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SUNDAY SPECIAL



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Water from Khabaung diversion dam is benefiting local farmers to grow crops. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Myanmar-Bangladesh hold Ministers of Home Affairs meeting

UNION Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, along with officials who were visiting the People's Republic of Bangladesh, called upon Bangladesh President Hon. Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid at the official residence of the President of Bangladesh on the evening of 15 February to discuss the aim of the visit, which included affirming and increasing bilateral friendship and resolving border affairs in a friendly manner.

Later, the Myanmar-Bangladesh Home Ministers meeting for cooperation on bilateral security and law enforcement was held at the Bangladesh Ministry of Home Affairs in Dhaka yesterday evening.

The meeting was attended by 15 members of the Myanmar delegation, led by Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, along with Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh U Lwin Oo, Ministry of Home Affairs Permanent Secretary U Tin Myint, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary U Myint Thu, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Aung Win Oo and high ranking officials.

SEE PAGE-2

VP U Myint Swe inspects Bago Region power station and dam

VICE President U Myint Swe yesterday morning inspected the Khabaung diversion dam, the reservoir and hydro power plant and the status of greening projects in Bago Yoma.

U Myint Swe, accompanied by Bago Region Minister for natural resources and environment

Dr. Saw Nyo Win, arrived at the Khabaung diversion dam in Ottwin Township at 7:30 a.m. and observed the distribution of irrigation water from the dam through distribution canals.

From there, the Vice President went to Khabaung res-

ervoir and observed the storage of water in the reservoir from the briefing hall, where the storage capacity of the Khabaung reservoir, rainfall, water inflow, water distribution for irrigation, location and type of dam, construction status of overflow and diversion

dam, hydro-electric power generated and total acres annually provided with irrigation water were explained by Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department Director General U Kyaw Myint Hlaing.

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Myanmar-Bangladesh hold Ministers of Home Affairs meeting

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Eighteen representatives from Bangladesh were led by H.E. Mr. Asaduzzaman Kahn MP, Minister of Home Affairs, along with Mr. Mostafa Kamal Uddini, Secretary, Public Security Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Mr. Farid Uddin Ahmed Chowdhury, Secretary, Security Services Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Rear Admiral (Retd.) Md. Khurshed Alam, BN, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other high ranking officials.

During the meeting, matters relating to increasing work on border security and stability, combatting the illegal transport of drugs, sending back displaced persons from Bangladesh to Myanmar, increasing understanding and cooperation on security along the border of the two countries, terrorism and cross border crimes, and cooperation in combatting crimes occurring along the river border of the two countries were discussed, and the following was agreed upon.



Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe meets with Bangladesh President Hon. Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid at the official residence of the President of Bangladesh. **PHOTO: MNA**

- (a) According to the Memorandum of Understanding on security sector discussions and cooperation, arrangements are to be made for regular meetings between authorized officials.
- (b) Preparations for Deputy Minister/Secretary level annual meetings are to be set and, if necessary, a

minister level meeting is also to be held.

- (c) To increase mutual understanding and cooperation, meetings between the Bangladesh Border Guard Force and Myanmar Border Police Force at different levels and sectors are to be continued.
- (d) Liaison officers are to be assigned at basic, inter-

mediate, central/top levels for mutual coordination, communications and exchanges of news.

- (e) Exchanges between cultural and sports groups are to be scheduled, along with conducting the readings of papers, training programs and study tours to establish cooperation.
- (f) The quick setup of liaison offices is to be implemented for bilateral security and the rule of law in Maung-taw on the Myanmar side, and at Cox Bazar on the Bangladesh side.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Bangladesh passed along a list of 8,032 people from 1,673 families to Myanmar for assessment, prior to returning them. Myanmar also urged Bangladesh to investigate and provide information about the list of terrorists and criminals belonging to the ARSA terrorist group, which had been previously sent to Bangladesh. — MNA ■

Exchange of messages between Union Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and Russian Federation

On the occasion of the Seventieth Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Russian Federation on 18 February 2018, the messages of felicitations were exchanged between H.E. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and H.E. Mr. Segey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. — Myanmar News Agency

Hanthawaddy U Ohn Kyaing elected Myanmar Press Council Vice Chairman (1)



Hanthawaddy U Ohn Kyaing (Middle) elected as Myanmar Press Council's Vice Chairman (1). **PHOTO: KYAW SWAR**

HANTHAWADDY U Ohn Kyaing was elected the Myanmar Press Council's Vice Chairman (1), following an election held on 16 February at the Myanmar Press Council Office in Yangon.

Former Vice Chairman (1) U Aung Hla Tun was appointed as Deputy Minister for Information, and the vacant Vice Chairman (1) position was filled following a voting system by the Myanmar Press Council members.

“We are doing our best for the proper establishment of the fourth pillar. We will also strive toward the media's right to write

freely,” said Hanthawaddy U Ohn Kyaing.

Sayagyi Hanthawaddy U Ohn Kyaing began his journalism career as a reporter for the Hanthawaddy Daily in 1945, and later went on to become an editor. He was the chair of the Myanmar press paper reading session organizing committee and worked with the Myanmar Journalists Association.

Sayagyi Hanthawaddy U Ohn Kyain was also presented with the Hero of Journalist Award at the fifth Myanmar National Press Awards. — Kyaw Swar ■

Buddha consecration ceremony of Shwedagon Pagoda, religious title conferring ceremony held

THE board of Trustees of Shwedagon Pagoda organised the Buddha consecration ceremony of Shwedagon Pagoda and a ceremony to confer religious titles to monks who passed the 100th Cetiyingana Pariyati Dhamma Nogaha examination at designated places on the Shwedagon Pagoda platform yesterday morning.

The Board of Trustees of Shwedagon Pagoda and Buddhist societies first offered food, flowers, water, fruits and light in the Guest Pavilion (Tazaung) on the southern part of the pagoda platform.

The monks, led by the venerable elder monks of Shwedagon Pagoda, then consecrated the Shwedagon Pagoda on the pagoda platform and the pagoda's upper platform.

Next, the religious ceremony to confer titles to the monks was conducted with the monks, the board of trustees, Buddhist societies and the kin of the monks, by going around the pagoda in a clockwise direction and then gathering at the Chanthagyi Pavilion (Tazaung) at the



Member of Board of Trustees of Shwedagon Pagoda confers religious certificate to the monk who passed the examination. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Rahu Corner of the Shwedagon Pagoda. U Tin Oo, central organizing committee chair of the religious ceremony, then read the Guna Mingala paper.

Following this, the pagoda board of trustees, Buddhist societies, donors and kin of the monks who passed the exam received five precepts from the Sayadaw Agga Maha Gandavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Pavara Bhivamsa of Nyaungdon Pali Takkatho Monastery

in Bahan Township.

The pagoda board of trustees then conferred religious certificates to the seven monks who passed the examination, after which they, along with the donors, presented offerings to the Sayadaws and Sanghadaws.

From the first to the 100th Cetiyingana Pariyati Dhamma Nogaha examination, a total of 1,254 monks have passed the examination, it is learnt. — Ko Ko Zaw ■



Vice President U Myint Swe inspects the commercial teak plantation of Phyto Sithu Trading Company Limited in Bago Region. **PHOTO: MNA**



Vice President U Myint Swe and party visit the Khabaung hydro-power plant and observe the status of installing machineries, electric power generation and distribution. **PHOTO: MNA**

VP U Myint Swe inspects Bago region power station and dam



Vice President U Myint Swe hands over a set of solar panels to the villagers of Shwetaung Ngwetaung Village, Khabaung Village and Border Village. **PHOTO: MNA**



Vice President inspects the Bago Yoma Eco Resort of Phyto Sithu Trading Company Limited in Bago Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-1

The location of the power plant, power generation capacity, annual power generated and maintenance status of the machinery was explained by Chief Engineer Dr. Maung Maung Kyaw of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy.

The Vice President gave instructions about the need to organize the local farmers to utilize the irrigation water effectively and plant economically profitable crops, put in place preventive measures against natural disasters and prevent wastage of electric power.

Distribution canals in the Khabaung reservoir are 100 per cent complete, and varieties of peas and plants are being planted in 53,286 acres with the water from the reservoir.

The Vice President then toured the Khabaung hydro-power plant and observed

the status of installing machineries, electric power generation and distribution.

Afterwards, the Vice President arrived at the 1,000 acre commercial teak plantation of the Forest Department at 97-mile post of Ottwin-Khabaung Road, where Bago Region Director U Zaw Win Myint gave a briefing about the teak plantation.

The Vice President commented on starting an eco-tourism business during the time when wood production from Bago Yoma ends and to strive towards achieving the national forest coverage average of 43 per cent as Bago Yoma's forest coverage was only 23.6 per cent.

After this, the Vice President and party arrived at the viewing area at mile post 57/6 and observed the greening of the surrounding area. At mile post 43/2, the Vice President

and party inspected the commercial teak plantation of Phyto Sithu Trading Company Limited.

At mile post 42/6, the Vice President inspected the Bago Yoma Eco Resort of Phyto Sithu Trading Company Limited. The Bago Yoma Eco Resort is the first eco resort to be built in Bago Yoma, it is learnt.

The Vice President and Bago Region Minister for Natural Resources and Environment Dr. Saw Nyo Win then handed over five sets of solar lamps to the Bago Yoma villages of Shwetaung Ngwetaung Village, Khabaung Village and Border Village, which were accepted by local representatives.

The solar lamps were donated by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■

MRTV and 5 content providers sign cooperation agreement

THE Ministry of Information's Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV), along with five content providers of digital free-to-air television channels, signed a cooperation agreement at a ceremony held at MRTV Studio A, Pyay Road, Yangon yesterday afternoon.

In his opening speech at the ceremony, the Union Minister for Information said the main duty of the Ministry of Information is to provide information, education and entertainment to the public.

This duty, however, is not performed by the Ministry of

Information alone, but in cooperation with international media, as well. At the Ministry of Information, this duty is performed by MRTV and the News and Periodicals Enterprise.

While the ministry carries out its responsibilities with these two departments, it also has the duty to develop the private media sector.

Private media not only provides information, but also educates and entertains. But as private media, including the five content providers that came into existence, they allow the public to obtain more com-

plete information and facts.

As for entertainment, the programming will become more interesting as these media develop, and the knowledge and entertainment the public receives will increase.

In turn, it will benefit the country's development. It is with this vision that arrangements were made to permit five television channels or five content providers.

A broadcasting council is to be formed after the broadcasting law is amended and related rules are enacted.

SEE PAGE-11



A signing cooperation agreement ceremony between MRTV and five digital free-to-air television channels held in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

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YCDC to upgrade 14 alleys behind buildings in Lanmadaw Township next FY

THE Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) will upgrade 14 alleys behind buildings in Lanmadaw Township in downtown Yangon during the next fiscal year, according to a Saturday report in the Myawady Daily.

Meanwhile, seven alleys in the same township have been paved with concrete by the committee, with the use of regional budgets for the 2017-2018 finan-

cial year, said a spokesperson of the township administrative office, YCDC.

Additionally, plans are underway to improve some 14 alleys behind buildings in the township beginning this October, according to city authorities.

The development committee continues to remove rubbish from alleys behind buildings, especially in downtown Yangon.

Also, the committee is carrying out educative programmes to raise public awareness about the YCDC's rules and regulations regarding throwing trash into alleys, which blocks gutters, causing untreated water to flow into the ground and environment.

Yangon produces about 1,700 tonnes of garbage each day, most of which is kitchen waste. The city has many kilom-

eters of back alleys, the majority of which are used as rubbish dumps. Residents from higher floors often throw trash out windows and into alleys.

Action will be taken against those who fail to abide by the YCDC's rules relating to throwing trash into alleys, following the paving of alleys with concrete, in accord with existing laws, bylaws, rules and regulations.—GNLM ■

Residents in Dala Township receive free healthcare services

NLD's mobile healthcare team led by Professor Dr. Tin Myo Win offered free healthcare services to local people regardless of age, race and religion Dala Township.

The 55 member from the team provided medical check-ups to the patients for various diseases at Thirizeya Nawrahta Hall in Dala, Yangon Region this morning.

