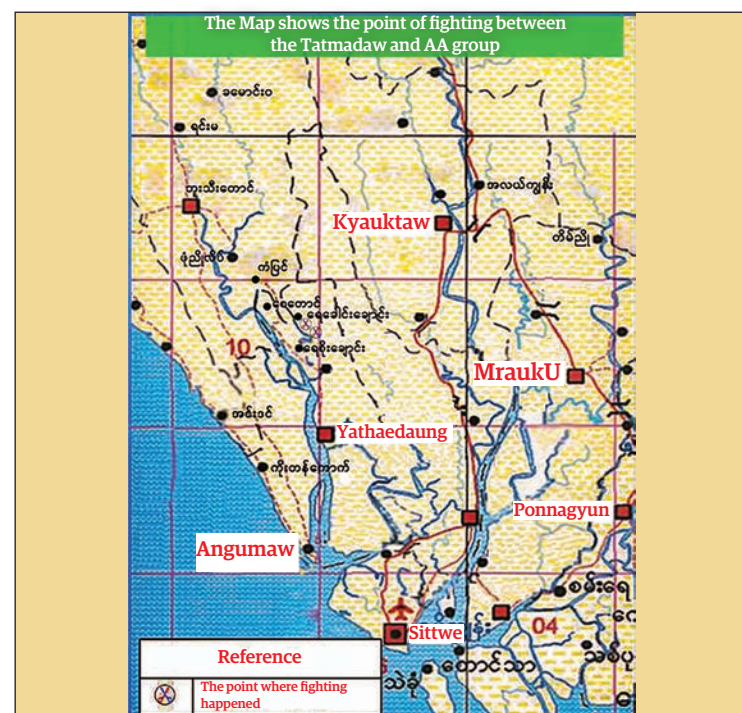
A Tatmadaw column conducting security operation near Yaygaungchaung Village, Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State was ambushed by an AA group with small and heavy arms on 22 March. In the ensuing firefight, the Tatmadaw suffered some casualties and 3 remains of AA personnel were captured by the Tatmadaw.

On the morning of 22 March at around 6:30 a.m. about 30 AA personnel opened fire on the Tatmadaw column with small and heavy arms from about 400 me-

ter southeast of Yaygaungchaung Village. Later in the afternoon at about 4:30 p.m. about 50 AA personnel opened fire on the Tatmadaw column from about 800 meters southeast of Yaygaungchaung Village. The firefights resulted in Tatmadaw suffering some casualties and 3 remains of AA personnel dressed in sports wears were found in the vicinity of the area from where the AA group had opened fire and Tatmadaw columns were continuing the security operation, it is learnt.

Groups of AA Personnel have

been taking cover in wards and villages and have been shooting and planting landmines against Tatmadaw security columns. As unnecessary civilian casualties could be caused, people in towns, wards and villages of Rakhine State are urged not to accept any AA personnel and are requested to report to relevant administrative organisations of the presence of AA personnel in towns, wards and villages, according to news released by Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Office. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)



Involvement of people is greatest strength during democratic transition

MYANMAR is undergoing a transition towards democracy, making a commitment to establish a democratic federal Union.

A transition is, very simply, the process of going from one point to another. The distance that must be covered, and the nature of the terrain that must be travelled, defines the scope and complexity of the challenges that have to be faced and overcome.

We believe that our people have the capacity to meet the challenges we are facing in our transition to democracy, and to carry the transition to a successful conclusion

ties must not despair when facing these difficulties and hardships, and need to recognize this as an opportunity to show their capabilities. It is expected that there are to be difficulties and hardships at the beginning of any transitional period.

Transition is not to be seen as an enemy and to be concerned about. All need to understand that transition is a good friend to our people and the country's development.

This transformation is the desire of the people, and all have the duty to fulfill this desire of the people. Some may waver, hesitate and feel uneasy about reform. Transforming or reforming is not to be worried about it.

Without flowing along the transformational path, our country will not develop. Reform is something that must be done.

Only when all the citizens take part in the transition will they obtain new opportunities. If not, they will lose these opportunities. Transition consists of administrative, legislative and judicial sectors. Administrative sector transitions need to include an administrative system that supports the rule of law.

We believe that our people have the capacity to meet the challenges we are facing in our transition to democracy, and to carry the transition to a successful conclusion, which will be the starting point of a new, and better era for our nation.



Myanmar is crossing over from a long established authoritarian system, to a democracy that can guarantee equal justice, security and rights.

The greatest strength of a democratic transition, the involvement of the people, is also its greatest challenge. To weld together the will and purpose of millions into a whole, that allows the wonderful diversity of our country to shine through, is a formidable undertaking.

All need to work together when changing and transforming from an old system created in an old era, to a new system for a new era in our country.

A democratic system supports the establishment of a federal Union, while the establishment of a federal Union strengthens the democratic system. There are many difficulties and hardships when transitioning from an old to a new system. Those who were performing their assigned duties

It's Time: How the South-East Asia Region can spearhead the global push to End TB

EACH of the WHO South-East Asia Region's Member States have played a critical role in the global push to End TB by or before 2030. In 2017, for example, health ministers from across the Region issued a Call for Action, highlighting the measures needed to rout the disease. That was built on the following year by a Statement of Action, which pledged intensified efforts to achieve that outcome, even as domestic funding reached unprecedented levels. In the same year, at the UN General Assembly, Member States vigorously canvassed for a Political Declaration on the Fight Against Tuberculosis, which was subsequently endorsed. And in key forums within the Region and beyond, Member States continue to advocate with the passion and force required to chart path-breaking change.

Region-wide commitment, resolve and action is to be commended. It is also vitally important. The South-East Asia Region is the world's most TB-affected region, with the life-threatening disease having serious social, political and economic impact. Not only does

The WHO South-East Asia Region was pivotal to putting TB on the global policy agenda. With leadership comes responsibility

the Region account for 44% of the 10 million people globally that fell ill with TB in 2017; it also makes up more than 50% of the 1.27 million TB deaths which, when TB-HIV mortality is accounted for, is estimated to be 1.6 million annually. Significantly, TB remains the Region's leading cause of death and lost productive years in the crucial 15-49-year-old age group, impacting the prospects of individuals, families, communities and countries. The Region is also home to a growing number of drug-resistant cases of the disease, threatening the control of TB generally, as well as health security specifically.

In recognizing and commending Member States' leadership at the global level, it is nevertheless imperative they implement in full, and without delay, the UN's Political Declaration, leveraging its impact to maximum effect. That means ensuring that by 2022, 18

million TB patients are diagnosed and effectively treated (including 1.5 million children), more than 500 000 patients with drug-resistant TB are successfully treated, and preventive treatment is provided to around 12 million people at risk of developing the disease. Though this is a considerable challenge, achieving these outcomes is both possible and necessary.

To that end, intensifying active case-finding, especially among high-risk groups, is essential. In 2017, for example, around 1.5 million TB cases either failed to be notified or received treatment of uncertain quality. That is of deep concern. As modelling shows, intensified case-finding can dramatically reduce case incidence while also ensuring all patients receive quality treatment. In pursuing this core strategy, Member States should develop a joint roadmap on how they can harness novel

diagnostics (alongside community engagement) to find missing cases, as well as how people-centered treatment can be provided to all.

Covering all groups at risk of developing TB with preventive treatment should also be prioritized. This is especially important given the need to treat latent TB with new drugs that are more effective in preventing latent cases becoming active. Importantly, all plans should be aligned with WHO guidelines, which also recommend treating childhood, adolescent and adult contacts of TB cases, alongside other at-risk groups such as people living with HIV or those who are immunocompromised. If adequately implemented, the Region can reach many more than the 12 million targeted for treatment.

Third, all partners should support the supply of first-line drugs via south-south cooperation, pre-



Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South East Asia

cisely as India has offered to do. At present, several of the Region's countries are producing drugs and diagnostics, while others are testing new technologies that show great promise. This should be taken advantage of, with Member States leveraging the opportunity to make substantial savings that can be used on priority interventions or in the event of unforeseen circumstances, including outbreaks. Royalty-free technology transfers will meanwhile improve access to diagnostics and the efficacy of outreach, facilitating significant Region-wide progress.

Fourth and finally, community engagement, including capacity building, must be a core priority of all countries, whether low- or high-prevalence. Rather than pas-

sively implementing policies that come from above, affected communities should be part of the policy development process, with community recommendations reflected on paper and in on-the-ground initiatives. As part of that, they should also be empowered as advocates able to monitor the quality of services and support outreach efforts. This will help ensure all people receive the life-saving care required.

WHO will continue to provide technical and operational support to these and other pursuits as part of the Region's Flagship Priority of accelerating efforts towards ending TB. As high-level backing at the international level advances, and Member State funding mechanisms are streamlined (as they must be), the possibility of charting dramatic progress will be enhanced. That is an outcome we should all work towards. Indeed, now is the time to reflect on the momentum already developed and embrace the responsibility leadership entails. Now is the time to show that we – the WHO South-East Asia Region – can spearhead the push to end TB once and for all.



“United in Love”

By Ling Maung Pan, MRTV

TO RAISE more public awareness on ASEAN, Myanmar Radio & Television (MRTV) has been the part and parcel of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Information (SCI). MRTV has been actively implementing the SCI projects and activities like national and regional level ASEAN Quiz, ASEAN-in-Action (AiA) radio news projects, Voice of ASEAN-Beyond Boundaries (VOA-BB) project, ASEAN TV Network Program (ATN) project and ASEAN Cooperation on Digital Broadcasting projects, etc.

