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President U Htin Kyaw and First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin stroll on the Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun) in Nawngmun Township, Kachin State after the bridge is inaugurated. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

President attends bridge opening in Kachin State

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw, First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin and other officials attended the opening ceremony of Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun) over the Kasankha River near Nawngmun Township, Putao District, Kachin State yesterday morning.

In his comments at the ceremony, Union Minister U Win Khaing said bridges and roads in Kachin State are being built with Union funds, State funds and pledges from the Hluttaw through the BOT (built, operate, transfer) system and had

so far built and maintained 60 roads with a total length of 2,383 miles, 6 furlongs and 49 bridges.

The 500-foot long Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun) that opened yesterday is on the Machanbaw-Farukha-Nawng-

mun road section. It is a reinforced concrete support bailey bridge with a steel floor and is the first bridge to be opened in the year 2018 at the northernmost part of Myanmar.

Malikha Bridge (Machanbaw)

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Vice President U Myint Swe visits Leshi, Lahe and Nanyun towns

VICE President U Myint Swe went to Leshi, Lahe and Nanyun towns in Sagaing Region yesterday and visited the hospitals, border areas, national races youth development training schools and women's domestic science and vocational training schools yesterday.

The Vice President, accompanied by Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Aung Soe and Maj-Gen Than Htut, Permanent Secretaries and officials, left Nay Pyi Taw by special Tatmadaw plane at 10:45 a.m. and were welcomed at Hkamti airport by Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Than, Region ministers, Naga Self-Administered Zone (SAZ) Chairman U Kay Sai, ethnic national literary figures, and a cultural troupe.

The Vice President, Region Chief Minister, Region Hluttaw Speaker, Region ministers, Naga SAZ Chairman, Permanent Secretaries and officials went on to Leshi town by Tatmadaw helicopters and were welcomed on arrival by Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Htay, ethnic cultural troupes and officials. They then visited the women's domestic science and vocational training school and



Vice President U Myint Swe meets officials and locals at Leshi People's Hospital in Leshi. PHOTO: MNA

met with teachers and trainees.

The Vice President said the government is working for the development of Naga SAZ, especially in improving road links. It is mainly creating job opportunities for local people, with arrangements made for international tourists to visit and observe the traditions of the ethnic Naga nationals. Vocational training should be emphasized

for regional development and efforts should be made to raise the value of regional products. Teachers should train students to become individually skilled, while each trainee should also put in their best efforts to learn all the subjects taught, he said.

The Vice President also visited Leshi People's Hospital, then went on to Lahe Town, where they were welcomed by

Northwest Command commander Maj-Gen Phone Myat, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Thet Naung and other officials.

At the Sarameri Guest House, they met with Lahe Town regional regiments' female garrison troops and family members and presented warm clothes and foodstuff.

After a stop at Lahe Peo-

ple's Hospital, they went to the border areas national races youth development training school and met with students.

They also inspected the women's domestic science and vocational training school, after which the Vice President and party left for Nanyun town on Tatmadaw helicopters. Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Wum Hla, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Min Naing, Region Hluttaw representative U Same Maung, Region ministers, Naga traditional cultural troupe and officials welcomed the Vice President and party upon arrival in the town.

The Vice President and party then went to Nanyun People's Hospital to inspect, encourage and provide financial support to patients undergoing treatment.

They also went to Nanyun women's domestic science and vocational training school and viewed traditional weaving courses, sewing training and the clothes and household products made by the trainees.

The Vice President also met with Nanyun town regional regiments' female garrison troops and family members and presented foodstuffs, it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Repatriation, resettlement clarified to people in Sittway, Rakhine State

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye met with Sayadaws and local people in Sittway, Rakhine State, yesterday, clarifying efforts of the Union Government for peace, repatriation of refugees and resettlement.

At the meeting, local residents discussed the current challenges of the Rakhine people and presented the points that the government should implement to better livelihoods of the ethnic people with peace in the future.

Dr. Win Myat Aye, who is also Vice Chairman of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State, explained the government's preparations for repatriation of refugees to Rakhine State.

He also elaborated on measures being taken by the UEHRD to develop Rakhine State with-



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye attends a meeting for repatriation, resettlement clarified to people in Sittway, Rakhine. PHOTO: MNA

out conflicts. Following the discussion by the local people, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye clarified the current efforts of UEHRD for socio-economic development, assisting in small and medium-sized enterprises and creating job opportunities in Rakhine State.

Aid was also shipped from Sittway to Maungdaw yesterday.

In addition, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung inspected the issuing of National Verification cards to Muslims in Aungmingala Ward, Sittway. — Myanmar News Agency ■

NVC issued to residents in Sittway Aung Mingalar Ward

STATE Immigration and Population Department officials traveled to Sittway Aung Mingalar Ward yesterday morning to issue the National Verification Card (NVC) to 24 residents.

Among those receiving the cards were 9 men and 15 women, as a first step in the process of being reviewed for citizenship. Ministry of Social

Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Deputy Minister U Soe Aung handed over the NVC to the residents.

In an earlier issuing of NVC to residents of Sittway Aung Mingalar Ward on 7 January 2018, 66 residents, including 25 men and 38 women, were issued with NVC, as 90 residents have been issued NVC cards. — Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■



Deputy Minister U Soe Aung hands over NVC to a resident. PHOTO: MNA

President attends bridge opening in Kachin State

FROM PAGE 1

was opened in Kachin State in March 2017. In fiscal year 2017-2018, five bridges with lengths of over 180 feet including the Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun) were built and all will soon be completed, said the Union Minister.

As a result of the opening of the Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun), road transport will be eased and the health, education, socio-economic status of local populace and flow of goods will be increased. The Khakaborazi region, which is full of natural beauty, will become accessible, while travel and related businesses will develop, officials said.

Ethnic brothers and sisters from Putao District are requested to maintain and protect the Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun) built up to standards by the Ministry of Construction so that it can be used for a long time, said the Union Minister.

State Chief Minister Dr. Khat Aung pointed out that the Putao-Machanbaw-Nawngmun road is 73 miles, 5 furlongs long and it took more than 12 hours to travel by car. The Htikha River, Htakha River, Ba Bawt River, and Yat Bawt River between Machanbaw and Nawngmun are spanned by suspension bridges that have a load capacity of only a ton, allowing only motorcycles and pedestrians to cross it. Ba Bawt Bridge will be completed this fiscal year and Yat Bawt Bridge is located where the river is deepest and widest. It is very difficult to cross during the rainy season and, even during the times



President U Htin Kyaw and First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin have the documentary photo taken together with Khaunglanphu residents in Khaunglanphu, Kachin State. **PHOTO: MNA**

when there isn't much water, food and supplies are sent across with much difficulty.

Now that the Machanbaw-Nawngmun road section is being expanded and hard surfaced by the road department, the trip by car will take only about 4 hours, and the Putao-Nawngmun trip can be made in a single day.

Funds are being allocated for Htikha Bridge and Htakha Bridge in fiscal year 2018-2019 and once these bridges are completed, Putao-Nawngmun road can be travelled by both big and small cars in all types of weather.

As road communication improves and becomes safer, the flow of goods into the region will increase, and regional products can be transported regardless of the season. This will improve the economy, health, education, social access and all sectors for the local populace. In other

words, individual income will increase as the living standard rises and much benefits will soon be gained by the local populace said the Chief Minister.

A local person then gave words of thanks for building the Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun). Afterwards, Union Minister U Win Khaing, Chief Minister Dr. Khat Aung, State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Khan Lin, State Minister of Road, Communication, Electricity and Industry U Win Nyunt, State Minister of Rawang Ethnic Affairs U Yan Nan Phone, ethnic Lisu national U Moe Shwe and Special Bridge (1) Group Deputy Director U Kyaw Zin Htway opened the Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun) by cutting a ceremonial ribbon.

President U Htin Kyaw and wife then unveiled the commemorative pillar of Yat Bawt Bridge (Nawngmun) by pressing a button, after which President U Htin Kyaw, wife and

party sprinkled scented water on the commemorative pillar.

Finally, President U Htin Kyaw and party together with ethnic nationals crossed and inspected the bridge.

In the afternoon, the President and wife arrived in Khaunglanphu Town and met with township departmental officials and locals in the township hall.

In the meeting, the President said that in the past it took more than 12 days using motorcycles and other means to reach Khaunglanphu, and now it can be reached within a day. Good roads are required for the economy to develop. Peace and rule of law is also required.

The main requirement of road communication is being conducted by Ministry of Border Affairs, Ministry of Construction and Tatmadaw Engineering Corp., said the President.

"Our country has many

scenic areas. It is quite difficult to reach some of these northern regions. But, despite this, people in these areas have maintained the honour of their people and lived loyally while loving and cherishing the place. I greatly commend these people. I hope and pray that they will continue to live, love and cherish their place and become a force of our country. Later on, requirements including health, education and electricity will be fulfilled and provided", said the President.

The Khaunglanphu Township commissioner reported on the region and submitted the requirements for regional development, after which the President donated Ks10 million for Khaunglanphu regional development that was accepted by the township commissioner.

Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung also donated a set of computers for Khaunglanphu Township High School, which was accepted by the headmistress of the school.

The President and party went to Nawngmun Town to be entertained by cultural troupes, then returned to Putao Town in the evening.

Yesterday's ceremony in Putao was also attended by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Sein Win, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Win Khaing, State Chief Minister Dr. Khat Aung, Northern Command commander Maj-Gen Nyi Nyi Swe, State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Khan Lin, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin, state ministers, Hluttaw representatives, state, district and township level officials, invited guests and local populace.—Myanmar News Agency ■



President U Htin Kyaw and party enjoy the entertainment of local ethnic people in Nawngmun, Kachin State. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Migratory birds continue to visit Meiktila Lake

VARIOUS species of migratory birds continue to enter Meiktila in Mandalay Region this winner season, residents report.

The birds are mostly found in the north of Meiktila Lake near Oakhneboke Village in Kyaukphyugon Village-tract. "I don't know the exact species of those migratory birds which regularly visit the town at the end of December each year.

They continue to enter the natural area till the end of February," said one villager.

He added that the town has seen an increase in the number of migratory birds each year because there are no bird hunters in the village, as the majority of villagers make their livings by catching fish and in cultivation.

Migratory birds are also



Species of migratory birds in flight. **PHOTO: THAN THA (MEIKTILA)**

found in Lukhingyi and Nwasantaung villages, and at the Monedai Dam in the south of Meiktila

Lake. The seven-mile long Meiktila Lake, which covers an area of 3.5 square miles, is divided

into the north and south lake. Monedai Dam supplies water to the lake.—Than Tha (Meiktila)■

One-year Research Ethic Diploma Course to be launched next year

May Thet Hnin

THE University of Medicine-1 plans to offer a one-year Research Ethic Diploma Course beginning in January 2019.

The National Institute of Health (NIH) in the United States will provide financial support for the programme, while the USA-based University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) and Monash University in Australia will share teaching methods.

"Poor ethics may have negative impacts on those involved in the research field. It may lead to a situation in which participants are bullied and exploited. They may face lawsuits, as well. We plan to open a graduate course on this subject, as ethics is most important in the

research field," said Prof Dr Zaw Zaw Oo.

The programme has already received approval from the Ministry of Health and Sports. The curriculum for the new diploma course will be drafted during this year and submitted to the ministry.

"This is the first diploma course relating to research ethics. Plans are underway to open masters and doctorate courses in the following years. We could provide two-week ethical trainings, as in the past," Prof Dr Zaw Zaw Oo added.

Medical researchers, members of research ethic committees, post-graduate students and others interested in research may apply to enroll in the programme. Also, medical

doctors are able to attend an one-year online programme, which will provide them with workshops about five times per year. The diploma course will impart knowledge on how to write a protocol, critical thinking skills, along with writing, teaching and analytical skills, said Prof Henry Silverman of the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB).

Prof Silverman added, "We also want to make sure that we respect the dignity of the public and receive their permission to participate in research, because some studies might be risky. They need to know what they are getting into. They need to know all of the information about the purpose of a study, potential risks, benefits and any

compensation for research. So research ethics are very important."

"If we look back at history, there have been human abuses in research. So we want researchers to conduct research in ethical ways. Researchers have two goals; one is to contribute to scientific progress and the other is to minimize risks. So researchers have to balance these two," he added.

Since 2012, the University of Maryland Baltimore has shared information about research methods and research ethics during workshops in Myanmar. In addition, the UMB will provide full-year scholarships this year to Myanmar citizens, in cooperation with the University of Medicine-1.■

No injuries in 3-truck crash on Yangon-Mandalay old road

THREE trucks were involved in a collision between mile posts No. 117/3 and No. 117/4 on the old road between Yangon and Mandalay during the early morning on Saturday, according to police.

Kyaukdaga Township Police were alerted about the crash following the accident. There was no fire and nobody was hurt in the collision, though there was property damage, said a member of the police.

Officials reported that a 12-wheel-truck driven by Tun Linn, 27, collided with the rear

of a six-wheel truck driven by Kyae Kyaw Lwin, 47, while travelling towards Mandalay from Yangon, when he lost control of his vehicle. The six-wheel truck then struck the rear of another six-wheel vehicle, driven by Htet Aung, 29, near Taikkon Village in Kyaukdaga Township, Bago Region. The collision occurred around 1 a.m. on Saturday.

Charges have been filed against Tun Linn, based upon violations of Section 377 of the Penal Code pertaining to reckless driving.—Khin Ko (Kyaukdaga)■



Trucks damaged because of the collision on Yangon-Mandalay old road. **PHOTO: KHIN KO (KYAUKDAGA)**

Myanmar earns \$10.7 billion from exports

THE value of exports from Myanmar totalled US\$10.7 billion in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$1.8 billion against the same period last year, according to the Ministry of Commerce's latest report.

Since April 2017, the country exported \$2.268 billion of agricultural products, \$22.414 million of animal products, \$501.808 million of marine products, \$1.045 billion of mineral products, \$171.987 million of forest products, \$4.933 billion of manufactured goods, along

with others with an estimated value of \$1.787 billion.

This year, \$7.132 billion worth of products went to foreign countries through the private sector, while the government sector exported products amounting to \$3.598 billion.