They also made arrangements for those who need to receive medical treatment at the hospital and donated necessary medicine and tonic to the locals.

Professor Dr. Tin Myo



NLD's mobile medical team provide healthcare services to people in Dala Township. PHOTO: MYANMAR DIGITAL NEWS

Win, Member of Parliament Dr. Sein Mya Aye, Regional Parliamentarian U Tun Yin,

Regional Lawmaker U Htwe Tin, Township Administrator U Yin Htew and town elders gave

words of encouragement to the patients.—Myanmar Digital News ■

Natural gas power plant in Dawei to be constructed within four years

THE construction of a natural gas power plant and power transmission network system in Kanpauk area, Dawei Town, will be completed in four years, according to a report in Myawady Daily.

This project will be executed by TOTAL and Siemens AG Company. Work on the

preliminary stages, including environmental and social impact assessment, and design engineering, among others, will start soon. The first phase of the Kanpauk natural gas power plant will start within three years, while the second phase is slated to be completed in 48 months. Upon completion of

this phase, the plant will be able to generate 1,230 megawatts of power.

This south transmission network from Dawei to Phayagyi, Bago Region, is estimated to be 450 kilometres long. After the project is completed, it will be able to power the Taninthayi Region, Mon

and Kayin states, and the Bago region. The government, in cooperation with authorised foreign and local companies, is preparing to construct sub-stations, power grids and transformers. Also, it will carry out the maintenance work of power cables and transformers.—GNLM ■

Ancient silver coins discovered in Wundwin Township

ANCIENT silver coins totaling 224 were found by chance on 14 February in the morning as a man was digging a small conduit to access water from a tube well in the farmland owned by U Tine Kyaw in Mingon Village, Wundwin Township in Mandalay Region.

Each silver coin has a three centimeter diameter and other small silver coins have a two and half centimeter

diameter. The silver coins are currently being kept by the people who found them, however they also contacted the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library so they can give the coins to archaeology experts in the future so they can determine the origins of coins, according to a source from the Ministry of Home Affairs.—Myanmar Digital News ■



Discovered ancient silver coins in Mingon village, Wundwin Township in Mandalay Region. PHOTO: MYANMAR DIGITAL NEWS



Watermelon exports increased from Reedhorda on Myanmar-India border. Watermelons sell well in the summer season. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Watermelon exports from Reedhorda increase

WATERMELON exports from Reedhorda Town market have increased, as they are fetching a good price in the town, which is on the Myanmar-India border.

“We export watermelons from around Kalay Township, Sagaing Region. The price of

watermelons in Reedhorda Township is between Ks2,500 and Ks4,000, depending on the size of the fruit. Watermelons sell well in the summer season,” said a watermelon trader.

Kalay Township sends some five vehicles with wa-

termelons daily to Reedhorda. Myanmar’s watermelons are consumed not only in the country but also exported to Aizawl in Mizoram state of India.

The price of Myanmar watermelons in India is between Rs150 and Rs200.—Township IPRD ■

MIC approves four foreign investments projects in Yangon region

THE Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) has approved four planned foreign direct investments (FDIs) projects in the Yangon region, following a meeting of the Yangon Region Investment Committee, which was held at the Yangon Region Government Office on 16 February.

At the meeting, the MIC granted four investments, based upon Myanmar investment law. The four investments included two from China, one from Hong Kong and one from the British

Virgin Islands. Two Chinese companies and one in Hong Kong plan to invest in the garment sector with CMP system, and British Virgin Islands will invest in production in the animal feed sector. Each of these FDIs are 100 per cent investments, according to an official from the Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA). The four foreign direct investments have reached over US\$4.071 million, creating 1,634 employment opportunities for local

residents. The Yangon Region Investment Committee previously endorsed 31 FDIs from seven countries, including Singapore, People’s Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan and Malaysia, along with four local investments in the Industry sector and other service sectors, with a total pledge amount of US\$ 44.366 million and Ks 11,719.22 million, creating 14,033 million local job opportunities from August 2017 to 14th February 2018.—GNLM ■

External trade tops \$28 billion in current FY

THE value of Myanmar’s external trade with other countries exceeded US\$28.145 billion in the current fiscal year (FY), which saw an increase of \$4.2 billion against the same period last year, according to a report by the commerce ministry this Friday.

Despite an increase in the value of foreign trade this financial year, a \$3.68 billion trade deficit was reported, registering a de-

crease of \$146 million compared with the same period last FY.

From 1 April to 9 February, the country exported domestically-produced products worth more than \$12 billion to overseas trading partners, including some \$4.6 billion worth of goods from cross-border points and \$7.6 billion worth of goods through non-border trade.

Imports of foreign com-

modities exceeded \$15.9 billion in value this year, including \$2.5 billion through border gates and \$13 billion through non-border trade.

Myanmar chiefly imports capital goods, intermediate goods and consumer goods, whereas it primarily exports six groups of commodities, such as agriculture products, animal and fisheries products, forest products and manufacturing goods.—Shwe Khine ■

India-Myanmar bilateral border trade continues to decrease

MYANMAR’S border trade with India reached US\$67.609 million this financial year, a decrease of more than \$10 million as against the same period in the last FY, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Border trade between the two countries is conducted through the Tamu and Reed cross-border points. However, most bilateral imports and exports are delivered by ships.

As of February 9, India, the country’s second largest neighbouring country, imported \$50.448 million worth of commodities from Myanmar, whereas exports between the two countries reached \$17.161 million. Over the past 315 days, bilateral trade from

the Tamu border gate showed a decline in both exports and imports, according to the ministry’s statistics.

Myanmar normally exports ginger, saffron, turmeric, bay leaves and other fruits and vegetables, plus human hair, fishery and forest products to the neighbouring country, while importing medicines, oil-cakes, electronic products, motorbikes, cotton yarn, non-alloy steel and other construction materials.

Total border trade between Myanmar and neighbouring countries amounted to \$7.083 billion since April, which saw an increase of \$563 million, compared with the same period in the last FY.—Khine Khant ■

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Investment in Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) increases by 50 per cent

Ye Khaung Nyunt

LEASING of land from International investments in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) phase B will increase by up to 50 per cent, according to officials from the management committee of Thilawa SEZ. There are some 101 hectares (250 acres) of leasing land for Part B of the first phase, which aims to be completed in August. It is hoped that Part B of the second phase, which is about 66 hectares, will be completed in August 2019. Currently, for Part B of first phase, some 100 hectares are underway. Investment permissions are being granted to those who want to

make an investment in Zone B, while there are some companies which are under negotiation, it was learnt.

There are some 700 hectares for Part B, which will be implemented; the first stage of 101 hectares was started in February 2017, and it will be completed in August 2018.

The second stage of 66.4 hectares will resume in December 2018, and it is expected to be completed in August 2019, according to the management committee of Thilawa SEZ.

Joint Secretary of Thilawa SEZ management committee Dr. Than Than Thwe said, "Regarding the Part B of phase A,

the process of leasing land for 101 hectares (250 acres) have been invested by many companies from Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand.

Up to now, 49 per cent of leasing the land from 101 hectares for Part B of phase B had been begun from Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand.

The main thing is that they will produce materials which are in need of foodstuff and other things. The investment of these six companies amounted up to US\$75.19 million, and another three companies are still waiting for investment permission. For them, the process of leasing the land had already begun.



Dr. Than Than Thwe, Joint-secretary of the Thilawa SEZ management committee.



Daw Cho Cho Win, Vice Chairperson-2 of Thilawa SEZ management committee.



Workers are seen at the site of the Thilawa Special Economic Zone project, Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG

For the first stage of phase B, the implementation process of 50 per cent had been completed and houses were built for the people who resided in Myaing Thayar Ward (3).

The residents had been transferred to new houses which are 40 feet long and 50 feet wide in Myaing Thayar Ward (3). In accordance with the JICA's guidelines, the amount of compensation has been made and some 90 houses have been relocated. Moreover, I want to inform you that all these residents are able to make their living for the time being now."

As for the government, plans are underway to carry out the implementation of Thilawa SEZ up to 2,400 hectares, and the opening ceremony of 405 hectares for the first stage of phase A was held on 23 September 2015.

Vice Chairperson (2) Daw Cho Cho Win said, "For the suc-

cess of Zone A (Part one), the investment increased US\$1.2 billion, including 96 per cent of leasing land. The remaining 4 per cent will begin soon. Many giant companies from 16 countries have come to invest in Thilawa SEZ.

Permits had been granted for some 90 enterprises to make investments here, and some 40 enterprises are being operated so far. Among them, four factories are exporting their products to China and other ASEAN countries, according to the agreement of the Free Trade Area (FTA), like our country.

Concerted efforts are being made to implement the development of the social life of the people and plans are underway to carry out up to 2,400 hectares, including 405 hectares for Part one (Zone A), 101 hectares for Part 2 (Zone B) and 66.4 hectares for Part two. ■



Construction is under way at the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, outskirts of Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG

Five more television channels coming soon

By Nandar Win,
Win Win Maw
Photo: Hla Moe

MYANMA Radio and Television (MRTV), the Ministry of Information and five groups (companies) permitted as content providers for digital free-to-air television channels in a multi-channel playout system in DVB-T2 system of MRTV, signed a cooperation agreement at a ceremony held in MRTV Studio A, Pyay Road, Yangon on 17 February. The five content providers will soon be providing viewers with a wider variety of information, views and entertainment programmes. The following is an interview with the content providers on their programmes and schedules.

U Myint Htway (Director General, MRTV)

MRTV is broadcasting under the Multi-Channel Playout System DVB-T2 system. The agreement signed is for the five content providers to broadcast five channels in the Multi-channel Playout System. The main points included in the agreements are the parts each party had to play. It also includes payment to the government. The equipment and machineries required will be bought together by the five. Earth stations of the five will be connected by fiber line to the 9 meter earth station in Myanmar Radio, Pyay Road and the content will be sent to us. This is their part. Once it is here, we'll put it into our system, send it up to the satellite and then to the 145 re-transmission stations. Broadcasting to the people is our part. Broadcasting Law is being amended in the Hluttaw. Once it is done, there'll be a Broadcasting Council. This Council will set up rules and regulations and broadcasting licenses need to be reapplied. Myawady, Skynet, Forever and the six FM lines broadcasting from Myanmar Radio will have to reapply for licenses. Those who want to broadcast can also apply then. The Council will give permission according to set rules and regulations. The duration of the agreements signed now is up to that point. At that point these five will have to apply for licenses and whether they get the license or not is dependent upon them and does not depend on us. The agreement duration is up to that point only.



U Myint Htway.



U Tun Tun Soe.



U Khin Maung Soe.



U Soe Myint.



U Thado Kyaw.



U Htat Aung Kyaw.

Broadcasting Law is being amended in the Hluttaw. Once it is done, there'll be a Broadcasting Council. This Council will set up rules and regulations and broadcasting licenses need to be reapplied.

U Tun Tun Soe (Executive Project Director, My Multi Media Group of Company)

We will mainly broadcast for the youth sector covering youth and business, youth and education, youth and health, and technology for youth. We will broadcast movies, arts, music and related subjects. Our programmes will be broadcast twice a day from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Depending on the content of the others, we plan to extend our broadcasting. Our programmes are free-to-air. I think our programmes will start reaching our audience within the next three to four months. Other countries like Thailand and Indonesia have 30, 40, 50 television channels. We have MRTV, Myawady, MRTV-4, Channel 7, Skynet as well as us, so it would be good. The public will have more choices. Our channel will increase the information and knowledge to the audience as well as being exciting and enjoyable. Watch

and support our channel.

U Khin Maung Soe (Executive Director, DVB Multi Media Group)

Ours is news and current affairs. As for news, we are updating it every hour now. We also have live broadcasts. We will try to have more live programmes. We are ready to start broadcasting now. It will be a 24-hour a day broadcast. It is good to have more television channels. People will have more choice. Competition is also good, as we will try to be better than the other. Support us. If the audience supports us, we can exist. We will try to be better so that the audience will support us. As we are working with the government, we expect to have more opportunity to acquire news. There's no need to set up a satellite dish. An ordinary television antenna that receives the MRTV line is sufficient to receive the broadcasts.

