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VP U Myint Swe inspects natural resources, environmental management works in Kawthoung

CHAIRMAN of Central Committee for the Administration and Management of Natural Resources in Coastal Areas (National Level) Vice President U Myint Swe who was in Taninthayi Region inspected management and administration of natural resources in coastal areas, natural environment conservation works and the border trade station in Kawthoung District yesterday.

The Vice President and party went to Victoria Cliff Hotel & Resort on Kawthoung District, Bokpyin Township, Zardatkyi Village Tract, Nyaung Oo Phee Island and inspected project works, status of conservation the natural environment and the eco system, conduct of travel business and the status of the coastal areas and Managing Director U Khin Maung Win provided explanations.

Next, the Vice President and party went to Zardatkyi Village and met with ethnic Salon nationals of the village in the village administrator's office.

At the meeting the Vice President spoke of his delight in meeting with ethnic Salon nationals who has the smallest population. He gave instructions to ethnic Salon nationals to preserve and maintain their tribe, cultures and traditions, put ef-



Vice President U Myint Swe observes scale model of the boat and house of Salon ethnic people displayed at Zardatkyi Village in Kawthoung District. **PHOTO:MNA**

orts toward learning literature for socio-economic development and presented food for the elders.

After the meeting, the Vice President went to the marine museum of ethnic Salon nationals in the village and observed

the traditional Salon house, boat, various shells and corals from the sea on display and remarked on exhibiting history of ethnic

Salon nationals, photographs of cultures and traditions and outstanding ethnic Salon nationals.

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Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint visits Philippines media

A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint visited Philippine News Agency (PNA) in Quezon City and observed the work of PNA and PNA Director Virginia R. Archilla-Agtay explained in detail about PNA's policy on gathering news, organisation of PNA, collection of news from all the regions of the country, editing and publishing news.

From there they went on to Philippine Information Agency (PIA) where Director General Harold E. Clavide and officials explained about PIA's news information policy and work processes, distribution of news to the people through radio, television and social networks. Next, at the Radyo Pilipinas studio, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint, Philippines Presidential Com-

munications Operations (PCOO) Secretary Jose Ruperto Martin M. Andar and Deputy Permanent Secretary U Myint Kyaw discussed and broadcasted signing of memorandum of understanding on bilateral information sector cooperation and the matter of bilateral cooperation on media and information in the Cabinet Report program of Radyo Pilipinas.

Afterwards they went to People's Television Network (PTV) where PTV Station Manager Ms. Alan L. Allanigue explained about production and broadcasting of PTV programs, cooperation and program exchanges conducted with international audio/video broadcasting organisations and conducted a television interview with Union



The Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint (Third from Right) poses for a documentary photo together with officials at the Philippines Broadcasting Service. **PHOTO: MNA**

Minister Dr. Pe Myint on status of bilateral cooperation in media sector. Later in the afternoon the Union Minister went to Movie

and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) where MTRCB Executive Director Atty. Ann Marie L. Nemenzo provided

explanations on status of rating movies and television programs and organisation of MTRCB.—MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe opens 39th Myanmar Dental Conference



Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe addresses the opening ceremony of the 39th Myanmar Dental Conference in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

AN opening ceremony of the 39th Myanmar Dental Conference, organized by the Myanmar Dental Association (MDA), was held at the Lotte Hotel, Yangon, yesterday morning. In addressing the opening ceremony, Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe said the Myanmar Dental Association's holding its 39th conference reflects the

unity of the association and the association's will to ensure the further development of dental and oral medical practices in Myanmar. The ministry, Myanmar Dental Association, Myanmar Dental Council and related associations, entities and departments will continue to cooperate and work together for the ongoing

development and progress in the two main sectors of dental and oral health, consisting of treatment and public health, and especially in cooperation with the Myanmar Medical Association.

Dental and oral medical and treatment are developing rapidly in developed countries, and Myanmar needs to expand its own efforts. Public health works related to dental and oral medical must be increased to reduce dental and oral medical problems that occur in Myanmar. Projects are being carried out for dentists and health personnel to use modern communication and information technologies to participate in continuous study and learning. The benefits of the conference will assist a new generation of dental and oral doctors in learning from the knowledge and experiences of veteran dental and oral experts,

acquire information on latest treatment methodologies and to expand their networks. Local and international experts are urged to provide suggestions on the development of Myanmar dental and oral medicine at this conference, said the Union Minister. All are urged to continue their work, as per the theme of the conference, in expanding volunteer work and raising professional standards. The ministry is conducting school health projects as a priority, and dental and oral experts are urged to participate and cooperate in dental and oral health care in school health projects. Through these programmes, some 9.5 million students will see improved dental and oral health.

The Myanmar Dental Association President, Professor Dr. Thein Kyu, and MDA Executive Committee member Dr. Khin

Hnin Aye delivered messages of greetings, followed by a speech of appreciation by China Stomatological Association Chairman Professor Guangyan Yu.

Afterwards, Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe, Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein, Region Hluttaw Deputy Speaker, permanent secretaries, Department of Public Health, and the Medical Services acting Director General and MDA President cut the ceremonial ribbon to officially open the conference exhibition and inspect the booths. The 39th Myanmar Dental Conference will be held through 26 January and is being attended by national level dental, oral and health organisations' medical experts from Myanmar, China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Philippines, Australia and Hong Kong.—MNA ■

MPs, experts discuss taxing Virginia tobacco products

EXPERTS were briefed, along with Hluttaw representatives, about taxation of Myanmar's Virginia leaves tobacco products in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The briefing was opened with remarks delivered by Director of the Food and Drug Administration Prof. Dr. Khin Zaw, Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Health Sports Affairs Committee Dr. San Shwe Win and Representative of the World Health Organization Ms. Alaka Singh.

Speaking at the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Khin Zaw said increasing taxes is an effective strate-

gy to reduce the consumption of tobacco and Virginia-based products by the public, noting that 62 per cent of men and 24 per cent of woman in Myanmar consume tobacco when chewing betel quids.

He also pointed out that consumption of tobacco and Virginia leaves-based products is a preventable problem which leads to some 7 million deaths every year throughout the world.

The number of tobacco related cancer patients is predicted to reach 22 million within 20 years, increasing from 14 million

in 2012, according to the world Health Organization.

Also, Dr. San Shwe Win said in his remarks that the burden from non-communicable diseases is becoming heavier, pointing out that over half of all deaths are due to non-communicable diseases.

He further noted that Myanmar enacted a law to reduce the consumption of tobacco, and the country achieved success in the drive, to some extent.

At the meeting, experts and MPs discussed the weak and strong points of increasing



Briefing to Parliamentarians on Tobacco Taxation in Myanmar(2019) being convened. **PHOTO: HTAN PHONE**

taxes on tobacco products, seeking ways to overcome possible challenges from the taxation,

along with expectations from the departments concerned.—Kyaw Maw ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

Vice President U Myint Swe inspects natural resources, environmental management works in Kawthoung

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From there, the Vice President and party went by a marine vessel to Thahtay Island and observed the method of producing natural fertilizer mainly from banana tree, milk, eggs and sugar; status of producing chemical free vegetable using that natural fertilizer; status of breeding salt-water shrimp using modern technology and works conducted to conserve the natural environment and the eco system while Grand Andaman Hotel & Resort owner U Kyaw Lwin provided explanations.

From Thahtay Island the Vice President and party went to the border trade station in Kawthoung where Department of Trade Deputy Director General U Min Min explained about the particulars of the border trade station, export and import status and future works. Deputy Minister U Aung Htoo provided additional explanations.

The Vice President spoke about increasing the trade value and to strive towards achieving a trade surplus. Furthermore, as illegal imports through the border were affecting the existence of small and medium enterprises, the Region's special task forces which have been formed to prevent illegal trade were required to take effective actions and report back monthly without fail on the progress, said the Vice President.

Afterwards, the Vice President and party visited the Bayintnaung Point.

Earlier in the afternoon of 25



Vice President U Myint Swe and the delegation inspect cleanliness of a beach in Kawthoung District yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

January the Vice President and party went by marine vessel to Wa Ale Island and inspected the Wa Ale Island Resort and Lampi marine national park. Wa Ale Island Resort CEO Mr. Christopher Kingsley explained about environmental and eco system conservation works on Wa Ale Island Resort and Forest Department Director General Dr.

Nyi Nyi Kyaw explained about the establishment of the Lampi marine national park, particulars about the park and status of maintaining natural environment and eco-system.

The Vice President commented that the environment and eco-system conservation on Wa Ale Island Resort was a good model. Other Island Resorts were

required to take this as a model. Evergreen forests, tidal mangroves, sand bank forests and eco-system were in the one and only Lampi marine national park and thus it must be conserved and protected while efforts towards establishing another similar national park was required to be made. Systematic works must be conducted to prevent

discarding of plastic and other wastes and to prevent banned fishing methods using poisons, explosives, electric shock, small mesh net and baby trawl, said the Vice President.

The Vice President and party then observed the beaches, forest, eco-system maintenance works conducted in Lampi marine national park by marine vessels.

From there, the Vice President and party went on by a marine vessel to Kawthoung District, Bokpyin Township, Su Nge Ba Line Village Tract, 115 Island where Co Coon Hotel Co., Ltd. Managing Director U Soe Moe Aye explained about Island 115 Resort project particulars, status of natural environment conservation works, works conducted and future works. The Vice President remarked on taking the works on Wa Ale Island in Lampi marine national park as an example in preserving and maintaining natural environment and bio-diversity and to conduct vocational training courses for the local people.

Yesterday afternoon the Vice President and party returned to Yangon by air from Kawthoung.

— MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Vice President U Myint Swe meeting with Salon ethnic people in Zardatkyi Village in Kawthoung district yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe is welcomed by Ambassador-Designate of India to Myanmar Mr. Saurabh Kumar at the ceremony to celebrate the 70th Republic Day of India. **PHOTO: MNA**

70th Republic Day of India celebrated

A ceremony to celebrate the 70th Republic Day of India was held at the residence of the Indian ambassador in Yangon yesterday evening and was attended by Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe and wife Daw May Yin Tun.

The event started with the playing of the national anthems of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of India.

Next, Ambassador-Designate of India to Myanmar Mr. Saurabh Kumar and Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe delivered speeches and took a commemorative group photo with the invited guests. Afterwards

the Indian ambassador hosted a dinner for Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe and wife Daw May Yin Tun and invited guests while Myanmar-India traditional dances were performed. Also present at the ceremony were Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Chief of General Staff (Army, Navy, Air force) General Mya Tun Oo, high ranking Tatmadaw officers, ambassadors and charge d'affaires from embassies in Yangon, the UN resident representative and invited guests. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Myanmar Ethnic Culture Fest Expo 2019 begins



Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin and dignitaries formally open the Myanmar Ethnic Culture Fest Expo 2019 at the Kyaikkasan Sports Ground in Yangon. **PHOTO: AUNG MYINT (IPRD)**

THE Myanmar Ethnic Culture Fest Expo 2019 organized by Myanmar Ethnic Entrepreneurs Association (MEEA) was opened yesterday at the Kyaikkasan Sports Ground in Tamway Township, Yangon Region, yesterday.

The expo was formally opened by Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin and officials.

Clothing, consumer products, medicines, vegetables,

cosmetics and automobiles are exhibited in about 200 booths at the Expo. In the afternoon, the union minister accompanied by regions and states' ethnic affairs ministers and officials from Myanmar Ethnic Entrepreneurs Association (MEEA) went to the Insein General Hospital and encouraged the members of Kayin traditional culture troupe who are undergoing medical treatment in the inpatient ward for in-

juries they got in a car accident.

The injured Kayin traditional culture troupe members were provided with K 500,000 each by Ministry of Ethnic Affairs and Kayin ethnic affairs minister in Bago Region, and K 1 million each by Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association and Myanmar Ethnic Entrepreneurs Association (MEEA). — Thi Thi Min / (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Co-operative University of Thanlyin holds 6th graduation ceremony

The 6th graduation ceremony of Co-operative University of Thanlyin which is affiliated with Ministry of Agricultural, Livestock and Irrigation was held yesterday at the Convocation Hall of Yangon University in Yangon. In her speech at the ceremony, Dr. Yi Yi Win, Rector of the Co-operative University of Thanlyin, urged the fresh graduates to try their best to become youth co-operative leaders and entrepreneurs of new generation, fulfilling the needs of the country and people.

At the ceremony, Master's degrees in Accounting and Finance were conferred on 21 graduates; Master's degrees in Applied Statistics on four graduates; Master's degrees in Marketing Management on 15 graduates; Master's degrees in Regional Development on four

graduates; Master's degrees in Social Enterprise Management on four graduates; Post Diploma's degrees in Accounting and Finance on two graduates and Post Diploma's in Marketing Management on three graduates.