The country's exports exceeded \$29.209 billion in the last fiscal year. The export value was \$27.714 billion in FY2015-16, \$29.156 in FY2014-2015, \$24.963 billion in FY2013-2014, and \$18.045 billion in FY2012-2013.—Shwe Khine



Border trade valued at US\$ 6 billion

THE value of border trade from 1st April 2017 to 5th January this fiscal year increased by US\$240 million, compared to the same period last year.

Border trade from 1st April 2017 to 5th January this fiscal year hit US\$6.031 billion, which included US\$ 3.90 billion in exports and US\$ 2.13 billion in imports, according to statistics from the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar trades with neighboring countries China, India, Bangladesh and Thailand. Sino-Myanmar border trade is carried out through Muse, Lweje, Kanpikete, Chin Shwe Haw and Kengtung

gates, while Myanmar is conducting border trade with India via Tamu and Reed.

The country's border trade gates with Bangladesh are Sittway and Maungtau, as well as Thailand via Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthaung, Myeik, HteeKhee, Mawtaung and Maese.

The value of border trading, as of 5th January in the current FY, was US\$ 4.24 billion in Muse, US\$153 million in Lweje, US\$404 million in Chin Shwe Haw, US\$73 million in Kanpikete, US\$1.52 million in Kengtung, US\$57.04 million in Tachilek, US\$684 million in

Myawady, US\$136 million in Kawthaung, US\$192 million in Myeik, US\$4.02 million in HteeKhee, US\$5.17 million in Mawtaung, US\$0.58 million in Maese, US\$9.01 million in Sittway, US\$8.50 million in Maungtau, US\$26.57 million in Tamu and US\$29.3 million in Reed.

Myanmar primarily exports agricultural products, animal products, forest products, minerals, fishery products, manufactured goods and other products, while capital goods, raw industrial materials and consumer products are imported into the country. —GNLM

Imports of intermediate goods up \$1.4 billion in current FY

MYANMAR imported nearly \$5.6 billion worth of intermediate goods to its trade partners as of 5 January, 2018, which was an increase of \$1.4 billion over the same period last year.

Foreign traders imported \$4.187 billion of intermediate products from Myanmar at the same time last year.

According to the statistical report of the Ministry of Commerce, over the past nine months of this FY the import of intermediate goods from the government sector was \$120.632 million, while the private sector sold \$5.472 billion worth of intermediate goods

to foreign buyers.

When compared with the same period in the last FY, private sector imports of intermediate goods increased by \$1.415 billion. However, imports from the government sector saw a slight decline in value of over \$9 million.

The ministry's figures show that the country's total import value exceeded \$13.9 billion in the current FY, comprising \$738 million from the government, plus \$13.2 billion from private importers. Total import figures increased by \$2.041 billion over last year.—Khine Khant

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Community Centre opens in Hpa-an District, Kayin State

THE opening ceremony for the Hpa-an District Community Centre was held at the Hpa-an Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD), Kayin State, yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint, along with Acting Kayin State Chief Minister and Minister for Planning, Finance, Development and Social Affairs U Than Naing, Chairman of Kayin State Hluttaw U Saw Chit Khin, Director-General of IPRD U Ye Naing and a representative of the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation, cut the ribbon draped across the community centre signboard and sprayed it with fragrance.

The opening ceremony for the Community Centre was held under the supervision of the Ministry of Information.

Also, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint and officials rewarded those members of the bands and Pom Pom troupes, who entertained during the ceremony.

Next, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint and officials inspected the mobile library bus, the community centre which was donated by the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation,

Kayin Cultural Heritage Show rooms, the computer room, library and playgrounds for the children.

Afterwards, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint gave a speech, in which he explained that opening the mobile library will provide books to those in many villages, wards and schools, where residents cannot easily reach the city library.

Later, Acting Kayin State Chief Minister as well as Minister for Planning, Finance, Development and Social Affairs U Than Naing invited those who wish to use the library to come to the community centre. He also expressed his thanks to the authorities for opening the community centres.

Additionally, an official of the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation explained the purpose of opening the library, as well as providing information about the foundation and the mobile library.

Afterwards, a discussion was held, under the title "Youth and Literature", and Minister for Mon Ethnic Affairs U Min Tin Win, Mon State Hluttaw Representative U Thant Zin Aung, writer Min Khaik Soe



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint and officials meet with students at the mobile library bus. **PHOTO: MNA**

San, writer Hnin Wai Nyein and local youth Nan Htet Htet Lin Soe, discussed literature and answered questions from the audience.

In the afternoon, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint, together with Mon Ethnic Affairs Minister U Min Tin Win and Pa-O Ethnic Affairs Minister U Khun Myo Tint, met ethnic cultural groups, including Kayin, Mon, Shan, Pa-O and Bamar, who live

in Kayin state. They also discussed holding future literature talks and cultural shows.

The Union Minister then met the staff of Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV), as well as the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD), in Kayin state and inspected the retransmission station in Hpa-an, Kayin State.

The community centre and mobile library, which opened in

Hpa-an yesterday, was the ninth centre to be opened, with others already opened in Kawhmu, Insein, Myaungmya, Natmawk, Pyinmana, Myitkyina and Mandalay. Public libraries and community centres in Myanmar occupy a vital place in the process of democratization, which is why efforts should be made to update them and keep abreast with the times, noted officials. —District IPRD ■



Japanese Foreign Minister Mr. Taro Kono return to Japan from Yangon International Airport. **PHOTO: MNA**

Foreign Minister of Japan and delegation return to Japan

A delegation led by the Foreign Minister of Japan, Taro Kono, arrived in Myanmar on 11 January, and returned to Japan from Yangon International Airport yesterday afternoon at 3:30 pm.

The delegation was seen off at the Airport by Daw Kay

Thi Soe, Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other departmental officials, along with Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Tate-shi Higuchi.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Indian Coast Guard Ships to visit Yangon

INDIAN Coast Guard ships Shaunak and Rajshree will visit Yangon, Myanmar from 14-18 January, 2018 for a goodwill visit.

ICGS Shaunak is an Off-shore Patrol Vessel and was commissioned into Indian Coast Guard on 21 February, 2017.

The ship has a displacement of over 2400 tonnes, a length of 105 meters and is capable of doing speed in excess of 22 knots.

The OPV is designed to embark a twin engine light

helicopter and is tasked for search and rescue, maritime law enforcement & patrol, and the ship also carries pollution response equipment to contain oil spill at sea.

The OPV was designed and built indigenously by M/s Goa Shipyard Limited, and is visiting Yangon in her very first year of service.

The Commanding Officer of ICGS Shaunak is DIG Tekur Sashi Kumar, TM who heads a crew of over 100 personnel, including officers and sailors.

ICGS Rajshree is an In-

shore Patrol Vessel commissioned on 15 January, 2012 and constructed by M/s Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata.

The ship is commanded by Commandant Thiam Newton, who heads a crew of over 30 personnel.

Major activities during stay at Yangon include courtesy calls, interaction with personnel from the Myanmar Navy, visit to places of interest and friendly sports.—(Press release of India Embassy from KYI KHAING OO) ■



Donation given to Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Examination Sayadaws and monks

AT a ceremony held yesterday morning in Yangon's Kaba Aye Hill Maha Pasana Cave, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko delivered cash donations to Sayadaws, monks, and those who took the Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Examination.

To date, oral examinations have been conducted among 145 monks, and will continue until 18 January.

To be a degree holder of Tipitaka Kovida, a monk who

has reached the Pathamagyi level must first pass five levels of reciting answers and five levels of comprehension of Tipitaka in a written exam.

Next, the monk must pass the oral recitation of the 20 books of the Tipitaka Pali scripture, after which he is awarded the title of Tipitaka Kovida. The monk then must pass a written examination testing his knowledge of more than 100 books, covering commentaries, sub-commentaries and treatises related to the entire Tipitaka



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko offers cash to Sayadaws who took the Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Examination in Kaba Aye Hill Maha Pasana Cave in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pali scripture, after which he is awarded the Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida title.

From ME 1310 when the

first Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Examination was conducted to the recent 69th time, there were 14 distinguished

monks who were awarded the Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida title.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Mingaladon Garden Orchid Exhibition (2018) in Yangon

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation together with private orchid producers jointly held a Mingaladon Garden Orchid Exhibition (2018) in Mingaladon Garden, Mingaladon Township, Yangon yesterday morning.

At first, agriculture and rural development committee chairman U Yan Lin and Ministry of Agriculture Deputy Director General U Hla Myint Aung delivered the opening speeches and Myanmar Floriculturist Association chairman Dr. Saw Lwin delivered a message of greeting.

Officials then cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the Mingaladon Garden Orchid Exhibition (2018) and visited the displays in the exhibition.

Deputy Director General U Hla Myint Aung commented on the exhibition and said "It has been quite some time since people's interest was raised on orchid. It is to raise the interest of people in orchid that this exhibition is being held. It is after 17 years that an orchid exhibition is held in this garden. It is also held with an aim to raise the interest of the people on fruits and flowers."

The exhibition will be held for five days from 13 to 17 January and it will be opened from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The exhibition will



Mingaladon Garden Orchid Exhibition (2018) held in Mingaladon Garden, Mingaladon Township in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

display 35 types of Myanmar orchid, 20 types of medicinal orchid and 45 types of orchid for growing as well as educational booths and shops and orchid specialists and enthusiasts are seen visiting the exhibition yesterday.

Daw Saw Yu Htway from Mingaladon Garden Orchid farm said "A total of about 100 types of orchid species are shown. The booths displayed will include 7 showing orchids and an educational booth on planting orchid. To raise the people's interest in orchid, orchid and art were combined and shown as one sector. Technical knowhow will also being provided to visiting orchid enthusiast."

Furthermore, one of the aims of the exhibition is to show the producing of orchid through tissue culture system and for the new generation youth to study and value Myanmar orchid species from a special unique design and art works of MOPA Design led by Myanmar youth designers and Yangon School of Interior Design (YSID) students it is learnt.

The other aim is to enable people to understand the planting methodology of orchid, fruits and flowers so that they can grow fruits and vegetables as well as flowers in small plots of lands in their home it is learnt.—Zaw Gyi ■

Japanese Foreign Minister observes reconstruction works in Maungtaw

A delegation led by Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono, accompanied by the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, UEHRD Chief Coordinator Dr. Aung Tun Thet and departmental officials visited Maungtaw region, Rakhine State to observe reconstruction works yesterday.

The party arrived in Pan Taw Pyin Village tract, where Dr. Win Myat Aye explained the resettlement lands and buildings that are being

constructed on it.

The Japanese Foreign Minister met with the villagers, then together with Dr. Win Myat Aye toured the schools and accommodations in the village.

The party then arrived at the repatriation camp and viewed preparation works. The camp is , where returnees from Bangladesh will be accepted and processed. The final stop for the delegation was the Myanmar-Bangladesh Friendship Bridge in Taung Pyo Let Wei Town.—Aung Ye Thwin, Ko Min ■



Japanese Foreign Minister Mr Taro Kono and Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye meet with local people in Maungtaw, Rakhine State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Bringing about peace, stability and development

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar abounds with natural scenic resources for the tourism industry. Among them, the beauty of Mergui Archipelago in the southern part of the country, and Mount Khakaborazi in northernmost Myanmar, are attractions enjoyed by both local and foreign visitors.

Snow-capped Mount Khakaborazi, the highest in Myanmar, and other ice-covered mountains, are located in Puta-O district, Kachin State, in the northern part of the country. Being the most popular tourist attractions, the tourism industry in the region will surely create job opportunities for the local population simultaneously earning a significant amount of the nation's income, but only if it is easy for tourists to reach these locations. For example, Golden Dragon Snow Mountain in Lijiang, Yunnan Province of China continues into Kachin State as a line of snow-capped mountains. While it is lower than Mount Khakaborazi, Mount Gamlang might yield to the latter mountains in their natural beauty. Yet, Mount Khakaborazi offers tranquility to tourists and visitors who will find it easy to travel

to those areas, resulting in an influx of travelers almost every day.

Now people can make the trip between Myitkyina and Puta-O, which once took three nights, in four hours by car.

The tourism industry in China assures many conveniences for travelers—such as transporting passengers in vehicles to the foot of the mountain, continuing by cable-car to the middle, as well as climbing trips for adventurers. This assures that officials collect significant revenues from the tourism industry.

Though having many tourist attractions that display natural beauty in the northern part of the country, Myanmar's tourism industry has not thrived, as expected, because of inconvenient transportation and a lack of tranquility in the areas. These continuing problems have caused Kachin State, as well as Myanmar, to lose many opportunities.

Only if peace can first be brought about, will the country see progress in the nation's development. However, there is not yet total tranquility in Kachin State. At such a time when the country is marching towards creating a Democratic Federal Republic, all individuals have the right to enjoy the benefits of their regions. It is of great importance to cooperate in negotiations. For as long as there are arguments about differing views and religions, the country will not move ahead in national development. It will lose opportunities for the nation and its people.

Due to lack of regional tranquility, construction of major roads cannot be successfully carried out. In the rainy seasons, people are still finding it difficult to travel in the mud along the 218-mile-long Myitkyina-Puta-O route. Due to such poor roads, Puta-O town-dwellers are paying double the price for common products, compared to those in Myitkyina. By seeing this, it can easily be guessed about expensive prices in the regions of Naung-Mon and Pan Nan Ding, which are rich in natural scenic spots, but only accessible on foot. In such a situation, how will the local people and government staff survive?

During the administration of the current government these situations have been overcome. Now people can make the trip between Myitkyina and Puta-O, which once took three nights, in four hours by car. As a result, prices of commodities dropped significantly. This is the consequence of convenient transportation in Kachin State. Had the entire Kachin State region achieved tranquility, development and conveniences in the area would be greater and, indeed, beyond our expectations. ■

Clarification Statement on the Year 2017

ByAung Htoo

AT the end of financial years, every economic enterprise or company is required to make year-end comprehensive statistics including the remaining balance and the profit and loss balance. Similarly, as for a country, it has to do likewise, in regard to the situations of the economic development in a year. Generally speaking, it was said that the year 2017 saw an economic slump in Myanmar, based on the data from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund [IMF]. Myanmar's progress rate of the national income amounted to by 5.9 percent. Though it did not reach that of the previous year, it did not drop negatively. As for me I will never accept the ideas that Myanmar's economy was in deep recession last year, according to my facts and figures I have found out. As far as I know, Myanmar is making active operation like other ASEAN nations, causing a dilemma in my mind as to whether it would be a hallucination. I had to go about across the nation on duty. Any signs of economic recession were not found.