U Soe Myint (Executive Director and Chief Editor, Mizzima Media Company Limited)

We will broadcast the Mizzima TV Channel. We are targeting youth and children. At least 60 per cent will be entertainment. 40 per cent is infotainment and news. We are emphasising entertainment content that is favoured by youths. Young People is an example. There'll be voices of youth and true stories of youths. Music will include hip hop that youths like. Discussions and talk programmes for youths under the age of 30 are targeted. What we can do and provide is to raise and support the next generation. There is information that youth need. We will target this. Starting from tonight, you'll see this on the Mizzima Facebook page. We will start broadcasting from online and are preparing to start on 27 February. It can be watched by any television that has a digital channel tuner. There will be 17 hours of broadcasting a day starting from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. News will be included in the 6:45 p.m. to 11 p.m. segment. Entertainment and movies are also included. The morning segment will also have many sectors. There'll be our own programmes produced by Mizzima as well as programmes purchased from others. It is good for our country that more no-pay

channels are becoming available. It is good for the people too. They will have more to choose. As competition is created, quality programmes and programmes that people like will become successful. The Myanmar television sector is opening up with these five content providers. In a year or two, there'll be big changes in the Myanmar television sector. I believe it will lead to development. Market competition will be a challenge. It'll be a challenge for the five channels. Especially advertisement. As we are free-to-air, we will have to rely on advertisement. Channels that people like will have more advertising. It will be a challenge for channels that people don't like.

U Thado Kyaw (Executive Director, KMA TeleMedia Holdings Company Limited)

We are not necessarily prioritising news. There'll be news, but we aim toward entertaining the people. The youth sector will include songs. There'll be foreign content, local (TV) series and movies. It is aimed to be an entertainment channel. There'll be youth programmes during the time when youths view and programmes for seniors and elders during the time when seniors and elders view television. We will be broadcasting 18 hours a day. Rebroadcasting will be three portions of six hours each or four portions of four hours and a half each. It will be from 6 a.m. to 12 midnight. We will start broadcasting within a year from signing the agreement. Modern TVs have digital tuners so nothing more is required.

U Htat Aung Kyaw (Executive Channel Manager, Fortune Channel)

We are trying to be the earliest broadcaster. We will broadcast soon after signing the agreement. The programmes will be entertainment as well as information and knowledge. There'll be TV series on various sectors. We'll broadcast from 6 a.m. to 12 midnight. TV with digital tuners and Digital T2 receivers can view all the channels. We thank the officials from the Ministry of Information and all responsible persons for permitting us to participate in the media sector. We will strive toward provide information and entertainment to youth. ■

Media freedom must be used with extreme care

IN the time of press freedom, news media should respect and strengthen media professionalism so that journalists can understand how to use press freedom without harming others. Members of the media who do not respect ethics can impact media freedom and cause great harm to society.

When covering events and writing reports while enjoying the freedom of press, the news media not only must stick to timeliness and accuracy, but also strive to produce non-biased reporting. But some foreign media do not follow ethical standards when covering the Rakhine issue.

Regarding media freedom, article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights issued on 10 December 1948 states that: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

Indeed, this stipulation is to be accepted, upheld and abided by. Along with the freedom, the concept of accountability and responsibility comes together in finding solutions, and many nations in the world today embrace this trend and work on it.

At a time when we are trying to solve the Rakhine issue, an onerous responsibility has been placed on the media. When covering the Rakhine issue under the spotlight of the international community, it is found that some foreign media covered one-sided reports with extreme bias. The situation in Myanmar

A few weeks ago, The New York Times journalist Hannah Beech wrote some articles highlighting made-up stories at the refugee camp in Bangladesh in which she said "Blurring fact and fiction at refugee camps risks undermining their case", which can reveal the truth behind the lies of the some news media.

reminds one of the famous proverb - "A lie can travel half-way around the world while the truth is still putting on its shoes." That situation is not helpful for the authorities and it causes hindrances to the authorities trying to solve the issues. In some cases, some foreign media released their stories based on hearsay without respecting correctness and accuracy.

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While making efforts for bringing harmony between the two communities in Rakhine State, the Union Government has released information related to issues in

Rakhine in a timely manner. Regarding the Indin Village issue in which 10 bodies were exhumed from a mass grave, the military authorities have carried out a probe into the case and have taken action against 16 people, including security forces and villagers.

Currently, Myanmar is cooperating with international communities in a constructive manner and is practicing transparency and accountability for the Rakhine issue. Hence, some foreign media should not neglect their professionalism when they cover this sensitive issue. Thus, the given media freedom must be used with extreme care and responsibility.

An elephant sanctuary in the Rakhine Yoma

By Nyi Tu

BY the time our powered schooner got to the sentry post of the Sanctuary adjacent to the Kyaintali Creek, we began to breathe in fresh smells from the forest. We saw several huts in the sentry post not far away from the edge of the creek. Surrounded by thick jungles and high mountains, the Yadanmyaing village is 33 miles away from Gwa township and we proceeded to the edge of the sentry post for 13 miles by powered schooner along the creek.

The location of the sentry post is more than 10 miles from the nearest village and is situated near the boundary of the Sanctuary. Named as the Kyainkhakhon post, it is one of the three sentry posts in Rakhine Yoma elephant sanctuary. It is built along the Kyaintali Creek for easy accessibility to the Rakhine Yoma Sanctuary.

Importance of locality

As the creek streams along the whole south side of the Sanctuary, the sentry post plays an important role in preventing the danger of collapse of the creek edges. Other two important sentry posts are the Bogale and Kyachaung posts. The three sentry posts protect all wild animals including other wild animals roaming about in this sanctuary.

This sanctuary is the first of its kind in Myanmar, according to administrator U San Win of the Rakhine Yoma Sanctuary. "We just want to let the public know this sanctuary is very important for wild elephants. If we cannot control the situation, the wild elephants in the Rakhine Yoma will be threatened with extinction. This sanctuary is also important for wild animals of rare species. Rich grazing for wild animals There are many

We just want to let the public know this sanctuary is very important for wild elephants. If we cannot control the situation, the wild elephants in the Rakhine Yoma will be threatened with extinction. This sanctuary is also important for wild animals of rare species.



rare animal species in this sanctuary: 40 kinds of mammals including rare Myanmar wild elephants, tigers and bison, 63 kinds of amphibians and reptiles, 26 kinds of butterflies, 28 kinds of freshwater fish and 12 kinds of insects. Naturally-grown trees of 75 kinds include ironwood trees and large timber trees, 11 kinds of orchids, 9 kinds of bamboo, four kinds of cane and 47 kinds of medicinal plants, according to some records.

The Rakhine Yoma elephant sanctuary is ecologically evergreen environment which is covered by 70% of the bamboo forest. On east side of the Sanctuary borders townships of Kyankin, Myanaung, Ingapu and Laymyetnar and on the south with Gwa township and on the north side with Thandwe township. In 1997 the sanctuary was set aside for wild elephants and legalized in 2002. The area of this sanctuary is over 430,000 acres wide.

Research

While we stayed at the Kyainkhakhon post, we went into thick forest for about eight miles along the Kyaintali Creek. Our three schooners faced strong torrents and sometimes we had to wade through the shallow water. Along the way we went across several small streams with their respective background information on their names.

The location of Rakhine Yoma elephant sanctuary is among the high mountains: narrow creeks and small streams with big blocks of rock in between. The sanctuary is hard to reach on foot but through narrow creeks and small streams.

An atmosphere of serenity

Pointing at high mountains and a grove of bamboo, U Saw Htoo Tha Po, the keeper at the Yoma elephant sanctuary said the atmosphere of

serenity still remains intact: rich pasture for wild elephants naturally and geographically; a place of no threat for wild animals; an area specifically demarcated for the sanctuary; no deforestation; and ecological systems have not dramatically changed.

U Saw Htoo Tha Po, senior coordinator at Wildlife Sanctuary (Myanmar Program), gets deeply involved in the protection of wild elephants and related research. Our 15-member group found the footprints and faeces of wild animals on the way and picked them up for putting on record and doing research. About a hundred of wild elephants are believed by authorities to be roaming about in this sanctuary. This number is inconsistent with scientific way of counting. U Saw Htoo Tha Po explained that scientific research is required to count wild elephants.

Making a list

He has been trying hard to know in coming years to locate where wild elephants graze in the Sanctuary. After knowing the location of grazing ground, the number of wild elephants should be put on record by doing research. Many small groups will have to cover the sanctuary of 400,000 acres within a fortnight by doing research five times during a period of three months. Collecting data get involved in using DNA analysis of their faeces to distinguish between individual animals. The faeces must be sent abroad for further analysis which will cost much. For the time being as they are focusing on the protection of wild animals, the above analyses could be carried out within a period of several years, U Saw Htoo Tha Po pointed out.

Rare species such as elephants, bison, and birds roaming about in this Sanctuary have

been under threat by poachers, according to Sanctuary administrator U San Win. Wild elephants are being killed by poachers in the forest reserves of Gwa and Taungnyo adjoining the Sanctuary. "Hunters from the townships of Kyankhin, Myanaung, Ingapu, and Laymyetnar in Ayeyawady region are found to have invaded to hunt wild animals and poison fish; hunting causes a lot of problems in the region," according to U San Win.

Beyond control

According to the set-up of the Sanctuary, there are 81 employees; but there currently 25 with 15 going out on patrol. Due to lack of public service personnel, we find it difficult to go on with present

workforce, he continued. With support from Wildlife Sanctuary (Myanmar Program), the employees keep patrolling together with newly-recruited local employees. Wild animals are being protected in cooperation with Myanmar program. The number of rangers are 25 only; they are divided into three groups with each group including eight rangers. They have to patrol the whole area for 20 days only. Sometimes these rangers happen to confront with 20 or so hunters armed with bayonets, guns and a herd of hunting dogs and they have to retreat.

Revelation of evidences

When rangers are on patrol, they sometimes find and seize racks, huts and percussion lock firearms from the hunters. Bison's flesh is found selling in a village near the Sanctuary, it is tantamount to the kill of hunters, employees say. To solve the problems, recruitment of more employees, the extension of more sentry posts, educating local populace and joint patrol with police force are essential elements for effective actions. Rangers on patrol are required to be armed, some advised.

The sanctuary under threat While wild elephants in the Rakhine Yoma Sanctuary are now under threat, a wild elephant is being killed every week across the country, say the keepers for Myanmar Wild Elephants. According to the Forest Department, 140 elephants were killed by poachers from 2010 to 2017. "Even though the Rakhine Yoma Sanctuary is under threat, proper maintenance of the Sanctuary will be beneficial for nature-based tourism. It will pay the way for studying the local fauna and flora; it will also create job opportunities for local populace," the sanctuary administrator U San Win pointed out.

"As this Sanctuary is a natural habitat for wild elephants, conservation of this wide area is urgently needed" said U Saw Htoo Tha Po, who has been doing research on wild elephants in Rakhine Yoma. ■

Translated by Arakan Sein

Developing Problem based Learning Skill in Young Minds of Myanmar

(This is Third part of my article that was published on 1st February 2018 on "Need of Developing Employability Skills in Young Minds of Myanmar for their Sustainable Career Growth and making the nation Emerging Knowledge Economy")



Dr G R Sinha
Professor, Myanmar Institute of
Information Technology Mandalay

THERE is wonderful quotation by Woods on problem based learning: "Any Learning environment in which Problem drives the Learning, is Problem based Learning". Yes, Problem is the central theme of this type of skill that is being looked into the candidates while selecting for big organizations. The development of this skill begins therefore with problems. The concept of problem based learning (PBL) should start with "Identification of Problems", that is not something that could be practiced with rocket science technology or concept but it can be done by anyone, anywhere. We come across various problems during our study; daily life; society; and many other occasions. This becomes important now how we look into the problems; whether we pay attention to the problems that need solution for benefit of many; or we ignore and just have traditional way of thinking; let it be. The "Let it be" syndrome is the biggest barrier in learning PBL. So, PBL can be summarized as student centric rather than teacher centric; it needs role of trainers as guide not teaching everything; PBL caters the learning outcome in small groups that work for solving a suitable problem with brainstorming put in by team work or individual; and most important thing about PBL is being "Self-directed Learning".