Additionally, the university conferred on 101 graduates Bachelor of Business Science's degrees in Accounting and Finance; 85 graduates Bachelor of Business Science's degrees in Applied Statistics; 106 Bachelor of Business Science's degrees in Marketing Management; 73 Bachelor of Business Science's degrees in Regional Development; 74 Bachelor of Business Science's degrees in Social Enterprise Management and 57 Bachelor of Business Science's degrees. — Ko Zaw (Dala)

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



6th graduation ceremony of Co-operative University of Thanlyin being convened. **PHOTO: KO ZAW (DALA)**

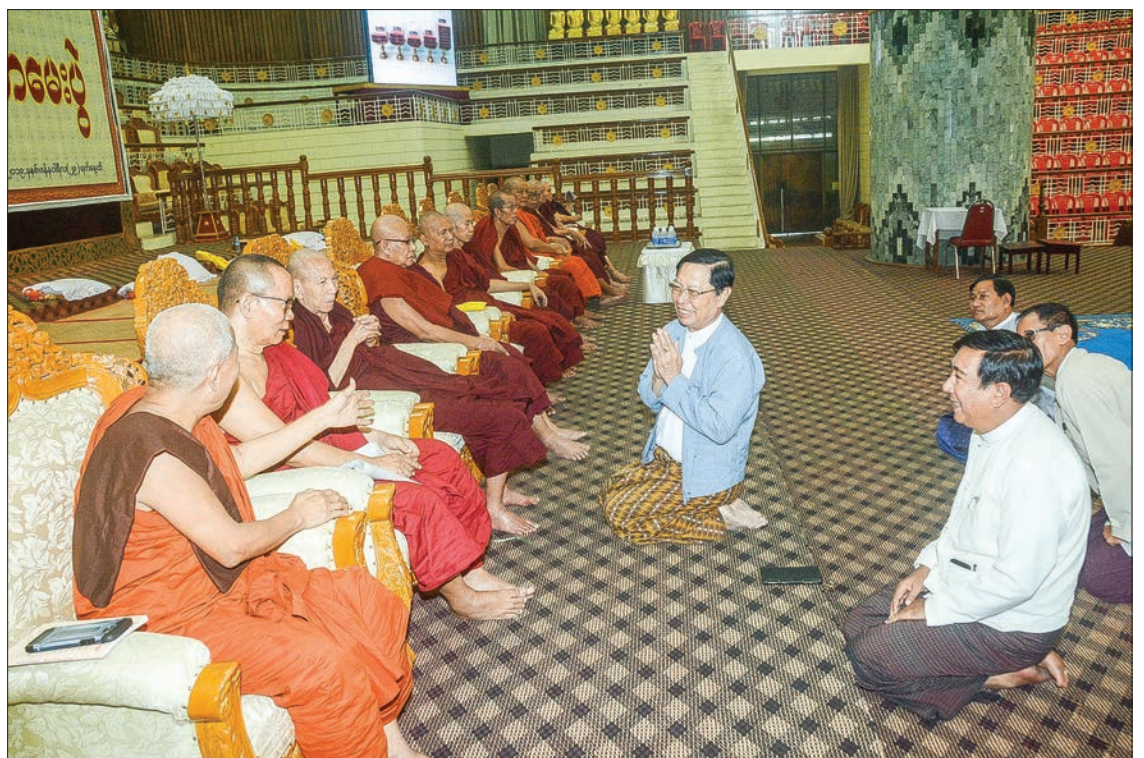
Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko visits Tipitakadhara examination

UNION Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko and officials paid homage to patron Sayadaws, examiner Sayadaws and Sanghas sitting for the 71st Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida selection examination held at Maha Pathana Cave, Kaba Aye Hill, Mayangon Township, Yangon, yesterday afternoon.

Ninety-five Sanghas were sitting for the day's examination on principals and ideas. To receive the Tipitaka Kovida degree, there will be five stages of oral recitations and five stages of written examinations

on principals and ideas. The Tipitakadhara degree will be awarded if the 20-volume Tipitaka Pali is successfully recited and the Tipitaka Kovida degree will be earned if the written examination on definitions, principals and ideas prescribed in more than 100 volumes of texts is passed.

Ever since the Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida selection examinations were started on Myanmar Era 1310, until the 70th examination, there have been 14 Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida religious heroes.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko pays homage to Sayadaws at the 71st Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida selection examination at Maha Pathana Cave, Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon, yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Gold plate, gold paint donated to Uppatasanti Pagoda



The ceremony to donate gold plate and gold paint for the Uppatasanti Pagoda on Uppatasanti Hill, Nay Pyi Taw, being held yesterday at the congregation hall of the pagoda. PHOTO: MNA

A ceremony to donate gold plate and gold paint for the Uppatasanti Pagoda on Uppatasanti Hill, Nay Pyi Taw, was held yesterday at the congregation hall of the pagoda.

The ceremony was attended by sanghas, led by Nay Pyi Taw Lewe town Pauk Myaing monastery principal patron Abhidhaja Maharhtaguru Sayadaw Bhaddanta Zanenda, and also

included Union Attorney General U Tun Tun Oo, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Kyi Min, Nay Pyi Taw Council members,

permanent secretaries, heads of departments, officials and donors.

The ceremony began with the chanting of 'namaw satta' by the audience, who then took the five precepts from Nay Pyi Taw Lewe town Pauk Myaing monastery principal patron Abhidhaja Maharhtaguru Sayadaw Bhaddanta Zanenda, followed by the Union Attorney General, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and officials, who donated offerings to the sanghas.

Next, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung explained to the sanghas about religious matters related to donating gold plates and paint.

Afterwards, 74 people contributed donations for the pagoda to the Union Attorney General, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, Deputy Minister and officials,

and were presented with certificates of honor.

The audience then listened to a sermon by Nay Pyi Taw Lewe town Pauk Myaing monastery principal patron Abhidhaja Maharhtaguru Sayadaw Bhaddanta Zanenda, shared merit for the donations and concluded the ceremony.

At the day's ceremony, 74 donors donated 152 gold plates, weighing nearly 9 Viss, and Ks 139,025,450 for gold paint.

Those wanting to donate gold plates and gold paint can contact Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aung Myin Tun at telephone 067-550213, Nay Pyi Taw head of religious affairs office director at telephone 09-2132191 or 067-550321 and Uppatasanti Pagoda Trustee member U Tun Kyi at telephone 09-5135698 or 067-25943.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

Six Muslims transferred by Indian Govt to be reunited with their families

ON 3 January, six Muslims, including Mahmut Salem, were transferred by the India government to Myanmar government at the Tamu-Moreh border gate, and they are now being reunited with their families, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In order to transfer the six Muslims, assessments were conducted by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population on whether they were originally

from Myanmar and had earlier resided here, and then the information was relayed to the Myanmar Embassy in Bangladesh. The Myanmar Embassy issued a Certificate of Identity for the six, who were then transferred at the border on 3 January. The six were received by Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population Tamu District Deputy Director U Myo Aung at the Tamu-Moreh border gate. They were then sent

to Sittway via Magway and An. While the six Muslims were undergoing the issuing of NV Cards and put on record in a e-ID, they were temporarily placed under the care of the Thakkepyin Village administrator in Sittway Township. After these processes are completed, they will be transferred to their families in Buthidaung and Maungtaung townships.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

Vaccine Independence Initiative-VII MoU to be signed on 28 January

A ceremony to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Vaccine Independence Initiative (VII) by Ministry of Health and Sports, and the United Nations International Children's

Emergency Fund (UNICEF) will be held on 28 January at Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. — Mg Mg Myo ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

WW II-era bomb found in Pyigyidagun

A bomb from the World War II period was unearthed in Pyigyidagun Township in Mandalay on 24 January.

Local police handed over the

bomb, measuring eight inches, to the local battlefield engineering battalion on Thursday evening around 1 p.m.—(Sai Yaung Khan) ■(Translated by La Woon)

Day 2 of Ethnic Culture Fest



A lisu woman demonstrates traditional weaving.



People visit the Ethnic Culture Fest on second day at the Kyakkasan Sports Ground in Yangon.

By Nyunt Ko Ko
PHOTO: PHO HTAUNG

ETHNICS Culture Fest was continued for the second day in Kyaikkasan Ground, Yangon yesterday and Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin and state/region ministers for ethnic affairs opened an exhibition where ethnic national's traditional products were displayed and sold.

Myanmar Ethnic Entrepreneurs' Association (MEEA) Joint Secretary Dr. Aung Ye Zaw said, "This morning seven ethnic affairs ministers including Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin came to open the ethnic national's traditional products exhibition.

There are a total of 200 exhibits including beauty products in the festival."

Ethnic Culture Fest has 200 air-conditioned exhibits that includes ethnic national traditional food sales shops, ethnic national traditional culture exhibits in addition to a staged "Miss Ethnic Myanmar 2019" selection program.

"Selected Miss Ethnic Myanmar will be the brand ambassador for MEEA in connecting and working with other organisations. All 135 ethnic nationals are included. In addition to the main eight ethnic nationals, self-administered regions and zones such as Wa, Kokang, Ta-ang (Pa-laung), Danu, Pao exhibits are exhibiting their history



Ma Naw Naw, a Pa-O woman, waits customers as she sells Avocado fruits from her native town in Shan State.

and other unique things that are of interest. It certainly would be hard to find another place where all the traditional foods of the ethnic nationals are available

as here," said MEEA Joint Secretary Dr. Aung Ye Zaw. Ma Aut Aut from Wa self-administered region said, "We came from Pang-sang and is selling Wa and



Awar Marein, a Lisu woman shows their ethnic cultural household goods to visitors.

Chinese foods. We came so that other ethnic nationals can know about our foods. Come and taste our foods." Pa-O ethnic national Ma Naw Naw Aye who

was selling Pa-O foods and clothing said, "Pa-O traditional foods, avocado and orange, garlic etc. are available.

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Tourists enjoy traditional weaving by Kachin ethnic women. PHOTO: THI THI MIN



Rakhine ethnic women perform traditional dance outside Rakhine booth.

Exclude fisheries from new animal health bill: MFF to lawmakers

By Aye Yamon

THE Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) has sent a letter to lawmakers deliberating on the the Animal Health and Livestock Breeding Development Bill, asking them to exclude the fisheries sector from the purview of the new bill, as the Aquaculture Law is already in place for the sector.

After an announcement by the government, seeking public opinion on the bill, which appeared in state-run newspapers on 22 December, the MFF forwarded its suggestions to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the speakers of the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw, the chairmen of the Bill Committees, and the Union Minister's Office. The MFF has also made a request to the bill committees, asking them to meet the concerned persons and hold a face-to-face discussion.

"The Animal Health and Development Law is the existing law in Myanmar, and the government is now drafting the Animal Health and Livestock Breeding Development Bill. As per the existing law, animals include land animals and bees. But the new bill will include aquatic mammals. That is why the MFF



Workers harvest freshwater fish at a farm. PHOTO: GNLM

has asked lawmakers to exclude aquatic mammals from the bill," said U Win Kyaing, the General Secretary of the MFF.

"The country has enacted the Myanmar Marine Fisheries Law and the Freshwater Fisheries Law for the fisheries sector. Since its inception, the fisheries sector has been under the management of the Department of Fisheries. The sector is broad and includes marine

fisheries, freshwater fisheries, fish farming, and export," he said. "The livestock breeding sector is managed by the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department," he said. "Businesspersons feel that they are likely to face difficulties if the sector is under the management of not only the Department of Fisheries but also other departments," said U Win Kyaing. The MFF has also urged the relevant

organizations, state and region fisheries associations, and individuals to forward their suggestions on the bill. The MFF has suggested that lawmakers amend the existing Aquaculture Law, if necessary, instead of adding the fisheries sector to the Animal Health and Livestock Breeding Development Bill.

Under the Animal Health and Livestock Breeding Development Bill, the term 'animals'

includes terrestrial animals living entirely on land, aquatic animals living in the water, and amphibians that rely on a combination of aquatic and terrestrial habitats. The draft law also defines 'fisheries' as production of wild-caught or farmed aquatic animals and amphibians, living or breeding in freshwater and saltwater.

The key objectives of the draft law are to develop the country's animal health and livestock breeding industry, boost production of feedstuff and veterinary drug and animal accessories, conduct more animal research and educative programmes, increase production of animal products not only for local consumption but also for export, boost production of safe and nutritional animal products, protect animal species and resources, and promote collaboration between the government, organizations, and international bodies to get quality breeds of animals. The drafted law will include provisions to deter violence against animals. It also aims to systematically manage the prevention and control of outbreaks of infectious animal diseases. ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Myanmar's imports shrink to \$155 mln in current FY

THE value of Myanmar's imports in the 2018-2019 fiscal year (FY) has exceeded US\$5.4 billion, a drop of nearly \$155 million from the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year, the Ministry of Commerce reported on Friday.