Besides, MRTV has been collaborating people-to-people engagement between the ASEAN Member States. With the collaboration of the SEAVFC Secretariat of the Philippines, MRTV has formed Myanmar National Committee to enter the Southeast Asia Video Festival for Children (SEAVFC). Therefore, MRTV is responsible for massive dissemination through TV, radio, newspapers so also Myanmar SEAVFC



Su Latt Shwe Yi Zaw



Su Lin Lae



Kyaw Hninsi

Face Book enabling to reach out to potential participants in the competition. Arrangements are underway to conduct video workshops on the rules of the competition, and the annual theme of the contest for children, which is a potential source of entries for the children's categories.

Southeast Asia Video Festival for Children (SEAVFC) is the festival cum competition for and by children. The heart of the festival is a competition on short

videos that are created by TV professionals whose works have been aired on television, amateurs who are above 18 years old, whose works have not been aired and have not been entered in any international video festival, and children and youth who belong to three age categories: 12 years old below, 13-15 years old, and 16-18 years old.

The purposes of SEAVFC are; to develop, promote, foster and encourage cooperation, closer ties and mutual friendship among the ten countries of South-east Asia; promote a child-friendly television; promote child-friendly

including students, children and the youth, from the ten countries of Southeast Asia: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The purposes of SEAVFC are; to develop, promote, foster and encourage cooperation, closer ties and mutual friendship among the ten countries of South-east Asia; promote a child-friendly television; promote child-friendly

new media materials; to synergize efforts in the region toward child-safe media and to become an avenue for regional broadcasters, TV producers, writers, and like-minded professionals and individuals to generate more content for the Southeast Asian child, and make these available widely; to have a better knowledge and appreciation of each other's cultures, practices and traditions, which will lead to the development of mutual respect for one another and the attainment of peace and international understanding; to help engage the TV producers, and the would-be TV content producers, especially students and indigenous peoples in hands-on workshops and information sessions; to help create media space for children and the youth; to provide a venue for fruitful program exchanges among the participants in the television industry; and to honour and recognize the best video works by and for children, in the Southeast Asia region.

With the theme: “Pride in

Self, Family & Traditions”, the 1st SEAVFC video festival was held in Manila, the Philippines from 27th to 29th November 2017. Myanmar joined the festival and Director Kyaw Hninsi won professional level (Fiction) with the title “May the Fragrance of Thanakha Last Forever”, which is public education to protect vulnerable children in Myanmar.

With the theme: “Everyday Heroes”, the 2nd SEAVFC video festival was held from 22nd to 24th of November 2018. MRTV conducted workshop for the children and totaling (45) students attended the workshop and (31) entered the competitions. For the national level, 11 finalists were selected and 4 were selected for regional level. At the festival, Su Lin Lae (Grade-V, Basic Education High School No.1 Dagon) won the prize with 5-minute video “Heroes in My Life” which reflects how grandparents nurture their granddaughter on the values, traditions and customs of Myanmar families.

SEE PAGE-10

Objectives for the 74th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day of 2019

1. Give priority to implementing the Three Main Causes being national policy, protecting the constitution and protecting the lives and property of the people.
2. Strive continuously for stability, peace, unity, and socio-economic development, which are the historic needs of the State, as the firm position of the Tatmadaw.
3. In working for establishing a Union based on a democratic federal system, the Tatmadaw to work with firm resolve for achieving eternal peace which is an essential requirement, according to the Six Principles of Peace which is based on the Three Main Causes.
4. To build a highly skilled and powerful Tatmadaw capable of effectively protecting the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the State.



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3rd Anniversary of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation

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Workshop entitled “Accountable Governance and Economic Enterprises ” held in Pathein

UNDP organized a workshop entitled “Accountable governance and Economic Enterprises” which was held in collaboration with Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and Ayeyawady Region Government, at the City Hall, Pathein Town, Ayeyawady Region, yesterday morning.

At the workshop, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung and Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi delivered opening speeches, and Regional ministers, members of commission and external experts, together with a total of six local businessmen, then took part in the workshop in the form of a roundtable discussion.

In his remarks delivered at the workshop, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung said that he extended his congratulation on making the endeavours of disseminating knowledge to the people. As for the Regional government, cooperation would be made to the emergence of a corruption free zone, and the purpose of holding the workshop was to raise awareness about anti-corruption while aiming to reduce corruption. Corruption was a terrible system which could lead the country towards a state of poverty, and efforts would be made to combat it. Moreover economic growth would be developed as long as we could

decrease the level of corruption. Next, the Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi said that many workshops were being launched as part of reducing lawsuits, promoting integrity, conducting educational works and speeding up preventative measures to do so. As for the authority concerned, they would have to initiate themselves, together with their organizations and to make sacrifices aiming to change the whole system, and which became the process of the democratization indeed. He still believed that there were many people who were persistently against corruption, and they should take a leading role in fighting against the corruption. It was time for them to combat the terrible system of corruption in unison together with the people.

As for the government officials who have spirits of honesty and integrity, and who have made their commitment to reducing corruption, they were urged to investigate corruption and to take legal action against it in line with the civil service law if there were minor forms of corruption. If they found major forms of corruption in the departments, they were urged to transfer the cases to Union Ministries or the Commission, as early as possible, through the relevant governments. If they found the possible threat of cor-



The workshop titled “Accountable Governance and Economic Enterprise” being convened in Pathein yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

ruptions in the rulings, procedures, rules, regulations and directives of the departments, they were urged to submit the cases to the Union Ministry, CPU and other relevant organizations beforehand. The formation of CPU was relevant with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 16 and as being the case, anti-corruption can be regarded as Universality. By changing ourselves, endeavours should be made to change our organizations and to uplift prestige of our community while promoting the works of governance and economic conditions of the State.

Then Chairman of the An-

ti-Corruption Commission and Regional Chief Minister posed for documentary photographs together. Next, member of the Anti-Corruption Commission U Soe Tint discussed a topic titled, “Measurements of Anti-Corruption Commission”, regional minister for Planning and Finance U Htay Win discussed a topic titled, “Accountable Governance Sector”, Dr. Tin Maung Than (Thank Bawa) discussed a topic titled, “Accountability of Governing Sector”, Dr. Zaw Oo discussed a topic titled, “The Role of CSO Accountability”, U Win Myint Aung from the Merchants and Industry Association discussed

a topic titled, “Accountability for Economic Sector”, and local business personnel U Win Myint Hlaing discussed a topic titled, “Accountable Business Enterprises”.

Following that, officials concerned replied to queries raised by the attendees, and Regional Chief Minister made a review on the discussion of results. There were a total of 500 attendees and the workshop was attended by members of the commission, departmental officials from the Ayeyawady Region, officials from UNDP, CSOs, business personnel and media. — IPRD, (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

“United in Love”

FROM PAGE-9

Another winner is Su Latt Shwe Yi Zaw (Grade-11, Great Success Private School) and her short video “Smile” is about a naughty young boy who has turned into a new leaf thanks to an ordinary old man with a big heart. For the children’s age group, Linn Htet Aung (Grade-7, Basic Education Hight School No.2 Kamayut) was also selected as the regional level finalist for his video “A Secret Dreamer behind The Scene”. For the amateur level, Ye Htut of National Races Channel, MRTV was also selected as the regional level finalist for his drama “Me and My Dancing Brother”.

With the theme “United in Love”, the 3rd Southeast Asia Video Festival for Children (SEAVFC) will be held from 28th to 30th November this year, in Siam Reap, Cambodia. The concept of the theme reflects our love for

one another and our human values bind us together. In Southeast Asia, we place a high premium on family. No matter how differently we celebrate various occasions and milestones in our homes and communities, we express the same pride, happiness, and gratefulness, as a Family, united in love. We respect our elders and observe the same tradition of ensuring the welfare and well-being of our parents and grandparents. We learned this virtue from our ancestors and nurture it for future generations of loving individuals. We move together, united in love. No matter how poor, we encourage our children to seek knowledge; to work for a living, to learn a trade, to be of help in the community, while playing and developing camaraderie. We value a united and happy family of engaging and respectful individuals, whose character and nature are molded by a deep sense of loving, and caring for one another.

This is the beautiful culture which makes us understand the heart and mind of our fellow Southeast Asian.

Accordingly, Myanmar National Committee of the SEAVFC will be organizing video workshops for children and the set date will soon be announced through TV, radio, newspapers so also Myanmar SEAVFC Face Book. Such kind of workshop is very important for the children to be on the right track with close supervision of jurors like U Myint Thein Pe, Academy U Nyein Min, U Han Myint and Daw Thitagu Zeya with the collaboration of senior producers from MRTV and Myanmar Media Development Centre (MMDC). This year, there will be prizes for the winners so also special arrangements to distribute Special Jury Award, Kids Choice Award and Heart Award. Each country has to submit only one entry per category, totaling 10 competition categories: six for Professionals, one for Amateur and three for Children and the Youth.

There are (6) categories for Professionals based on target audience such as (Non-Fiction) for audience under seven years old, (Non-Fiction) for audience 8-12 years old, (Non-Fiction) for audience under 13-17 years old, (Fiction) for audience under seven years old, (Fiction) for audience 8-12 years old and (Fiction) for audience 13-17 years old. For the category of Amateurs, the video maker need not specify any particular target audience and his work can be a fiction or non-fiction material. There are (3) categories for Children and the Youth which are based on the age of entrants. For the Children and Youth age group, the video makers are allowed to seek professional assistance in editing and post-production matters. However, an entrant must be responsible for at least 75% of the total production, from conceptualization, script and storyboarding, videography and direction. It is very important because they have to explain the process if and when the entry enters the finals.