Now let us understand how to develop this PBL in young minds so that they can apply PBL and become competent enough to deal with any unprecedented situations or problems. Here are few major pragmatic ways of developing PBL.

1. Student Centric Learning: Problem should be identified by the students or trainee, not by trainer or teachers. Let the students realize what needs to be solved or addressed. The role of teacher has to be there as mentor or supervisor for helping the students in the development and assessment of PBL.
2. Clarity and Purpose of Problem Identification: The problem being chosen in solving by the students must have its well defined purpose and objective; and the expected benefit of its viable solution. For example, if students have selected a problem of "challenges in rice production in Myanmar"; so the solution must address the problems of the farmers and should contribute in the economic growth of Myanmar.
3. Brainstorming Discussion on Depth of Problem: The problem that students want to solve must have been brought out based on rigorous brainstorming discussion and relevant study of literature. The "Depth" of problem needs to be introspected and studied; rather than Breadth. Depth of problem while thinking in narrowed window gives more clarity and reasons behind selection of that problem.
4. Learn "What I do not know": It is very important to identify what I do not know. If I can understand and realize what I do not know then I would try to know "what I do not know". This is wonderful way of becoming self-centric way of thinking and identifying the problems. You have to discover what you need to learn.
5. Be Concerned to Various Issues: Students have to be concerned with various issues that they come across while studying; experimenting; reading; writing; or any activity that "why this cannot be like other way"; could this problem be solved if it is based on rational thinking.

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HIA survey conducted over Mandalay Mountain cable car project

A human impact assessment (HIA) survey has been conducted to implement the Mandalay Mountain cable car project. A detailed report of the survey results will be submitted to the Mandalay Region Government this year, according to a report in Myawady Daily yesterday.

To implement the cable car project for Mandalay Mountain, the authorities needed to conduct the HIA and environmental impact assessment (EIA)

surveys.

They have already conducted the HIA survey, while the EIA survey is being conducted.

"We have hired a foreign company to conduct the EIA survey. We will submit the report to the Mandalay Region Government soon.

The detailed report has not been completed yet," said U Soe Naing, director of Sky Dream Co. Ltd.

Upon completion, the Man-

dalay Mountain cable car is expected to attract several local and foreign travellers.

"Initially, we intended to run the cable car from the east golf ground to the Mandalay Mountain car parking.

The estimated cost of the cable car project is US\$20 million. Upon completion of the project, we can create job opportunities for some 200 local people," added U Soe Naing. —GNLM ■

Motorcyclist seriously injured in head-on collision

A 50-year-old man sustained serious injuries in a head-on collision between a motorcycle and a car on Yangon-Pathein Road on Thursday evening, according to a police report.

At around 6p.m. on that day, a car driven by Ye Yint Naing, 23, collided head-on with a motorcycle, on which U

Tun Tun was riding, near the Kyaunggon river crossing, in Pathein District, Ayeyawady Region.

The motorcyclist, U Tun Tun, sustained serious injuries on his head and right leg. He is currently receiving medical treatment at Pathein General Hospital. The police have filed

charges against the two for reckless driving under Section 338 of the Penal Code.

A police officer said the lack of knowledge about traffic rules and the growing number of unlicensed motorcycles and cars on the roads were leading to traffic accidents.—Win Kyaing (IPRD) ■

Developing Problem based Learning Skill in Young Minds of Myanmar

FROM PAGE 9

- Practice Rational and Lateral Thinking: Rational thinking is must for developing PBL because you should know how the problem and it's your way of solving affects and has impact on the purpose of the problem with which it was begun. Lateral thinking is always necessary, since it gives you an opportunity; rather it empowers you to think beyond traditional ways. Out of box thinking has to be practiced. Think different and distinguish yourself from others.
- Pen down the Problem, its Implementation scheme: You get countless opportunities where you feel why this; why not that way. Generally, after sometime we forget and therefore we should always learn to write down the problems that we come across or identify; and also probable ways of solving it if we get some of them instantly.
- Prepare a list of Possible Solutions, analyze with Time frame and possible outcome: You have to think

different ways of getting solutions of a problem; this may be implementing a small project based on fundamental knowledge of subject that you study. Analyze all possible solutions with suitable time frame how much effort and time would be required to solve the problem. For example, if a student of Physics or Electronics and Communication Engineering studies about how does a condenser mike work; he/she should try to design it with the help of different resources required and should attempt providing better and effective ways of recording the sound; exploiting the characteristics and properties of devices and materials used.

- Celebrate all Small Success: Whatever you do, be it very small problem solved by you; you always should celebrate its. This gives you immense happiness and self-satisfaction that would further strengthen your efforts to do more and more such endeavors.
- Increase your Visibility:

You can share what you are doing and what are your findings without discussing much about your methods with your peers and also on social media and other tools. Others would see what your findings are and you are likely to get negative feedback as well as good positive suggestions that would help you in improving the solution that you had been striving to get.

Hope the PBL approach, practiced by young girls and boys; and even working professionals would help in doing wonders in their study and career. PBL practices make us capable of identifying and formulating problems; make decisions and get possible solutions of a problem; analyze and assess the solutions; think deep about an idea or a problem; collaborate with industries and people working in real time problems and their solutions. Finally, each one of us need some of PBL so that we can become good and rational human being. (Please do write for feedback to me at drgrsinha@ieee.org, ganeshsinha@acm.org, gr_sinha@miit.edu.mm). ■

Heroin, opium and Yaba seized in Phaungpyin

POLICE seized heroin, opium and yaba tablets found in a home in Phaungpyin township on 17 February.

Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of a person, identified as Than Win, at Shwe Htee Kon Kaung Maung village, Phaungpyin township, on 17 February. He was asleep when the police arrived. The police report seizing heroin weighing 80.7 grams, worth Ks8,070,000, 685 Yaba tablets worth Ks 34,250,000 and opium weighing 2,850 gram and valued at Ks 5,235,450.

The police also found Ks 1,540,900, which they described as money from sell-



Suspect Than Win. PHOTO: HAN TUN (IPRD)

ing the heroin, opium and Yaba. Charges have been filed against Than Win under section 15/19-A /21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — Han Tun (IPRD) ■

Track vehicle accident injures one

A 12-WHEEL track vehicle with two people on board enroute to Gwa from Yangon, driven by Myo Min Oo, 33, overturned when the brakes failed on Gwa- Yangon road, Gwa town, Rakhine State on 26 February, leaving the driv-

er injured.

Officials said that the failure of the breaks caused the accident between mile-posts 23, mile 7 furlong and 24 mile. The police have charged the driver with reckless driving.— Township IPRD ■



Overtuned 12-wheel vehicle seen on Gwa-Yangon Road, Rakhine State. PHOTO: TOWNSHIP IPRD

Wild elephant killed in Ngaputaw Township

A wild elephant was killed in Hsinma Forest Reserve, Ngaputaw Township in Ayeyawady Region on 15 February in the afternoon.

Following a tipoff, local forest officials together with policemen, eye witnesses and staff from the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary

Department went to a scene where the wild elephant was killed. The female, six feet and six inches high, elephant is believed to have been cut off into many pieces and it had been skinned. An investigation into the case is ongoing by local police officials.—Police Information ■

Urban Development meeting held in Maungtaw



U Thet Phyo Wai. PHOTO: YAMANYA



U Ye Htut. PHOTO: YAMANYA

By Hein Htet Zaw and Thura Zaw

THE meeting for the Urban Concept Development Plan was held in the Maungtaw Administrative Department yesterday morning. This meeting aims to review the strengths and weakness based on actual facts, to lay down plans which will benefit the development of the region, to promote the tourism sector and to propose the Future Plan of Urbanisation. The following are interviews with some of the officials who attended the meeting.

U Ye Htut, District Deputy Commissioner

This opening ceremony of Concept Plan aims to benefit the prospects of future urban development plans in this region. There are many gaps regarding the town area and population. Plans are underway to expand the town area and it is needed to set up a good Town Plan for development. We are conducting this Town Plan with the help of Ministry for Construction and other related ministries for relocation and resettlement.

We are making a town plan with U Zaw Win, Director for Department of Urban and Housing

Development, and want to cooperate with the locals, Hluttaw Representatives, and ward administrators so that we can openly discuss the plan with them. This meeting will be useful in setting up the Town Plan after taking their opinions. After that we will distribute this town plan to the respective states and regions government for keeping record. Measurements should be made in order for rule of order to prevail in the region. Hoping that this region will enjoy development, we aspire to this plan.

U Thet Phyo Wai, Department of Urban and Housing Development

Our team is setting up the Maungtaw Town Development Plan. Although Maungtaw is a district, we set it up as a town development plan. There won't be a plan without a project. We can be able to implement it with a project. The plan should be made with the approval of local people and officials of the departments. We have been designated to set up a good plan to create job opportunities for the local people, together with industrial zones and SMEs which can attract the local people who can get job opportunities in their own region. ■

Chinese Film Festival kicks off in Yangon



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Hong Liang pose for a photo at the opening ceremony of Chinese Film Festival in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

THE opening ceremony of the Chinese Film Festival was held yesterday at Nay Pyi Taw Cinema on Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon.

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China organized the festival, and Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint attended and delivered a speech.

Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Hong Liang also delivered a speech, noting that two Chinese movies were screened in Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon at last year's Chinese Film Festival, which was held on Chinese National Day in October 2017.

During this year's Chinese Film Festival, the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar will show the finest Chinese movies,

with Myanmar voice-overs. Also, movies from Myanmar are being dubbed with Chinese voice-overs and will be shown in China. This is designed to help promote friendly Paukphaw relationships.

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint then delivered the speech, saying that Chinese movies and series are greatly enjoyed by the Myanmar people.

The history, traditions and cultures of China are learned by watching Chinese movies. Film festivals like this help promote bilateral relations, fraternal friendship and mutual understanding between the two peoples.

Next, Union Minister Dr Pe Myint and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Hong Liang cut the ceremonial ribbon to

open the festival. At this year's Chinese Film Festival, four Chinese movies, Xuan Zang, Kung Fu Yoga, Detective Chinatown and Go Away Mr. Tumor, will be screened at the Nay Pyi Taw Cinema in Yangon, Aung Thabzay Cinema in Nay Pyi Taw, Win Light Cinema in Mandalay, Mingala Shwe Hintha Cinema in Bago, Thiha Cinema in Magway, City Square Cinema in Shan State, Paradiso Cinema in Mon State, Paradiso Cinema in Sagaing Region, Shwe Pyi Taw Cinema in Ayeyawaddy Region, Aung Mingala Cinema in Taninthayi Region, Ayear Cinema in Kachin State and Oo Sauk Pann Cinema in Kayin State.

Screenings are scheduled from 16 to 22 February and entry is free. —Myanmar News Agency ■

MRTV and 5 content providers sign cooperation agreement

FROM PAGE-3

This is because the broadcasting council will be formed according to the law and rules, and once it is established it will manage and oversee the work to be carried out by the broadcasting stations.

However, the ways and means need to be found during the interim period so that those conducting the work of broadcasting can begin fulfilling

their responsibilities. Today's arrangement was conducted according to the existing law, and is a preliminary test to develop private broadcasting responsibilities. All are urged to work together so that this arrangement is successful.

Authorities hope that the new content providers will systematically utilize their media freedom and provide information, education and entertain-

ment to the people. At the same time, it is hoped that the new media will support the development of Myanmar media and Myanmar's development, said the Union Minister.

Also, MRTV Director General U Myint Htway explained the reasons for signing the agreement.