Between 1 October and 18 January, Myanmar imported capital goods worth nearly \$1.8 billion, intermediate goods

worth \$1.9 billion, consumer goods worth over \$1 billion, and CMP products worth \$673 million.

Apart from CMP products, imports of remaining goods declined in the current FY. Compared with the same period in the previous FY, imports of capital goods declined by \$127 million, intermediate goods by \$79 million,

and consumer products by \$83 million.

During the period, the private sector imported goods amounting to \$5 billion, a decline of \$197 million from the previous FY. In comparison, public sector imports rose by \$42.5 million from the previous fiscal year.—Shwe Khine ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

CMP imports up 25% in 2018-2019 FY

MYANMAR'S CMP imports topped US\$673 million over the three and a half months of the 2018-2019 fiscal year, up by \$136 million, or 25.4 per cent from the corresponding period last 2017-18 FY, according to official data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

At this time last fiscal year, CMP (Cut-Make-Pack) businesses imported \$536.9 million worth of raw materials from international traders, chiefly from Japan, South Korea and some

European countries.

In Myanmar, businesses operating under the CMP system include garment factories, along with slippers and bag manufacturers.

Imported by the private sector, CMP is one of the major groups of Myanmar's import products. The country also imports capital goods, intermediate products and consumer goods from partner trading countries.

From 1 October through 18 January this FY, the country im-

ported capital goods worth \$1.76 billion, intermediate goods worth \$1.99 billion, and consumer products valued at \$1.017 billion.

Meanwhile, private sector imports registered a decline during the current FY. Apart from CMP raw materials, private sector imports of capital goods, intermediate goods, and consumer products decreased by over \$197 million, matched against this time last FY.—Shwe Khine ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Mineral exports fall into decline

The export of minerals between Myanmar and overseas traders stood at US\$308 million during fiscal year 2018-2019, down by \$124 million, or over 28 per cent, as against the same period last 2017-2018 FY, the Ministry of Commerce reported this Friday.

For the same period during the last FY, mineral exports were \$432.5 million, with \$103 million in the public sector and \$329 million reported by the private sector.

When compared with last FY, this FY's export of minerals from both sectors declined. Between 1 October and 18 January, private exporters sold minerals amounting to \$307 million, declining by nearly \$22 million from the corresponding period last FY. Also during the three and a half months of this FY, the public export of minerals reached \$0.4 million, a decrease in value by over \$100 million against last FY.

Other products which saw a downward trend in export growth in the current FY covered forest-based products and other miscellaneous products. Compared with the corresponding

period last FY, the current export value of forest products declined by almost \$28.9 million, while the export of miscellaneous products this FY dropped by \$252 million.

According to a statistical report of the Commerce Ministry, the country earned \$3.7 billion from the export of seven major groups of products, including agricultural, mineral, marine, animal, and forest products, manufactured goods, and other miscellaneous items. During the corresponding period last FY, the country earned \$3.996 billion from the export sector.

During the 2018 mini budget period (April and September), Myanmar's mineral exports totalled \$1.034 billion.

As per the ministry's yearly trade report, the value of mineral exports was pegged at \$897 million in the 2011-2012FY, \$399 million in the 2012-2013FY, \$1.339 billion in the 2013-2014FY, \$1.498 billion in the 2014-2015FY, \$968 million in the 2015-2016FY, and \$1.010 billion in the 2016-2017FY.—Khine Khant ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Beware the Fall Armyworm (FAW)

AGRICULTURAL experts are bracing for a possible disaster in Myanmar caused by the fall armyworm (FAW) caterpillar, as the FAW threat looms. The larvae stage of the Fall Armyworm moth (*Spodoptera frugiperda*), commonly known in the country as the 'Sena caterpillar', has the potential to destroy hundreds of acres of cultivation overnight and could affect over 180 species of crops, including paddy, maize, sugarcane, green gram, other vegetables and fruits.

The caterpillar, which is native to the Americas, was first reported in Africa in 2016 and has since spread to over 40 African countries and devastated thousands of acres of crops.

Strengthening monitoring and early warning systems through TV, radio, social media and mobile phone apps would be helpful for farmers to collect and record data on their crops, as well as on FAW infestation levels, and to learn of utilized control measures.

To date, there is no defined method of eradicating FAW, so we should step up our efforts to raise awareness about FAW among farmers through mass communication media and social media.

SMS messages and social media information aim to share information about the control measures, as well as other important advice that all farmers can use to manage the pest.

Meanwhile, agricultural experts in regions and states are currently monitoring the maize crops in their respective areas, and they are sending suspected FAW samples to the pest prevention and control head office in Yangon, once they discover them.

Monitoring and early warning is a major step in preventing the spread of the pest.

Strengthening monitoring and early warning systems through TV, radio, social media and mobile phone apps would be helpful for farmers to collect and record data on their crops, as well as on FAW infestation levels, and to learn of utilized control measures.

First reported in India in May this year, a suspected species of FAW has been found in Sri Lanka and our neighbouring country Bangladesh.

Following the destruction of crops by local species of caterpillars, and information from the affected neighbouring countries, the Ministry of Agriculture issued a warning to farmers about a possible trans-border FAW invasion. The destruction of crops has already been reported in some areas.

At the "FALL Armyworm (FAW) in Myanmar" workshop in Nay Pyi Taw on 5th December last year, agricultural experts calculated the "Risk Prediction of FAW". They predicted that Shan State, Rakhine State, Chin State, Kayah State, Nay Pyi Taw Region and Sagaing Region are expected to be at high risk for FALL, while Yangon and Taninthayi regions are at a mid-level risk, while Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady regions, and Mon, Kayinj and Kachin states, are at a low risk.

We are joining hands for Lymphatic Filariasis elimination in Myanmar, will you?

By Dr. Nay Yi Yi Linn, Deputy Director (Dengue/Filariasis)

LYMPHATIC Filariasis (LF), commonly known as elephantiasis is a neglected tropical disease transmitted to humans through the bite of mosquitoes. It is also one of the 17 neglected tropical diseases recognized by World Health Organization (WHO). Elephantiasis does not cause sudden death. The patients are physically disabled in long term and suffer mental, social and financial losses contributing to stigma and poverty.

Currently, 856 million people in 52 countries worldwide are at risk of Lymphatic Filariasis and require preventive chemotherapy to stop the spread of this parasitic infection. Among the 11 countries of the World Health Organization South East Asia region, Lymphatic Filariasis is

endemic in 7 countries including Myanmar. The Global Plan for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis (GPEL) was established by WHO. It aims to eliminate the Lymphatic Filariasis by 2020. Eliminating Lymphatic Filariasis can prevent unnecessary suffering and contribute to the poverty reduction. It can be eliminated by preventive chemotherapy with safe medicine combinations repeated annually for at least 5 years. In 2018, Myanmar covered all endemic states and region with 5 rounds of mass drug administration (MDA). Myanmar administered 32 million doses of preventive chemotherapy and raised the coverage from 87% to 93% of the eligible population who are living in endemic areas in 2017 and 2018 respectively. Of the 45 Filaria endemic districts, 10 districts required no more MDA. This year, MDA is planned to conduct in 200 townships of 12 states and regions (Yangon,



Ayeyarwaddy, Bago, Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing, Tanintharyi, Kayin, Chin, Rakhine, Mon, Naypyitaw Union Territory) during 22-31 January 2019.

The Vector Borne Disease Control Programme in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar have just organized central level advocacy meeting. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Sports,

senior officials from the Ministry of Health and Sports, WHO staff, and partner organizations joined the advocacy meetings. Similar advocacy meetings have now been conducting in respective states and regions. This will help health staff and community leaders to create public awareness and get ready for adequate coverage of MDA. WHO has generously

contributed Diethyl-carbamazine tablets (DEC) -worth 543.8 million kyats - and Albendazole -worth 739.5 million kyats which are donated from Eisai company (Japan) and GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), respectively. Government has allocated additional 733 million kyats for the distribution of drugs, production of guidelines, general management costs, impact anal-

ysis, treatment for those suffering from filariasis and community-based LF management.

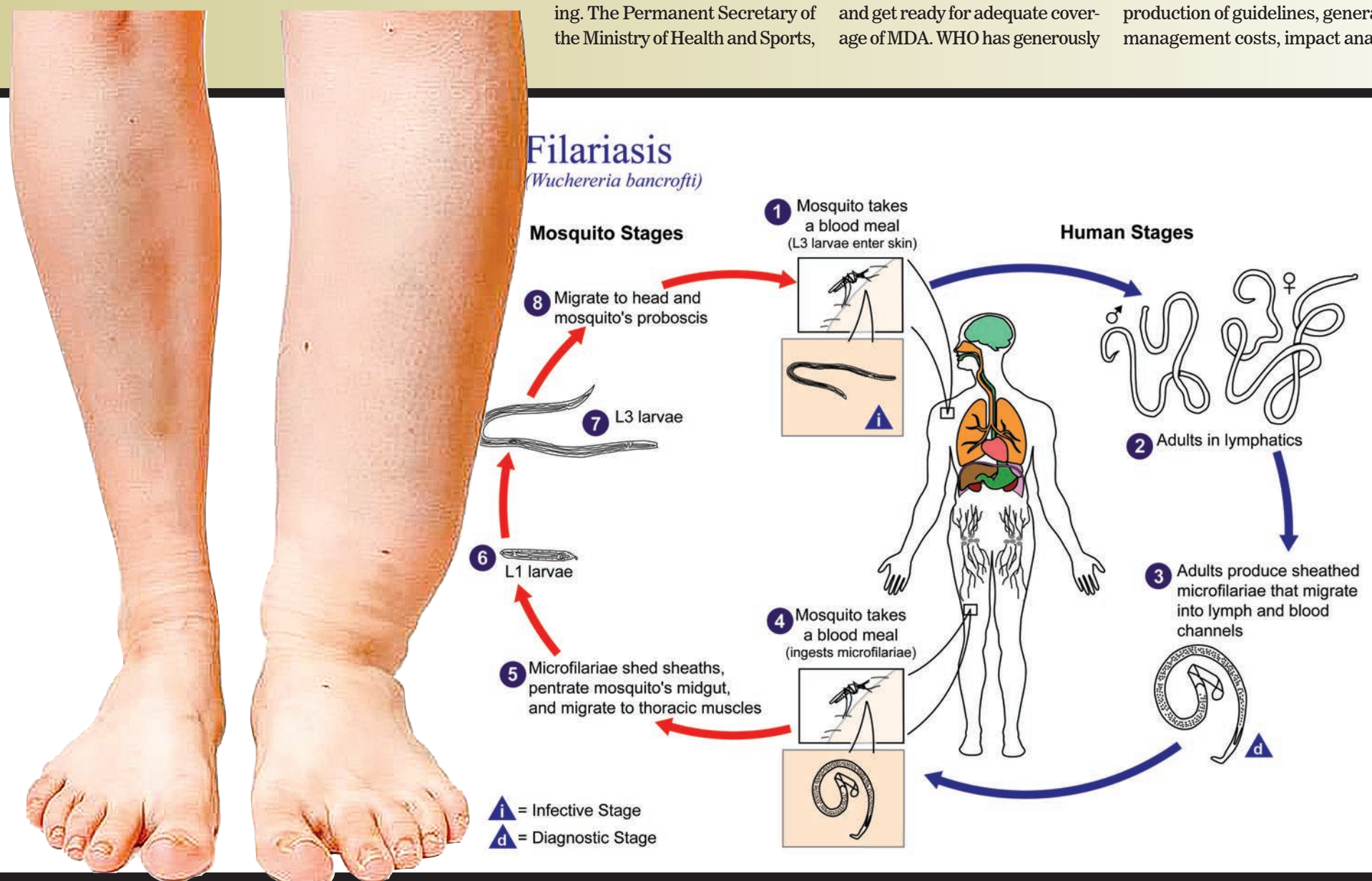
The Ministry of Health and Sports has already developed township level microplans such as population to be covered by MDA and distribution of drugs to township level. It is very important to train responsible persons who are going to deliver the drugs and improve the community knowledge

Every eligible population needs to actively participate and takes the recommended dose of preventive chemotherapy yearly for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis in Myanmar.

on drugs treatment. The Ministry of Health and Sports targets 100% MDA coverage. Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Myanmar Red Cross Society are also giving necessary support to implement the MDA.

The Ministry of Health and Sports also encouraged for increasing efforts in MDA, supervision and monitoring to make sure the consumption of drugs by community and urged all the government and non-government stakeholders can help to take preventive chemotherapy. All can help in raising awareness and disseminating the benefit of taking the drugs to eliminate LF in the communities and country.

Every eligible population needs to actively participate and takes the recommended dose of preventive chemotherapy yearly for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis in Myanmar. We are joining hands for Lymphatic Filariasis elimination in Myanmar, will you?