For regional level competition, the final submission date will be end of October. Thus, the final submission date for national level competition will be early October as the jurors need time for screening and editing the finalists. In early November, the jurors will sit for the online judging to the selected finalists from other ASEAN member states in order to get ready for the festival and award distribution in the end of November.

MRTV receives positive response from young people and we expect more entries for children categories. Moreover, we would like to invite more professionals and amateurs especially young and talented animation movie artists to join in the festival. In future, Myanmar National Committee of SEAVFC will be hosting such kind of festival during the ASEAN Chairmanship, while planning to hold awareness workshop back to back with Youth Development Forum with the collaboration of Ministry of Education.



Mandalay holds International Trade Fair & Business Forum 2019

THE inauguration of the Mandalay International Trade Fair & Business Forum 2019 was held, yesterday, at the Mandalay Convention Centre (MCC), Mandalay Region. The event took place with the aim of boosting trading sectors and investment enterprises in the region.

First, the Mandalay International Trade Fair & Business Forum 2019 was opened with the performance of MRCCI Theme Song and cultural dances by the ethnic races. Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint, Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, the Regional Minister for Planning and Finance U Myat Thu, Mandalay Mayor Dr. Ye Lwin, UMFCFI President U Zaw Min Win, Honorary Chair of Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry



Mandalay International Trade Fair & Business Forum 2019 held in Mandalay yesterday. PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MANDALAY IPRD)

U Aung Win Khaing, Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MRCCI) Chairman U Kyaw Min and Mandalay Region Young Entrepre-

neurs Association – MR-YEA Daw Thin Thin Kyaw opened the Mandalay International Trade Fair & Business Forum 2019 by cutting the ceremonial

ribbons.

In his opening remarks at the event, Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint said that the purpose of holding the

event was designed to gain commercial opportunities for all the business personnel in Mandalay and other places across the country, and efforts had been made

to let the international community know about the event, as a symbol of stability and tranquility in our country. Moreover the event could foster sustainable development of Mandalay Region and which looked like a milestone of the economic development of the country.

Then Union Minister U Khin Maung Cho said that there are many foreign investors who would like to make an investment around this time in Myanmar, and those kinds of conditions had been reached, in a short period of time, due to the efforts of the UMFCFI. As for our ministry, priorities had been made to conduct a practical approach to successful enterprises in cooperation with relevant ministries.

UMFCFI President U Zaw Min Win and Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MRCCI) Chairman U Kyaw Min addressed their opening remarks at the event. Then Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung presented a topic titled, "Mandalay Vision 2030" regarding investment opportunities in Mandalay. Next Union Ministers and attendees posed for documentary photographs together and observed the trade show booths at the event.

In the afternoon, Secretary of the Myanmar Investment Commission and Director General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration U Aung Naing Oo discussed a topic titled, "Mandalay Beyond Horizon", and answered the queries raised by the attendees.

At the forum, there are totaling 269 booths, including cosmetic goods, electrical appliances and construction materials, that are being exhibited their products, together with discussions and business matching, till 25 March, it was learnt.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay IPRD)■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Sincere Thanks

A grand event in commemoration of 19th Anniversary **Tamil Traditional Pongal Festival** (aka) **Harvest Festival**, to honor the Farmers and Peasants was celebrated successfully on 2nd March, 2019 (Saturday) evening at Thuwannabumi Event Park, Yangon organized by **All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (HQ)**.

On behalf of All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (HQ), we would like to express our post-event sincere thanks to honorable Chief Minister of Yangon Region Government **HE. U Phyo Min Thein** for delivering preface speech, honorable Mayor of Yangon City **HE. U Maung Maung Soe**, Director General of Department for the Promotion and Propagation of Sasana, **U Moe Zaw Shwe** for delivering preface speech, honorable the Ambassador of the Republic of India **HE. Mr. Saurabh Kumar**, honorable the Ambassador of Russia Federation **HE. Mr. Nikolay A. Listopadov**, honorable the Ambassador of Republic of Singapore **HE. Ms. Vanessa Chan**, honorable the Second Secretary of Chinese Embassy **Mr. Li Fusheng**, Yangon Region Religious Department-Regional Religious Affairs Officer **U Sein Maw**, Yangon Region - National League for Democracy Chairman **U Myint Htay** and Secretary **U Htun Myint**, honorable special invited departmental & civil organization personnel for attending the event out of the busy schedule, and honorable Chairman of Shwethanlwin Company Ltd **U Kyaw Win**, honorable **Patrons and Advisors** from All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (HQ), **President and members** of (Bago/Thaton/Mawlamyine/Mandalay/Yangon Region Affairs Committee & Hpa-an) branches of All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation, honorable **Chairman and members** from All Myanmar Hindu Central Council, honorable members of Myanmar Licensed Contractors Association (MLCA), honorable **Religious Leaders** from multi-religious groups, social affairs **Leaders** from multi-religious groups, Representatives of Hindu multi-racial communities, special thanks to U Zin Min Aung (owner of PT Power, BOC, Yangon Petrol) for donating (12,000 packs) of Chicken Biryani meal, special thanks to U Kyaw Win and responsible officials from **Shwethanlwin Company Ltd** for let us utilize the Thuwannabumi Event Park space **free-of-charge** for the event, special thanks to **Ms. Sham Kali Devi & Super Family** for the donation of purified Drinking Water, special thanks to **U Htay Aung** (Manging Director of Orchid House) for let stay the artists guests from India at the Orchid House **free-of-charge**, those who acted as Master of Ceremony in multilingual (Tamil/ Myanmar/ English), those who contributed with generous donation for the grand event, those who provided voluntary services, Artists from India and Artists from Myanmar who entertained with best performances, technicians who made documentary video filming & still pictures of the event, and also special thanks to **DM4 Company and staff** for the best decoration of the stage pretty good with special concession rate, special thanks to **Win Company and staff** for the systematic and comfortable seat arrangement for the special guests, all respective sub-committee members of this event assigned by AMTHF, special thanks to Voluntary social services association & organization members and youth members who assisted with high-volition in receiving and set up the audience as per seat plan, systematic meal packs distribution, security arrangement, emergency medical services, and special thanks to those who helped this event both physical and high-spirit, and to whoever for thanks-worthy.

U Thein Lwin (President)
U Chit Win (General Secretary)
All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (HQ)
& Central Executive Committee and Members



Honorable Patron **U Aung Sann** - (President)
U Kyaw Min Htun (Secretary)
Event Organizing Committee 2019.

Trump drops new N. Korea sanctions because he ‘likes’ Kim: W. House

WASHINGTON (United States)—President Donald Trump on Friday abruptly announced the cancellation of sanctions imposed by his own Treasury Department to tighten international pressure on North Korea.

“It was announced today by the US Treasury that additional large scale Sanctions would be added to those already existing Sanctions on North Korea. I have today ordered the withdrawal of those additional Sanctions!” Trump said in a tweet. He appeared to be referring to measures unveiled Thursday that targeted two Chinese companies accused of helping North Korea to evade tight international sanctions meant to pressure Pyongyang into ending its nuclear weapons program.

But *The Washington Post* reported, citing Trump administration officials, that the president’s tweet referenced future sanctions that had not been announced and were scheduled for “the coming days.” The Thursday sanctions were the first new sign of pressure since talks between Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un broke down in Hanoi less than a month ago.

However, Trump, who has previously spoken of “love” for the totalitarian leader, appears to retain hope that his strong personal relationship will bear fruit. “President Trump likes Chairman Kim and he doesn’t think these sanctions will be necessary,” the president’s spokeswoman, Sarah Sanders, said.

Adam Schiff, a Dem-



The US sanctions imposed this week were the first new sign of pressure since talks between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un broke down in Hanoi less than a month ago. **PHOTO: AFP**

ocrat who heads the intelligence committee in the House of Representatives, blasted Trump for canceling sanctions “imposed only yesterday and cham-

pioned by his own national security advisor, because he ‘loves’ Kim.”

“Foolish naivete is dangerous enough. Gross incompetence and disarray

in the White House make it even worse,” Schiff tweeted. On Thursday, Trump national security advisor John Bolton had tweeted that the sanctions were

meant to put an end to “illicit shipping practices” by North Korea.

“Everyone should take notice and review their own activities to ensure they are not involved in North Korea’s sanctions evasion,” he said. China complained, saying that it did enforce all UN resolutions and opposed “any country imposing unilateral sanctions and taking long-arm jurisdiction against any Chinese entity according to their own domestic laws.”

This was Trump’s second major, unexpected foreign policy announcement by Twitter in two days.

On Thursday, he sent a tweet reversing decades of US policy and pledged to recognize Israeli sovereignty over the hotly contested Golan Heights border area with Syria.—AFP ■

China factory blast death toll jumps to 64, man rescued after 40 hours

BEIJING (China)—The death toll in a chemical plant explosion in China rose to 64 Saturday but rescuers found a survivor among more than two dozen still missing in the debris of one of the country’s worst industrial accidents in recent years. Thursday’s explosion in the eastern city of Yancheng injured hundreds and flattened an industrial park.

The local fire brigade pulled a man in his 40s from the rubble of the destroyed chemical plant around dawn on Saturday, according to a statement on the city government’s official Weibo account.