Streets are being overcrowded with people everywhere. People are travelling about in the country as well as to overseas countries. Usually, people tend to make trips only if they have already fulfilled the basic requirements. Eateries and shopping centers are always crammed with customers. Extremely large numbers of youths spent their New Year Events at the entertainment shows. Uses

of mobile phones remarkably increased.

According to my surveys on situations on the ground I saw nothing of signs of economic recession. Some may claim that I was seeing everything with green glasses. Myanmar currency's value rose up by 0.3 percent, against dollar. Petroleum prices rose by 28 percent. Inflation rate was between 4 or 5 percent. Myanmar's economy stayed stagnant, with stagflation not found.

Warning tolls

Concerning agriculture, farmers got high prices for their paddy produce, K 0.5 or 0.6 million for 100 baskets. As for the rice exports as well, Myanmar rice export reached the unprecedented record amounting to 2.5 million tons. Those pulses' prices dropped due to failure to import Myanmar's beans from the regular purchaser—India, it did not drop under K 0.3 million per ton, the danger point. Under the protection law on farmers' benefits, the government has already put K 15 billion as the reserve money.

The Myanmar Federation of Pulses and Sesame Merchants as well, had managed to raise fund of K 50 billion for the stability of Myanmar Pulse Market. As a result, mung beans rose up again up to K 0.6 million. From April 2017 to December 2017 nearly 50000 tons of beans were exported to Japan, EU countries, ROK, US, Canada and UAE.

Only 200 tons of beans were sent back to the country, because of contamination of pesticide residues in the crops,



For the national economic development it needs to be developed railways. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

being a small amount only.

This also was attributed to raised designation of pesticide residues. Had these imported beans affected dangers to consumers in respective countries, they would never thought of purchasing Myanmar beans any more. But, it must be said that it was a warning tolls for Myanmar pulse growers and Myanmar exporters, being the warning that pulse markets would be destroyed unless the Good Agricultural Practices [GAP] were exercised. On the other hand, practices of consuming nutritious pulses have been and will continue to be cultivated among the Myanmar populace.

In the previous, crops were not much destroyed due to floods. Dams were said to have held water to the full during the past decades, being for the first time.

In 9 months period in FY 2016-2017, total value of export and import amounted to US \$ 3.4 million. It will be sure that there will be deficits in the developing countries due to influx of investments into the country and requirements for importing commodities to be used in the enterprises.

But on account of increased amount of exports, the deficit became less than the deficit for

the FY 2015-2016—US \$ 5.441 billion, which had broken the record.

New investment law, new companies law and law for condominium which can attract foreign direct investments had already been promulgated. Governments of Regions and States had been granted authority which can decide investments up to the amounts of US \$ 5 million, thus coming to persuade for influx of investment into their respective regions. As for foreign investors are now activating to launch Myittha industrial zone, Maubin industrial zone, Myitkyina industrial zone, Kanpote Tee Economic Zone, Eco-Green City and Amarta industrial zones. New Yangon City Project and Yangon SEZ are also under way.

Upgrading Yangon-Mandalay Railways

For the national economic development, it needs to develop infrastructure of roads. To fulfill this requirement, the Ministry of Construction will implement the construction of 4 way Yangon-Pathein railroad at the cost of US \$ 340 million with the ADB loan. To reduce the traffic jam Thilawa-Bago road will be built linking with Nyaungnnapin industrial zone and Hantawady Airport to be joint-ventured with

the ROK. Concerning electricity Myingyan power plant began to operate at the end of the year 2017, producing 225 mega-watts more than ever. In 2018 as well, other power plants will be finished, likely to produce 425 mega-watts. In economic enterprises, the State Government and governments of regions and states will be balanced.

Tourism sector

Though tourist arrivals seemed to have decreased due to Rakhine State affair, arrivals with visa increased by 8 per cent up to November 2017. Compared to the month of November 2016, a total of tourists amounting to 3.13 million visited Myanmar in eleven months in 2017, increasing by 20 percent more than the previous year. Due to alleviation of restrictions on tourism industry, it is expected that more visitors will come to Myanmar's wonderful natural resources, cultural heritages and different kinds of ethnic people in 2018. Concerning livestock breeding as well, it is expected that more investors will come into the country because of alleviation of restriction.

In agriculture sector machineries have been utilized more than ever, especially in the plough, furrowing, harvest,

winnowing and grinding. As a result, wastages of agricultural produce and labor have been reduced, causing production to increase by 25 percent.

Similarly, policy on vehicle import had been implemented as an extraordinary change in 2017. One of the promising export sectors in Myanmar is rubber export sector. Due to the concerted effort of the Ministry of Commerce and Myanmar Rubber Producers' Federation Myanmar managed to join the international rubber association. Simultaneously, rubber manufacturing plants had been established in Mon State. With the increasing demand for Myanmar's rubber from Japan and China, the Myanmar rubber export will surely develop in 2018.

Excellent prospect for the national economy

New items of export list in 2017 are coffee, avocado pear, tea leaves, elephant foot yam tuber and such and such. Establishment of agro-based industry will help food security for the region as well as for the global populace. That is, Myanmar's economy is the Resiliency Economy. ■

Translated by
Khin Maung Oo

Enhancing Myanmar's Tourism

Hnin Su Wai

TWO years ago, when I lived in Korea, I visited many places. During that time, I kept thinking about my country, Myanmar. The Koreans know how to attract tourists and proudly display their culture and history. I thought, "We also have deep-rooted culture and history," and I felt proud of being a citizen of Myanmar. However, it dawned on me that we needed to improve and develop our tourism industry.

One summer, I went to the Bagan Archaeological Museum because I wanted to know Bagan's history. The building was extensive and commanding. However, the lighting was dim, and the air was stagnant and sweltering. Although the hairdo displays attracted me, the exhibitions were sparse. Tourists commented online about the small, inadequate signage, old-fashioned exhibits, and the middling quality of the museum that did not match the spirit of our ancestors, many of whom sacrificed their lives to build the city.

The view atop Shwesantaw Pagoda was so impressive that I wondered how our ancestors built the whole empire, and what their daily lifestyle was like. There is no view like that anywhere else in the world. I want to share Bagan's architecture, its people's devotion, and military might. Not only is it not a UNESCO site, but also weakly advertised. If it were properly renovated, the site would be eligible for the UNESCO recognition and would be widely acclaimed.

Many hidden places are left to be visited in Myanmar. We need to develop and support these areas as true patriots and research how other countries are promoting and marketing tourism. Both visitors and locals should follow safety instructions while travelling, stop defacing public property, and, especially for foreigners, respect the native culture. An example of the latter would be visitors foregoing shoes at religious sites.

Many countries are marketing their iconic food all over the world. For instance, sushi for Japan; kimchi for Korea; pho for Vietnam. We have many delicious dishes to share with people; let's make them talk about our food. People from developed countries are used to extremely sanitary restaurant conditions. So, they may often have digestive issues while abroad. We should standardise hygiene guidelines everywhere so they feel safe eating our food. Another matter that should be addressed is public restrooms. Toilets are not only rare in public areas, but also unclean and lacking amenities. Squat toilets in rural areas are uncomfortable for foreigners to use. We should construct and systematically service standard toilets in rural and metropolitan areas.

Safety is incredibly important while travelling. When visitors travel through Myanmar, they should follow the "dos and don'ts" -- drive following the rules and regulations, wear seat belts, don't disrespect the culture. We should keep our sidewalks and platforms in good repair so that tourists can sightsee safely and freely. Myanmar is a safe country full of kind, helpful people. There should be more tourist police and tourist information counters to make travel safer and more convenient.

These days our heritage sites are deteriorating, the lakes are drying up, forests are vanishing, and local beaches are being trashed. Without these, our tourism income will decline. We have a responsibility to preserve our resources. When I was in school, traffic officers demonstrated road safety guidelines, which was popular with students.

We need to have this type of program for environmental care. Inspirational videos and posters would help raise environmental awareness. By caring for and maintaining our fascinating environment, our tourism industry will endure, and our posterity will know who they are. The world is changing and growing speedily. Let's not let our culture flow out with these changes. ■

Youth Leadership Training Programme opens in Yangon

By Ye Khaung Nyunt

THE Youth Leadership Training Programme was opened at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon yesterday morning, which aims to raise awareness of the dangers of drugs and alcohol among the country's young people.

Sixty YLTP trainees will launch the "Driven by Passion: Substance Use Prevention Task Force" campaign from 22-28 January.

The YLTP was organised by Association for Healthy Adolescent Development (AHEAD), Teens and Drams Youth Network, and AMN Youth Network of Mandalay. Moreover, UNICEF will provide necessary technical help and financial aid during the programme.

This campaign is aimed at raising awareness of the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse

across the country, especially in Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyine and Taunggyi.

"They will launch a campaign in order to give awareness to the dangers of drinking and taking narcotic drugs among the young people who live in Hlaing Thar Yar and North-Dagon. In the training programme, we will educate them with three objectives which are, one, to know the preventive measures, two, to understand the menace and dangers, and three, to educate victims by using effective means", said Dr. Yu Yu Aung, the UNICEF Program Director.

All the trainees are university students between the ages of 16 and 22. The organisers chose trainees who can devote ample time to the programme.

Students have to undergo eight days of extensive training



Maung Kaung Zarni Naing.



Ma Aye Eaindray Maung.

by many trainers from UNICEF, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and doctors from mental health hospitals. This programme was mainly sponsored by the Driven by Passion Network (DPN).

Similarly, some 230 youths will participate in this pro-

gramme, which will launch in Yangon, Mandalay, Taunggyi and Mawlamyine from January 22-28. They intend to educate 80,000 students between 10 to 15 years old, she added.

"Being a member of Teens and Drams, I am determined to tackle the use of drugs among the young people. I attended another training programme

which had lasted 12 days. As a result, I came to know more about anatomy and the danger of narcotic drugs. I had to study and examine the children who live in Hlaingtharyar and go to Mental Health Hospital to study drug-addicts. Thanks to this training, I gained self-confidence and dare to speak in front of the public", said Ma Aye Eaindray Maung, an IR student at Yangon University.

Maung Kaung Zarni Naing, a student of Yangon Technological University said, "I attend this programme to fight against the use of drugs, which can be harmful to our societies. I also joined similar training last year. I think I can help my country in one way or another. As for me, I will refrain from using narcotic drugs and, am trying to raise awareness of the danger of drugs among our society". ■

Quakes in January a warning to prepare for possible strong tremor: MEC

By Min Thit (MNA)

SEVERAL earthquakes in January should serve as a warning for the country to make preparations for possible disasters, the head of the Myanmar Earthquake Committee said yesterday.

"They (earthquakes) have alerted us, giving time for preparations to be made to hold down losses even if the disaster occurs," said Dr. Myo Thant, Chairman of the Myanmar Earthquake Committee.

An earthquake with a magni-

tude of 3.9 jolted parts of southern Myanmar yesterday. The earthquake's epicenter was located about 13 miles north-west of Yangon.

So far, 17 earthquakes of varying intensity have been recorded from January 1 to 13. A quake with a magnitude of 6.0 hit Pyu, a remote region about 107 miles north of Yangon, early on Friday. It was considered a minor tremor, according to the MEC.

The shallow earthquake was followed by three weaker tremors in central Myanmar.

There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.

Following the quake, officials from the Irrigation Department inspected dams and reservoirs in the quake-hit areas and announced that the quake did not cause damages to the irrigation facilities.

17 earthquakes hit Myanmar in January. An earthquake with a magnitude of 3.9 struck about 12 miles south-east of Kalewa on 1 January, an earthquake with a magnitude of 4.0 struck about 7 miles south-west of Kalewa on 2

January, an earthquake with a magnitude of 3.7 struck about 2 miles south of Thabeikyin on 2 January; an earthquake with a magnitude of 4.6 struck 20 miles north-east of Moehnyin, Kachin State; an earthquake with a magnitude of 3.7 struck 19 miles south-south-east of Kalewa on 6 January; an earthquake with a magnitude of 4 struck 20 miles North-East of Gwa on 7 January; an earthquake with a magnitude of 5.8 struck 15 miles south-east of Homelin on 7 January; an earthquake with a magnitude of

4 struck 13 miles south-south-west of Kyaukhtu; an earthquake with a magnitude of 6 struck 17 miles south-west of Pyu; an earthquake with a magnitude of 4.6 struck 21 miles south-west of Pyu on Friday; an earthquake with a magnitude of 4.3 struck 23 miles north-east of Homelin on Friday; an earthquake with a magnitude of 4.8 struck 21 miles south-west of Pyu on Friday and an earthquake with a magnitude of 3.9 struck 2 miles south-east of Htantabin on Friday with four aftershocks.

Enthusiasts invited to apply for full research ethics training scholarships

By May Thet Hnin

THOSE who are interested in research have been invited to apply to the Myanmar Training Program in Research Methods and Research Ethics, said Prof Henry Silverman, Programme Director at the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB), USA. Funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and sponsored by the aforementioned university in collaboration with University of Medicine 1, Yangon, the 18-month certificate program will include research methodology, statistics, research ethics, responsible conduct in research, scientific writing and

critical thinking skills. Individual researchers, members of Research Ethics Committees, post-graduate students and others interested in research may apply to this programme.

The winners of the scholarship will be granted to attend the training course at the University of Maryland in the USA for two weeks. Online courses are available for them after the two-week training. Those who complete the UMB certificate programme will have the option of continuing on for master or doctorate degrees, said Prof Henry Silverman.

Under the UMB programme, between six and eight

applicants will be chosen for the full-scholarship that includes registration fees, living expenses and round-trip economy airfare to the USA. In discussing about the purpose of building capacity in research ethics, Prof Henry Silverman said: "We need to do research for health and such research involves human participants. Accordingly, we have to ensure there are no unnecessary harms to research participants. We also want to make sure that we respect the dignity of the research participants, which entails obtaining their permission or informed consent, which involves giving them the necessary information so that

they can make a voluntary and autonomous decision to participate in research, which might be risky. Prof Henry Silverman says "They need to know what they are getting into; they need to know all information about the research, including the purpose of this study, potential risks, benefits, and compensation for any research injury. So, research ethics is very important."