Afterwards, officials of the five new content providers, including Mizzima Media Compa-

ny Limited Executive Director and Chief Editor U Soe Myint, DVB Multimedia Group Company Limited Executive Director U Khin Maung Soe, Fortune Broadcasting Company Limited Chairman U Mya Han, KMA TeleMedia Holdings Company Limited Executive Director U Thado Kyaw and My Multi Media group Company Limited Executive Project Director U Tun Tun Soe, along with MRTV Director

General U Myint Htway, signed the cooperation agreement.

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint, officials from the Ministry of Information, and representatives from the five groups then took a commemorative group photo.

The five companies were chosen earlier, and an announcement was made about their selection on 11 April, 2017. — Myanmar News Agency ■



MiG-35 plane. PHOTO: TASS

Russian defence contractor completes trials of new-generation fighter jet

MOSCOW — Russia's MiG Aircraft Corporation has completed factory trials of its next-generation MiG-35 multirole fighter jet, the corporation's press office told TASS on Friday.

"The factory trials of the MiG-35 multirole fighter jet produced in the interests of the Defence Ministry of the Russian Federation have been completed. The certificate of the trials completion was signed in December 2017," the press office said.

During the trials, the MiG

specialists checked the fighter's onboard radio-electronic equipment, the sight and navigation complex, the radar, engines and other aircraft systems. The work was carried out throughout 2017 with the assistance of test pilots of Russia's Defence Ministry. "By its combat potential, the scope and the efficiency of its missions and the price/quality ratio, the MiG-35 is today a perfect combat vehicle for operation in high intensity armed conflicts," MiG CEO Ilya Tarasenko was quoted

by the corporation's press office as saying. "The aircraft makes it possible to use the entire range of existing and up-and-coming Russian and foreign armament, including weapons designed for heavy fighter jets," Tarasenko added.

The MiG-35 is a 4++ generation multirole fighter jet developed on the basis of the serial-produced MiG-29K/KUB and MiG-29M/M2 aircraft.

The flight tests of MiG-35 fighter aircraft began on 26 Jan-

uary and the plane's international presentation was held in the Moscow Region on the following day.

Russia's state armament program through 2020 stipulates the deliveries of MiG-35 fighter jets to Russia's Aerospace Force. As President of the United Aircraft Corporation Yuri Slyusar said on the sidelines of the Russian investment forum on Thursday, a contract for the delivery of MiG-35 fighters to Russia's Aerospace Force may be signed this year.—Tass ■

Strong quake shakes Mexico, causing panic

MEXICO CITY — A strong earthquake shook southern and central Mexico on Friday, causing panic less than six months after two devastating quakes that killed hundreds of people.

No buildings collapsed, according to early reports. But two towns near the epicenter, in the southern state of Oaxaca, reported damage and state authorities said they had opened emergency shelters.

Later in the day, a helicopter en route to the scene carrying the country's interior minister and the governor of Oaxaca crash landed, killing two people on the ground even as the passengers survived.

Both Mexico's National Seismological Service and the US Geological Survey put the quake's magnitude at 7.2.

It triggered Mexico City's alarm system and caused buildings to sway in the capital. It was also felt in the states of Guerrero, Puebla and Michoacan. Panicked residents flooded into the streets, fearing a repeat of the two quakes last September, which caused buildings to collapse and killed a total of 465 people.—AFP ■

Oxfam pulls out of UK government bids as chief hits out

LONDON — The head of Oxfam on Friday hit back at criticism over a prostitution scandal that he said was "out of proportion", as the British charity agreed not to bid for more government funds until it cleans up its act.

Chief executive Mark Goldering has repeatedly apologized for failings in the way the charity dealt with claims of sexual misconduct by its aid staff, but said some people refused to listen to explanations. "The intensity and the ferocity of the attack makes you wonder, what did we do?" he said in an interview with The Guardian newspaper. "We murdered babies in their cots? Certainly, the scale and the intensity of the attacks feels out of proportion to the level of culpability. I struggle to understand it."

He suggested that some critics were motivated in part by opposition to taxpayer-funded aid — Oxfam received nearly

£32 million (36 million euros, \$44 million) from the British government last year. Earlier, the charity unveiled an action plan to tackle sexual harassment and abuse, and agreed not to bid for any more state funds until reforms were in place.

"Oxfam has agreed to withdraw from bidding for any new UK government funding until the Department for International Development is satisfied that they can meet the high standards we expect of our partners," aid minister Penny Mordaunt said.

She said all the government's charitable partners had been asked to give assurances on their safeguarding and reporting practices by 26 February.

"We have been very clear that we will not work with any organisation that does not live up to the high standards on safeguarding and protection that we require," Mordaunt said.

Oxfam has been mired in scandal since revelations one week ago that staff used prostitutes while working in Haiti following a devastating 2010 earthquake. There have since been claims made about aid workers in Chad, Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines, and three Oxfam global ambassadors including South Africa's Archbishop Desmond Tutu have quit their roles.

Deputy chief executive Penny Lawrence resigned over the Haiti affair earlier this week and on Friday, Oxfam International's executive director, Winnie Byanyima, said it would haunt the charity. "What happened in Haiti and afterwards is a stain on Oxfam that will shame us for years, and rightly so," she told the BBC, adding: "From the bottom of my heart, I am asking for forgiveness."

'Lies and exaggerations' Ministers have demanded

Oxfam produce a plan on how to deal with any forthcoming allegations, that it report any staff members involved in the Haiti scandal and that it fully cooperate with the Haitian authorities.

The aid group said it would create an independent commission with the power to access records and interview staff, and impose stricter controls on employees. It will also double the number of staff engaged in safeguarding and triple its funding in this area to more than \$1 million (800,000 euros), while also increasing investment in gender training. Oxfam fired four staff members for gross misconduct and allowed three others to resign following an internal inquiry into what happened in Haiti in 2011. But it admitted Thursday it had rehired one of those sacked just months later.

Roland van Hauwermeiren, Oxfam's director in Haiti at the

time and one of the three who resigned from the charity, dismissed the allegations.

"I have never been into a brothel, a nightclub or a bar in that country," the 68-year-old Belgian said in a four-page letter published on the website of Belgian VTM News. "There were numerous men and women who tried to get into my house with all sorts of excuses to demand money, work, or to offer sexual services. But I never gave into these advances," he said. Van Hauwermeiren, who has taken part in an internal inquiry at the British charity, said he told Oxfam he had engaged in "intimate relations some three times" at his home. "This was with an honourable, mature woman, who was not an earthquake victim nor a prostitute. And I did not give her any money," he said, adding that he was, however, "deeply ashamed" of the liaison.—AFP ■



Norishige "Neemo" Kanai of Japan is making his first spacewalk from the International Space Station.
PHOTO: AFP

Japanese, US astronauts end spacewalk to fix robotic arm

WASHINGTON — A Japanese and an American astronaut floated for hours outside the International Space Station on Friday on a spacewalk to repair the orbiting outpost's robotic arm and move some equipment into storage.

The spacewalk, broadcast live on NASA TV, was the first for Japanese Aerospace Agency (JAXA) astronaut Norishige Kanai, and the fourth for his US counterpart Mark Vande Hei.

"You have been doing a great job today," a ground controller told Kanai before he returned to an airlock after more than five hours in the vacuum of space.

His US colleague remained outside the space station for several minutes to finish some other tasks, but a NASA commentator said both astro-

nauts "have completed all of their primary tasks," ahead of schedule.

The astronauts were about 250 miles (404 kilometres) above Africa as the spacewalk neared its conclusion.

The outing began at 1200 GMT when the duo switched their spacesuits to battery power before venturing into space.

Kanai, 41, is a medical doctor and diver who goes by the nickname "Neemo."

The Tokyo-born lieutenant in the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force became an astronaut in 2009.

He also spent 13 days in the Aquarius underwater lab off the coast of Florida as part of NASA's Extreme Environment Mission Operations (NEEMO) crew in 2015.

Kanai is the fourth Japanese astronaut to walk in space.—AFP ■

May pleads for 'urgent' post-Brexit EU security deal

MUNICH — British Prime Minister Theresa May pleaded on Saturday for an urgent deal with the European Union on post-Brexit security cooperation, warning that citizens' lives were at stake.

In a speech at the Munich Security Conference, she acknowledged that no deal currently exists between the EU and a third country "that captures the full depth and breadth of our existing relationship".

But she said there was no reason both sides could not come up with practical ways to create a "deep and special partnership" on security.

"We cannot delay discussions on this," May said.

She also warned European partners not to put politics above cooperation against crime and terrorism.

"This cannot be a time when any of us allow competition between partners, rigid institutional restrictions or deep-seated ideology to inhibit our cooperation and jeopardise the security of our citizens," May told the audience.

She cautioned that if there were no special deal on security by the time Britain leaves the bloc in March 2019, speedy extradition under the Europe-



May, pictured with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, said there was no reason both sides could not come up with practical ways to create a "deep and special partnership" on security. **PHOTO: AFP**

an Arrest Warrant "would cease".

And if the UK were no longer part of Europol, the EU's law enforcement agency, information sharing would be hampered — undermining the fight against terrorism, organized crime and cyberattacks.

"This would damage us both and put all our citizens at greater risk," May said, urging European leaders to show "some real creativity and ambition" in coming up with a bespoke UK-EU security pact.

"We must now move with urgency to put in place the treaty to protect all European citizens

wherever they are in Europe," May said.

Not 'at war' with London

Some experts have warned that cooperation on police and security matters could be limited by Britain's refusal to fully accept the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) after Brexit.

May appeared to respond to those concerns by saying the UK would "respect the remit" of the ECJ when working with EU agencies, in return for "respect for our unique status as a third country".

"But as a country outside the European

Union, we will have our own sovereign legal order, so the European Court of Justice will no longer have jurisdiction in the United Kingdom."

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, in his own speech at the top security gathering in Munich, said the bloc was "not at war" with the UK and warned against mixing up security with other Brexit issues.

"The security bridge between the UK and the EU will be maintained," he said.

"But I don't want throw security considerations in the same pot as trade policy issues."—AFP ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V NINOS VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V NINOS VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-2-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

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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.

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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.

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
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100 years ago today, jazz broke loose in Europe

NANTES, (France) — A hundred years ago in World War One, a group of American soldiers stormed Europe — not to the boom of guns, but the swinging rhythm of saxophones, drums and horns.

They came to fight in the mud against the Germans in a war approaching its end — but their arrival also marked the start of a sweeter, cultural conquest.

A hundred years ago on Monday, the 369th Infantry's "Harlem Hellfighters Band" gave what is said to have been the first jazz concert on European soil — in the northwestern French city of Nantes.

"When the band had finished and the people were roaring with laughter, their faces wreathed in smiles, I was forced to say that this is just what France needed at this critical moment," wrote one of the band members, Noble Sissle, in his memoirs.

On 6 Monday February Nantes launches a series of concerts, conferences and exhibitions to mark the centenary of that legendary gig.

Among the guests of honour at Monday night's opening are three of the grandchildren of the orchestra's leader, Lieutenant James Reese Europe —



The US 369th Infantry Regiment "Harlem Hellfighters" band landed in France in 1918, bringing the joy of jazz to a continent demoralised by war. PHOTO: AFP

the black American bandleader known as the "king of jazz".

Catching the jazz bug

After that night at Nantes's Theatre Graslin, Europe would never sound the same again.

It "turned France upside down", according to local press

reports from the time.

"The 'Jazz germ' had hit them," Sissle wrote, "and it seemed to find the vital spot."

The 369th Infantry was one of the four African American regiments sent from the racially segregated United States to fight under French command.

James Reese Europe "was the first African American officer to lead troops in a wartime attack," said Matthieu Jouan, head of the "100 Years of Jazz" commemorations in Nantes.

The officer also put together the 40-strong band which included "some of the best of the time",

Jouan added.

When they were not fighting at the front, they played to entertain the troops and locals.

"People went crazy everywhere they toured to," said Jouan.

Music from No Man's Land

The 369th Infantry received the Croix de Guerre French military decoration for bravery.

France also awarded the Legion d'Honneur to 171 members of the regiment for liberating the village of Sechault, where a monument to them now stands.

Lieutenant Europe composed one of his best-known tunes, "One Patrol in No Man's Land", while lying injured in hospital.