He was taken to hospital for treatment, the statement said, without giving further detail of his status or injuries. Rescuers are looking for 28 people who are still missing, state broadcaster CCTV reported, citing Yancheng mayor Cao Lubao.

“The identities of the dead and the missing are being confirmed through interviews with family

members, home visits and DNA tests,” Cao told CCTV.

The explosion toppled several buildings in the industrial park and caused a huge fire that raged

Hundreds of rescuers were dispatched to the scene, local authorities said, and some 4,000 people have been evacuated from the blast site. Local



Thursday’s explosion in the eastern city of Yancheng killed scores of people and flattened an industrial park.

PHOTO: AFP

through the night, while rescuers scrambled to find survivors in the plant’s wreckage. More than 600 people have received medical treatment following the blast, according to the city government.

Among them, 34 are critically injured and 60 are seriously injured, according to CCTV, which also said 28 people were still missing.

authorities investigating the cause of the accident said an unspecified number of people were taken into police custody on Friday.

The facility involved in the explosion belonged to Tianjiayi Chemical, a firm with 195 employees established in 2007 that mainly produces raw chemical materials including anisole, a highly flammable compound.—AFP ■

Changing Distributor For Registered Pesticides

Distribution of pesticide registered by Sinamyang Group Pte Co., Ltd is changing from Asian Crops Global Co., Ltd to Htet Thiha Naing Co., Ltd. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein within two weeks.

Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Number	Registration Type
Sinagrowth 20 TB	Gibberellic acid 20% TB	P2017-4038	Provisional

Htet Thiha Naing Co., Ltd
1/13,65th street, 40*42, Mahar Myaing Quarter (1),
Mahar Aung Myay Township, Mandalay.

Changing Distributor For Registered Pesticides

Distribution of pesticide registered by Sinamyang Group Pte Co., Ltd is changing from Close friend Co., Ltd to Htet Thiha Naing Co., Ltd. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein within two weeks.

Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Number	Registration Type
Sinarice 15 WG	Ethoxysulfuron 15 WG	P 2017-4035	Provisional

Htet Thiha Naing Co., Ltd
1/13,65th street, 40*42, Mahar Myaing Quarter (1),
Mahar Aung Myay Township, Mandalay.

Changing Distributor For Registered Pesticides

Distribution of pesticide registered by Sinamyang Group Pte Co., Ltd is changing from Minmahaw Co., Ltd to Htet Thiha Naing Co., Ltd. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein within two weeks.

Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Number	Registration Type
Sinaprop 70 WP	Propineb 70 % WP	P 2017-3916	Provisional
Supermilce 10 WP	Bispyribac Sodium 10% WP	P 2017-3902	Provisional
Oilson 25 EC	Oxadiazon 25% EC	P 2017-3914	Provisional
Softer 30 EC	Pretilachlor 30% EC	P 2017-3915	Provisional

Htet Thiha Naing Co., Ltd
1/13,65th street, 40*42, Mahar Myaing Quarter (1),
Mahar Aung Myay Township, Mandalay.

Plastic microparticles threaten unique Galapagos fauna

GALAPAGOS (Ecuador)—Armed only with gloves and large sacks, park rangers and volunteers are battling the scourge of plastic waste blighting the idyllic Galapagos Islands and their unique creatures. Tons of plastic waste wash up on the shores of the Galapagos islands where microparticles end up in the stomachs of species found only in the Pacific archipelago 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) west of mainland Ecuador.

Those microparticles, often from waste discarded in big cities from other countries and even continents, are perhaps one of the greatest threats to the iguanas, tortoises, birds and fish of the Galapagos.

The tiny plastic pieces become part of the food chain “that we may later feed on,” biologist Jennifer Suarez, a marine ecosystems expert with the Galapagos National Parks (PNG), told AFP. Sun rays and the ocean’s saltwater break down bottles, bags, lids, containers and fishing nets. Yet while those objects may appear solid to the naked eye, when battered against rocks or by the force of waves, microparticles splinter off, which are subsequently ingested by animals.

Every year, and despite the punishing heat and sun, expeditionary groups arrive at Galapagos beaches to survey the damage caused by man.



Iguanas are among the unique creatures inhabiting the Galapagos Islands whose existence is threatened by plastic waste. PHOTO: AFP

Sex toys, shoes, lighters, pens and tin cans are amongst the waste found in areas used by animals, including some in danger of extinction. In uninhabited zones such as Punta Albebarle, in the far north of Isabela Island, where AFP joined a team of cleaners, waste from far and wide was discovered. “More than 90 per cent of the waste gathered doesn’t come from Galapagos activities, but rather from South America, Central America and even a great deal of waste with Asian branding,” said PNG director Jorge Carrion. With a population of around 25,000, the archipelago, a UNESCO World Heritage site, has tightened its rules regarding plastics use in recent years.

‘Chinese brands’

Most of the plastic waste washing up on the Galapagos shores are bottles of Peruvian, Colombian

or Panamanian products, and containers with Chinese branding. That waste “probably comes from the fishing fleets from Asia just outside the Galapagos’ exclusive economic area,” said Carrion, speaking from the PNG dock in Puerto Ayora, the capital of Santa Cruz Island. Since 1996, local fishermen have been cleaning the remotest islands and for the last three years, they’ve been keeping a register. “This lets us identify the origin of waste on unpopulated coasts,” said Suarez. “Over the last two years of monitoring, we’ve noticed that the largest number of brands are Peruvian and Chinese.” While currently there is no such legislation, the hope is that this register can be used in the future to make compensation claims against those responsible for environmental harm.

Already in 2019, eight tons of waste has been col-

lected, compared to 24 in the whole of 2018 and just under 6.5 tons the year before. Park rangers also keep a register, but theirs is of the animals affected by the waste, such as the cormorant that builds its nests using used diapers and plastic bags, or the body of a booby found buried in a pile of rubbish.

‘Appeal to consciences’

Another shocking discovery is plastic bags that have been bitten by sea turtles that mistake them for jellyfish, an important part of their diet. “We have indiscriminately thrown so much waste into the sea that it has turned up at coasts where there are no people, but already there is garbage,” Sharlyn Zuniga told AFP. The 24-year-old clean-up volunteer said she came across pristine beaches with fine white sand, but spoilt by rubbish. —AFP ■

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“Medical apparatus and instruments; Blood analyzers for medical purposes and their parts; Automated biochemical analyzers for medical purposes and their parts; diagnostic apparatus for medical purposes and their parts; clinical chemical analyzing apparatus and their parts; diagnostic body fluid osmometers and their parts; diagnostic apparatus for measuring electrolyte in body fluid and their parts; diagnostic apparatus for measuring glucose and their parts; electrodes for medical use and their parts; immunological testing apparatus and their parts; immunochemical analyzing apparatus and their parts; blood cell counters and their parts; medical apparatus for detecting infectious diseases and their parts; medical apparatus for detecting allergies and their parts; medical apparatus for measuring blood ammonia and their parts; Diagnostic apparatus for urine analysis and their parts; Medical apparatus for measuring glycated hemoglobin and their parts; Medical apparatus for determining osmotic pressure and their parts; Blood gas analyzers for medical purposes and their parts; Medical apparatus for drawing blood samples; Blood glucose meters and their parts; Sensors for monitoring blood glucose level as part of blood glucose meters; Puncture apparatus for blood drawing and their parts; Lancets; Lancets for blood drawing; Veterinary apparatus and instruments” in **Class 10**.

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Dated 24th March 2019

Imm@kcyangon.com

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1099 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1099 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-03-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (014 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (014 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-03-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Winners of Academy Awards for 2018



Phway Phway (Left) accepts the best actress award.



Thu Htoo San (Right) accepts the best actor award.



Kyaw Khaing Soe (Left) accepts the film editing award.



Director Wyne (Left) accepts the best manuscript award.



Aw Ra Tha (Left) accepts the best director award.



Win Lwin Htet (Left) accepts the film photo award.



Winners of the Academy Awards for 2018 pose for a group photo at the Myanmar Academy Award Event at the One Entertainment in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

NASA publishes images of the meteor no one saw

WASHINGTON (United States)—NASA on Friday published satellite photos of a powerful meteor which appeared just above the Bering Sea on December 18 but went unnoticed until months later. The explosion unleashed around 173 kilotons of energy, more than 10 times that of the atomic bomb blast over Hiroshima in World War II.

Images captured minutes after the fireball disintegrated in the atmosphere show the shadow of the meteor's trail cast on top of clouds, elongated by the sun's low position.

The super-heated air turns the clouds to an orange tint in

the meteor's wake.

The photographs were taken by two NASA instruments on board the Terra satellite.

A still image was taken at 2350 GMT, while five of the of nine cameras on the Multi-angle Imaging SpectroRadiometer (MISR) instrument took another sequence of photos at 2355, which NASA collated into a GIF that shows the orange trail

NASA estimates that the meteor occurred at 23:48 GMT.