Experts from the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) have offered research methods and ethics related trainings in Myanmar since 2014. Individuals interested in the UMB certificate program should go to www.mm-researchethics.net to down-

load the application form and submit online this form, as well as their curriculum vitae, one-page personal statement of career goals and how this program will help them, official transcriptions of individual grades from prior degree programmes and two letters of references; or send the materials to hsilverm@som.umaryland.edu no later than 31 March of this year. Documentation of English proficiency, either by a passing score on the TOFEL (80) or IELTS exam (7.0) or having a degree from an English-speaking university (US, Canada, Australia, Japan or Europe) is also required to apply for the scholarship. ■

S-400 missile systems will be on combat duty in Crimea's Sevastopol on Saturday

SEVASTOPOL — Russia's S-400 missile systems will take up combat duty on Saturday near Cape Fiolent in Crimea's Sevastopol, the Black Sea Fleet's press service said.

Early last year, a regiment of the Southern Military District, armed with S-400 systems, assumed combat duty in Crimea. These were the first S-400 systems deployed to the peninsula. Earlier reports said two battalions with S-400 systems would take up combat duty in Crimea in the beginning of 2018.

Earlier this week, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Ukraine continues provocations on the border near Crimea and Russia takes steps to ensure security of its territory, and this should not be viewed as a threat.

Russia's S-400 Triumf (NATO reporting name: SA-21 Growler) is the latest long-range



Two battalions with S-400 systems would take up combat duty in Crimea in the beginning of 2018. **PHOTO: TASS**

anti-aircraft missile system that went into service in 2007.

It is designed to destroy aircraft, cruise and ballistic missiles, including medium-range missiles, and surface

targets. The S-400 can engage targets at a distance of 400 kilometres and at an altitude of up to 30 kilometres.

Deputy Commander of Russia's Aerospace Force

Viktor Gumenny said last April that Russia S-400 air defence systems had begun receiving missiles capable of destroying targets in the near space.

— Tass ■

Iran says will retaliate against US sanctions on chief judge

DUBAI — Iran said on Saturday it would retaliate against sanctions imposed on its judiciary head by the United States as President Donald Trump stepped up efforts to 'fix' a nuclear deal between Tehran and major powers.

Trump said on Friday he would waive nuclear sanctions against Iran for the last time to give Washington and its European allies a chance to fix the "terrible flaws" of the 2015 nuclear deal.

Washington also announced sanctions against 14 entities and people, including the head of Iran's judiciary, Ayatollah Sadeq Larijani.

"The Trump regime's hostile action (against Larijani)... crossed all red lines of conduct in the international community and is a violation of international law and will surely be answered by a serious reaction of the Islamic Republic," Iran's Foreign Ministry said in a statement carried by state media.

On Friday, Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said on Twitter that Trump's decision undermined the multilateral agreement.—Reuters ■

Egyptian fire kills Palestinian at sea — Gaza Health Ministry

GAZA — The Egyptian navy opened fire on a Palestinian fisherman at sea and killed him, the Gaza Ministry said on Saturday.

Egyptian officials had no immediate comment on the incident which happened late on Friday after dark near the southern border-town Rafah, according to

Gaza Health Ministry spokesman Ashraf al-Qidra.

It could not be confirmed whether the fisherman was attempting to cross into Egyptian waters. Egyptian naval forces have previously opened fire on Gazans they accused of crossing the maritime border.

Fishermen from Gaza have often brought in catch from Egyptian territory to sidestep restrictions imposed by Israel's naval blockade of the enclave, which Israel maintains citing security concerns.

Gaza fishermen say that the limited fishing zone imposed by

Israel is not big enough to meet demand of the coastal strip's 2 million people.

Gaza is run by Islamist group Hamas, which has fought three wars with Israel and is designated a terrorist group by Western countries and Israel.

—Reuters ■

Culling of 92,000 chickens finishes in Japan after bird flu outbreak

TAKAMATSU, (Japan) — Authorities and chicken farmers in Kagawa Prefecture finished culling roughly 92,000 chickens on Friday night after a bird flu outbreak was confirmed on a poultry farm in the western Japan prefecture the previous day.

To prevent further infections, the culling operation began late Thursday night at the poultry farm in Sanuki, where an outbreak of the H5 strain of bird flu — a highly contagious and especially deadly virus for poultry — was confirmed, and at several nearby farms.

Given cold weather, darkness and the muddy ground, the operation took longer than planned to complete, with more than 750 people, including Self-Defence Forces personnel and Kagawa prefectural gov-

ernment officials, taking turns to capture and cull the birds.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said a gene analysis determined the outbreak was that of the H5N6 avian influenza strain, the same type detected from a dead wild bird found in Matsue, Shimane Prefecture, also in western Japan, this winter. The outbreak in Kagawa is the first bird flu case affecting livestock in Japan this season.

The government held a ministerial meeting at the prime minister's office to discuss how to deal with the outbreak while a team of epidemiologic experts and farm ministry officials visited the infected farm in Sanuki to find the cause of the outbreak.

"An initial action is crucially important. We are going to sup-

port the prefecture at full tilt," senior vice farm minister Yosuke Isozaki told reporters after meeting with Kagawa Governor Keizo Hamada at the prefectural government office.

With the help of experts, a local office of the Environment Ministry on Friday began inspecting the area within a radius of 10 kilometres from the infected farm to determine what kind of migrant birds fly over the area and whether there have been massive deaths of wild birds.

The Kagawa prefectural government banned the movement of poultry and eggs within a radius of 3 kilometres of the infected site, which includes eight other farms. Farms within a 10-km radius were banned from transporting birds and eggs out of the area.—Kyodo News ■



Workers of Japan's Kagawa Prefecture in protective suits prepare to cull chickens at a poultry farm in the city of Sanuki on 11 January, 2018, after the highly pathogenic H5 strain of avian influenza was detected. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Russia developing next-generation heavy flame-thrower

MOSCOW — Russia's Splav Research and Production Association has started developing a prototype of the next-generation wheeled-chassis heavy flame-throwing system dubbed Tosochka, CEO of Techmash Holding Company Vladimir Lepin said on Friday. "The Splav Research and Production Association is carrying out work to develop a prototype of the Tosochka new-generation heavy flame-throwing system for preliminary trials. The system with the improved characteristics will be mounted on a wheeled chassis," he said.

In 2017, Splav launched the Proryv (Breakthrough) project as part of its investment programme to expand its production capacities. Under the new project, the Enterprise



Russia has started developing a prototype of the next-generation wheeled-chassis heavy flame-throwing system dubbed Tosochka. **PHOTO: TASS**

acquired a new workshop intended to go into operation in 2019. The new workshop will launch the serial production of shells for the latest Tornado-S multiple launch rocket system, the

Techmash chief executive said. Simultaneously, Splav will engage in a new area of production to roll out fighting and transporter-loader vehicles. The project will enable Splav to switch from

experimental to serial production. The Enterprise's new workshop will also launch the production of shells for Grad multiple launch rocket systems.—Tass ■

Cuba, US hold meeting on cybersecurity amid setback in ties

HAVANA — Cuba and the United States on Friday held a closed-door meeting in Washington to strengthen cybersecurity cooperation as part of limited government contacts since US President Donald Trump set back bilateral relations last year.

According to Cuba's Foreign Ministry, delegations of both nations met in the US capital where they "shared views on the importance of cooperation in this area" and agreed to hold future technical meetings on the topic.

"This meeting falls within the context of the law enforcement dialogue, which was established by both sides in November 2015," said an official release.

The Cuban delega-

tion was composed of officials and representatives from the Interior Ministry, Foreign Ministry as well as Communications Ministry.

Washington and Havana have reduced their cooperation meetings to a minimum after Trump decided to stop thawing ties between the two nations.

Relations have also been hampered by alleged "attacks" on US diplomats in the island nation which led to the partial closure of the US embassy in Havana and the expulsion of 15 Cuban diplomats in Washington.

Cuba on Tuesday said the US allegation was unacceptable and only served to impose an accusation without evidence.—Xinhua ■

Former Argentine vice president freed pending corruption trial

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's former economy minister and vice president, Amado Boudou, was freed from jail on Friday after an appeals court ruled that he was unlikely to interfere in a corruption case against him.

Boudou, who served under former President Cristina Fernandez, was arrested in early November on racketeering and money laundering charges. His lawyer said at the time that assertions Boudou might try to meddle in the case were preposterous. The ex-minister, who denies any wrongdoing, told reporters on Friday night that the justice system had "committed an abuse" by jailing him.

Boudou was the second senior official from Fernandez's government to have been detained.

Her former planning minister, Julio De Vido, was jailed on corruption charges in October. Last month a federal judge

dealt the hardest blow yet to Fernandez, calling on Congress to remove her immunity as a senator so she could be arrested.

Fernandez, whose policies vastly increased the role of the government in Latin America's third-biggest economy, was succeeded in late 2015 by her business-friendly political opposite Mauricio Macri, who has vowed to reform Argentina's sluggish judiciary. The former president and her loyalists accuse Macri of orchestrating a political vendetta against her. Boudou faces three counts of "illicit enrichment" dating back to 2009, the year he was promoted from heading Argentina's social security administration to become economy minister. Boudou became vice president in 2011 when Fernandez won reelection. But he was largely absent from public view during that term as accusations of corruption mounted against him.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC DHAKA VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC DHAKA VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14-1-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14-1-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL TRUST VOY. NO. (1802)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLPL TRUST VOY. NO. (1802) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14-1-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of BSW 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SIMA PERFECT VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SIMA PERFECT VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14-1-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT 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 GLODEN SEA**

Phone No: 2301185

Viet Nam files WTO complaint over US antidumping duties on seafood



US President Donald Trump (L) and Vietnamese President Tran Dai Quang (R) attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit in the central Vietnamese city of Danang on 11 November, 2017. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

GENEVA — Viet Nam filed a complaint with the World Trade Organization over US antidumping duties imposed on fish fillet imports, the organization said Friday, the latest brawl arising from US President Donald Trump's tougher position on trade.

US antidumping practices are inconsistent with WTO rules, Viet Nam claimed in a filing dated on 8 January, while requesting consultations with the

US government ahead of any move by the organization to establish a dispute settlement panel.

The latest issue comes after the WTO said earlier in the week that Canada recently requested similar consultations with the United States concerning its antidumping and countervailing trade procedures.

Antidumping is a protectionist tariff imposed on foreign imports deemed to be priced below fair market

value and below the price charged in the exporter's home market.

Seafood production is one of Viet Nam's major industries. The country's seafood exports in 2017 rose 19 per cent to \$8.3 billion from a year earlier and are forecast to grow to \$8.5 billion in 2018, according to the Viet Nam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers, or VASEP.

Exports to the United States slipped 2.9 per cent

in 2017 due partly to the antidumping duties, VASEP said. The European Union replaced the United States as the top importer of Vietnamese seafood last year, according to the association. However, the European Union warned Viet Nam in October about its "insufficient action to fight illegal fishing" and urged the country to take measures to rectify the situation or trade measures will be imposed.—Kyodo News ■

N Korea says work still left for Olympics after talks with IOC

BEIJING — North Korea's International Olympic Committee representative said on Saturday there is still work left to be done for the country's participation in next month's Winter Olympic Games in South Korea.

"There were things which went well and did not go well," Chang Ung said following his discussions of North Korea's plan to join the games with IOC President Thomas Bach and other officials in Switzerland.

Chang also told reporters at Beijing's international airport that "the IOC is likely to consider" South Korea's proposal to form a joint women's ice hockey team and the size of North Korea's delegation to be sent to Pyeongchang will be decided by its national Olympic committee.

The sole North Korean IOC member made the comments before flying back to Pyongyang after visiting Lausanne, where the IOC is headquartered.

The IOC is scheduled to convene a four-party

meeting on 20 January in the Swiss city, involving a delegation from the Pyeongchang 2018 Organizing Committee and high-ranking officials from the two Koreas, to decide on the participation of North Korean athletes, given that all the deadlines for registration have already passed.

Before the meeting, South Korea has proposed working-level talks with North Korea on Monday at the truce village of Panmunjeom.

During its first formal talks earlier this week with South Korea in more than two years, North Korea agreed to send a delegation, including athletes and cheerleaders, to the 9-25 February games.

All those developments have been taking place since North Korean leader Kim Jong Un struck a surprisingly conciliatory note on relations with South Korea in his New Year's address and expressed Pyongyang's willingness to join the Olympics.

—Kyodo News ■

Mongolia celebrates 26th anniversary of modern constitution

ULANBATOR — Mongolia on Saturday celebrated the 26th anniversary of the adoption of its modern constitution. Miyegombyn Enkhbold, chair of the State

Great Khural, Mongolia's unicameral parliament, and other members of parliament laid wreaths on the statue of Damdinii Sukhbaatar, a key figure in

Mongolia's struggle for independence. The celebrations also included traditional wrestling. Mongolia introduced its first constitution in 1924. The current

constitution, the fourth, was adopted on 13 January, 1992, marking dramatic political reforms and the transition into a democratic society.—Xinhua ■

Helicopter with 7 on board goes missing in India

NEW DELHI — A civilian helicopter with seven people on board went missing on Saturday, minutes after take-off from Juhu Airport in Indian city of Mumbai, officials said. The Pawan Hans helicopter carrying seven persons, five officials from oil and natural gas corporation (ONGC)

and two pilots, took off at 10:20 am local time and lost communication with the air traffic control (ATC) Mumbai after 15 minutes.

"The chopper suddenly lost contact with both the Mumbai ATC and ONGC," an official said.

According to officials, the chopper was thought

to be flying around 55 km off the Mumbai shoreline when it lost communication. The helicopter was flying to the ONGC's Bombay High oilfields, 175 km northwest from Mumbai, the capital of Maharashtra.

"Search for the missing civil helicopter is going on," a spokesman for the

Indian navy said.

Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited is a government of India owned company and provides chopper services for offshore operations, connecting inaccessible areas, VIP transportation, pilgrim services and promotion of tourism.—Xinhua ■

Trademark Caution

Apollo Towers Myanmar Limited, a company incorporated in Myanmar, having its registered address No (51), Sayar San Road, Sayar San Ward, Bahan Township, Yangon, has registered the following Trademark with No. 4/13511/2017 at the Office of Registration Deeds (Yangon) on 30 November, 2017. Apollo Towers Myanmar Limited is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

Apollo Towers Myanmar Limited



Registration No. 4/13511/2017

Apollo Towers Myanmar Limited shall use the above-mentioned trademark for the business of construction of telecommunication towers, lease to licensed telecommunication operators and several related businesses, in respect to the International Classification of Goods and Services: Class 37 "Building construction; repair; installation; services" and Class 38 "Telecommunications". Apollo Towers Myanmar Limited shall use the trademark in all sizes, colors and designs for related documents, signboards, blocks, advertisements, receipts, stamps, letterhead, internet, Facebook, E-mail, websites, etc. Fraudulent or unauthorized use or actual or colourable imitation of the mark by anyone without receiving permission from Apollo Towers Myanmar Limited shall be dealt with according to the existing laws.