72nd Anniversary (2019) Union Day National Objectives

1. All ethnic nationals to work with collective strength for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national unity, perpetuation of national sovereignty; and to work for preservation and protection of the above.
2. To strive for the emergence of a Constitution that is in alignment and harmony with the Democratic Federal Union.
3. To strive for the success of the Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panlong and thence till the success of the internal peace process.
4. All union nationals to cooperate and work in "Unity and Harmony" for rule of law and for the people to be secure and free from danger.
5. All union citizens to be able to enjoy good education and adequate health care protection.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 26th January, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 27th January, 2019: Weather will be partly cloudy in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayain and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3-5) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Decrease of night temperatures in Eastern Myanmar Areas.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27th January, 2019: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27th January, 2019: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27th January, 2019: Generally fair weather.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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 work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Own 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

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Sittway police prevent 18 from illegal migration to Malaysia

AMID increased law enforcement by security forces and expanded investigations to prevent illegal migration by people living in villages and IDP camps in Sittway Township, the authorities prevented 18 people from illegally leaving for Malaysia on 24 January. Acting on a tip that some villagers were gathering at the house of Nu Slam at Barsayar Village in Sittway Township to illegally leave for Malaysia, the local police searched the house, where they found Nu Salam's wife, Ma Lai Larbay Gaung, 29, and two Moslem women, Lailar and Jo Mairdar from Ohndawgyi Village. Nu Salam, however, managed to escape. In connection with the case, the police detained another three men and thirteen women from Barsayar, Bumay, Ohndawgyi and Magyimyaing villages, as well as the Saythamargyi IDP Camp and Darpaing IDP Camp, who had gathered at a chicken farm owned by Ab-

Lai Lar Bay Gaung (down) and Abdul Harles(upper, left), and group of people who are awaiting to leave for Malaysia. **PHOTO: MNA**

dul Harles, prior to meeting on a beach around 10 pm on the same day. Sittway Police Station has opened a file against broker Nu Saolam, who recruited the people, and a conspiracy investiga-

tion is underway against Lai Lar Bay Gaung and Abdul Harles, who are under interrogation.

Further, the 18 detained people are also under investigation. According to the initial inves-

tigation, the detainees disclosed that they paid K1.5 million each to Nu Salam and were detained by the police as they were waiting to leave for Malaysia. — MNA ■
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Motorcyclist dies in car-bike collision

A motorcyclist has died after a collision between his motorcycle and a car on Friday in Hpa-an Township, Kayin State.

The collision occurred on Thamanya -Thayargone road, Ywar Dan Shae ward, Thaman-

ya village tract, Hpa-an Township at around 7:45 pm.

According to the police investigation, the Hi-Jet vehicle, en route to Thayargone village from Thamanya village and driven by Kaung San, 30, from Myoma ward, Thamanya

village tract, Hpa-an, crashed with a motorbike heading towards Thamanya village from Thayargone village, driven by U Ba Ohn, 61.

The collision killed the motorcyclist, who was declared dead at the scene of the acci-

dent. The occupant of the car was not injured.

Police action is being taken against both drivers, charging them with careless driving under section 304 of the Penal Code.—Min Thu (Hpa-an) ■
(Translated by Hay Mar)

Three injured in three-car crash on Danubyu-Yangon Road

THREE people were injured following a three-vehicle crash while traveling between Danubyu and Yangon on Friday evening, according to a police report.

At 4 p.m. on 25 January, the accident happened between mile post Nos. 15/6 and

15/7 near Pauktaw Village, Nandawgon Village-tract, Danubyu Township, Ayeyawady Region.

The accident involved three vehicles, including an express bus driven by Aung Bo Bo Oo, a dump truck driven by Ye Naung and a cargo truck driven by an

unidentified man. The dump truck, which was following the express bus, collided head-on with the cargo truck when the express bus turned to the right side of the road without displaying a signal light.

Three people, one from the express bus and two from the

dump truck, sustained minor injuries in the accident.

Police have filed a case against the drivers for careless driving under Section 337 of the Penal Code.—Aung Thu Hein (Danubyu) ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

63 tons of timber seized in Bago's Phyukon Forest Reserve in three days

FOREST officials seized over 63 tons of illegally harvested teak and hardwood timbers from Bago's Phyukon Forest Reserve during a three day period, according to the Department of Forest.

From 23 to 25 January, a combined team of forest police and members of the forest department seized 63.796 tons of timbers from the forest reserve, including 22.016 tons of teak, 21.064 tons of teak rough-sawn lumber and 0.11 tons of Pyinga-

doe timber in Ottwin Township, as well as 15.471 tons of teak and 5.135 tons of rough-sawn lumber in Pyu Township.

Illegal logging often occurs in the area, although authorities outlawed all logging operations in Bago Yoma for a ten year period starting in the 2016-2017 financial year. Continuous efforts are being made by officials to take action against those involved in the illegal timber trade.—Mg Yin Maung ■(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Over 63 tons of illegally harvested teak and hardwood timbers from Bago's Phyukon forest reserve were seized. **PHOTO: MG YIN MAUNG**



Ethnic food and souvenirs shop of Pa-O ethnic people.



People visit the traditional food stall and souvenirs of Mon ethnic people.

Day 2 of Ethnic Culture Fest attracts over 100,000 visitors

FROM PAGE-6

We want other ethnic nationals in the country to know about us. As it is an ethnic culture fest, we'll exchange and trade goods. Everything sold here comes from our region. As these are organic foods, we can raise the price but instead offering it at low price. Many people from the south, including our own people bought Pa-O costumes. I'm glad to see people from all regions came over to one place. We love our costumes and we also love their costumes. It is very much appealing to the eyes. I'm happy beyond word to see all 135 ethnic nationals of Myanmar here."

Dr. Aung Ye Zaw remarked that is not easy to put up this exhibit. There is a hundred per cent interest from the people and since there is no entrance fee, everyone should take this opportunity. Come study, comment and suggest he said.

Mon ethnic national from Mawlamyine Daw Mo Mo said, "I'm a Mon traditional costume maker. Through selling our traditional costume here other ethnic nationals will know about us. As the cultures and traditions of ethnic nationals were shown, we also want to participate. That is why we are here. I can say a lot of sales were made. I didn't expect it to be this much. Other ethnic

nationals also knew of Mon styles and Mon costumes and they buy. Foods are traditional Mon foods. It is rare to attend this sort of event. There were some when we were young but at this part of the time, I think this is the biggest. MEEA creates a lot of business opportunities for ethnic businesses like ours. It is nice to see and connect with other ethnic nationals in their traditional costume. I hope this fest is conducted every year."

Ethnic Culture Fest was held for ethnic nationals in Myanmar to meet, create friendship among ethnic nationals, enable ethnic national businesses to work together and establish small and medi-

um enterprises. Through holding this fest ethnic national's economy will develop and through this walk toward peace and development.

An ethnic Lisu national from Kachin State (Ma) Aquamarine said, "We came to sell Lisu traditional foods. I'm happy to see ethnic nationals in one place."

Ma Khin Wut from Kayah State, Loikaw who came to sell Kayah State products said, "We have various Kayah foods and medicinal herbal roots. We want all to know what we have. Kayah is a beautiful and pleasant place. Come, see and buy from shops like this in Kayah. I'm happy to see such a

wide varieties as there are traditional costumes, utensils and foods of other ethnic nationals."

According to MEEA there were more than 100,000 visitors to the fest on both days. 75 years old Lisu ethnic national Daw Naw Khawrmi from Myitkyina Waingmaw Ward 3 said, "I work on a hand-

loom. I'm happy to work on a handloom here. I met with many relatives here. I'm now weaving a traditional Lisu belt. Lisu is one the six tribes of Kachin. I'm 75 years old and had been weaving since I was 20." Ethnic Culture Fest will be held for six days until 30 January from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m daily. ■



Khin Wint Ye Thein, a Kayah woman.



Danu ethnic women pose for documentary photo at their booth.



Daw Moe Moe, a Mon ethnic woman, sells blankets to visitors at the Ethnic Cultural Fest.

Republic Day celebrations at Rajpath underway

NEW DELHI—Celebrations for the 70th Republic Day began on Saturday when the ceremonial parade rolled down the majestic Rajpath here with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in attendance as the chief guest, amid unprecedented security deployment in the city.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid his tributes to the martyrs by laying a wreath at Amar Jawan Jyoti in the presence of Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and the three service chiefs.

Later Modi, wearing his traditional kurta pajama and the trademark Nehru jacket, reached the Rajpath and received President Ram Nath Kovind and the chief guest President Ramaphosa.



Indian military contingents march during the Republic Day parade in New Delhi on 26 January, 2019. India celebrated its 70th Republic Day. PHOTO: AFP

At the unfurling of the tricolour, the band played the national anthem with a 21-gun salute fired in the background.

Many senior leaders, including Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Exter-

nal Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, and former prime ministers Manmohan Singh and Deve Gowda, Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Ghulam Nabi Azad and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal were

among those present on the occasion.

The overall theme for the Republic Day celebrations this year is the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and tableaux of many states, themed on

him, are lined up for the occasion.

Officials said Ramaphosa is the second South African president, after Nelson Mandela, to attend the grand event as its chief guest. Four Indian National Army (INA) veterans, aged over 90 years, took part in the parade, among the many firsts for a Republic Day parade.

India's military might was also on display, with the artillery gun system M777 American Ultra Light Howitzers, recently acquired from the US, and K9 Vajra, a self-propelled artillery gun, showcased on Rajpath, being new additions this year.

'Nari Shakti' (women power) was on full display on the ceremonial boulevard with an all-woman

Assam Rifles contingent creating history this year by participating for the first time in the parade, which was led by Maj Khushboo Kanwar. Contingents of the Navy, Army Service Corps and a unit of Corps of Signals (transportable satellite terminal) were led by women officers too, as the crowd cheered.

The tableaux of Sikkim, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab, West Bengal, Tripura, Goa, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Uttarakhand were also displayed on the occasion.

The parade commenced in a cold weather amid a heavy security blanket with thousands of security personnel, anti-aircraft guns and sharpshooters deployed in view of the event. —PTI ■

Malaysia scraps multi-billion dollar China-backed project

KUALA LUMPUR (Malaysia)—A multi-billion dollar China-backed rail project in Malaysia has been scrapped, government officials said on Saturday, adding that the cost of building it was too high.

Malaysia has in recent months suspended several major projects signed under the country's previous scandal-plagued regime, in a bid to cut the country's massive one trillion ringgit (\$251 billion) debt. Economics minister Azmin Ali said Malaysia made the decision two days ago on the 81 billion ringgit (\$19.6 billion) east coast rail link (ECRL) that would have connected the eastern and western coasts of the peninsula. "The cost of the ECRL development is too big, so we have no financial ability at this time," he told reporters. He said that if the project was not terminated, Malaysia would have to pay an annual 500 million ringgit interest payment. Malaysia's previous government under Prime Minister Najib Razak had warm ties with China and signed up to a string of Beijing-funded projects.

But critics say many of these deals lacked transparency, fuelling speculation they were made in exchange for help in paying off debts from a massive financial scandal involving state fund 1MDB. The scandal was a major factor in Najib's shock electoral defeat in May last year that saw his former boss Mahathir Mohamad return to power.

Mahathir then ordered a review of mega-projects signed by Najib during his nine-year rule, adding he would discuss "unfair" terms supposedly set in these deals and high interest rates levied on Chinese loans used to finance the projects. Azmin did not say how much compensation Malaysia would have to pay for cancelling the project, adding it would be determined by the finance ministry.

Najib and his cronies were accused of plundering billions of dollars from 1MDB, with the former leader charged with corruption over the scandal. He will stand trial over these charges in February, and has denied any wrongdoing.—AFP ■



Vacancy Announcement

Short Term Consultant: Conflict and Gender Analysis
Vacancy No. 1260970

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), part of the World Bank Group (WBG), pursues its mission of reducing poverty and improving people's lives by promoting sustainable private sector development through investment and advisory services. Given the potential of tourism to Myanmar, supporting the country to leverage the tourism sector for economic growth is a priority for the IFC. The Myanmar Tourism Project, in partnership with the Ministry of Hotels & Tourism at the national and regional levels, is supporting increasing sector competitiveness. Specifically, the project is supporting the development of a conducive legal and regulatory framework and building capacity for sustainable destination management and promotion.

In the Tanintharyi Region, the project is assisting the regional-level Government to develop a sustainable tourism sector by creating an appropriate regulatory framework to optimize tourism investments and growth and ensuring gender participation in the growth of the sector. This includes measures to improve management of attractions, strengthen linkages between Government, the private sector and communities, as well as destination coordination and promotion.