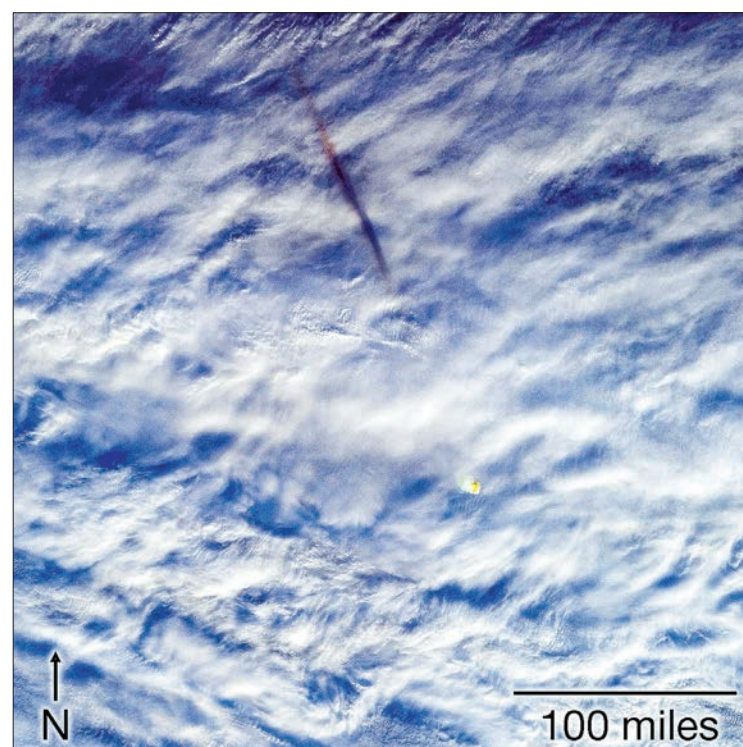
Meteors are rocks from outer space that become incandescent upon entering earth's atmosphere as a result of friction. They are also known as shooting

stars. Pieces which survive intact and hit the ground are known as meteorites.

It was the most powerful explosion in the atmosphere since the fireball that burst over the Russian town of Chelyabinsk in 2013. That was 440 kilotons, and left 1,500 people injured, mostly from glass flying out of smashed windows.

This time around, the blast occurred over waters, hundreds of kilometers off the Russian coast.

The first photo of the event was taken by a Japanese weather satellite and published only this week. —AFP



NASA handout of fireball that exploded over the Bering Sea in December 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**



Roscosmos is currently making active preparations for the start of the Angara's trials. **PHOTO: TASS**

Russian space agency to produce no less than 8 Angara carrier rockets a year after 2023

MOSCOW—The production of heavy Angara-A5 carrier rockets should reach at least eight launchers from 2023, Head of Russia's State Space Corporation Roscosmos Dmitry Rogozin said in an interview with Rossiya-24 TV Channel on Friday. "We are launching the production process in Omsk and the experimental factory in Moscow in order to start the serial production of at least eight such

heavy rockets a year in 2023," the Roscosmos chief said, adding that the launches would be carried out from the Vostochny Cosmodrome in the Russian Far East. Roscosmos is currently making active preparations for the start of the Angara's trials, Rogozin said. "At the end of this year, we will repeat the trials of the heavy Angara-A5 rocket," the head of the Russian space agency said.

The Angara is a family of next-generation Russian space rockets. It consists of light, medium and heavy carry rockets with a lifting capacity of up to 37.5 tonnes. The production program envisages the manufacture of up to 44 universal rocket modules that will be assembled under their modular design either into the light Angara or heavy Angara rocket. —Tass ■

Two astronauts complete 6.5-hour spacewalk, swapping batteries

WASHINGTON—Two flight engineers of the United States space agency NASA completed the first spacewalk of this year out of the International Space Station (ISS) on Friday to upgrade the space lab's power system. Nick Hague and Anne McClain wrapped up their spacewalk at 2:40 p.m. American Eastern Time, lasting about six hours and 39 minutes, according to NASA.

The two astronauts replaced nickel-hydrogen batteries with three newer, more powerful lithium-ion batteries for the power channel on one pair of the station's solar arrays.

They installed adapter plates and then hooked up electrical connections on the starboard truss, showed NASA's live broadcast online. The batteries were transported to the station in Sep-

tember 2018 aboard the Japanese H-II Transfer Vehicle.

The batteries store power generated by the station's solar arrays to provide power to the station when the station is not in the sunlight, as it orbits the Earth during orbital night, according to NASA.

They also worked to remove debris from outside of the station. McClain and another female flight engineer Christina Koch are scheduled to venture outside next Friday to work on a second set of battery replacements on a different power channel. It will be the first only-women spacewalk in history. Additional batteries will be replaced as part of this power upgrade over the next couple of years as new batteries are delivered to station, according to NASA. —Xinhua ■

Experts discuss AI-education integration

BEIJING—Chinese scientists and education experts have gathered to discuss the in-depth integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and education as well as innovative development in this regard at a symposium.

Representatives and scholars from the Ministry of Education (MOE), Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE), Chinese Academy of Sciences and several Chinese universities attended the symposium, according to the MOE website.

The symposium is part of a research program on intelligent education strategy, jointly initiated by the MOE and the CAE last year.

The work on intelligent education should be put into the big picture of education modernization to achieve better development in this regard, said Vice Education Minister Zhong Denghua.

He also called for greater support from the government and relevant institutions to encourage more scientists and scholars to take part in intelligent education development. —Xinhua ■

Chinese scientists convert plant waste into jet fuel

WASHINGTON—Chinese scientists designed a process that could convert plant scraps from agriculture and timber harvesting into quality jet fuel, which may help reduce carbon dioxide emissions from airplanes and rockets. The study published on Thursday in the journal *Joule* showed that a cheap, renewable and abundant polymer in the plant's cell walls can produce high-density aviation fuel.

"Our biofuel is important for mitigating CO2

emissions because it is derived from biomass and it has higher density compared with conventional aviation fuels," said the paper's co-author Li Ning, a research scientist at the Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics of Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The utilization of high-density aviation fuel can significantly increase the range and payload of aircraft without changing the volume of oil in the tank, according to the study. —Xinhua ■

Myanmar beat Viet Nam 3-2 in international women football friendly

THE Myanmar national women's football team beat the Viet Nam women's football team 3-2 in yesterday's international friendly match at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay.

Viet Nam dominated from the very beginning of the first half with accurate passing, and they scored two consecutive goals at 15 and 18 minutes.

Both teams played well, displaying their best efforts and showing their dribbling skills from the start.

Myanmar's equaliser came at the 24 minute mark, as Ye Ye Oo scored with a header, with support from Khin Moe Wai.

The score at the end of the first half was 2-1.

In the second half, Myanmar

changed their tactic by using the power play, plus Myanmar played much better.

At the 75 minute mark, Myanmar scored with Win Theingi Tun kicking the long ball over the Viet Nam keeper.

That goal prodded Myanmar into action, and again Myanmar scored the winning goal with a counter attack, as the third and winning goal was scored by Win Theingi Tun.

At the final whistle, Myanmar won 3-2 over Viet Nam.

After the match ended, the Myanmar women's football team head coach, U Win Thu Moe, said the team had learned of the weaknesses of the Viet Nam team by watching videos of their previous match.



Team Myanmar (Red) celebrates their victory after defeating Viet Nam 3-2 in an international friendly at Mandalay Thiri Stadium yesterday in Mandalay. **PHOTO: MFF**

"And then I showed my girls the way to act in the match

by taking stronger positions against the opponent's team,

and we did it," he said.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

Southgate lauds England hat-trick hero Sterling's coming of age



Hat trick hero: Raheem Sterling scored three of England's five goals against the Czech Republic. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON (United Kingdom)—England manager Gareth Southgate hailed Raheem Sterling's coming of age on the international stage after hitting his first hat-trick for the Three Lions in a 5-0 demolition of the Czech Republic on Friday.

The burgeoning talent at Southgate's disposal was on show as 18-year-old's Jadon Sancho and Callum Hudson-Odoi also played their part in a perfect start to England's Euro 2020 qualifying campaign.

Sterling, 24, was often criticised as he scored just two goals in his first 45 caps. But the Manchester City winger now has five in his last three England games after also scoring twice in a famous 3-2 Nations

League win in Spain in November.

"I thought he was devastating tonight," said Southgate.

"I'm delighted for him to get the reaction that he did from the crowd here. We can't hide from the fact that he's had difficult moments with England and he's turned that full circle," said Southgate.

"I also think the goals in Spain were an important moment for him; you could see the release that had brought.

"His finishes there and tonight were finishes that he was just taking on without thinking too much. At times, you could almost see the thought process in the past, but he's hungry for

those goals."

England carry momentum

Harry Kane was also on target from the penalty spot and Tomas Kalas's calamitous own goal rounded off the scoring as England carried on their momentum from a run to the World Cup semi-finals and qualification for the last four of the Nations League.

The final of Euro 2020 will be played at Wembley and England have high hopes of being more than just hosts, especially with Sancho and Hudson-Odoi to add to an already talented front line boasting Sterling, Kane and Marcus Rashford.

Southgate admitted even more improvement is to come as his side ran out comprehensive winners despite a lacklustre start.

But one move of genuine quality opened the floodgates on 23 minutes. Kane showed his ability is not restricted to finding the net with a wonderful pass inside Filip Novak to free Sancho, who squared for Sterling to tap home on the stretch.

Another burst of inspiration from Sterling helped double England's lead in first-half stoppage time. He wriggled around four Czech defenders before a combination of Pavel Kaderabek and Tomas Kalas hauled him down.

Kane maintained his flawless record from the spot for

England and scored his 21st international goal, firing his powerful penalty past Jiri Pavlenka despite the Czech stopper getting a hand to it.

England went through the gears after the hour mark and Sancho should have scored his first international goal after more good work from Sterling and Kane, but could not force the ball past a desperate challenge from Novak.

Sterling soon showed Sancho how it is done with a fine curling finish into the top corner.

However, England's hat-trick hero had luck on his side for his third goal as a huge deflection left Pavlenka in the Czech goal flummoxed.