Apollo Towers Myanmar Limited
No.(51), Sayarsan Road, Sayarsan Ward,
Bahan Township, Yangon, Myanmar

DiCaprio to star in Charles Manson-era Tarantino movie

LOS ANGELES — Leonardo DiCaprio will star in a movie set around the Charles Manson murders, Hollywood entertainment publications reported on Friday, but he will not play the role of the American cult leader.

DiCaprio will instead take the part of an aging, out-of-work actor in the as-yet untitled movie being produced and directed by Oscar-winner Quentin Tarantino, Variety and Deadline.com said.

Plot details have not been released but Tarantino said in November that it was not a biographical movie but a story set during the summer of 1969, when a string of gruesome killings in Southern California were carried out by Manson's followers.

Manson, one of the 20th century's most notorious criminals, died in November at the age of 83. He had been serving a life sentence for ordering the murders of nine people including actress Sharon Tate.

The Sony Pictures movie is to be released on 9 August, 2019, exactly 50 years after Tate and four friends were stabbed or shot dead. Deadline and Variety said



US actor Leonardo DiCaprio. PHOTO: REUTERS

that Australian actress Margot Robbie has been asked to play Sharon Tate. Tom Cruise, Brad Pitt and Al Pacino are also rumored to be interested, or are being sought, for the movie.

Sony Pictures, part of Sony Corp, did not return a request for comment on the casting.

The movie will be the first Tarantino film to be released

without the Weinstein Company following allegations by more than 70 women of sexual misconduct against its former chief executive Harvey Weinstein.

Weinstein, who has denied having non-consensual sex with anyone, was fired last November and his independent production company is currently up for sale. — Reuters ■

“Black Hogwarts” goes viral, wins JK Rowling’s love

BEIJING — The word “Black-Hogwarts” has become a trendy hashtag on Twitter in the last 12 hours as people are imagining all characters in Harry Potter series to be black players.

From Harry Potter, Hermione Granger to Dumbledore, from Professor Snape to Lord Voldemort, all the roles are played by famous black actors or actresses in Twitter users’ imagination, which are displayed in pictures and gifs posted on web.

According to one fan’s cast list, Caleb McLaughlin can be Potter while Yara Shahidi be Hermione. Another fan suggests Zoe Kravitz play Hermione and Morgan Freeman play Dumbledore.

Apart from the cast list, spe-

cific scenes and plots are reset by Harry Potter fans. Gifs showing simulated magic classes and featuring facial expressions relevant to the series are plauded and retweeted.

Quidditch game is among the most redesigned scenes. Some celebration of winning the game goes with black girls dancing during a mid-match, some with black youth shouting and laughing in joy. As people keep on adding personal imagination to make the magic world of Hogwarts black and funny, a fan asked Harry Potter’s creator, JK Rowling, whether she saw the hashtag.

The writer answered Friday on her tweet: “Seeing them and loving them.”—Xinhua ■

Actor Sudhir Dalvi gets Janakavi P Sawlaram award

HANE — Actor Sudhir Dalvi was honoured with the Janakavi P Sawlaram award at a function here. City mayor Meenakshi Shinde presented Dalvi a citation last night. The award is jointly given by the Thane Municipal Corporation and the Janakavi P Savlaram Kala Samiti. Well-known dancer Jaishree T was bestowed with

the Ganga Jamuna award, which is instituted in memory of a popular song written by Sawlaram. Dalvi first came to prominence for portraying Guru Vashishta in Ramanand Sagar’s TV series “Ramayan”. He also featured in the famous TV show “Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi” and other Hindi serials. —PTI ■

Japanese pop group chants cryptocurrency choruses

TOKYO — A Japanese pop group hopped on the bitcoin bandwagon on Friday, dedicating themselves to singing and dancing about the cryptocurrencies that have taken the world by storm, and especially their homeland.

In their debut, the eight “Virtual Currency Girls”, or Kasotsuka Shojo in Japanese, cavorted in maid costumes with frilly skirts and full-face professional wrestling-style masks with fuzzy pom-pom ears, extolling the virtues of decentralized digital currencies such as bitcoin.

“They’re so convenient you kind of have to wonder why we didn’t have them before,” said Rara Naruse, 18, the group’s leader. “We want everyone to learn more about them.”

Each group member adopted the guise of a different cryptocurrency, offering a brief self-introduction to 20 fans gathered at the venue in downtown Tokyo.

Then they launched into “The Moon, Cryptocurrencies and Me”, a stirring anthem in-

corporating lines such as “Be careful about your password! Don’t use the same one!” to warn against the dangers of trading cryptocurrency, and also more obscure ones, in English, such as “Hot day, forget myself, go to the moon.”

Naruse emphasized on the group’s website that it is not out to promote investment, but rather to teach people about cryptocurrencies in an entertaining way.

The maid costumes aimed to raise the group’s popularity with the use of a globally recognizable “uniform,” she added. Naturally, all merchandise sold at the venue is paid for in bitcoin, as are concert tickets and the members’ salaries.

“I know absolutely nothing about bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies, but I want to make sure I have some on hand for further concerts and to buy merchandise,” said fan Kensaku Nagao, 46.

Japan and South Korea are

home to some of the bigger digital exchanges, with investors piling in as growth in bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies soared

last year, provoking regulators’ concerns.

On Thursday, South Korea said it planned to ban cryptocur-

rency trading, sending bitcoin prices plummeting and throwing the virtual coin market into turmoil. — Reuters ■



Members of Japan’s idol group “Virtual Currency Girls” wearing cryptocurrency-themed masks pose after performing in their debut stage event in Tokyo, Japan on 12 January, 2018. PHOTO: REUTERS

Saudi women score right to watch men's soccer in stadiums

JEDDAH — Women in black abayas and fluorescent orange vests stood at the gates at King Abdullah Stadium, welcoming people into the family section that, for the first time in Saudi Arabia, allowed women to attend a men's soccer match.

As the two teams al-Ahli and al-Batin faced each other in the city of Jeddah, women showed up to their first public sporting event in the Kingdom to support the sides with their spouses, children and friends.

The General Sports Authority announced in October that stadiums in Jeddah, Dammam and Riyadh will be set up to accommodate families starting in 2018.

commodate families starting in 2018.

"Honestly this decision should have happened a long time ago," said Muneera al-Ghamdi, an attendee. "But thank god that it came in the right time, and hopefully what's to come will be even more beautiful for women."

The decision to allow women to attend a mixed public sporting event is one of many changes the country has undergone in recent months, hailed as proof of a new progressive trend in the deeply conservative Muslim Kingdom.

On Thursday, Jeddah held Saudi Arabia's first car exhibition aimed at women, a few months after Saudi Arabia announced it would grant them the right to drive.

A soccer match on Saturday in the capital Riyadh will also be welcoming women fans.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, 32, has been hailed as the face of these changes.

Many young Saudis regard his recent ascent to power as proof their generation is taking a central place in running a country whose patriarchal traditions have for decades made power the province of the old and blocked women's progress.

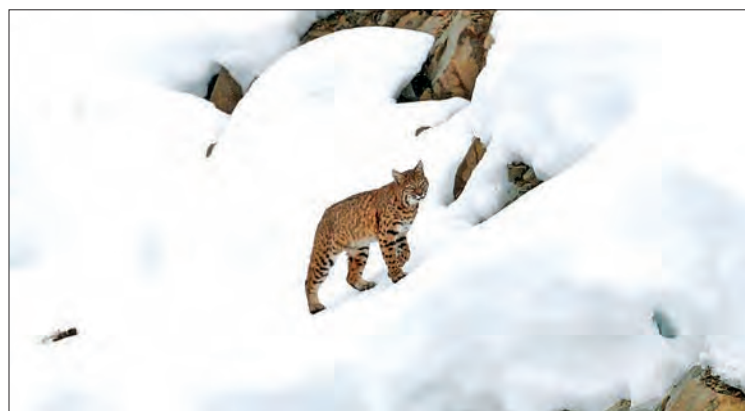
"Today the percentage of



A Saudi woman is seen during the soccer match between Al-Ahli against Al-Batin at the King Abdullah Sports City in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on 12 January, 2018. **PHOTO REUTERS**

those who participate in exercise and sports is only 13 percent," said Hayfaa al-Sabban, who heads a sport organisation.

"We aim god willing to raise it to 40 per cent by 2030, through several events, and today's is one of these events."—Reuters ■



A lynx climbs a hill after crossing the finish area during the first training run for the men's Downhill race of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics in Whistler, British Columbia on 10 February, 2010. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Canada lynx no longer threatened by extinction: US wildlife agency

PINEDALE, (Wyo) — The Canada lynx, a wild cat found in just a handful of mostly western US states as well as Canada, no longer needs federal protection from extinction in the Lower 48 states, US wildlife officials said on Thursday, sparking an outcry from conservationists.

The finding is one step in a process that will see the US Fish and Wildlife Service formally propose removing Canada lynx from the federal endangered and threatened species list. There is no timeline for when such a plan would be floated, agency spokeswoman Jennifer Strickland told Reuters in an email.

Conservationists said it was mystifying how the Trump administration determined the lynx has recovered and should be delisted since the Fish and Wildlife Service doesn't know how many

of the wild cats there are where they are protected in the Rocky Mountains and elsewhere.

Conservationists say stripping protections from Canada lynx, listed in 2000 in the Lower 48 states, would lead to its demise where it is found in parts of Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Montana and Washington. The lynx is not considered imperiled where it is found in Alaska or Canada.

"This spells disaster for lynx," Michael Garrity, head of Alliance for the Wild Rockies, said by telephone. The Montana-based Alliance is one of several conservation groups that have sued to force the Fish and Wildlife Service to broaden restrictions on activities such as logging, mining and snowmobiling where they take place on public lands and are likely to harm lynx. —Reuters ■

Ancient statues looted in Lebanese war returned decades later

BEIRUT — A marble bull's head made 2,400 years ago for a Phoenician temple and looted during Lebanon's civil war arrived in Beirut on Friday after American officials found it in the United States and sent it home.

The object — along with two partial statues that the United States is also returning — will be displayed in the National Museum in Beirut early next month, Lebanon's Culture Ministry said in a statement.

They were stolen from a storehouse in Byblos in 1981 at the height of Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war, as Christian and Muslim militias battled each other across much of the country.

In recent years, wars in Iraq and Lebanon's neighbor Syria

have laid waste their cultural heritage and created a huge market in looted antiquities, helping to fund the jihadist militants of Islamic State.

The Manhattan District Attorney's office in New York said last month it was returning the three statues to Lebanon and was forming an antiquities trafficking unit to stop the trade in looted artifacts.

The three pieces, all excavated during the 1960s and 1970s from the temple of Eshmoun in the port of Sidon and dating from between the fourth and sixth centuries BC, had been sold to private collectors in the United States. The bull's head was identified by a curator while on loan to the Metropolitan Museum of

Art as being among the antiquities stolen in Lebanon.

Located on the east coast of the Mediterranean, Lebanon was an important part of the classical world, home to the Phoenician civilization and part of the Persian and Roman empires. It has several major ancient sites. During the civil war, curators at its National Museum, which was located on a deadly front line, protected treasures that were not looted by sealing them up in the basement or encasing them in cement.

Others were located in other sites around Lebanon, including to Byblos, an ancient port town north of Beirut, where the three items returned on Friday were stolen. —Reuters ■



Workers unload boxes of artefacts at Beirut's International Airport, in Beirut, Lebanon on 12 January, 2018. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Magwe ties Myawady in 3rd match of MPT MNL 2018

Three matches, three draws. Magwe FC and Myawady FC played to a scoreless tie at Aung San Stadium in Yangon yesterday in the third match of the 2018 season of MPT Myanmar National League, the third straight goalless draw result in three matches.

Magwe lined up with goalkeeper and captain Kyaw Zin Phy, Win Moe Kyaw, Nanda Kyaw, Soe Min Aung, Soe Lwin Lwin, Maung Maung Soe, Kyaw Zin Lwin, Zaw Win Maung, Wai Phy, Aung Myint Tun and Myat Tun Thit.

Magwe is led by head coach U Aung Zaw Myo.

Myawady lined up with goalkeeper Aung Myo Htwe, Wai Yan Oo, Htet Wai Phy, Bar Nyar Oo, captain Ye Wai Yan Soe, Aung Thu, Thet Paing Ko, Thura Min Naing, Nyein Chan, Aung Thu Htet, and Kaung Zayar Phy.

Myawady is coached by U Zin Htoo.

Despite the scoreless result, the match was played with all-out efforts by both teams, but the indecision of the strikers was evident in yesterday's match and no goals resulted.

Although Myawady FC is a new or stepper team from MNL-2 to MNL-1, it played very well against its opponents.

In the first half, Magwe forced play with their speedy strikers, but Myawady had prepared their defence well and the offensive assault did not work for Magwe.

There were better goal opportunities for both teams in the second half.

The match became more exciting as time ticked down, with both teams trying to put the ball in the net, to no avail.—KyawZin Lin ■



Players from Myawady and Magwe vie for the ball at yesterday's match in Aung San Stadium, Yangon. **PHOTO:MNL**

KBZ Bank U-13 Girls Tournament quarterfinal matches today

The KBZ Bank U-13 Girls Tournament that began on 6 January is now down to eight teams. The eight teams representing their respective States and Regions will play today at the Field 1 and Field 2 of the artificial turf of the National Football Academy in Yangon.

The teams are Southern Shan State, Northern Shan State, Eastern Shan State, Taninthayi Region, Sagaing Region, Nay Pyi Taw, Ayeyawaddy, and Magwe Region. The Sagaing team will meet Magwe on Field

1, while Southern Shan will play Nay Pyi Taw on Field 2 in the morning. At 4 pm, Eastern Shan State will play Northern Shan State on Field 1, while Taninthayi will play against Ayeyawaddy on Field 2. The four winning teams will be step up to the semi-finals.