Assignment's Objectives and scope of work

The objective of this consultancy is to conduct a gender and conflict analysis of the Tanintharyi region focused on the tourism sector. The analysis should consider risks and opportunities for integrating gender and conflict sensitivity into the tourism project. The assignment will include at least one scoping visit to relevant townships and meetings with a range of stakeholders in the Tanintharyi region.

Scope of Work

The consultant is expected to participate in meetings with the project team and other stakeholders, and undertake research required to prepare a report covering:

- An in-depth contextual analysis of gender and conflict issues in Tanintharyi region drawing upon existing information available.
- A description of the institutional environment; considering both the presence and function of public, private and civil society institutions relevant to the tourism project interventions, which will include supporting the drafting of the Tanintharyi Region Tourism Development Strategy, supporting the introduction of regulations for the diving-tour industry, as well as working to improve coordination amongst stakeholders and promotion activities.
- A gap analysis of the individual tourism project interventions and advice on opportunities and conditions to mitigate risk and maximize opportunities for economic inclusiveness in tourism project design.
- A risk analysis and advice on the potential risk of the project itself contributing to conflict and gender issues within the region including human trafficking and modern day slavery.
- Advice on the integration of both conflict and gender sensitivity principles into the design of project interventions and procedures (including into the M&E framework).

Selection Criteria;

- Masters level qualification in any relevant field related to conflict and gender analysis or at least 7 years work experience.
- Experience conducting conflict and gender analysis
- Experience in tourism related project design and private sector will be an added advantage.
- Relevant work experience in Myanmar is preferred.
- Knowledge of and experience on ethnic minorities in the Myanmar country context is highly desirable.
- Strong report writing and communication skills in English.

The consultant will be located in Myanmar and be willing to travel to the Tanintharyi region for project scoping purposes. Travel costs associated with the scoping visit will be covered by IFC. The consultant is expected to spend up to 20 days on this assignment over six weeks during February and March 2019.

Interested candidates should apply online at <https://wbgeconsult2.worldbank.org/wbgec/index.html#Sh=1548398222472> for vacancy number 1260970 under the Business Opportunities link. Application Deadline is February 3, 2019.

Only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted.

Fears rise for 300 missing in Brazil dam disaster; 9 bodies recovered

BRUMADINHO (Brazil)—Rescuers worked overnight into Saturday searching for around 300 people missing after a dam collapse at a mine in southeast Brazil killed at least nine, but the local governor said “odds are minimal” that they would be found alive.

Seven bodies were recovered on Friday hours after the disaster, which saw a torrent of mud break through the disused dam at the iron-ore mine close to the city of Belo Horizonte, in the state of Minas Gerais, around 1:00 pm.

By early Saturday the official death toll had risen to nine, with “nearly 300 people missing,” the local firefighters said, doubling the number of people presumed missing from the previous toll. Up to 150 of those missing worked in the company’s administrative offices which were



Aerial view taken after the collapse of a dam which belonged to Brazil’s giant mining company Vale, near the town of Brumadinho in southeastern Brazil on 25 January, 2019. PHOTO: AFP

closest to the dam break, the firefighters said.

The mine is owned by Vale, a Brazilian mining giant that was involved in a previous 2015 mine collapse in the same state that claimed 19 lives and is regarded as the country’s worst-ever environmental

disaster. Vale shares plummeted on the new accident, losing eight percent in New York trading.

Romeu Zema, the governor of Minas Gerais, told reporters that, while all was being done to find survivors, “from now, the odds are minimal and it is

most likely we will recover only bodies.”

His regional administration said 427 people had been working at the Vale mine at the time of the dam collapse, and 279 were recovered alive. The others were listed as missing.—AFP ■

School closures as sub-zero cold chills US Midwest

CHICAGO (United States)—Bitter arctic air settled over the US Midwest on Friday, leading to school closures and event cancellations as officials warned of even frostier weather to come next week. The National Weather Service (NWS) forecasted that the chill would last through the weekend in the upper Midwest—but “dangerously cold” temperatures are expected next week, with scattered heavy snow and strong winds.

“There is increasing confidence in significant, bitterly cold air arriving in the Northern Plains, Midwest and Great Lakes in the middle of next week,” the NWS said. “The cold should last for several days, with wind chills well below zero in some areas.” The NWS said frost bite was possible within minutes in the

sub-zero temperatures that chilled much of the upper Midwest on Friday. School closures were reported in Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, along with canceled activities at churches and community centers throughout the region. In Minneapolis, Minnesota, where gusts brought a wind chill factor as low as -20 degrees Fahrenheit (-29 Celsius), residents refused to cancel an outdoor hockey championship event on a frozen pond. It went on as scheduled despite temperatures so low that it caused hockey pucks to snap. Temperatures in many areas were in the negative double digits.

North Dakota, which shares a border with Canada, recorded some of the most frigid air, with some areas plunging as low as -30F.—AFP ■

‘I want you to panic’: Swedish teen raises climate alarm at Davos

DAVOS (Switzerland)—Camera crews push past tycoons and government leaders to get a close shot of the unlikely star at Davos this year: a Swedish teen with long braids and a big message for the world.

Greta Thunberg blinks into the cameras of the media throng as she emerges timidly from a closed-door panel discussion at the World Economic Forum, the annual get-together of the rich and powerful.

“She silenced the room... The girl was extremely moving,” head of Expedia Group Mark Okerstrom told AFP. “It was very inspiring,” Olivier Puech, a top executive at American Tower Corporation agreed.

During her speech, which she repeated for journalists barred from the room, the 16-year-old climate crusader said “our house is on fire”.

“Adults keep saying we owe it to the young people to give them hope,” she said, furrowing her brow and fiddling awkwardly with her notes.

“But I don’t want your hope. I don’t want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic,” she said.

Thunberg with her small stature and round cheeks looks younger than 16. She first grabbed the spotlight in August when she began staging “school strikes for the climate”, skipping classes on Fridays to protest in front of Swedish parliament.

But she drew global attention when she delivered a fiery speech to world leaders at last month’s UN climate talks in Poland.

Inspired, tens of thousands of schoolchildren from around the world have followed her lead and ditched school to demand serious action against climate change.—AFP ■

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V NINOS VOY. NO. (1097 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V NINOS VOY. NO. (1097 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-01-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (044N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (044N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-01-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. (1114 W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. (1114 W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-01-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY. NO. (903S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY. NO. (903S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-01-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

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Rapper DMX freed after year in prison for tax fraud



Rapper DMX (l) arrives for the 40th Annual Kennedy Center Honors in Washington, DC on 3 December, 2017. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEW YORK (United States)—American rapper DMX was released early Friday from a West Virginia federal prison after serving a year behind bars for tax fraud, his lawyer told AFP.

The 48-year-old performer—whose real name is Earl Simmons—pleaded guilty in November 2017 to evading \$1.7 million in US tax payments between 2002 and 2005.

On top of jail time, the Internal Revenue Service ordered him to pay \$2.3 million in restitution.

Prosecutors said the star had dodged taxes by living on cash, without maintaining a bank account or filing required tax returns to the IRS.

The native of Yonkers—a suburb of New York—will be under supervised release for three years.

DMX, whose deep, gravelly voice and dark, often violent lyrics catapulted him to fame in the early nineties, has a colorful criminal history.

The father of 15 has been arrested for a variety of offenses

over the years including drug possession, reckless driving, animal cruelty and failing to pay child support.

Artistically he is best known for his 2000 smash hit “Party Up (Up In Here),” in which he belittles other rappers.

DMX is rumored to have spent his year in prison writing new songs, with plans to drop a new album now that he is free.

Entertainment news outlet TMZ also reported that the veteran rapper has offers to do a biopic.—AFP ■

Popular Japanese manga artist Urasawa's work showcased in Hollywood

LOS ANGELES—The work of popular Japanese comic book artist Naoki Urasawa has been on display in Hollywood at a facility used to promote his country's culture, marking the first such North American exhibition for the manga master.

“This is MANGA—The Art of NAOKI URASAWA” began on Wednesday and runs to 28 March at the Japan House in Los Angeles. It features more than 400 original drawings and storyboards, as well as selected stories from his major works, including judo sports manga “YAWARA!” mystery series “MONSTER” and sci-fi adventure “20th Century Boys.”

The centerpiece of the exhibit is a triangular tunnel of drawings showcasing the many faces of Urasawa's manga characters.

“It's commonly thought that manga is simple, but I take care with subtleties to show dramatic expressions and convey emotion.

You won't find two expressions that are the same,” Urasawa said.

As for where he gets his ideas, he said, “I have been illustrating all my life. Inspiration is everywhere, when I get in the bath, when I get out. It's whether you are perceiving these ideas and whether you are able to catch them.”

According to the Japan House homepage, Urasawa's works have sold over 127 million copies in Japan alone and his titles are sold in more than 20 countries. His recent work “MURJIRUSHI” (The Sign of Dreams) was done in collaboration with the Louvre Museum.

During the exhibition, visitors can also experience the weekly publication style often seen in Japanese comics, with four episodes from YAWARA! presented over a period of eight weeks.

“This gallery has been designed so you can experience

what Japanese readers experience by replicating the ‘to be continued’ serial style of weekly comic anthologies,” Urasawa said. “To find out what happens next, you have to come back.”

Fans lined up outside the Japan House for a rare chance to meet the Japanese comic artist at a book signing event on Wednesday.

“He's a master of suspenseful storytelling,” said AC Esguerra, a Los Angeles-based comic artist. “He's not afraid to plumb the human depths in his stories and that's always really inspired me.” Another attendee, Dave Cirone, a marketer from Los Angeles, said he has only recently discovered Urasawa's works, and did not want to miss the chance to meet him.

The Japan House plans to bring the exhibit to its other two locations in London and Sao Paulo in the near future.—Kyodo News ■

Bryan Singer will direct ‘Red Sonja’ despite new sexual assault accusations

LOS ANGELES—Bryan Singer will remain attached to direct upcoming film “Red Sonja” despite new accusations of sexual assault and misconduct against him. In a statement to Variety, Millennium Films chairman and producer Avi Lerner has brushed off the report in the Atlantic in which the “Bohemian Rhapsody” director is accused of inappropriate groping and sexual relationships with four young men. “The over USD 800 million ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’ has grossed, making it the highest grossing drama in film history, is testament to his remarkable vision and acumen. “I know the

difference between agenda driven fake news and reality, and I am very comfortable with this decision. In America people are innocent until proven otherwise,” Lerner said. In the Atlantic article, a man said he was a 13-year-old extra on the Singer film *Apt Pupil* when the director fondled his genitals without consent. One unidentified accuser alleged they had sex with Singer when they were under 18. The director has denied misconduct, and called the Atlantic story “a homophobic smear piece” and asserted that it “rehashes claims from bogus lawsuits.—PTI ■



Singer/songwriter Luke Bryan performs on stage during the iHeartRadio Music Festival at the T-Mobile arena in Las Vegas, Nevada on 22 September, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

French Oscar-winning composer Michel Legrand dies aged 86

PARIS (France)—Prolific French composer Michel Legrand, who won three Oscars during a career spanning more than half a century, has died aged 86, his spokesman said on Saturday.

Legrand first won an Academy Award in 1969 for the song “The Windmills of Your Mind” from the film “The Thomas Crown Affair”.

He followed that with Os-

cars for his music for “Summer of ‘42” in 1972 and for “Yentl” in 1984. He was also won five Grammys. Legrand, who had been scheduled to stage concerts in Paris in April, died during the night, his spokesman told AFP. He first began working as an accompanist and arranger in the 1960s.

During his long career, he worked with Miles Davies, Ray Charles, Orson Welles, Jean

Cocteau, Frank Sinatra and Edith Piaf.

Legrand was also known for his scores for French New Wave director Jacques Demy for the films “Les Parapluies de Cherbourg” (“The Umbrellas of Cherbourg”) in 1964 and “Les Demoiselles de Rochefort” (“The Young Ladies of Rochefort”) in 1967, both of which received Academy Award nominations.—AFP ■

Facebook getting its messaging apps to be friends

SAN FRANCISCO (United States)—Facebook said on Friday it is trying to get its messaging apps to be friends, allowing encrypted missives be exchanged no matter which of its services are used.

The leading social network is behind free, stand-alone smartphone apps Instagram, Messenger and WhatsApp.

Each service is popular, but users have to be in the same application to exchange to connect.

“We’re working on making more of our messaging products end-to-end encrypted and considering ways to make it easier to reach friends and family across networks,” a Facebook spokeswoman said in reply to an AFP

inquiry regarding a New York Times report about the effort.

“As you would expect, there is a lot of discussion and debate as we begin the long process of figuring out all the details of how this will work.”

Facebook hoped to get the messaging apps communicating with one another, while remaining separate services, by the end of this year or early next year, according to the Times report.