That was Sterling's final act as he made way for Hudson-Odoi, to make his international debut, while Declan Rice was also handed his England debut after switching allegiances from the Republic of Ireland.

And Southgate believes Sterling's experience of the highs and lows of being and England protégé makes him the perfect role model for the likes of Sancho, Hudson-Odoi and Rice.

"I've put him into the leadership group that we have. I think he's showing those signs, I think he's a role model for the younger players coming in," added Southgate.—AFP ■

Myanmar U-19 face loss to host team in Viet Nam tourney

MYANMAR U-19 men's football team faced a narrow 2-1 loss to Viet Nam U-19 team in Viet Nam's international U-19 football tournament 2019 in Viet Nam yesterday.

Myanmar lined up with goal keeper Nay Lin Htet, Ye Htet Aung, Captain Si Thu Moe Khant, Nyan Lin Htet, Nyan Lin Htet, Yan Kyaw Soe, Zaw Min Thein, Aung Ko Oo, Pyae Phyto Aung, Shine Thant Aung, La Min Htwe and Naung Naung Soe.

Myanmar was forced to play along with tidy tackling from the start.

Myanmar scored the opener with a penalty shot by youth player La Min Htwe.

The match became more heated in the second half with to and fro play and Myanmar's frequent attacks.

But their efforts were blurred with some uncertainty by the young attackers, and the match went on to favour the Viet Nam youth team with a score of 2-1 at the final whistle.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

24 MARCH 2019

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

The Bag



By A.W. Khin Myat Phone
C1 advanced
(Cambridge English)



A MIDDLE aged man came rushing from Top Street to ‘Hush Ville’ theatre. It was already a quarter past nine in a British morning. Still the cold breeze was blowing. A slight wind blew over his hat. His steps moved quickly towards the theatre platform. His left hand carried a big black bag. There was a queue ahead of him. Without paying any attention to it, he tried to get to the front but the young security stopped him in time. The man was as well wearing a black coat and black trousers but a white shirt underneath.

The security man put up his right hand before him and said, “Please queue up, Sir. One after another.” His accent told that he was an Irish.

A few minutes later, it got to his turn. He tried to get in quickly just before he wasn’t checked. However, he couldn’t this time either. “Please allow me to check, Sir,” the security said.

“Check what?” reacted the man, “I’m in a rush!” he told in an impatient way.

“My duty, Sir. You and your bag must be checked before getting in”, explained the security.

But the man didn’t give his bag and replied, “Oh no, you don’t! Let me in now!”

“I can’t, Sir. Until your bag is checked.”

“Why!? I’ve no time. Now let me in.”

“The bag, Sir”, stated the young security as he grabbed it from the man and started to put his hands into the man’s bag. The man kept silent. The young man felt something unusual and when he peeped into the bag, he found a small black box. Without asking for permission, he opened it and found some matches. He carried on checking. In the left pocket of the bag, he found a gun. To his horror, he looked up to the man and asked, “What is this?”

“It’s a gun, of course!”

“What about that?” He pointed.

“What? Oh, it’s a knife”, he answered as he pulled it out from his coat.

“You!” said the young man loudly, “are suspected!”

“Wait... What?”

“I’m calling police!”

“Wait... wait for a minute... I’ll...”

“You’re going to rob. Aren’t you? I’m calling police! Don’t go anywhere!”

Later on, they were at the station.

“Give me the bag”, ordered the officer. The security handed to him. The man smiled and said, “I’m running out of time.”

“Shut up!” The officer yelled. Now that the bag was on the table. There were altogether seven in the room including the man.

“Open it up!” The police officer said loudly. The man moved towards. And he unzipped the bag. The dead-faced officer and two other police looked into the bag. As soon as they looked inside, their eyes were widened “Is it a joke?” asked one.

“Oh no...”, the other shook his head.

“What are you talking about?” questioned the officer to the security man. He as well took a quick look inside. Flowers, ribbons and colour papers were seen.

“Wait! Where are the gun and knives before?” he wondered.

“I saw them with my own eyes!” he claimed at the same time.

“Is that true?” asked the officer.

“Guns? Knives? Yes, they are here”, the man said.

He upside-downed the bag. There was another zip and he showed them what they asked for.

“Don’t move. You’re under arrest!”

But the man quickly picked the gun up (his gun, of course) and targeted at the officer. They didn’t have theirs in time.

“No!! Don’t!!” They all yelled. But he did. He shot at him. And the butterflies came out from the gun.

“Listen to me first!” The man shouted.

“All of you are wasting my time here. I am a magician and it’s my show at Hush Ville today. Now I’m late.”

ENGLISH LESSON

19

By C. T. O

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

(1) THE THINGYAN.

The Myanmar are fond of festivals. They have festivals all the year round. Some are seasonal festivals and some are religious festivals. Of them, Thingyan is the most enjoyable. It falls in April. It usually lasts for three days.

The Thingyan marks the end of the old year and the birth of a new year. Water throwing goes on for three days. People enjoy themselves throwing water at one another. Young boys and girls go round the town in jeeps or open cars. They sing Thingyan songs and shout Thingyan thangyats. There are also decorated cars going round the town. They entertain the people with songs and dances. There are mandats and water throwing teams everywhere. Children also take part in it. However, elderly people go to pagodas and monasteries and keep sabbath.

The weather is hot but the Thingyan water is cool. You are soaked in it and it is in itself a pleasure. Then, the Thingyan is over. The old Year is gone. It is the New Year Day. A new year has begun.

fond of	နှစ်သက်သော
seasonal	ရာသီနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
religious	ဘာသာရေးနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
	ဘာသာကိုင်းရှိသော
decorated	မွှမ်းမံထားသော၊ အလှပြင်ထားသော
entertain	ဖြေဖျော်သည်
monasteries	ဘုန်းကြီးကျောင်းများ
keep sabbath	ဥပုသ်စောင့်သည်။
birth	မွေးဖွားခြင်း
pleasure	ပျော်ရွှင်မှု။

(2) HOW I AM PREPARING MYSELF FOR THE EXAMINATION

I am a student. My name is Ko Ko Maung. I am 17 years old. I am reading in the BEHL class. I study Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, History, Geography and Economics. I am also interested in Burmese and English. I have been working hard since the beginning of the year. I want to pass with flying colours.

I attend my classes regularly. I obey my teachers. I do my homework. I also read my lessons regularly. I am good at Burmese and Chemistry. Now our examination is drawing very near. So, I have drawn up a time-table and study my lessons according to it. I get up at 5 in the morning and take exercise for about 45 minutes. I have my tea at about 6:30 and then I study my lessons up to 8. I usually do sums in the mornings. Sometimes I read my English Textbook. Then I go to school. Our school begins at 9:30 and ends at 3:30. I play football for nearly two hours and come home at about 5:30. I take my bath and have my dinner at about 7. I sit at my table from 7:30. I study up to 10:30. I spend the whole of Sunday mornings and afternoons going to the cinema or visiting friends' houses. I do not play

football. I begin to study from 6.

I am sure to pass. But I want good marks in all the subjects. My ambition is to become a doctor. So, I work hard. This is how I am preparing myself for the examination.

interested in	စိတ်ဝင်စားသော
with flying colours	ဂုဏ်ထူးများဖြင့်
good at	တော်သော
drawing near	နီးကပ်နေပြီ
take exercise	လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းယူသည် (ကျန်းမာရေး)
sums	သင်္ချာပစ္စည်းများ
sure	သေချာသော
ambition	ဘဝရည်မှန်းချက်
preparing	ပြင်ဆင်လျက်
work hard	ပြင်းထန်စွာအလုပ်လုပ်သည် (စာကြိုးစားသည်)

(3) MY SCHOOL

I am a student. My name is Mg Mg. I am in the BEHL class. I am reading at No.9 BEHL School. Lanmadaw. It is a mixed school. It is a big two-storey building in a large compound. There are over 4,000 students in our school.

The classrooms are wide and airy. They are neat and tidy. They are clean. There are classes from KG to the BEHL class. There is a library in our school. It has many books. The school has a football ground and a gymnasium. Our headmaster is U Aye Naung. He is a bout 45. He is tall and fat. He never smiles. There are over 80 teachers. Over 60 of them are ladies. They are good teachers. Our class teacher is the most beautiful in our school. She is single. She is about 24. Her name is Daw Khin Hla Hla. She is a very good teacher. She teaches us Myanmar. She has a sweet smile. She loves us and we love her. There are 60 boys and girls in my class. Over 40 are girls. We are like brothers and sisters.

Our school is famous for its discipline. The school football team is also the best in our town. We all love our school.

a mixed school	ယောကျာ်းလေး၊ မိန်းကလေး
	ရောနှောထားသော ကျောင်း
two-storey	နှစ်ထပ်၊
compound	ဝင်း
airy	လေရသော
library	စာကြည့်တိုက်
single	တစ်ဦးတည်း (အိမ်ထောင်မကျသေး)
sweet	ချိုသာသော၊
discipline	စည်းကမ်း၊
team	အသင်း
gymnasium	အားကစားရုံ

(4) FOOD

Food is the most important thing for men and animals. We cannot live without food. It is one of the

joys of life. We eat to live, but we also enjoy eating good food. We eat food because our bodies need it. They cannot grow up without good food.