The tournament champion will be determined on 18 January. In the earlier group matches, four matches were played per day. All the matches are being played at the artificial turf of the National Football Academy in Yangon.—KyawZin Lin ■

Leicester sign Malian attacker Diabate from Gazelec Ajaccio

LONDON — Leicester City have signed Malian forward Fousseini Diabate from French Ligue 2 side Gazelec Ajaccio on a four-and-a-half-year deal for an undisclosed fee, the Premier League club announced on Saturday.

Diabate, who can operate as a central striker or on either wing, has played 20 times in all competitions for the French sec-

ond division club after joining them in the close season following two years with Guingamp.

The 22-year-old, who was a product of the Stade Rennais academy youth system and made his professional debut in December 2016, had represented Mali at the under-20 and under-23 level, Leicester said on their website (www.lcfc.com).—Reuters ■

Man City's Jesus set to return next month

LONDON — Manchester City striker Gabriel Jesus could return in two to three weeks after receiving treatment on his knee injury in Spain, manager Pep Guardiola said on Friday.

The 20-year-old, who has scored eight Premier League goals this season, suffered knee ligament damage in the goalless draw with Crystal

Palace as City's 18-match winning run came to an end on 31 December.

It was feared that Jesus could face up to two months on the sidelines but after a treatment session in Barcelona on Thursday, Guardiola is confident Jesus can play a part in the first leg of their Champions League last 16 tie against

Basel on 13 February. "Gabriel was in Barcelona with Dr (Ramon) Cugat and things are quite good," Guardiola told a news conference ahead of Sunday's league clash against Liverpool at Anfield.

"I think in two, three weeks hopefully for the Champions League game against Basel he could be fit."—Reuters ■



Manchester City's Gabriel Jesus. **PHOTO:REUTERS**

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

14 JANUARY 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

BEHIND THE SUCCESS



Nann Htet Hnin Htwe
1st M.B., B.S Student



SUCCESS means the achievement of aims or purposes. As there are various kinds of people, the conceptions about success are varied. For some people, success is having a lot of money or a comfortable life. For other people, achieving their ambitions and their targets or becoming what they want to be is their success. For most people, success is being able to work effectively and become the experts in their job. We sometimes say “She is a very successful doctor.”, “He is a very successful businessman.”

People always compliment and admire a successful person. In fact, if a person is successful, he will be well known for his success. Whatever the success is,

everyone wants to be successful in our life. So, “Have you ever thought of why you want to gain success in your life? Last week, I asked some youths between the ages of 20 to 25 why do they want to be successful. Some youths answered that they wanted to be well known and recognized by people. They thought if they were not successful, no one would respect them and they would be insulted. Some said that they wanted to show that they had abilities and talents. And then I asked those youths, “Is it easy to achieve success in your life?” They all said, “No.” It is not easy to live successfully. Even small cases cannot be accomplished successfully.

For example, consider your boss or

your managing director tells you to make a presentation about the project you are responsible for. And you have to present in front of your colleagues, your rivals and your employees. Would you do the best or do it just to finish? I think you all will do your best because you want to impress everyone. No one wants to be looked at by disdainful eyes. If your boss likes your presentation and the project you have done, you will probably be promoted. And your employees will respect you. You will be complimented by everyone in your work and you will be well known. It is a success for you. Presenting in front of people seems to be a small issue for some people. But to present confidently and to make the best, the information,

the arrangements, the knowledge and the ideas are necessary.

And you also need to practise to speak well in front of your colleagues. Sometimes you have to stay late at night. These are the things that you have to do before making your presentation the best. Of course, most of us want the best result when we start doing something. We have hopes and dreams for our future life. But although we try hard to get the best, we may face unexpected conditions such as failures, problems, difficulties and especially people’s criticism. In my opinion, people’s criticism is the most powerful obstacles that hinder us to reach our targets.

SEE PAGE S-8

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

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Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

Lesson 35 : Sentences (3) :Types of Statements

Hello Class !

We have studied that there are 4 different kinds of sentences such as :...

- (1) Statement
- (2) Question
- (3) Request and
- (4) Command.

Today, let's see how we can change from one Type of sentence to another type.

First, let's change the Affirmative Sentences into Negative Sentences.

For example, let's see (1) Statement and (2) Question.

For doing this, first of all we should know about the Verbs.

Concerning with the Verbs in sentences, there are two kinds of Verbs :

- (a) Verbs with one word and
- (b) Verbs with more than one word.

- e.g. (1) She is a pretty girl.
 (2) He was a bad guy.
 (3) The rose is red.
 (4) These leaves were green last week.
 (5) He eats very well.
 (6) She runs quickly.
 (7) Daphne sits quietly.
 (8) Mar Mar Aye sings sweetly.
 (9) She danced beautifully.
 All these are Verbs with one word.

But we can differentiate these as Verbs to be, Verbs to have and Action Verbs.

Verbs to be are ... am, is, are, was, were;

Verbs to have are.. has, have, had ;

And other Verbs that show the actions are Action Verbs.

So, if you want to change a sentence with Verb to be or Verb to have, it is very easy to do so by just changing the places of the Verbs.

And for Negative Sentences, we need just to put "not" after the Verbs.

- e.g. (1) She is a pretty girl.
 Neg. ...She is not a pretty girl.
 (2) He was a bad guy.
 Neg.He was not a bad guy.
 (3) The rose is red.
 Neg... The rose is not red.
 (4) These leaves were green last week.
 Neg... These leaves were not green last week.
 (5) I have a pretty bag.
 Neg... I have not a pretty bag.
 (6) They had a nice car last year.
 Neg... They had not a nice car last year.

So also, we can change very easily from Statement into Question by changing the places of these Verbs to be and Verbs to have. We can put all these Verbs to be and Verbs to have at the Beginning of the Sentences.

- e.g. (1) She is a pretty girl.
 Questions ... Is she a pretty girl?
 (2) He was a bad guy.
 Q.. Was he a bad guy?
 (3) The rose is red.
 Q... Is the rose red?
 (4) These leaves were green last week.
 Q... Were these leaves green last week.
 (5) I have a pretty bag.
 Q....Have I a pretty bag?
 (6) They had a nice car last year.
 Q... Had they a nice car last year?

Concerning with the Action Verbs, first of all, we should know the following nature of the Verbs.

For the Present Tense.. for example, we have

- (1) Sit, sits and
- (2) Sat for the Past Tense.

Here sit=do+sit
 sits=does +sit and
 sat=did +sit

So also it goes like that for other Verbs too such as

- (1) Stand=do+stand, Stands= does +stand ,
 Stood=did+stand
- (2) Go=do+go, goes= does+go, went=did+go
- (3) Sit=do+sit, sits=does+sit, sat=did+sit
- (4) Read =do+read, reads=does+read,
 read=did+read
- (5) Sing=do+sing, sings=does+sing, sang=did
 +sing

If you know this nature of the Verbs, we can just put "not" between these two parts to form the Negatives and Just to put the Subject between these two words to form into Questions.

- e.g. (1) He eats very well.
 Neg... He does not eat very well.
 Question. Does he eat very well?
 (2) She runs quickly.
 Neg...She does not run quickly.
 Q.Does she run quickly?
 (3) Daphne sits silently.
 Neg...Daphne does not sit silently.
 Q. ...Does Daphne sit silently?
 (4) Mar Mar Aye sings sweetly.
 Neg. ... Mar Mar Aye does not sing sweetly.
 Q.Does Mar Mar Aye sing sweetly.
 (5) She danced beautifully.
 Neg... She did not dance beautifully.
 Q Did she dance beautifully?

Please do not forget to put Question Marks (?) at the end of the Questions.

For Commands and Requests, we need to put "Do not" for the Commands and "Please do not" for Requests to change into Negatives.

We cannot change these commands and requests into Questions.

- e.g. (1) Please open the door.
 Neg...Please do not open the door.
 (2) Please sit silently.
 Neg... Please do not sit silently.
 (3) Walk past.
 Neg... Do not walk past.
 (4) Bring all your books here.
 Neg... Do not bring all your books here.

That's all for today Class !

We will study sentences with more different kinds of Verbs in the coming weeks.

And please do not forget that there are Questions starting with Question Words.

Now, here comes the Exercise.

Exercise 34.

I. Change the following sentences into Negatives.

- (a) Ma Ma has a pretty shawl.
- (b) Maung Maung likes singing.
- (c) These jasmines are sweet-smelling.
- (d) He wants to eat more cakes.
- (e) She reads a lot of books.
- (f) They play football.
- (g) My Birthday Cake is made of chocolates.
- (h) He works hard the whole year.
- (i) I have a pretty doll.
- (j) This sugar is sweet.

II. Change the sentences in No I. into Questions.

- III. (A) Change the sentences in No.I into Past Tense.
- (B) Change them into Negatives.
- (C) Change them into Questions.

IV. Change the followings into Negatives.

- (a) Please go away.
- (b) Please sing a song for me.
- (c) Please sit down here.
- (d) Please get out of the room.
- (e) Please eat more.
- (f) Go and get the flowers.
- (g) Get out of the way.
- (h) Stand straight.
- (i) Come into the room.
- (j) Eat quickly.

That's all for today Class !

Hope that you can do the Exercise well!

Bye Bye Class !

See you next week !

Your English Teacher (GNLM).

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

This week, I think it is no need to give you any answers for the last week's Exercise 33.

How to Attain Mental Health for Teachers (5)

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

Among the five points we have already discussed here under this heading, such as:

- (1) Well-paid Salary or Sufficient Salary,
- (2) Conditions of Security,
- (3) Fairness from the Upper-hands,
- (4) Enough Time and Conditions for Further Study and
- (5) Teachers' Opportunity for Further Study,

We have talked about the last point a lot.

It shows that if there are sound and reasonable conditions for further study, it will not difficult to encourage the teachers to go on studying and learning what is concerned with them and what will be sure for their future fortune for them.

Here, when we say about the teachers' future fortune, it comes to concern with their promotions and transfers.

(6) Promotions and Transfers for Teachers

For this topic, the most important thing is "Fairness" and "Understanding" by the Authority concerned.

Even, in this week's meeting of the Pyidaungzu Minister of Education with the M.Ed. graduates in Nay Pyi Taw, when the graduates asked the Minister about some teachers' promotion (e.g. about an M.Ed. graduate still being a JAT, without getting any promotion seven years after her holding M.Ed. degree, while other newly B.Ed. graduates gets promotion as SATs, the Minister did not know what had happened really in this case.

So, in giving promotions and transfers fair and square, the Authority needs to have well-planned policies. And also important is to follow these policies without any corruptions or briberies.

What we should consider again is about the efficiency of the teachers, their services, their further studies, their certificates in Education and their degrees they have attained, how long they were in the same place and so on.

Here in this case, the conditions are quite different between Higher Education Universities and Colleges and the Basic Education Schools (all Primary, Middle and High Schools) and regions whether these are in peace or in battle areas. The civil wars still continuing in our country and the insecure regions and conditions in the place where the schools are, speaks more.

For these conditions, some wants to go to faraway places for their promotions, but others do not. It mainly depends on whether the teacher is a male or a female and whether he or she is single or married. Young male single teachers who are so eager to face risks and adventures, decide to go to anywhere they can get jobs and promotions. At the same time, young



single female teachers are not allowed by their parents to go to such areas full of risks. So, it is natural that they will not get promotions as fast as the males.

So also, all single female teachers whether they are young or old, will not take risk for their promotions to go to such kind of insecure regions. None of their families (may be parents or siblings) will not allow them to do so. They will be quite satisfied with their ranks in the schools near their homes. It is so natural and usual in our traditions and culture.

And for the married teachers, both males and females also do not want to go to such kind of areas for any promotion. For the married female teachers, they have more duties for their own families especially for the children and for the old parents, they do not want to go to far away places for ranks and promotions. Also for the male married teachers, they have the responsibility for their own families, so they also want to stay peacefully with their own families. They also try to stay in places where they can have good Education for their own children. But, when children grow up nicely, they can receive the promotions to higher ranks again, but female married teachers never for they have more and more responsibilities for their grown-up children.

Even for promotions, their nature are like that, so for transfers there are more and more complicated problems and demands by the side of the teachers and also more and more rigid (sometimes

even cruel) demands by the authority concern.

The author have a lot of experiences and cases concerning with transfers. Even in the Higher Education Universities and Colleges, we have a lot of difficulties for this transfer policies.

For example, we have to give transfers to some teachers to the Mandalay Institute of Education when it was first opened in the year 1992. When getting transfer orders, some teachers can go there to stay for a year or two, but others do not. When a mother teacher had to go for transfer to Mandalay, there were a lot of problems in their families. Especially when they are married and have children both young and old, it is a great risk for them whether to go on transfer to Mandalay for some one or two years and come back after these years or whether they will let lose the job they have already worked for some years. They have to do a lot of preparations among their own families when they decide to go on transfer. For mothers of young children, if they have their own mother or aunt to look after their children, they decided to go, but there were many changes in their own families, such as young children are sent to their Grannies' home, older children to go along with the mother teacher and they have to get out of their schools and will be placed in new schools in the new places. It is a lot of nuisance to the children both young and old.

So, when the mother decides to give

priority to their children, she gets out from work, to stay together with their own family. It means a great loss to the departments or to schools where they work and where they are transferred to work. Sometimes, just because of these transfers, there are problems among the husbands and wives such as adultery problems.

For these great losses, teachers especially married teachers do not want to go on transfers to far away places from their homes.

It also happened to go on transfer or to accept promotions again when all these teachers become older whether they are married or single, males or females.

So, all these are the causes that will influence the Mental Health of teachers, the Authority concern should have fixed or well-planned policies of transfers and promotions without any biasness and corruptions.

The author hopes that when our country becomes the Democratic Federal Union of Myanmar, there can be Ministers of Education for every State and Division and if we have enough educated young men and women who care about their own State and Division, all these cases can be done only among the respectable State and Division, then only all these problems can vanish away.

Always hoping for the better!

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



Tourists take a boat trip as they visit Inle Lake in Nyaung Shwe.
PHOTO: CHANTHAR (MEIKHTILA)



The train between the former colonial hill station of Kalaw and Shwenyaung.
PHOTO: MYAT THANDAR MAUNG



PHOTO: CHANTHAR (MEIKHTILA)

A Yangonite's guide to visiting Kalaw and Nyaung Shwe in southern Shan State

By Sandra Aung

For those who have never ventured beyond Yangon, Mandalay and Bagan, Kalaw will look and feel very different.