Each of the Facebook-owned messaging services boasts more than a billion users. End-to-end encryption would mean messages exchanged between the services would be scrambled to hide contents from snooping.—AFP ■

NASA’s New Horizons beams back new images of Ultima Thule

LOS ANGELES—Scientists from NASA’s New Horizons mission released new images of the Kuiper Belt object nicknamed Ultima Thule on Thursday, which was by far the clearest view of the most distant object ever explored.

The images were taken during the historic on 1 January flyby of Ultima Thule. New Horizons performed this farthest flyby when it approached Ultima Thule within 2,200 miles (about 3,540 km) of the surface at a velocity of 31,500 miles (about 50,694 km) per hour on the New Year’s Day.

Obtained with the wide-angle Multicolor Visible Imaging Camera component of New Horizons’ Ralph instrument, this image was taken when Ultima Thule was 6,700 km from the spacecraft, at 12:26 a.m. EST on 1 January, just seven minutes before the closest approach.

An image, with an original resolution of 135 meters per pixel, was stored in the spacecraft’s data memory and transmitted to Earth on 18-19 January, said the team. Scientists then sharpened the image to enhance fine detail.

The oblique lighting of this image reveals new topographic details along the day/night boundary, or terminator, near the top. These details include numerous small pits up to about 0.7 km in diameter. The large circular feature, about 7 km across, on the smaller of the two lobes, also appears to be a deep depression.

Both lobes also show many intriguing light and dark patterns of unknown origin, which may reveal clues about how this body was assembled during the formation of the solar system 4.5 billion years ago, said the team.

“This new image is starting to reveal differences in the geologic character of the two lobes of Ultima Thule, and is presenting us with new mysteries as well,” said Principal Investigator Alan Stern of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado.

“Over the next month there will be better color and better resolution images that we hope will help unravel the many mysteries of Ultima Thule,” he said.

New Horizons is approximately 6.64 billion km from Earth, operating normally and speeding away from the sun and Ultima Thule at more than 50,700 kilometres per hour, said the team.

At that distance, a radio signal reaches Earth six hours and nine minutes after leaving the spacecraft.—Xinhua ■

Cargo spacecraft Progress MS-09 detaches from ISS



Progress MS-09 spacecraft.
PHOTO: TASS

MOSCOW—The cargo spacecraft Progress MS-09 on Friday was detached from the International Space Station, the central research institute of machine-building TsNIIMash (the main research center of the corporation Roscosmos) told TASS. “The command was issued at 15:53 Moscow time. The separation of Progress from the ISS took place at 15:55,” the research center said.

At 19:08 the engines will be

burned to slow the spacecraft down and at 19:41 Moscow time Progress will enter the atmosphere. At 19:50 its debris will splash down in a remote area of the Pacific away from the shipping routes. Progress MS-09 has been attached to the ISS since 10 July. It had been launched from Baikonur, in Kazakhstan, earlier that day. It was the first time a cargo spacecraft had made just two orbits around the earth

before docking, after staying in flight for just 220 minutes. On all previous occasions the Progress cargo vehicles followed a two-day flight pattern (34 orbits around the Earth) or six-hour pattern (four orbits).

No date for the launch of the next cargo spacecraft, Progress MS-11 has been set yet. Roscosmos has not yet finalized a timetable for cargo and manned flights to the ISS for this year.—Tass ■

Scientists develop new drug to halt cancer cells’ growth

LOS ANGELES—Scientists have developed a new drug which shows potential to halt cancer cells’ growth by stunting the cells’ biological clock.

The findings from scientists at the US University of Southern California (USC) Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience and Nagoya University’s Institute of Transformative Bio-Molecules in Japan have advanced a burgeoning area of research—turning the body’s circadian rhythms against can-

cer.

The study was published on Wednesday in the journal Science Advances.

Scientists conducted research on human kidney cancer cells and on acute myeloid leukemia in mice.

As disrupting sleep and other elements of humans’ circadian rhythm can harm health, the same is true for the circadian clock of cells themselves. By disturbing the circadian clock of cancer cells, they could be po-

tentially hurt or killed, according to the research.

Scientists found that a molecule named GO289 targets an enzyme that controls the cell’s circadian rhythm. This drug-protein interaction then disrupts the functions of four other proteins that are important for cell growth and survival.

GO289 can jam the cogs of the cell’s circadian clock, slowing its cycles, with little impact to healthy cells, according to the research.—Xinhua ■

State of emergency declared in US measles outbreak

LOS ANGELES (United States)—A state of emergency was declared on Friday in the western US state of Washington following a measles outbreak that has affected more than two dozen people, the majority of them children. The disease was declared eliminated in the US in 2000 but has since made a comeback that is tied to imported cases and the rise of the anti-vaccine movement. “Measles is a highly contagious infectious disease that can be fatal in small children,” Washington Governor Jay Inslee said in a statement. “The existence of more than 26 confirmed cases in

the state of Washington creates an extreme public health risk that may quickly spread to other counties.” The outbreak began near Portland, Oregon, at the start of the year and quickly spread to nearby Clark County and King County, both in Washington. Health officials have warned that people infected with the disease had visited schools, churches, a dentist’s office, a Costco store, an Ikea store and the Portland airport. The majority of those infected are children, many of whom have not been immunized against the disease, officials said.—AFP ■

Myanmar girls' football team to play friendly against Australia team next month

IN preparation for the 2019 AFC U-16 Women's Championship qualification, Myanmar's U-16 female football team will receive training in Gold Coast town in Australia next month, followed by playing friendly matches, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

During the trip, the team's training session will last 10 days, starting from 9 to 19 February.

Within the training period, the team will play two friendly matches against the Australia U-16 national female football team. The MFF is also trying to arrange matches with local Australian women's football clubs, said an official from MFF.

The Myanmar young female football squad will be led by its head coach, Daw San San Thein.



Myanmar's U-16 female footballers take their training in Yangon. PHOTO: MFF

There will be 23 players, who will be leaving for Australia to train and play test matches, said officials.

The purpose of the trip is to

prepare the team for the 2019 AFC U-16 Women's Championship qualification, which will be held in Mandalay, Myanmar from 27 February to 3 March,

and Myanmar will be taking on Asian football giant China's team, the Philippines team and a team from Bangladesh.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Chelsea's Moses seals Fenerbahce switch

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Chelsea's Nigeria star Victor Moses has joined Fenerbahce on a one-and-a-half-year loan deal. Moses agreed to make the switch to the Turkish club after falling out of favour under Chelsea manager Maurizio Sarri. The 28-year-old has not featured for Chelsea since October, after making six appearances in all competitions and starting just once. Moses will stay with Fenerbahce until the end of the 2019-20 season.

"Victor Moses has today joined Fenerbahce on loan until the end of the 2019-20 season," a Chelsea statement said. "We wish Victor, a popular member of the squad, all the best on his loan deal in Turkey." Moses moved to Chelsea from Wigan in August 2012, but had loan spells at Liverpool, Stoke and West Ham before finally establishing himself in the team. Moses was converted from a winger to wing-back by Sarri's predecessor Antonio Conte, playing a key role in the 2016-17 Premier League title triumph and 2018 FA Cup success.

He signed a contract extension in March 2017 to commit himself to Chelsea until the end of the 2020-21 campaign.—AFP ■

Four countries to compete at Lethwei tournament in Mudon

THE Myanmar traditional Lethwei (Burmese bare-knuckled boxing) three day tournament, to include Myanmar, Thailand, Iran and Morocco, will be held at Mudon Township, Mon State, starting 29 January, according to the Myanmar Lethwei webpage.

The Lethwei contest will be held with the intention of preserving Myanmar Lethwei, with

the cooperation of the foreign countries, and to display Myanmar's martial arts, or lethwei, to its younger generations.

The event will be held under the supervision of the Myanmar Traditional Lethwei Federation and will include participants from Iran, Thailand and Morocco.

There will be men's matches in a variety of weight classes.

On 29 January, matches include Myanmar Lethwei fighters Ye Tagun, who will compete against Saw Min Aung (Taung Galay). Also, 2017 states and regions lethwei contest medalist Saw Lwam Chai will compete against Kyaw Kyar (Taung Galay). On 30 January, Myanmar's Shwe Yarman will compete against Iranian Ke One, while

Myanmar's Thway Thit Win Hlaing will be matched against Thailand's Phiksam Khun.

On 31 January, Soe Lin Oo will compete against Thailand's Arvatan, while Ye Thway Ni will compete against Mhibun from Thailand.

The matches will be broadcast live on Canal Plus Channel.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Czech Republic's Petra Kvitova celebrates her victory against Danielle Collins of the US during their women's singles semi-final match on day 11 of the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne on 24 January, 2019. PHOTO: AFP

Kvitova aims to hit Osaka with early onslaught in Open final

MELBOURNE (Australia)—Czech Petra Kvitova is aiming to rock Japan's 'on fire' Naomi Osaka with an early onslaught in the Australian Open final, predicting the decider will be more slugfest than tactical masterclass. The final on Saturday features two of the game's biggest hitters in a showdown for both the Australian crown and the world number one ranking. Two-time Wimbledon champion Kvitova is on an 11-match winning streak and has been in imperious form at Melbourne Park, where she is yet to drop a set or even be stretched to a tie-break. The 28-year-old is jubilant about making a Grand Slam final for the first time since a burglar sliced her racquet hand in a terrifying attack in late 2016 at her home in the Czech Republic.

"It's probably a bit more special because of everything I've been through," said Kvitova, who feared she would never rejoin the game's

elite after suffering permanent nerve damage. But to make her comeback complete, the eighth seed needs to overcome US Open champion Osaka, one of the few players who can match Kvitova's powerful serve and blazing groundstrokes. The Czech said she must start strongly against the 21-year-old, whose meek off-court demeanour belies a ferocious competitive instinct. "Naomi is on fire. She's in very good form," Kvitova said. "She's an aggressive player, which I am, as well. "So I think it will be about who's going to take the first point and push the other a little bit." Osaka has battled through three-setters three times on her way to the final and said advancing at Grand Slam level was sometimes more about the ability to outlast an opponent than outthink them. "I'm playing the best players in the world, and I've been playing three sets most of the time," she said. "It's more like a

battle of wills at this point." The pair have never met and Osaka said she would have to adjust her game against the lanky left-hander.

'Bigger heart'

Kvitova's coach Jiri Vanek said both finalists played in a similar manner. "(Osaka) goes for winners, Petra goes for winners. You don't have time to come up with great tactics" he said. "Both of them play so fast, I think it's going to be about who has the bigger heart." The final of this year's season-opening Grand Slam will also determine the world number one ranking after Romania's Simona Halep was bundled out in the fourth round. Neither Osaka nor Kvitova has held the top spot before. Osaka is currently sitting on a career-high ranking of four, while Kvitova even in her pomp only reached number two in 2011, the year she claimed her maiden major at Wimbledon.—AFP ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

27 JANUARY 2019
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

May the trodden paddy plant be strong



By Ms. Moon
Final year Honours
(English) Dagon University

I HAVE been trying hard to stand on my own for long. I cannot know whether the world is the perpetrator of unfairness or man is the perpetrator of it. Life of man is like grasses which are trodden when life is in a lower position. However, life of man is again like a big tree which is blown by wind when life is a higher position. I sometimes feel that I do not want to suffer such poundings of the way of the mundane world.

The weak one has no one to help. What is more, is it the law of nature that one who is drowning is wanted to make drown more with the aid of bamboo pole? One who does not understand has no one to help to make him or her understand. Many people want to drop and tread them and then want to abandon them at the corner. They turn a blind eye for their own interest and benefit. They nurture their evil mind and are themselves made to lose their good-natured.

In fact, in a human life, which thing is permanent? What is the thing to be able to have a passion? I also want to make a query if quality and comfort will really be the essence of life. Is it fair, to obtain those things, one searches his way to progress oppressing others? How nice it will be the atmosphere of human society if people are able to treat with one another multiplying affections, sympathy and

For me, although I have not lived in a life in which there was a complete comfort and luxury, everything is perfect under the shelter of my Dad and my Mom. When I grew up, I encountered the strong beats of the way of the mundane world. Although I could control not to fall my tear down, I seriously felt them. Some people said that I was strong-minded unlike my physical structure. It was right as I never stayed as a down-hearted one in front of them. Although there was a bitter suffering in my bosom, my mind never resigned. In line with the nature of an ordinary human being, I felt down-hearted for a while but I could again stand myself up.

Whenever I meet unpleasant experiences, I bear in mind that it is the lessons that make me more and more mature. Moreover, in the association with each other in human society, the aspect of sympathy is greatly important. Everything will be OK, when one has the aspect of sympathy in which one pays respect to all older people; one pays regard to all the same-aged people and one pays consideration to all the younger people. It might be peculiar for me as I have got many opposite ones. Even though I do not do the rival action with them, I have got many competitions with those who are deliberately jealous of me. Although I have heard that only when one has got opposite ones, he or she will be devel-

oped, it is not easy for the suffering one.