We get food from nature. Mother Nature is generous. She gives us all kinds of food. They include rice, wheat, corn, barley, pulses, salt, vegetables and fruits. Animals give us milk and meat. All these foods are produced by farmers. When we are infants we drink only milk. We get milk from our mothers' breasts. When we grow older, we drink cow milk and eat rice and also fruits. We Myanmar live on rice. We eat two meals a day. We have breakfast in the morning and dinner in the evening. We usually drink tea or coffee in the afternoons.

Food is important for health. We must eat our meals regularly. We must eat neither too much nor too little. We must eat nutritious food. If we eat our meals regularly and take exercises, we can keep ourselves healthy.

food	အစားအစာ
important	အရေးကြီးသော
joy	ပျော်ရွှင်မှု
enjoy	နှစ်သက်ခံစားသည်
mother nature	မိခင် သဘာဝ
generous	ရက်ရောသော
include	ပါဝင်သည်
produce	ထုတ်လုပ်ပေးသည်
regularly	မှန်မှန်
health	ကျန်းမာရေး
infants	ကလေးငယ်လေးများ
nutritious	အာဟာရဖြစ်သော
wheat	ဂျုံ
corn	ပြောင်းဖူး

Verb Form

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာတွင် Tenses များမှာ လွန်စွာအရေးကြီးသဖြင့် မကြာမကြာလေ့လာရန်လိုပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ် တင်ပြခဲ့ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယခုထပ်မံ လေ့လာနိုင်ရန် လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းပုံစံဖြင့် ပေးထားပါသည်။ လေ့လာပါ။

Verb Form

(Supply the correct form of the verbs given in brackets:)

1. She (write) to me every month.
Festivals (usually hold) in winter.
2. He (search) for the lost book now.
Look! The girls (go) towards the library.
Listen! The news (announce).
3. He (buy) a new watch last week.
She (not watch) the television last night.
(they leave) for Mandalay yesterday?
The Players (chose) five days ago.
(this road repair) last year?

Answers

1. She writes to me every month.
သူမ ကျွန်တော့်ထံ လစဉ် စာရေးလေ့ရှိသည်။
Festivals are usually held in winter. (passive)
ပွဲတော်များကို များသောအားဖြင့် ဆောင်းရာသီတွင် ကျင်းပလေ့ရှိသည်။
2. He is searching for the lost book now.
သူ ပျောက်နေသော စာအုပ်ကို ယခုရှာနေပါသည်။
Look! The girls are going towards the library.
ကြည့်စမ်း၊ မိန်းကလေးများ စာကြည့်တိုက်ဆီသို့ သွားနေကြတယ်။
Listen! The news is being announced. (passive)
နားထောင်စမ်း၊ သတင်းကို ကြေညာနေတယ်။
3. He bought a new watch last week.
သူ ယခင်အပတ်က နာရီအသစ်တစ်လုံးဝယ်ခဲ့သည်။
She did not watch the television last night.
သူမ မနေ့ညက ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားမကြည့်ခဲ့ပါ။
Did they leave for Mandalay yesterday?
သူတို့မနေ့က မန္တလေးသို့ ထွက်ခွာသွားသလား။
The players were chosen five days ago. (passive)
ကစားသမားများကို လွန်ခဲ့သော ငါးရက်က ရွေးချယ်ခဲ့သည်။

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

AS a student who did not obey the disciplines of the school...
As a youth who was stubborn more than normal...

As a staff who did not pay respect to his duty...

As a man who was without seriousness of purpose...

As a guy who was a day-dreamer dreaming huge...

Receiving the above notorious names, I have been rowing and sailing my boat of life to my heart's content for about a decade. I did not know there was a Mother who was heart-broken for a son doing as he pleases. Mom, I really never knew it.

I did not deliberately do it on purpose, Mom.

You said, "If I am a bird, I must know the freedom of the sky and if I am a fish, I must know the coolness of the sea." As a youth, I sailed my boat of life in order to know under which title life was situated. I did not follow the wrong way. But I missed the right one. I was trying to find the result of the existence of an arrow which missed the target. The experiences I got made my bosom wounded.

Although I have never obtained two birds with only one stone up to now, I struggled my life earning honestly without any shortcut. Although I was not right in the place of existence, I was not wrong in the place of adoption. My sail canvas which had been set sail every corner of the world and my oars which had been rowed with pause got worn out. On my exhausted days, I had not heard the voice "Hello, how are you, son?" for ages. That sweet voice mingling with a winking of worries but hardly heard would make me encouraged as the tonic to take a rest en route midway.

At the time in which I tried my best but I was not acknowledged good...

At the time in which I showed my good-will but I was insulted...

At the time in which I was told as a bad cook though I cooked the curry best...

At the time in which my body was ill and was lying in bed though my mind was up to the standard; my mom's photograph in my rather flat wallet made me heartened enough to withstand the way of the mundane world.

Mom, it has been for about a decade.

I set sailed my boat of life to my heart's content for years and my time was killed non-beneficially.

I could not pay homage to my mom at the beginning and end of the Buddhist lent as before. During these ten years, I could not do it at all. Although whenever I said my prayers in front the Lord Buddha Image, I could pay homage to my mom guessing, I wanted to do it in front of my mom in person.

Mom, I am going to come back home before rainy season this year. At that moment, I am on a trawler that is busy with working in the sea. I am going to end up the chores which make me tired day and night.

Although I cannot bring my success in money and fame with me, I am going to bring the fame of my honesty because I stayed and behaved honestly wherever I got to. You are able to be proud of my honesty.

Whether every choice is right or wrong, if it will be painful and hurt in every act, it should be mended again, shouldn't be? With lots of yearning in my arms, please wait for the day I am going to come back home soon, mom. Now, I am seriously homesick. I am visualizing the auspicious lane leading towards the head of my village.

My way home is with flowers and glory



Ms. Moon

Final year Honours
(English)
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Scenic landscapes: Kalaw to Inle Trek

By Myat Thu

If you have plans to travel to Upper Myanmar and enjoy scenic landscapes with a bit of excitement, the Kalaw to Inle Lake trek is certainly a not-to-be-missed. With the wet season slowly approaching, it is best to take advantage of the current March cool to enjoy the countryside of Myanmar.

Getting to Kalaw

There are several ways to get to Kalaw. There are several buses that goes from Yangon or Mandalay and a few departing from Bagan. The ride takes around 8-9 hours and costs less than \$20 one way. There is also the option of flying into Heho airport with a following car-ride will take you to the beautiful town at 1,320 above sea level. The flight usually costs around \$180 round trip during off-season. For locals, prices are much cheaper with MMK 15,000 for a one-way bus ticket and around MMK 120,000 for roundtrip flights. The bus and flight tickets can be arranged easily at local supermarkets and travel agents.

The Trek

The trail connects Kalaw to Inle and one can pick either direction. It is also one of the very few treks where foreigners can enjoy the trails without permission. It is highly recommended to go through an existing tour companies which can be found in downtown Kalaw or a simple search on Facebook. The packages usually range from one night, two days to two night, three days with the nights spending in local village homestay. The journeys costs anywhere between MMK 35,000 to MMK 150,000 per person depending on the size of the group and length of the trek and include everything from pick up from the hotel to meals during the trek (not including extra drinks and water). For reference, it is around MMK 35,000 – 40,000 per person to do the one-night, two-day Kalaw to Inle route. The price includes all the meals (drinks are separate) and the boat ride to Inle.

It is recommended to do the one night two days trek if you're new to this level of physical activity and/or you're tight on time. But if you are up for the challenge and have a lot of time in Myanmar to see other attractions, the two-night three-day trek is perfect to enjoy scenic upper Myanmar while getting a first-hand experience of local life in the countryside. Sam's Family Trekking is suggested as it provides wonderful services and speaks great English with friendly guides

The one-night, two-day trek starts early in the morning at 8 am. The group meets at the tour place where they are introduced to their guide or two if the group is bigger depending on your tour service operator. For the one night two days package, there is usually a one-hour ride before the start of the trek. The first part of the trek takes you through your first village lined up with bamboo huts and brick houses with the harvest outside certain ones waiting to dry. Kids run around the streets



chasing each other with their faces painted golden with thanaka- a yellow paste grinded from the barks of the thanaka tree. The chili drying creates a canvas of flaming red reflecting its fiery glory in the sun. A tea break follows before lunch towards the end of the village with local snacks served as an elderly lady demonstrates the art of traditional weaving. Depending on your group and guide, the guide will either eat with you or with the host family. The group then continues through landscapes, wild avocado trees and fields tended by local people before arriving at the lunch spot.

The lunch spread is the perfect fusion of east and west. There are fresh fruits and vegetables with some traditional dish (friend vermicelli or rice) and homemade guacamole (if you go in season). The journey then continues through other scattered villages, rice fields and wild sunflower farms. After a slightly steep climb to a village up, the group can enjoy the sunset view from the top of the mountain. Later, the guide will direct the group to the homestay (or a local monastery) where dinner is served. Dinner is also a fusion with either Shan noodles or rice with stir-fry vegetables. Occasionally, depending on the host and the guide's preference, there may be French fries. The sleeping arrangement is pretty basic and sometimes, the whole group gets put in the room. The bathroom is a squat-type toilet and is usually an out-house. Make sure you bring your power banks as there is very little electricity to charge everybody's phone's and power banks. Most of the village run on solar which is great for environmental sustainability.