He returned from the war a hero, only to die months later in May 1919 at the age of 39 — stabbed in the neck by one of his bandmates.

The headlines in the American press read: "The king of jazz is dead," said Jouan.

But the officer's death coincided, he added, with the rise of three great musical stars: Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong and Sidney Bechet.

The jazz age had begun. —AFP ■

Kung Fury: Arnold Schwarzenegger joins Michael Fassbender in the upcoming action-comedy

LOS ANGELES — Veteran actor Arnold Schwarzenegger has joined the cast of action-comedy Kung Fury.

The 70-year-old Terminator star joins Michael Fassbender in the film, which will be a sequel to the short film of the same name.

The movie, to be written and directed by David Sandberg, will also star David Hasselhoff, who had featured in the original, reported Variety.

The feature film will be set in 1985's Miami, which stays safe under the watchful eye of police officer Kung Fury through his Thundercops.

After the death of a Thundercop leads to the disbandment of the group, a mysterious



PHOTO: PTI

villain comes to the fore to help the Führer in his quest to attain the ultimate weapon.

Sandberg will also feature in the movie and will be attached as producer, while

David Katzenberg, Seth Grahame-Smith and Aaron Schmidt will co-produce.

The feature-length project begins shooting this summer.—PTI ■

Fans mourn Jennifer Aniston- Justin Theroux divorce on Twitter

LOS ANGELES — The news of Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux's divorce has broken the hearts of many of their fans who took to Twitter to mourn the split of one of their 'favourite celebrity couples'. While most of the fans were saddened with news, many romanticised about the possibility of Aniston and her former husband Brad Pitt getting back together. Aniston, 49, and Theroux, 46, today announced that they are separating after more than two years of marriage.

The duo dated for four years after meeting on the sets of the film "Wanderlust" in 2011. They tied the knot in 2015.

Their separation opened floodgates on Twitter, with many reacting with hilarious memes and GIFs. "So, no one told me life was going to be this way. - Me. Reacting to news that Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux split," Twitter user Dana Weiss tweeted

alongside a GIF of "Friends". "I'm so saddened by this news of Jennifer Aniston separating from her husband. Honestly, I never liked Justin Theroux. He seems slimy. She can do so much better. I wish her all the best," fan Abusa Dora tweeted. "Not to sound trivial with all of the terrible news breaking these last few days but I'm sad to hear that Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux are separating!" said another user. "Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston are getting back together. I called it first. Jennifer Aniston," a user tweeted. "What if Jennifer Aniston and Brad Pitt start dating," another user wrote. "People are actually happy Jennifer Aniston is divorcing Justin Theroux isn't that creepy. Most divorce, even if necessary is painful and decent people wouldn't wish it on anyone. And if they want a Brad/Jen reunion, its sad. Real people, not our fantasies," a user tweeted.—PTI ■

Breathtaking view of Nam Chame village in Kachin State

SNOWCAPPED houses, pine trees along the roads blanketed with snow, clouds and mist floating in the valley of the hillside villages, and dark green forests on hillsides on sunny days are just some of the stunning vistas for those who appreciate nature's most dazzling gifts.

The Nam Chame village in Kachin State is endowed with these splendid landscapes. It is more than 100 miles from the Khaung Lan Phoo town in Putao District.

It is a small beautiful village which is not too far from the ice sheet that is an amazing choice for those who have never seen this kind of environment however it might be a bit cold during some periods in the year for

some people.

The ice sheet is just three hours walk from the village which boasts just more than 100 houses occupied by Lisu and Rawang people.

There are many photo opportunities. Mountains surrounding the village, pine tree forests, bamboo grooves, taro plantations and rice terraces, and a small spring called Nam Chame. If you want to frolic in the snow in the winter, this is the place for you!

There is a flight from Myit-kyeena to Putao that takes just 45 minutes. There can be no doubt that it's well worth it to visit the village and the ice sheet close to the village.—Myanmar Digital News ■



The Nam Chame village in Putao Township, Kachin State is endowed with these splendid landscapes. PHOTO: MYANMAR DIGITAL NEWS

Dutch court stubs out smokers' corners in cafes

THE HAGUE — A Dutch court on 7 Tuesday February upheld an appeal by anti-cigarette campaigners and barred the use of public spaces in cafes and bars reserved for smokers.

Despite a general ban on smoking in restaurants, pubs and bars introduced in 2008, more than 25 per cent of small cafes in the Netherlands still have an enclosed inside corner where patrons can legally light up, under an exception to the legislation. But the court in The Hague found that such spaces were “in conflict” with the World Health Organization's framework convention to regulate tobacco use,

which the Netherlands has signed and which entered into force in 2005. “The tobacco laws banning smoking also cover smoking rooms,” the court ruled, adding therefore the exception to the legislation was “invalid”.

Under the loophole, cafes which are smaller than 70 square metres (753 square feet) were allowed to set aside a screened-off area for smokers behind floor-to-ceiling glass windows.

But it had to be less attractively decorated than the rest of the cafe, and no food or drink could be served inside. Clean Air Netherlands (CAN), which had appealed after losing an earlier

case in 2016, said it was “happy and satisfied” with Tuesday's outcome.

It said its mission was to strive for a smoke-free society by discouraging tobacco use.

“Smoking-rooms do not belong with this, therefore this is a small step in the right direction,” it said on its website.

It was not immediately clear when the smoking-rooms would be closed, as there could be a further appeal, Dutch media said. The court also threw out CAN's claim that the ban covers all indoor public smoking spaces, saying it had not provided sufficient evidence.—AFP ■

‘Discover your inner spy’ at New York's latest museum

NEW YORK — New York may already be crammed to breaking point with culture and tourist attractions, but on Friday the city added another feather to its cap: Spyscape — a new museum giving visitors a taste of life as a secret agent.

Part museum, part interactive installation, visitors can undergo a lie detector test, creep past laser beams and decode secret messages at a spanking new premises — four years in the making — close to Central Park.

A former British intelligence officer was recruited to help design the installation, says Spyscape chief of staff Shelby Prichard.

Rooms are devoted to major periods of espionage history, such as the British cracking of the Nazi Enigma code during World War II — and the museum displays an original model of the so-called “bombe” designed by Alan Turing to

help do so.

It also features documents related to US double agent Robert Hanssen, who passed secrets to the Soviets from 1979 to 2001, and US-born Virginia Hall who supported the French resistance during World War II.

The interactive exhibits give visitors the chance to test out their own espionage skills and pass through a series of challenges.

“It's also a personal journey to discover your own inner spy,” said Shelby Prichard.

He said the museum offers a more contemporary perspective than the International Spy Museum in Washington, with sections on hacking and cyber warfare.

“It's optimized for teens and adults, but we think that smart kids are really going to enjoy it too,” the chief of staff said.—AFP ■



in
Picture

Kyantake youth perform Chinese golden dragon dance of the Chinese Lunar New Year in South Okkalapa township, Yangon on 17 February. PHOTO: TN/GNLM ■



Myanmar Lethwei Hero Too Too (red) fights with Vasyl Sorokin (blue).
PHOTO:MNA



Champion of WLC-4, Myanmar Lethwei Hero Too Too seen with the golden belt.
PHOTO:MNA

Myanmar Lethwei fighter Too Too retains World Lethwei Champion title

MYANMAR lethwei fighter Too Too retained his championship title, in a match against Ukrainian Lethwei fighter Vasyl Sorokin at the World Lethwei Championship-4-Champion competition held yesterday at Wunna Theikhti Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the beginning, both players fought with powerful grips, and strong punches and kicks.

In the second round, Too Too kicked more, while blocking more punches from Sorokin.

In the third round, Sorokin landed some kicks, but Too Too retaliated with powerful punches and kicks, causing his fans to cheer.

In the fourth round, the quickness of Too Too was complemented by his powerful and

continuous punches.

In the fifth round, the Myanmar hero continued to dominate, causing Sorokin to lose his balance.

At the Light Welterweight Class (60-63.5 kg), Lethee Moe (T&T Thaton) won the Thway Thit Maung (A Phue Yang Thwe Thit) in the fourth round, while in the Light Weight Class (57-60kg),

Chit Maung Maung (Taung Kalay) defeated Sithu (T&T Thaton) in the fifth round.

Also, at the first ever WLC, Women Featherweight Class (54-57 kg), Myanmar lethwei fighter Shwe Sin Min was defeated by Nosari from Cambodia in the third round.

The finals of the Light Welterweight Class were held, in

which Saw Dar Weit (Taung Kalay) won over Pat Kyaw Lin Naing (Tiger) and Kyaw Zin Latt (T&T Thaton) defeated Bahtoo Maung (Yadanabon) to advance to the final.

Finally, at the Welterweight Class (63-67kg), Saw Ba Oo (Taung Kalay) won the Thabyay (Shwe Barlar) after five rounds.
—Myanmar News Agency ■

19th Myanmar-Thai friendship cycling festival kicks off in Myawady

THE 19th Myanmar-Thai friendship cycling festival was held in Myawady, Kayin State this morning.

Local authorities from both countries encouraged the participants who started the cycling challenge from No (1) Friendship Bridge and ended at Maha Kanaka Pagoda. The participants were also entertained with dance and songs, and they were involved in lucky draw programmes.

The event was jointly organized by Myawady District merchants association and Thai merchants association. A total of 1650 cyclists including students took part in the festival, according to the Information and Public Relations Department.
—Myanmar Digital News ■

Myawady still winless in MPT MNL 2018, draws with Yadanabon

KyawZin Lin

IN a Week-6 match of the MPT Myanmar National League 2018, Yadanabon FC played to a 2-2 draw against Myawady FC at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Although Myawady is a newly formed team in the MNL, they played well and with good tactics against the more experienced Yadanabon team.

Both teams used only

local players in yesterday's match.

Yadanabon FC used its stars Si Thu Aung, Myat Kaung Khant, Win Naing Tun, Hlaing Bo Bo and Thet Naing, while Myawady lined up with fresh players including Wai Yan Oo, Kaung Zayyar Phyo, Kaung Si Thu and Myo Min Htut.

The speedy play used by the young strikers from Myawady in the early minutes kept Yadanabon's midfielders and defenders

busy.

Some weakness were seen in the Yadanabon defensive line, and at the 39-minute mark, Kaung Si Thu made the very first goal of the season for Myawady.

Yadanabon made more of an effort in the second half and substituted Win Naing Soe in a place of Hlaing Bo Bo. Yadanabon nearly got a goal at the 52-minute with a penalty shot by Si Thu Aung, but the kick was blocked by the Myawady

keeper.

Yadanabon gained the equaliser at 64 minutes when Thet Naing scored with a strong kick into the net.

At 75 minutes, Myawady gained their second and go-ahead goal with a foul ball, and Ye Wai Yan Soe kicked the ball directly into the net.

But two minute later, Win Naing Soe made another equaliser for Yadanabon, and the match ended in a 2-2 draw. ■

Summer Football courses for kids in Yangon, Mandalay and Patheingyi

KyawZin Lin

WITH the aim of teaching basic football to children, summer youth football courses will be launched in Yangon, Mandalay and Patheingyi starting from 5 March until 5 April, according to Myanmar Football Federation.

The football courses for

kids are to be conducted at the Football Academies of the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) of Yangon, Mandalay and Patheingyi.

The course attendees must be between the ages of 10 and 14. Both girls and boys are welcome to join.

The one-month course will

be held on weekdays from Monday to Friday.

All the basic football skills will be taught from 7am to 9am every weekday.

The course fee for one child is Ks 30,000 and every child attending will receive a jersey.

At the course's conclusion, outstanding youth players will

be selected and they will get a chance to participate in Myanmar's national youth teams.

All those interested can submit an application at the Football Academies of Yangon, Mandalay and Patheingyi no later than 28 February and call at an official number of 09-251525044 for further information. ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

18 FEBRUARY 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR



Photo: Aye Min Soe

Children Being Grounded!