In a test I have ever read, "No matter how good tasks you are doing, hate and jealousy must be encountered. If you react those people who show hate and jealousy, your good tasks will never go ahead. What is more, those tasks can collapse on the way. If you feel such hate and jealousy in the short life-span of man, the valuable things can be lost."

Understanding or mutual understandings, it is right.

It needs in every corner. For the one who leads the association, he or she has might have many difficulties as well as the followers might have so. Therefore, mutual understandings and mutual aids of up and down is important and thus, it will be OK for every member of the association. In addition, such task will last long.

Then, patience, it is also right.

I feel patience is also essential. Be patient, even when it might be able enough to be impatient. One will surely feel from the benefit of his or her patience.

Nevertheless, suffering from the poundings of the way of the mundane world, I make a steadfast determination in which I am facing with my future difficulties with sympathy, understanding, patience and loving-kindness.





By C. T. O

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

LESSON - 16

(A) အဓိပ္ပာယ်နှစ်မျိုးသုံးမျိုးရှိသည့် စကားလုံးများအသုံးထူးခြားသည့် စကားလုံးများကို ဆက်လက်လေ့လာပါ။ receive d d လက်ခံရရှိသည်။ လက်ခံတွေ့ဆုံသည်။ reception လက်ခံခြင်း၊ ဧည့်ခံပွဲ receipt ဖြတ်ပိုင်း

1. I received your letter yesterday. ငါမနေ့က မင်းစာကိုရရှိတယ်။ She received many presents on her birthday. သူမ မွေးနေ့တွင် လက်ဆောင်များစွာ ရရှိခဲ့သည်။ Have you got the receipt for the money you paid? မင်းပေးခဲ့တဲ့ ငွေအတွက် ဖြတ်ပိုင်းရပြီးပြီလား။

2. The Minister received the visiting Deputy Minister in his office yesterday. ဝန်ကြီးသည် ဧည့်သည်ဒုတိယဝန်ကြီးကို သူ့ရုံးခန်းတွင် မနေ့ကလက်ခံတွေ့ဆုံခဲ့သည်။ She attended my wedding reception. သူမ ကျွန်တော်၏ မင်္ဂလာဧည့်ခံပွဲကို တက်ရောက်ခဲ့သည်။

3. He lifted the receiver and dialed the number. သူသည် တယ်လီဖုန်းကို ကောက်ယူ၍ နံပါတ်ကို လှည့်လိုက်သည်။

(B) succeed ed ed အရိုက်အရာဆက်ခံသည်။ အောင်မြင်သည်။

1. King Thibaw succeeded King Mindon. သီပေါဘုရင်သည် ဘုရင်မင်းတုန်း၏ အရိုက်အရာကို ဆက်ခံသည်။ The crown prince is the successor to the throne. အိမ်ရှေ့မင်းသားသည် ပလ္လင်တော်ကို အရိုက်အရာ ဆက်ခံရသူဖြစ်သည်။ Myanmar was ruled by a succession of kings for about 850 years. မြန်မာပြည်ကို နှစ်ပေါင်း ၈၅၀ ခန့် ဘုရင်များ ဆက်တိုက်အုပ်စိုးခဲ့သည်။

Their team suffered a succession of defeats. သူတို့အသင်းသည် ဆက်တိုက်အနှုံးများနှင့် တွေ့ကြုံခဲ့သည်။ Our football team has so far won three successive games. ကျွန်တော်တို့ ဘောလုံးအသင်းသည် ယခုထိဆက်တိုက် သုံးပွဲနိုင်ခဲ့သည်။ We have won three games successively. ကျွန်တော်တို့ သုံးပွဲဆက်တိုက်နိုင်ခဲ့သည်။

2. If you work hard, you will succeed. သင်ကြိုးစားလျှင် အောင်မြင်လိမ့်မည်။ He succeeded in saving K 10,000 last year. သူ မနှစ်က ငွေတစ်သောင်း မရမနေစုခဲ့သည်။ They succeeded in catching the wild elephant alive. သူတို့ ဆင်ရိုင်းကြီးကို မရမနေ အရှင်ဖမ်းခဲ့သည်။

Succeed နောက်တွင် in လိုက်၍ နောက်မှ V+ing ထည့်သုံးရသော ဤပုံစံမှာ ခံယူခြင်း၊ ယုံကြည်ခြင်း၊ ဖြစ်ပေါ်ခြင်း၊ လုပ်ဆောင်ခြင်းတို့ကို ဖော်ပြသည်။ အဓိပ္ပာယ်တူသော အခြားပုံစံတစ်ခုမှာ 1. He managed to save K 10,000 last year. 2. They managed to catch the wild elephant alive. (manage to နောက်တွင် မူရင်းကြိယာလိုက်ရသည်။) Everybody wants success in life. ဘဝတွင် လူတိုင်း အောင်မြင်မှုကို ရလိုကြသည်။ The economic plan last year was a great success. မနှစ်က စီးပွားရေးစီမံကိန်းသည် ကြီးမားသော အောင်မြင်မှုတစ်ခုဖြစ်သည်။ Failures are the mother of success. ကျွန်ုပ်တို့များသည် အောင်မြင်မှု၏ မိခင်ဖြစ်သည်။ At last he was crowned with success. နောက်ဆုံး၌ သူအောင်မြင်မှု သရဖူဆောင်းခဲ့သည်။ U Ko Ko is a successful lawyer. ဦးကိုကိုသည် အောင်မြင်သော ရှေ့နေတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။

(C) Practice d d (v) လေ့ကျင့်သည်။ ကျင့်သုံးသည်။ practice (n) အလေ့အကျင့်၊ အလေ့အထ

1. She practises the paino every evening. သူမ စန္ဒရား နေ့စဉ်လေ့ကျင့်သည်။ He is practising swimming. သူ ရေကူးလေ့ကျင့်နေသည်။ Ko Ko is practising Law. ကိုကို ရှေ့နေလိုက်နေသည်။ He is a practising doctor. သူသည် ဆေးကုနေသော ဆရာဝန်တစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။ I am out of practice. ကျွန်တော် အလေ့အကျင့် ပြတ်နေတယ်။ You need more practice. မင်း နောက်ထပ်လေ့ကျင့်မှုလိုတယ်။ They will be given both theoretical and practical training. သူတို့ကို စာတွေ့လက်တွေ့ လေ့ကျင့်မှုများပေးလိမ့်မည်။ He is attending a practical class. သူလက်တွေ့တန်း တစ်တန်းတက်နေတယ်။

2. We must practise economy in the use of fuel. ငါတို့လောင်စာသုံးရာမှာ ချွေတာရေးကျင့်သုံးရမယ်။ These crafts have been practised in Myanmar for centuries. ဤလက်မှုပညာများကို မြန်မာပြည်မှာ ရာစုနှစ်ပေါင်းများစွာကျင့်သုံးလာခဲ့ကြသည်။ One must practise what one preaches. မိမိသင်ကြားပေးသည်ကို မိမိကိုယ်တိုင် ကျင့်သုံးရမည်။

(D) Apply applied applied လျှောက်ထားသည်။ သုတ်လိမ်းသည်။ အသုံးချသည်။ application (n) လျှောက်ထားခြင်း၊ လျှောက်လွှာ၊ သုတ်လိမ်းခြင်း၊ အသုံးချခြင်း။

1. She has applied for the job. သူမ ထိုအလုပ်ကို လျှောက်ထားပြီးပြီ။ She has put up her application. သူမ လျှောက်လွှာတင်ပြီးပြီ။ The applicants are required to fill in the application forms in their own handwriting. လျှောက်ထားသူများသည် လျှောက်လွှာပုံစံများကို မိမိကိုယ်တိုင် လက်ရေးဖြင့် ဖြည့်သွင်းရန် လိုအပ်သည်။

2. The nurse applied oinment on the cuts in my legs. သူနာပြုသည် ဖယောင်းချက်ကို ကျွန်တော်ခြေထောက်ပေါ်မှ အကွဲအရှုများပေါ် သုတ်လိမ်းပေးခဲ့သည်။

3. This matter does not apply to you. ဤပြဿနာ သင်နှင့်မဆိုင်ပါ။ Modern scientific methods of farming must be applied in agricultural work. ခေတ်မီသိပ္ပံနည်းကျစိုက်ပျိုးရေးစနစ်များကို လယ်ယာလုပ်ငန်းတွင် အသုံးချရမည်။ He is studying Applied Chemistry. သူအသုံးချ ဓာတုဗေဒဘာသာရပ်ကို လေ့လာနေသည်။ ယခုလတွင် သင်ခန်းစာအသစ်အဖြစ် Adjectives များကို တင်ပြထားပါသည်။

Adjectives (နာမဝိသေသနများ)

(A) Adjectives များသည် နာမ်ကို ဝိသေသပြုသော စကားလုံးများဖြစ်သည်။ ဝိသေသပြုလိုသော နာမ်များ၏ ရှေ့တွင် ကပ်ထည့်သုံးရသည်။ ဥပမာ -

- 1. She is a faithful wife. သူမသည် သစ္စာရှိသော ဇနီးတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။
2. We are a peace-loving people. ငါတို့သည် ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေးကို ချစ်မြတ်နိုးသော လူမျိုးတစ်မျိုးဖြစ်သည်။
3. He arrived at the village on a windy night. သူသည် လေထန်သော ညတစ်ညတွင် ထိုရွာသို့ရောက်သွားသည်။
4. She is a sharp-tongued girl.

သူမသည် မိန်းမစွာကလေးတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။ 5. She has a valuable ring. သူမမှာ အဖိုးတန်သောလက်စွပ်တစ်ကွင်းရှိသည်။ 6. He is a bright boy. သူသည် ဉာဏ်ကောင်းသောလူကလေးတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။

7. He has an old wooden house. သူမှာ သစ်သားအိမ်အိုကြီးတစ်လုံးရှိသည်။ 8. Ko Ko is talking with a tall, pretty, well-dressed lady. ကိုကိုသည် အရပ်ရှည်ရှည်၊ ရုပ်ချောချော၊ အကျအနုဝတ်စားထားသော မိန်းမမျို တစ်ဦးနှင့် စကားပြောနေသည်။

9. The Myanmars are a kind, generous, friendly and hospitable people. မြန်မာများသည် ကြင်နာရက်ရောဖော်ရွေ၍ ဧည့်ဝတ်ကျေပွန်သော လူမျိုး တစ်မျိုးဖြစ်သည်။ မှတ်ချက် - နာမ်များရှေ့တွင် adj သုံးလေးလုံးထက် ပိုထည့်သုံးလျှင် မကောင်းပါ။ ဆီလျော်အောင် ထည့်သုံးတတ်ရန်လည်း လိုပါသည်။

(B) Something, Anything နှင့် Nothing တို့နှင့်တွဲလျှင်မူ adj ကို နောက်မှ ကပ်ထည့်သုံးရသည်။ 1. He wants to tell you something important. သူသည် သင့်ကိုအရေးကြီးသော တစ်စုံတစ်ရာကိုပြောလိုသည်။

2. Have you anything hot to drink? သင့်မှာ သောက်စရာပူပူ တစ်စုံတစ်ရာရှိသလား။ 3. I saw nothing strange there. ကျွန်တော် ထိုနေရာမှာ ထူးဆန်းတာ ဘာမှမတွေ့ခဲ့ပါ။

(a) Adjectives များကို ကြိယာပုံစံ အဖြစ်သုံးလိုလျှင် ကူညီသော ကြိယာများ (helping verbs) ဖြစ်သည် am, is, are, was, were (has/have + been, will be) စသည်တို့ကို ရှေ့မှ ထပ်ထည့်ရသည်။ ထိုကဲ့သို့သုံးစွဲသော ကြိယာပုံစံသည်ရိုင်းစွဲအခြေအနေကိုပြသည်။ Verbs စစ်စစ်များကမူ လှုပ်ရှားမှု (action) ကိုပြသည်။

ဥပမာ - 1. He is fat. သူဝသည်။ 2. She is hungry. သူမ ဆာလောင်နေသည်။ 3. They are poor. သူတို့ဆင်းရဲကြသည်။ 4. We are dutiful. ကျွန်တော်တို့ တာဝန်ကျေပွန်ကြသည်။

5. She is tall and thin. သူမ အရပ်ရှည်၍ ပိန်သည်။ 6. They are simple and honest. သူတို့သည် အနေအထိုင်ရိုးကာ ဖြောင့်မတ်ကြသည်။ 7. The farmers were once ignorant, superstitious and backward. လယ်သမားများသည် တစ်ခါက အသိဉာဏ်နည်း၍ အယူသီးကာ ခေတ် နောက်ကျခဲ့သည်။