For one thing, Kalaw is cold compared to much of the rest of the country because it sits about 3,500 feet above sea level. It's a small, hilly town about 70 miles north-east of Mandalay that enjoys cool breezes coming from across the blue western Shan mountain ranges that loom on the horizon.

Its climate makes it popular as a summer resort for people from across the country and abroad who wish to escape the oppressive hot weather in the summer months.

The trip from Yangon to Kalaw by the Mandalay bus costs Ks18,000 per person. The bus leaves from the Yangon Express highway terminal at about 7:30 pm, arriving at Kalaw about 4am the next day. Bus tickets can be bought at Aung San football stadium. A JJ Express ticket may cost

a little more for better amenities such as nice seats.

There is regular Yangon-Heho and Heho-Yangon flight service by Air KBZ and Myanmar National Airlines (MNA). A plane ticket on Air KBZ costs around US\$40 (Ks54,030), while the fare on MNA is Ks35,000 per head. They can be bought from New Motion Travel and Tour in advance. Flying time is about one hour and five minutes.

It will take about one hour for trips to Kalaw, Nyaung Shwe and Taunggyi by bus from Heho. In Kalaw it is easy to hire buses and taxis and take local tours of the surrounding areas, which the hotel can help arrange if informed in advance. If you want to have meals at the well-known 7-Sister restaurant on Union Highway, you also have to book a table in advance. Walk-in diners are not accepted.

For lunch, the Napali Everest restaurant in Aung Chan Thar Street is recommended. Chicken curry and yogurt are very good and tasty. Other delicious favour-



Tourists enjoy folk music and dance performed by local ethnic people in Kalaw. **PHOTO: CHANTHAR (MEIKHTILA)**

ites are the pickled tea salad at the Buddha Image restaurant made of bamboo strips, and the sticky rice cooked in a green bamboo tube at the western gate of the Kalaw market.

In the Kalaw morning market, all kinds of traditional Shan food is available at food stalls, including the popular fried bean curd (tofu). On a recent visit, Yangon-thu (literally, the women from

Yangon) are jostling with one another to have the opportunity to taste the local delicacies. For fans of breakfast, the pancakes on the breakfast menus of Kalaw hotels are the best I have ever eaten in my life. You can read many online reviews of tourists raving about the famous flapjacks.

We stayed at the Dream Villa hotel on Pahtila street in Kalaw. A double room costs US\$50 a night, and the hostesses are very hospitable. Buffet is not available for breakfast, so you have to order from the menu.

There is such a wide variety of foods in Kalaw that you can't possibly eat them all in one visit. But that doesn't mean you shouldn't try.

For the trip from Kalaw to Nyaung Shwe, we rented a car for Ks50,000, with 4 stops for photo taking on the way. The trip and rental was arranged by the Kalaw hotel. In Nyaung Shwe, we lodged at Hotel Mile Li in the Mile Li quarter. The rooms are wide, spacious, beautiful and

clean. Welcome drinks and other necessities were provided. A breakfast buffet is served and is very satisfactory. Just a 5-minute walk from the hotel will bring you to Yone-gyi Street, where there are good restaurants and shops.

In Nyaung Shwe, food does not cost very much. For Ks2500 you can eat a big lunch, and for dinner the bill for four persons at the excellent Chinese restaurant came to only Ks8,000. The vegetables are very fresh, and the cauliflower is the tastiest of all.

In hiring motorboats, you have to bargain hard, starting at half the price initially quoted. For the proper pagoda experience, you must buy gold leaf to apply on the Buddha images. Buy good-quality gold leaf - cheaper gold leaf does not stick to the Buddha images due to the poor quality.

It will take about 30 minutes to go by car to Mine Thok Bridge and Mingalar Lake. The barbecued fish was reputed to be very good, but I did not have the chance to sample it, as there

were too many people queuing up to buy it.

The Red Mountain Vineyard is an ideal place for taking photos. A car rental for the trip from Nyaung Shwe to Heho is Ks25,000 per head. Motorways stretching all the way from Kalaw and Aungban to Nyaung Shwe are being improved and expanded, and it is obvious that the regional economy is booming.

Kalaw is a small town, but it boasts 70 hotels. With the experience they have gained in tourism over the years, their services are better than those of hotels in other foreign countries. If the side-walks are improved and the town gardens are enhanced, Kalaw will become even more enjoyable and famous.

It is said that the economy of Heho has grown since 2006. With the increases in the number of flights in and out of the town, it has expanded in all directions and its population has risen accordingly.

Nyaung Shwe looks like the new Bagan and Thande rolled

into one, which foreigners seem to enjoy. The names of all shops on signboards are written in English, but the prices remain low compared to Ngapali, the famous beach resort in Rakhine State. Every compound has orchids, which will be in bloom if you are lucky. There is good shopping to be had in the Nyaung Shwe bazaar. They do not jack up the prices if you're a foreigner, I have noticed. If you want to buy tea, they will recommend that you buy the excellent tea produced in the Sin Mee region.

At the present time, yellow flowers called "Panama Cassia" (Panama Ngu) are in bloom all the way from Kalaw to Nyaung Shwe. Especially around Heho, this is a very beautiful sight to behold.

I will never forget the stunning blue mountain ranges stretching as far as the eye can see. I looked at them as often as I could so I could more easily recall the scenes for ease of mind whenever I find myself stuck in the traffic back in Yangon.

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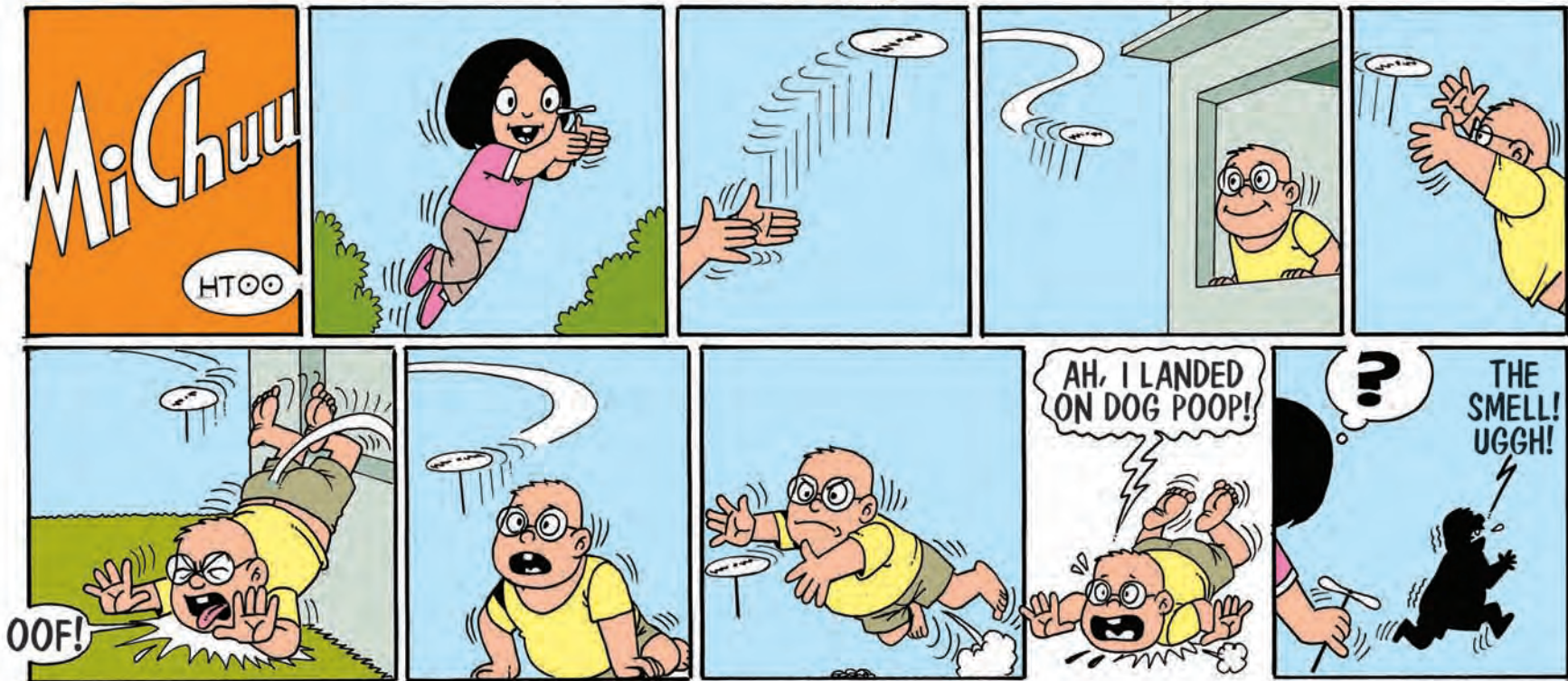
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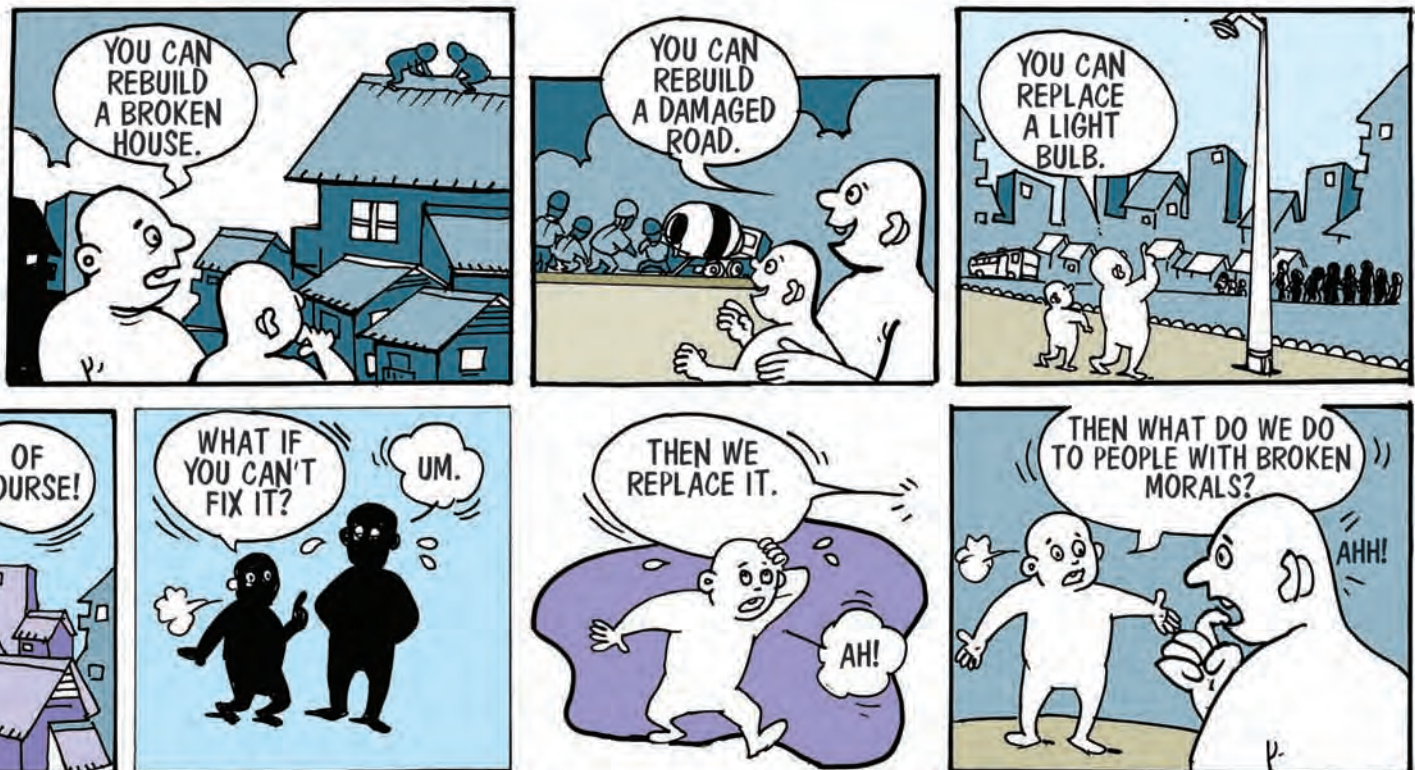
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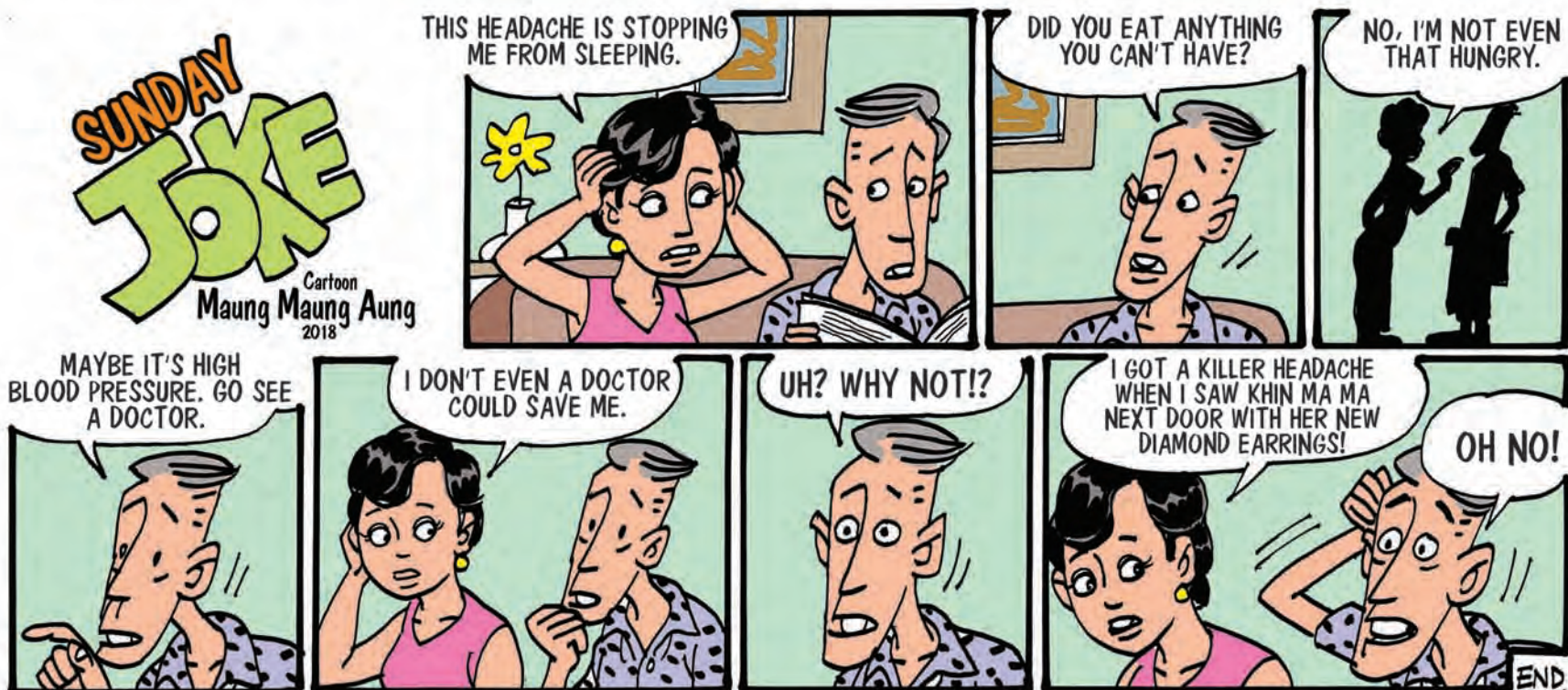
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2018



Kachin State sees rosy picture for tourism

By Kyaw Lin (Construction)
&GNLM

MYANMAR is a beautiful country adorns with natural features such as mountain ranges, rivers of different size and shape, huge natural lakes and wet lands with sorts of migrated birds, tropical forests replete with trees of valuable wood, rich fauna and flora and fertile plains home of different seasonal crops.