The next day starts pretty early with breakfast served around 7:30 and the group ready to go around 8:00 am. The breakfast is simple with instant coffee and French toast or Burmese pancakes. The trail follows the pattern of the previous hikes up and down mountains (this time less steep), weaving through scattered villages and passing lots and lots more fields. Whether you're taking a two day or three-day trek, you'll have lunch before taking the boat to Inle. After lunch, you board a longboat through a stilted village with hydroponic tomato farms and commuting villagers. Don't forget to wave at other tourist boats that pass by as well! The boat ride takes around an hour with a stop at a blacksmith shop before reaching the final destination of Inle. Then it's time to relax at your hotel in Inle and reminisce about the beautiful landscapes of Shan State OR plan your next trip to Bagan or Maymyo.



SUNDAY COMICS



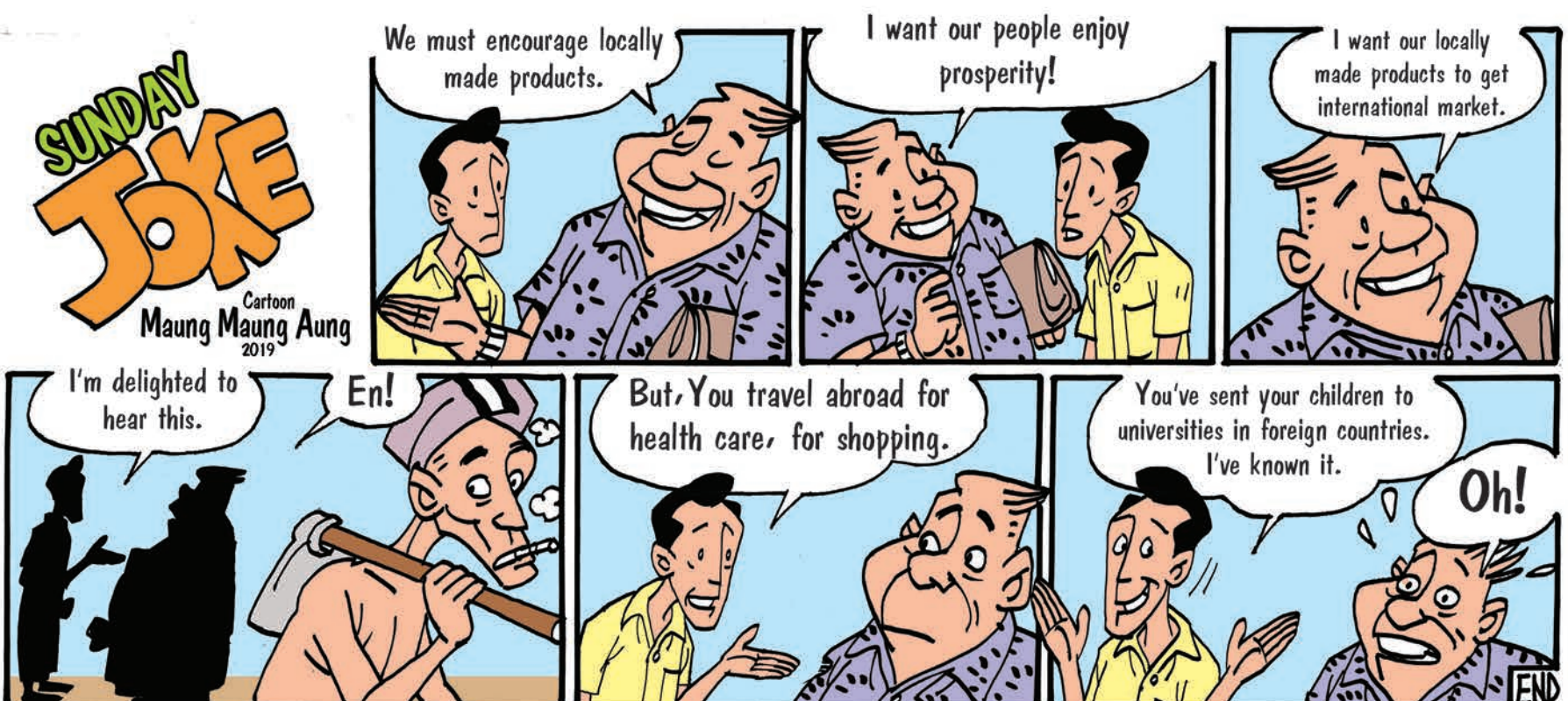
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

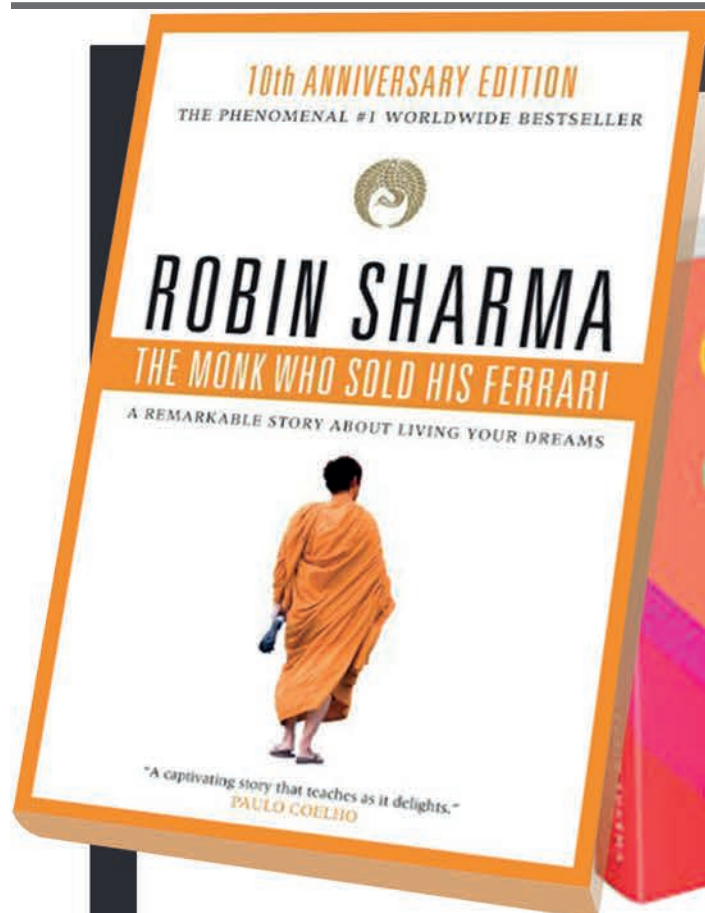
Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2019





All work and no play make a dull life



By Htet Zaw Htoo (SUOE)
Senior Assisant
Teacher at B.E.H.S.
Minemaw

HOW would you feel if you eat the same meal every day or if you listen to the same song repeatedly? There is totally no doubt that everything becomes boring if it continuously happens or is done without any change. Similarly, when the same work is done all the time, life becomes a dull one, which is neither challenging nor happy. Therefore, play is also necessary for people in addition to work which they have to do to fulfill their basic needs; food, clothes and shelter.

The more work people feel loaded with, the more tension and worries they have got. Like an engine found in a machine, it becomes hotter when it is used continuously for a long time. Then, it will stop working finally. Likewise, people are living things who are made up of blood, flesh, cells, tissues etc. As a result, their bodies become tired or exhausted when they work for a long time. To give their bodies a rest, people go to bed and sleep. However, people are not like robots, so it needs to put their mind at rest. Through play which is done for amusement rather than work, worries, anxiety and tension they have become less serious because they have got a chance to do what they love to do as a change. After that play, they can work and solve the problems more successfully than ever before because their minds are clear and fresh. In the same way, students had better not study without a pause for a long time. The longer they study, the less their brains work. When their brains get tired, their studying is not totally effective. Therefore, they have to give rest not only to their body but also to their mind. Throwing themselves down onto the bed and listening to music is a good kind of play they should do. In addition, traveling together with family of friends is also a good kind of play that all people should do.

When a person has to do the same work for a long time, he or she may feel doubtful that what he or she has been doing is on the right track. He or she may feel bored with things he or she has been doing and they think that they are meaningless for them. Last Wednesday, a friend of mine who is older than me and a Ph.D. candidate as well as a headmistress of a middle school at present told me that she thinks that life is meaningless and she cannot manage to do works as others can and before the work she is doing has not finished, another one is ready to get done. She was overloaded with too much work. As a result, she thought that her life is just a dull one. Therefore, I told her about the book I had read, the monk who sold his Ferrari written by Robin Sharma, which was translated to Myanmar by Saya Moe Shin (I.M.T). The book takes the form of a fable about Julian Mantle, a high-profile attorney with a crazy schedule and a set of priorities that center around money, power and prestige. As such,

Mantle represents the values of our society. The story is told from the perspective of one of his associates, who admires Mantle's great success and aspires to be like him. But when Mantle has a heart attack, he drops out of the game and disappears. He sells all his possessions and goes to India to seek a more meaningful existence. When he comes back, he becomes a changed man. Really, it is as if he was a completely different person. He was learned from some mythical Himalayan gurus who give him mystical and yet practical advice, which he shares with his former associate (and the reader). Although it is not easy to give up all and restart a new and different life as Mantle does, it is important not to let our work occupies all of our time. Otherwise, life is not interesting because it runs always on one way. In addition, anything we do will never be effective if we feel tired and bored with it.

In conclusion, the most important thing to get a work done is the fresh mind and body. It is not how long somebody works, but the concentration that counts. Any good concentration cannot be got if they work all the time without any play. The work they do becomes a dull one because they feel bored with it as it lasts longer. Eventually, their life itself becomes a dull one, which is not challenging and fascinating anymore. All work and no play just make a dull life.

Robin Sharma