Ei Chaw Khin Khin
Grade-10, B.E.H.S (2),
San Chaung

NOWADAYS, it becomes extremely hard to find a decent job for newbies. Unless you've got excellent qualifications, it's not easy to find a job. Parents, people who want the best for their children, therefore,

force the children to study hard no matter what. Almost all parents prohibit their children from watching TV or using phones to study hard. Most children nowadays are now not allowed to rest and relax in their leisure time. They are always forced to study. They even don't have free time to rest as their timetables are filled with schools, classes and self-studies. If they make a small mistake, then their time becomes stricter and stricter. We can see that parents really have high goal for their

children. They cannot even recognize that their children is overworked.

To reach the goals, children these days tried their hardest and their best. They studied subjects perfectly however nobody is perfect and we all can make mistakes. I thought that making a mistake is not a problem but repeating that mistake is an issue. But kids nowadays are really scared to make mistakes. I have seen some kids crying because they have written a wrong answer for an ob-

jective question. I have also seen some parents being really strict about marks and grades. They would beat their children for making mistakes. They would think that by beating them, they could improve their grades. But I've always thought that they are probably wrong. I have learnt that a child lies because of the scars and scolding he got when he made a mistake. I always hope that parents would find a better way to teach their children.

SEE PAGE S-3

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 40 : Tag Questions (2)

Hello Class!

We have studied about "Tag Questions" in the last Lesson (39).

Today, let's study about "Tag Questions" to the Negative Statements.

In the last lesson, we studied that we put "Negative Tag Questions" to the Affirmative Statements.

Today, we are going to study that, if we want to put "Tag Questions" to the Negative Sentences, we use "Tag Questions" in "Affirmative Forms".

- e.g. (1) He isn't a good guy, is he?
 (2) She wasn't rich, was she?
 (3) They didn't try their best, did they?
 (4) You haven't got a valuable ring, have you?
 (5) He never writes his letters well, does he?
 (6) She cannot sing sweetly, can she?

Here in these sentences, you have already know how to make the short form of the Negative Verbs. So, it is very easy to put "Tag Questions" in Affirmative forms at the ends of the Negative sentences.

Please do not forget how to tackle with different Verbs, such as Verbs to Be (am, is, are, was, were), Verbs to Have (has, have had), Action Verbs (used with do, does, did) and Helping Verbs (can, could, shall, should, will, would, may, might, ought).

Now try yourselves to do the following exercises. They all are easy to deal with.

Exercise 40

I. Put the "Tag Questions" to the following Statements.

- Maung Maung isn't a nice student.
- Our children aren't clever.
- We are not intelligent.
- They weren't in the class.
- My brother wasn't very weak these days.
- All my friends are not funny.
- They aren't good girls.
- He wasn't handsome indeed.
- They were not very young last three years.
- He isn't feeling bad.

II. Put "Tag Questions" to the following Statements.

- I haven't a lovely sister.
- You have not a nice brother.
- She has not some nice books.
- He hadn't different flowers in his garden.
- She hasn't got very nice parents.
- I had no aunts at that time.
- They haven't good neighbours.
- They had not dry clothes.
- You hadn't a little puppy.
- The girl hasn't a lovely puppy.

III. Put "Tag Questions" to the following Statements.

- You can't solve the problem.

- I couldn't answer that difficult question.
- He won't come up soon.
- They wouldn't find the lost child.
- I shan't fetch the water.
- They shouldn't speak politely.
- He mightn't sell that car.
- You can't organize them easily.
- He couldn't read very well.
- They shouldn't take rest.

IV. Put "Tag Questions" to the following Statements.

- He doesn't write these good books.
- She didn't write that lovely poem.
- I didn't say it to you.
- You do not warn me about him.
- She doesn't like cooking.
- He didn't try a lot in this case.
- They do not run away at the end.
- He didn't paint that beautiful picture.
- They didn't laugh out loud.
- We didn't like the stories so much.

That's all for today Class ! Hope that you can tackle these very easily!

Please do not forget to put a Question mark at the end of every Question.

Bye Bye Class ! See you next week !

Your English Teacher (GNLM).

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

Here are the answers to the last week's exercises.
Exercise 39.

I. Put "Tag Questions" to the following Statements.

- Maung Maung is a nice student, isn't he?
- Our children are clever, aren't they?
- We are intelligent, aren't we?
- They were in the class, weren't they?
- My brother was very weak those days, wasn't he?
- All my friends are very funny, aren't they?
- They are good girls, aren't they?
- He was handsome indeed, wasn't he?
- They were very young in the last twenty years, weren't they?
- He is feeling bad, isn't he?

II. Put "Tag Questions" to the following Statements.

- I have a lovely sister, haven't I?

- You have a nice brother, haven't you?
- She has some nice books, hasn't she?
- He had different flowers in his garden, hadn't he?
- She has very nice parents, hasn't she?
- I had one Aunt at that time, hadn't I?
- They have good neighbours, haven't they?
- They had only wet clothes, hadn't they?
- You had a little puppy, hadn't you?
- The girl has a lovely puppy, hasn't she?

III. Put "Tag Questions" to the following Statements.

- You can solve this problem, can't you?
- I could answer that difficult question, couldn't I?
- He will come up soon, won't he?
- They would find the lost child, wouldn't they?
- I shall fetch the water, shan't I?
- They should speak politely, shouldn't they?

- He might sell that car, mightn't he?
- You can organize them easily, can't you?
- He could read very well, couldn't he?
- They should take rest, shouldn't they?

IV. Put "Tag Questions" to the following Statements.

- He writes this good book, doesn't he?
- She wrote that lovely poem, didn't she?
- I said it to you, didn't I?
- You warn me about him, don't you?
- She likes cooking, doesn't she?
- He tried a lot in this case, didn't he?
- They run away at the end, don't they?
- He painted that beautiful picture, didn't he?
- They laugh out loud, don't they?
- We liked the stories so much, didn't we?

Hope that you all have done well !

That's all for today Class.

Bye Bye ! See you next week!

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Educational Change

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

(Continued from last week)

If a permanent solution is to be found to the hierarchical arrangement of an instructional system team, a personnel and salary structure must be created with classification by rank or position, which can introduce order into school staffing. Also, there should be developed more highly specialized teaching assignments based on particular competencies, personalities, or other important variables in the communication-learning process.

A common viewpoint among educators and pedagogues is that it is all right to have teacher aids or other types of assistance from nonteaching personnel as long as not permitted to teach.

This questionable attitude carries with it the assumption that a teaching responsibility cannot be shared with anyone who is not professional, certificated teacher or pedagogue. Educational critic Lieberman points to situations in medical practice in which the difficult task is diagnosis, whereas the work after diagnosis may be as simple as giving a patient a pill.

On the other hand, there are situations in which the diagnosis is obvious



even to a nurse but the action called for requires the highest levels of professional judgment and skill. In other words, one cannot say that the medical aids should never do any diagnosing or that they should never do any medicating. Lieberman draws an analogy to this situation by saying it might be very hard to diagnose reading difficulty but relatively easy to supervise the remedial action needed

once the diagnosis is clear.

To bring a close to this chapter, it is best to remember that, whatever role a member of the instructional systems team is given, be it nonteaching, diagnostic or otherwise, it must be appropriate to his

- (i) Education or professional and formal training;
- (ii) Experience, and

(iii) Skill, in that PARTICULAR ORDER and NOT the other way round.

References

- (1) Myron Lieberman, "The Future of Public Education", (Chicago ; the University of Chicago Press, 1960)
- (2) Saettier, op.cit.
- (3) Dr. Khin Zaw, "Systems Thinking", 1962.

Heed in Need

Friends coiling at tables in tea shops
Sink in the events a long way off
Talk less and seemingly unaware of
What is happening on their tops

Family gathering at table for dinner
Busy with their own matters in top gear
But only silence grows in the atmosphere
As no member touches on the family matters

People like, share or argue and fight
Over the matters on the Internet
But fail to appreciate moments not come back
Too occupied to notice their days closing night

Put aside your phone a moment please
So as to spare your beloved ones a while
As the time is passing you by
On its own without cease



Honey Soe
(B.M.T.M)
University of
Traditional
Medicine, Mandalay

Children Being Grounded!

FROM PAGE S-1

For me, my parents are a bit different in their ways of training me. My dad is really understanding to me and he always sympathizes with me. He doesn't force me to study but explains me why I should study with reasons. He never hits me when I make something wrong. He always encourages me to tell the truth instead of lying. That makes me feel courageous to admit what I have done wrong. He isn't that strict, too. Rather than getting marvelous grades and marks, which almost every parent wants, he wants me to understand my lessons. He said getting high grades is also important but understanding the lessons and how to apply them in real life is more important. He is really supportive, too. He is always there for me whenever I need someone. He never told me that I was bad or good. He doesn't judge someone with his opinions but by spending a great time with them. He is my ideal person and also a hero in my life. He really loves me, too.

For my mom, she is a bit different

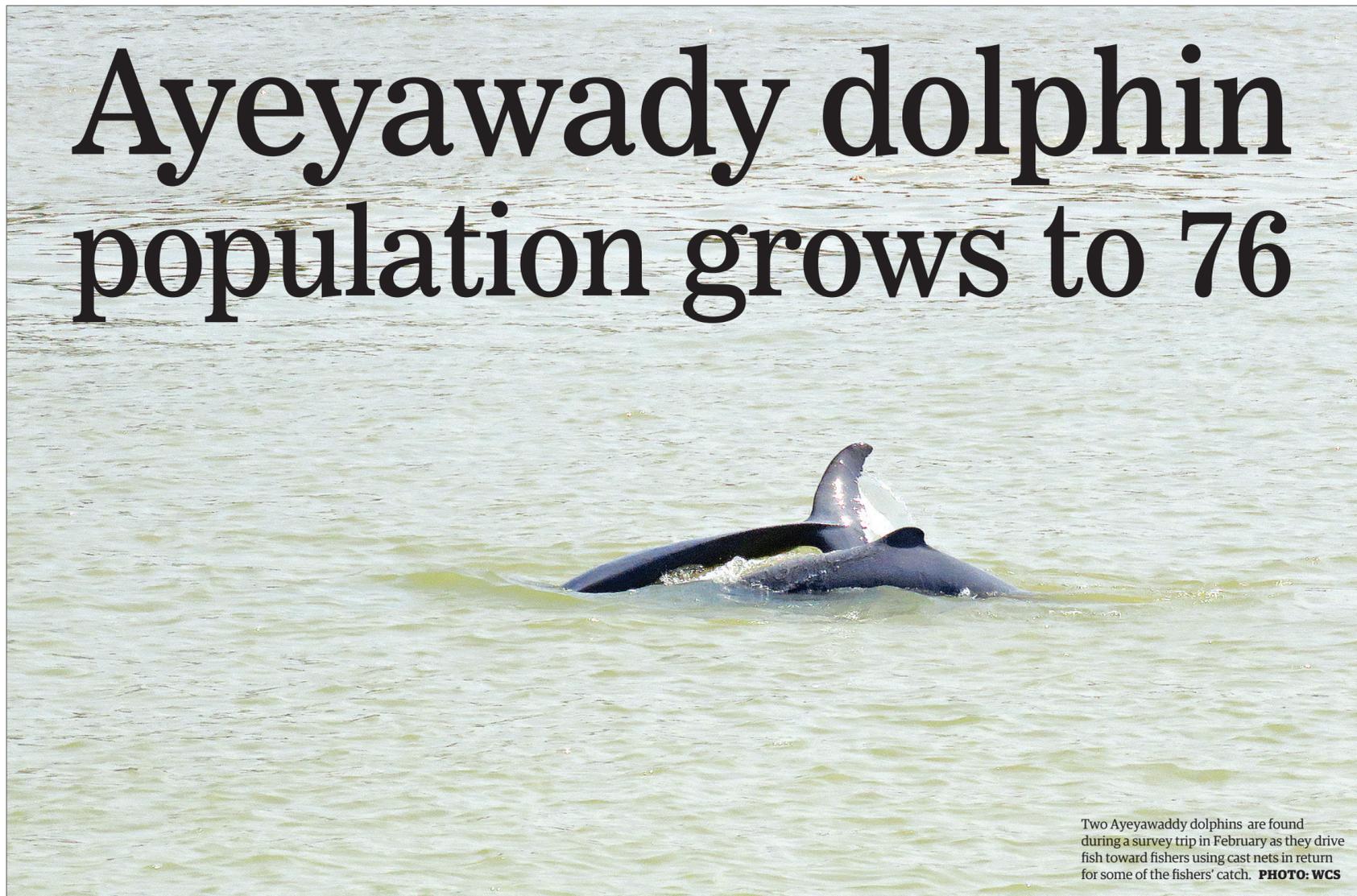
from my dad. She wants me to get really high marks and to pass the matriculation exam with flying colours as she really wants me to have a fabulous future. She always helps me with my studying my lessons. She also manages my time schedule. Moreover, she gives me many advices for my studies. She is also a great mom who always looks after me. She really hopes highly of me. She wants me to become an outstanding doctor who saves people's lives. It is a really great ambition for me to achieve, but it would be a lie if I say I don't get stress and burden from her expectations of me. It is sometimes a bit difficult to reach her expectations. I am afraid of letting her down. I don't want her to be disappointed so I tried hard. I follow all of her advices and comments. I am thankful to her that I get full determination in studies because of her. She loves me a lot, too.