Khakaborazi Wildlife Sanctuary in Kachin State was included in the seven nomination list for the registration in World Heritage List

Access to Khakaborazi by road

The 34 miles long road linking Nawngmum and Panandin is expected to complete in March, 2018. Meanwhile, Ministry of Border Affairs and Tatmadaw engineers are planning to construct a road from Pannandin to the foot of Khakaborazi mountain range. Once the axis of the road is completed, the Ministry of Construction will upgrade the road.

With the inauguration of the Yat Bwat Bridge on the Kasankha River near Nawngmum, local people in Putao can enjoy easy access to Nawngmum.

"In the past, it took three days from Putao to Nawngmum of foot. But, today, the trip between Putao and Nawngmum is a day-return trip," a local people said.

Snow-capped Khakaborazi

Khakaborazi region includes Khakaborazi Mountain, Hponkan Razi National Park and Sourthern extension of Khakaborazi National Park that all are situated in Putao District of Kachin State.

A prominent botanist, Mr. Kingdom Ward wrote a book under the name "Myanmar's Ice Mountains" in which he described the fact that a survey team led by Mr. Petta was the very first person who had discovered the Khakaborazi and could have surveyed it. In 1955 Yein Nwe Par Sit Tagun (Yein New Pa Military Roving Group) led by colonel Saw Myint made an official long journey of exploration study around the China-Myanmar border area. In that journey when they got to Pandin village,



Snow-capped Khakaborazi in Putao District, Kachin State.



Myitkyina-Putao-Sumprabum Road being upgraded in Kachin State.

they inquired the local hunter and sherpas about the Khakaborazi, the highest mountain in Myanmar that was locally called Ahtan Bwan Mountain. They got the information on the location of the summit of the mountain and the way to it.

In 1956 Yein Nwe Par had climbed the ice-capped highest mountain of Myanmar with the help of the local guides and hunters and they could have reached the point of 12000ft. defeating many snags and obstacles. After the country's independence the Yein Nwe Par group including exclusively Myanmar citizens was the first team that could find the 20,000 ft high Khakaborazi mountain and they were the first climbers reaching altitude of 12000 ft. of an ice-capped virgin mountain. Another 40 years later in August 1996 Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Association sponsored the mountaineering trip of a prominent Japanese mountaineer who had many experiences of climbing mountain all over the world and a Myanmar citizen Nama Johnsen



Birds soar near a visitor boat in Indawgyi lake in Mohnyin, Kachin State, which is to be preserved. PHOTO: SHWE MYANMAR

of Tahoudan village. The two climbers had accomplished the task and reached the top of the mountain. Khakaborazi is the highest mountain in Asia and situated in the north-western part of Myanmar near the border of Tibet and Myanmar. Khakaborazi is the part of Himalaya Mountain Range with height of 5881 meters (19296 ft., 19314 ft. in some records). Khakaborazi is located between 28 degree 18 minutes North Latitude and 97 degree and 32 minutes East Longitude, 80 miles away in the north-west of Machanbaw which is only 2 miles away from Myanmar-Tibet border.

Out of 7 wild life sanctuaries,

if Khakaborazi becomes listed in UNESCO's Natural World Heritage, much more foreign tourists as well as local people will be attracted to visit the place. Nature-based tourism will also attain a quick development and as a consequence the socio-economic condition of the people of that area will get boosted within a short period. Local handicraft, hospitality business and related job opportunities will also be promoted. We, Myanmar people, should take pride in having those invaluable natural heritages in our country and safeguard those heritages from destructive environmental impacts.

Today, a road to the foot of

the Khakaborazi will emerge this year. Once the road is completed, Khakaborazi would be a destination for local and foreign tourists.

Indawgyi Lake

Indawgyi Lake of Kachin State in northern Myanmar is the country's largest freshwater lake, the third largest in South-east Asia and home to more than 160 birds species, including globally threatened water birds, according to Myanmar Tourism Federation.

More than 450 bird species, including 20,000 migratory birds, call the lake home between October and April, according to the Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary. Twenty of those species are considered rare or endangered.

UNESCO designated Indawgyi Lake as a Man and Biosphere Reserve (MAB), among the non-governmental organisation's global network of 669 reserves, on 12-15 June at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris, France. Prior to the UNESCO designation, the lake was an ASEAN Heritage Park due to its ecological importance. It was also designated as a Ramsar Site in early 2016 due to its unique bird population and wetlands.

Indawgyi Lake becomes one of Myanmar's ecotourism destinations. Visitors explore the area by boat or on hikes or bikes.



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

What do you know about yourself? "I know everything". That's what everyone says but there are many strange things all don't know. The question "Where do you come from?" can be answered in many different ways. Everyone says, "I come from my mother's tummy but, before that, where did you come from?" No one knows the exact answer to this question.

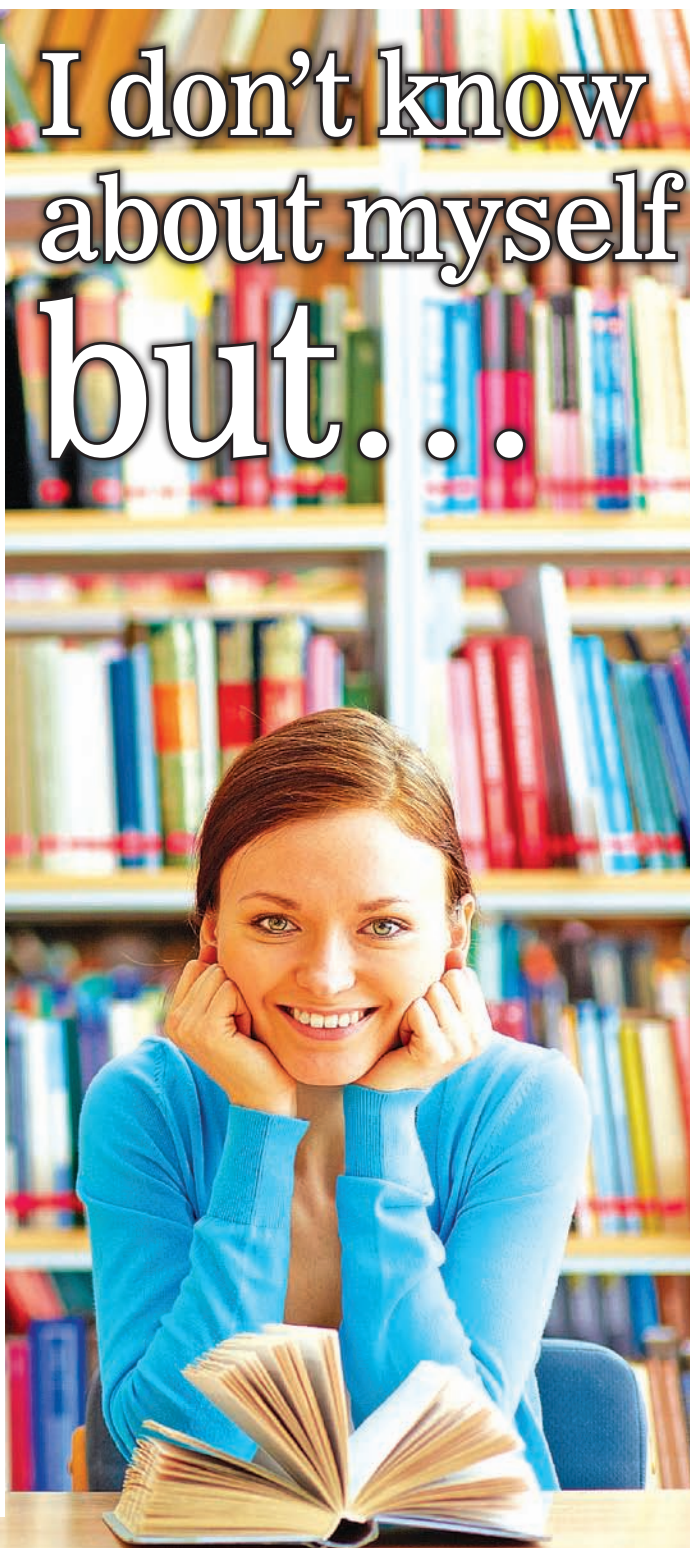
Each religion believes on the origin of life in different ways. People might also ask about "What will you do when you grow old?" and you may reply about what you like to do and you believe that it will come true. No, you cannot exactly see the future. Event though you say you know everything, you actually know nothing except general things such as names of people, age, where you live and how to look at the map. But once you look into it more deeply, you actually know nothing about yourself.

The reason why you actually know nothing about yourself is that the 'belief' you hold cannot come true because every culture has different beliefs originated, or started, and etc. about their life. You will be able to answer all the questions. But, when you consider about them carefully it cannot be the really exact answer. I can't enjoy myself to answer like this.

In the same way, we can't definitely know what I'll become ten years later, five years later or even a few hours later. And I am not sure that I can fulfill my aim.

Whether I know exactly about myself or not, I must try to become a good student. Then, it is my duty to become an outstanding person. It is my task to support my parents when they become old and feeble. As needed, I will have to help friends and relatives. And, I have great responsibility to serve Mother country in a certain field as possible as I can. I have decided to do so even though I don't know exactly about myself.

I don't know about myself but...



Time



Without being invited, it appears
Without being driven out, it disappears;

It moves forward without hesitation
It bids farewell without destination;

It values much if we care a lot
It lasts long if we care not;

Wherever, whenever, however
It survives to support us forever;

No taste, no smell, no figure
Unseen, unknown, we cannot discover;

But, it records the everlasting history
It also reviews the true events of mystery;

Whoever always remembers it in all space
Whomever it always embraces in any place.



Shwe Kyay Mone, M.A. (YUFL)

Behind the success

FROM PAGE S-1

Most of us cannot endure the words of people. If some people or our friends say that the things we were doing would be a disaster, most of us want to stop doing the things thinking that the efforts we had used and the time we had spent are all in vain. Also, we become depressed and afraid to try some more things. This is the effect of people's criticism. Besides, some people criticize what we are doing because they don't want us to be better than them. In other words, they are jealous of us. Some criticize us because they are not able to understand what we are doing.

When people criticize us, we just have to ignore those people or otherwise we will be victims of those people's words. No matter what happened, we must understand that behind every successful man, there are lots of failures. Most of the famous people like Jack Ma, J.K. Rowling, Nelson Mandela, and Daw Aung San Su Kyi had faced over hundreds of failures

and stress before they got their targets and ambitions. Also, they will keep trying to get more and bigger success and they may face more failures. There is a song of local famous singer Eaint Chit.

The title is "Behind the Success." It was written that everyone thought that she was happy all the time, smiling every day as she was successful and rich. But behind the smiling face, she was very depressed. Because although she was a very successful singer, she was criticized and insulted by some people who dislike her or maybe who are jealous of her. Before she succeeded she was also looked at by disdainful eyes. But she ignored everything that hinder her from being successful. She kept trying and giving the best performance and entertainment to those who love and admire her. This was a very good song. It is not only about a singer's life but also for every successful person's life.

For me, I also had so many difficulties and failures although I am not well known or successful. Sometimes,

my dreams and the results are very different. I had faced so many unexpected fortunes. And it was not only one time that I was failed. I failed for several times. Sometimes, I lost my patience thinking I was a stupid, idiot wasting time on big dreams. Sometimes, I didn't want to try anymore and just wanted to stay at home. But I thought again and again, if I gave up right now, my life would stop right now. And I read a book about famous and successful people.

When I knew that all famous and successful people had their own difficulties and so many failures before they became successful, I was motivated and tried again without idling hoping to be the best. I still had hopes. And I also become to understand that "At first, people will ask why you are doing it and then when we are successful, they will ask how we did it." I would like to express some quotes about success.

"Winners are not people who never fail but people who never quit."

"Failure defeats losers, and inspires

winners."

"To succeed in life, you need two things: ignorance and confidence."

"I do because I can. I can because I want to. I want because you said I couldn't."

"Patience is a key element to success."

These words motivate me. We had passed the year 2017. Some people may do resolutions such as taking exercises, breaking bad habits and so on. These are good resolutions. New year, New life. But, what is same is that we will face challenges, difficulties, problems and hard times just as we had faced in 2017. Also, there will be unforgettable memories, happy times and great success. We must learn lessons from the last year and never give up remembering that "Success do not come to us. We go to it." To conclude, we must know that behind every success, there are failures, depressions, conflicts and sorrows. So, every time you fail, remember that you are almost to your success.