As a student, it would be a lie if I say I am not stressed about studies. Sometimes I get really stressed because of the drop of marks and grades. I am fine with that but I can know obviously that

my parents are a bit upset about that by their facial expressions. Also, the people around me keep telling me to keep up with studies. Being adolescence, I am sometimes stubborn about that. I am a bit childish, too. If they keep saying repeatedly, I would do the opposite on purpose. I also study behind their back and play in front of them though I know it is not good. I really want to change this bad behavior. No matter what, I believe I have great parents who guide me to the right way. They don't force me to choose the university they would like me to have. They always give me advices about my choices. They never compare me with others. They always forgive me for what I have done wrong. They would never beat me for my mistakes. I am very grateful that they are not strict parents who make me do what they want. I hope every parent would understand their children's talents and imaginations. I hope they don't force the children in the choice of future. Lastly, I hope the children are not grounded for relaxation.

NEXT GEN PLATFORM

Ayeyawady dolphin population grows to 76



Two Ayeyawaddy dolphins are found during a survey trip in February as they drive fish toward fishers using cast nets in return for some of the fishers' catch. PHOTO: WCS



Local fishermen shows fishing in the Ayeyawady River together with Ayeyawady dolphins. PHOTO: WCS



The survey team comprising conservationists from Wildlife Conservation Society (Myanmar), Fisheries Department and local people. PHOTO: WCS

By Nyi Tu

A SURVEY in February has found that there are now 76 Ayeyawady dolphins in the conservation areas of the Ayeyawady River, an increase from 69 found in the last survey.

Ayeyawady dolphins are a critically endangered species.

Seven new dolphins, including two babies, were spotted by conservationists from the Fisheries Department and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) during the most recent survey trip, which began on 6 February and ended on 17 February.

The conservationists travelled the Ayeyawady River from Mandalay to Bhamo, Kachin State during the 11-day survey trip.

Officials said it is significant that two baby dolphins were found in the area between Htigyaing and Shweku townships, where two dolphins were found dead last year.

In the leg of Bhamo this year, the conservationists found 13 dolphins, including one baby dolphin, an increase

from 7 last year.

During the trip, authorities who accompanied the conservationists brought fishermen in 17 fishing boats to court on suspicion of electric battery-shock fishing, which is mostly blamed for the deaths of Ayeyawady dolphins.

Battery-shock fishing and net fishing are mostly blamed for the deaths of Ayeyawady dolphins.

With this most deaths of dolphins. Most of the dead dolphins were found near Bhamo and Katha and were caused by illegal fishing, according to the fisheries department.

The Fisheries Department and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) of Myanmar conducts a survey and research on the activities of Ayeyawady dolphins from Mandalay to Bhamo in Ayeyawady river in February every year.

The trip is scheduled to take place over 10 days.

During the trip, the Fisheries Department and the WCS will provide awareness on dolphin conservation, as well as convince local villagers not to catch fish using electric-shock methods.

They will also set up signboards to

warn and increase awareness among people," said U Han Win, who is in charge of Ayeyawady dolphin conservation under the Fisheries Department.

Data on the dolphins will be collected with the use of a small boat and a ship. To locate the dolphins, we will use the GPS system, 7x50mm lens, a depth meter, a sounder and cameras.

Ayeyawady dolphins come to the water surface every 30 to 60 seconds and do not jump like sea dolphins, but only swim slowly.

According to data collected in February 2017, there were 25 dolphins living in a 72-kilometre stretch between Mingun and Kyaukmyaung, 43 dolphins living in a 117-kilometre stretch in the Bhamo area and 68 dolphins living between Mandalay and Bhamo.

Electrocution suspected in death of endangered dolphin in Ayeyawady

The carcass of an Irrawaddy female dolphin was found in the Ayeyawady River in January 2018, according to an official of Katha Township's Department of Fisheries.

"We received information that one Ir-

rawaddy dolphin was found dead near the Aung Chan Thar ward in Katha Township in Sagaing Region. The dolphin was found with an injury on her blowhole believed to have been caused by a human. And it can also be assumed to be old in age because its size is 7 feet long", said an official from the Department of Fisheries.

The killing of dolphins, which are believed to have been killed by illegal electrofishing in last two years, has set off alarm bells for conservationists to step up efforts for saving the endangered species.

During the monthly survey trip, the team found a one-foot long dolphin fetus in its mother's womb. The Ayeyawady dolphin is on the brink of extinction.

Some conservationists suspect the degraded quality of the river water contributed to the death of the dolphin.

"The death can be assumed due to abortion because the water is polluted with chemicals from farmlands along the river and pollution caused by gold mines," said U Han Win, a dolphin conservationist.

Battery-shock fishing and net fishing are mostly blamed for the deaths of Ayeyawady dolphins.

Illegal electric-shock fishing is

blamed for killing some dolphins, while some were caught in fishing nets.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has warned that Irrawaddy dolphins are at risk of extinction. In Myanmar, Irrawaddy dolphins been known to drive fish toward fishers using cast nets in return for some of the fishers' catch.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has warned that Irrawaddy dolphins are at risk of extinction. In Myanmar, Irrawaddy dolphins have been known to drive fish toward fishermen's nets in return for some of the fishermen's catch.

But with many fishermen on the Ayeyawady river using illegal battery-shock fishing techniques, the dolphins often also fall prey to electrocution.

Illegal battery-shock fishing has become a big challenge for conservationists and local authorities in their quest to save the endangered species, according to Myanmar's fisheries department.

The Myanmar government has banned electrofishing nationwide, punishing violators with a three-year prison sentence and a K300,000 fine.

SUNDAY COMICS



PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2018



The Rakhine Traditional Dishes



Shrimp curry, chili-hot Nga-nitu salad, famous Rakhine paste and roselle soups.

By San Lwin
(Fishery Department)

AS one of Rakhine close friends invited me to have lunch together; I arrive at his house early at 10 in the morning. He greeted me something like this: As it is too early, I haven't cooked anything yet! I explained to him that I would like to observe how to cook in Rakhine style. He burst into laughter and entered the kitchen quickly with a basketful of things bought from the nearby bazaar. He prepared to cook one dish after another saying Rakhine way of cooking is quick and I can have the food fresh and hot.

Sliced pieces of local chicken are washed properly and put into a bowl with some salt, turmeric powder and shrimp paste to get all ingredients brought to a proper consistency. Then he pounded noisily onions, garlic and green chilli

in a mortar and put them on the sliced chicken in a bowl. Then he put a pot on the stove, by emptying the sliced chicken into the pot with a whip of little amount of cooking oil and water rinsed from the bowl. It is really a quick way of cooking indeed.

Three aubergine fruits of pale green are peeled and sliced into circles. The sliced aubergine fruits are added to the cooking pot after burning sensation and stirred properly. Then boiled water from thermos flask is poured into the pot be a little higher above the sliced chicken. Then an armful of stalk-removed chilli of extremely hot kind and cloves of garlic are put in a small pan and stirred.

After cooking properly they are put aside on a separate plate. Then he continues to stir head-removed Nga nitu to be properly cooked to put aside on

a separate plate again. An armful of shrimp paste is put into that pan for baking.

When the pot on the stove is boiling, he removes the lid to taste the thin gravy chicken soup and put it aside. Then he pounds dried shrimps in a mortar. After a while, chilli of extremely hot kind, garlic and baked shrimp paste are added to dried shrimp powder in the mortar to get properly mixed. Then peeled and salted shrimps are mixed with two small balls of sliced chicken with a whip of little cooking oil to put into a small pan. Squeezed tomatoes are also put into the pan. When you hear a sound of boiling, open the lid to find the red and watery curry. These shrimp dishes, cooked in Rakhine style, will be mouth-watering indeed.

When lunch time has come, Nga-ni-

tu on the plate with small balls of paste from the mortar and thinly sliced onions with hand-squeezed lime juices are ready for visitors. The remains of the shrimp paste, Rakhine shrimp curry, hot pot of chicken watery gravy, roselle soup and different kinds of salads are unforgettable and indescribable in writing.

Chicken soup-cum-gravy goes well with aubergine salads and is totally different from the previous one we have had. Shrimp curry, chili-hot Nga-nitu salad, famous Rakhine paste and roselle soups go well with visitors to gulf down greedily. The Rakhine traditional food and drinks such as watery Mohinga, meat and fish, several kinds of seafood soup-cum-gravy, cuttlefish, jellyfish and Nga-nitu fish are favourite Rakhine traditional dishes.

*Translated by
Arakan Sein*

Not Every University Students are Delinquent



Myat Lay Ayeyar
Third Year (English)

I would like to define the term 'university' as a place where we can study a subject we prefer. So far, attending a university has been decided on the result of matriculation examination. Getting a high or low marks in it directly relates to a popular university in it directly relates to a popular university we can attend or not. A person who gets a low mark in it has no chance to join a popular university such as university of medicine, technological university, university of computer studies, etc. and he has to join on ordinary university called Arts and Sciences universities.

Today, Some People have a negative attitude on university students. I don't know why they think of it.

I would like to say the first-hand event. I have the pupils who have been taught English by me. One day, her mother told me something while I was teaching English to her. "Today's university students are delinquent. They are wasting time in canteen without attending classes, smoking, drinking liqueur, taking drugs and so on." she said. Her thought is merely right only ten per cent in hundred per cent. I do want to deny that her word "Every university students are delinquent". In real situation, however,



Photo: Phoe Khwar

some of them are delinquent but most of them are not.

On the one hand, there are so many good things and bad things we should and shouldn't do in campus on where we have

to decide ourselves.

On the other hand, we must be exemplar in everything dealt with our characters, behaviours abilities and so on when we compare with those who have

only the normal standard.

To sum up, we are the leader of the future and the master of our spirit. Therefore, we have to try to be honoured and admired on everyone's view.

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Why I love my parents



Nay Tun Oo
Grade-5, Brown Academy

All the people have parents. Whether they are good parents or bad ones. Most of the parents are good for their children.

Like wise, my parents are good and kind to us. My father is a successful businessman. He is very good at earning money. Therefore, we don't have to be worried for food, clothing and shelter. My mother is a good housewife who can provide us with everything we need. So, we can lead to an easy life without any delay at home as well as in school.

We can help out mother at home

but we can never help our father with his work. At any case, they never shout at me angrily. They only train us how to speak politely. They also guide us to welcome New Day and bid farewell to Old Day, saying prayers at Lord Buddha Image. Moreover, they teach us to respect the elders forever. Both of them want us to become not only educated persons but also learned ones in life. In this way, my parents help make a peaceful and safe life for us.

When I was 6 years old, they also told me not to fight with each other. On my birthday they give me many presents according to my wish. And on the Sabbath days, they take us to the Shwe Dagon Pagoda at night and then we are able to play happily in the playground or in the People's Park.

That's why I love my parents.