He was dead. (adj) သူသေနေသည်။ ဤ 'နေ' မှာ အခြေအနေကိုပြသည်။ He died. (v) သူသေသွားသည်။ adj များကို am, is, are, was, were တို့ဖြင့်တွဲ၍ ကြိယာများအဖြစ် သုံးထားသောကြားများသည် အခြေအနေကိုပြသည်။ Verb များသည်လှုပ်ရှားမှု ကို ပြသည်ဟု ယခင်ကလည်း ဤနမူနာဖြင့်တင်ပြခဲ့ပါသည်။

အကယ်၍ adj များကို ကြိယာစစ်စစ်သုံးသောစာကြောင်းများလိုပင် လှုပ် ရှားမှုပြပါက အဖြစ်သုံးလိုလျှင် am, is, are, was, were တို့ရှေ့တွင် become, grow, get, sound, taste, smell, feel, draw စသည့် ကြိယာများကိုဆီလျော်သလို ထည့်သုံးရသည်။

He was poor. သူဆင်းရဲသည်။ (အခြေအနေ) He become poor. သူဆင်းရဲသွားသည်။ (ပြောင်းလဲမှု) 1. She was excited. သူမ စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားနေသည်။

2. She got excited when she heard the news. သူမ သတင်းကိုကြားသောအခါ စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားခဲ့သည်။ 3. If you go out, you will get wet. မင်းအပြင်ထွက်လျှင် စိုရွံသွားလိမ့်မည်။

4. I am feeling very hungry now. ကျွန်တော် ယခုအလွန်ဆာလောင်နေသည်။ (ဤ 'နေ' သည် လောလောဆယ်ဖြစ်ပျက်နေသည်ကို ပြသော 'နေ' ဖြစ်သည်။) 5. The night is getting darker and darker. ညသည် မှောင်သည်ထက် မှောင်လာသည်။

6. He was getting richer and richer. သူ ချမ်းသာသည်ထက် ချမ်းသာလာသည်။ 7. She is growing old. 8. Our examination is drawing nearer from day to day. ငါတို့ စာမေးပွဲတစ်နေ့ထက် တစ်နေ့နီးကပ်လာနေပြီ။

9. This fruit tastes sweet. ဤအသီးချိုသည်။ (TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

Int'l Book Sale in Yangon gives me sorts of experiences



By Gyaw Orwell
ITBMU



Different genres of books ranging from novels to non-fiction, literature to more.



Good books are a light to the soul of the people. PHOTO: KYAW ZIN TUN



Reading can enhance imagination and creative thinking. PHOTO: KYAW ZIN TUN

DIFFERENT people have different reasons and experiences for visiting to a book sale event. But people's most common reasons for going there are to get new experiences, to bond with friends and family and to buy books.

And you? What are your most common reasons for going to a book sale event? For me, the reasons are to get new experience and to browse many new books at one place.

Here I want to share with you is my personal experiences about going to The Big Bad Wolf Book Sale event in Yangon.

One evening before the Big Bad Wolf Sale event kicked off in Yangon, I was having tea with my friend in downtown.

"There was an int'l book sale event at Myanmar Event Park (MEP). Do you know?" my friend Miss Soe Gyi asked me, and then she gave me a ticket to use at the event.

On my way back home from her, I searched about the book sale event on Facebook, and came to know that the name of the book sale is Big Bad Wolf, and over one million English books will be sold there, discounting from 50 to 90 per cent.

I decided to go and made a plan to shop books on Monday (21 January) evening. As my girlfriend also wanted to go there, we have gone together.

On the way to The Big Bad Wolf Book Sale event, we made a conversation about the book sale event and books. She told me that the event is very far from the bus stops. It takes at least 15 minutes on foot from the nearest bus stop.

During the conversation with her, she told me that the Big Bad Wolf Books, also called The Big Bad Wolf Book Sale or BBW Books is a Malaysian book fair frequently held in Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka, and it was first held on 13-18 May 2009 for 5 days at Dataran Hamodal, Petaling Jaya.

I was surprised the knowledge of her about the event. She drags her knowledge into every conversation. I asked her how did she know. She told me that she knew from Wikipedia, which is the top online encyclopedia.

Citing to Wikipedia, the books being sold at there are the books that majorly taken from the stocks of BookXcess, a book store dealing in excess or remaindered books from international distributors.

When we arrived at the event, we entered through the entrance together but we were at different counters with different interests for nearly three hours until we went to cashier. Browsing books at such kind of event is really great pleasure for me. The books being sold at the event are really cheap but I didn't see much the books from bestselling list. This is not good for those who want to buy and read the books from current bestselling list.

When I use Facebook, some of my Facebook friends also shared their experiences about their visit to the sales. A friend shared that she went to the event, together with three children, in which she couldn't keep them beside her as the children were very happy and their interests are at the different children's book counters.

One of my teachers also shared her experience that she didn't want to go away from the religion and biography book counters where she bought a lot of books.

The international books in Yangon gave me such different sorts of experiences—the experiences before the event, during event, on Facebook and in conversation with my friends.

This is my very first personal experiences at such international book sale event in Yangon. Now I am thinking that if I were in front you (the reader), I would like to ask you to tell your experiences too. ■



A tiger photographed by camera trap



Tiger on camera trap in Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary



Conservationists are trying to measure the footprints of tigers

Htamanthi: Where **Tigers** Still Survive

By Nyi Tu

OUT of eight species of tiger in the world, three have been extinct. Out of remaining three which are facing on the brink of extinction, two are in Myanmar. Myanmar is home to a rich variety of habitats and ecosystems, including 14 terrestrial eco-regions supporting 233 globally threatened species. Among those species are 37 that are critically endangered and 65 that are endangered.

The country contains large expanses of species-rich and globally threatened ecosystems, such as lowland tropical forests and mangrove ecosystems, which are critically threatened elsewhere in the region.

The country's Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary which is geographically bounded between Uyu and Chidwin rivers, hosts a variety of critical Asian large mammal species, such as tigers (*Panthera tigris*), Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*), Asian largest Bovidae species the Gaur (*Bos gaurus*) and until not long ago the Sumatran rhino (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*).

Meanwhile, tigers are on the brink of extinction in the wild, and the forests of southern Taninthayi are one of the last refuges for this species in Myanmar, according to Fauna & Flora International and the Myanmar Forestry Department, which launched a new initiative to protect this iconic species from extinction in the country's south Myanmar tigers are now at a critical crossroads, facing numerous threats to their survival. The chief threats are conversion of forests into plantations, the wildlife trade and hunting.

A camera trapping survey was systematically conducted, setting 25 camera points for each block. Two camera traps were placed in each monitoring point and those points are 2



Conservationists are installing a camera trap



Wildlife is accessible by boat. Researchers are preparing for their survey trip.



billion a year global wildlife trade. Last year, Myanmar authorities incinerated illegal wildlife parts worth US\$1.3 million and among them, clouded leopard and tiger bones were found. The event becomes the first ever public event for fighting the illegal wildlife trade.

Rare wildlife including elephants, tigers, bears and pangolins are the natural heritage of Myanmar.

Myanmar has seen good progress in the struggle against wildlife crime and has stepped up efforts for patrolling poaching hotspots. But, there are still concerns for conservationists and researchers. Cooperation of local communities in conservation programs for tigers is the key for overcoming the challenges.

(Translated by Gyaw Orwell)

kilometers away from each other. This survey is jointly carried out by the Forest Department, Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary Forest Department and Wildlife Conservation Society (Myanmar).

After consecutive three years of research, tiger photos captured by the trap cameras and footsteps of tigers found by the guardians and volunteers have raised their hopes for tigers conservation. They came to realize that there is a rosy picture of the tiger population.

"According to records and evidences, hunting is considered main threat to tigers, but killing preys of tigers is also a threat to tiger population," said a conservationist who participated in the research.

Trafficking and selling endangered animals is rampant across Myanmar, especially in border areas which serve as a key hub in the \$20

SUNDAY COMICS

haha
HTOO

Look at this stick carefully Jacky.

I'm going to throw it and you have to fetch it for me.

Another lesson today?

Yes. This time, Jacky will accomplish his training, Mi Chuu.

?

Arf!

I get it! You're teaching Jacky to run for his life. Hee hee!

Arf, arf, arf!

PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE
Cartoon Maung Shwe Win

That man is very generous.

He helps others in need.

We must praise his philanthropic spirit.

He's not as you make him out to be.

He won't lend you any money, no matter how much you ask.

I know things about you and him too.

You don't repay the money you borrowed either.

Hee hee.

SUNDAY JOKE
Cartoon Maung Maung Aung 2019

You women only know how to spend money.

Money's easy to spend but hard to earn.

People are earning money everyday. How hard can it be?

If you think it's easy then go find money for today's expenses.

Okay, I will. All you talk about is money.

< In the evening >

Here's your money.

Now do you see how difficult it is?

It's not difficult at all. I borrowed it from my mother.

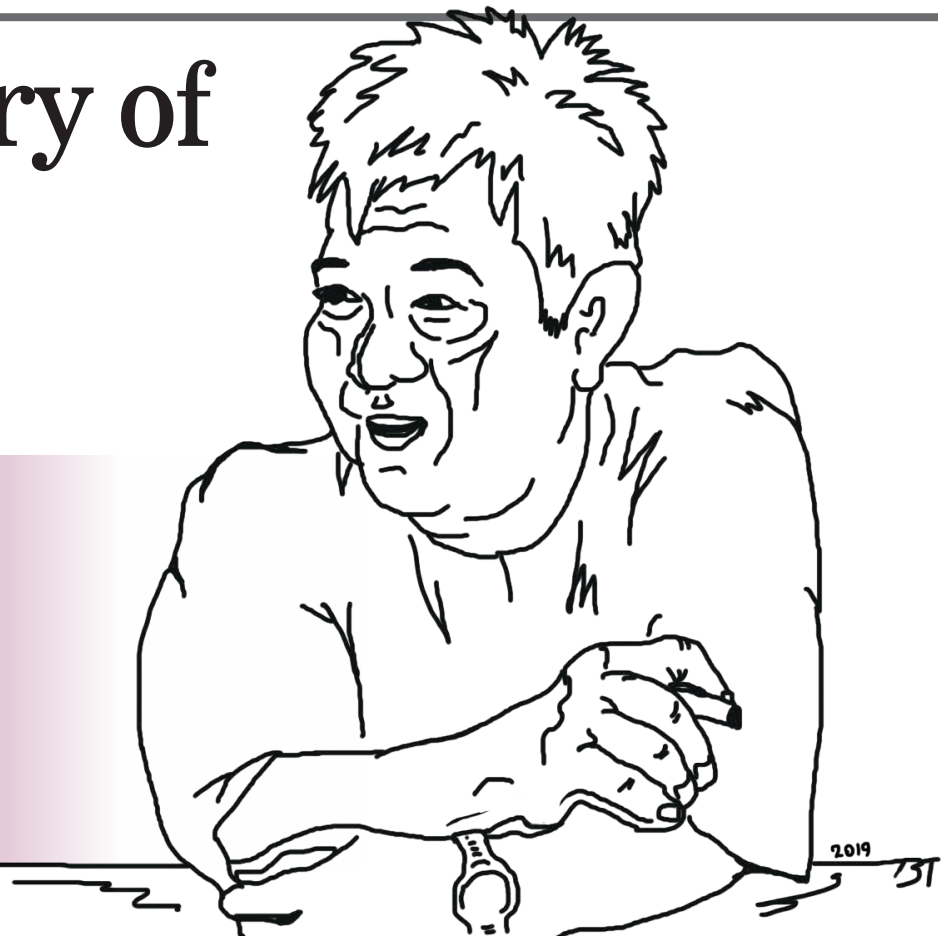
Oh no!

END

Twelfth Anniversary of Poet **Tin Moe's** Passing:

A Few Thoughts on Three of his Poems

By Dr. Myint Zan



POET Saya Tin Moe passed away in Baldwin Park, near Los Angeles, California, the United States on 22 January 2007. He was born on 19 November 1933 in a village called Kan Myei, in Taung Thar Township, Myingyan Division, in what was then Upper Burma.

I am writing this tribute on 22 January 2019, the 12th anniversary to the day indeed almost to the hour of Saya Tin Moe's demise. Poet Tin Moe died (to translate from Australia based writer Ko Myint-Thar's phrase in Burmese) ဝေးလံလှသော နေရာ from a 'place far away' (from his homeland)

Tin Moe composed thousand of poems in the Burmese language from his teenage years to several hours before his death when he composed his last poem on the night of 21 January 2007.

The following recollection, translation and remarks on three of his poems are by no means meant to be representative.

The Great Guest

The first poem was composed by Tin Moe around 1959 about sixty years ago.

It reads:

ဧည့်သည်ကြီး
ဆေးလိပ်လည်းတို
နေလည်းညိုပြီ
ငိုကိုပြန်ပို့ကြပါလေ။ ။

The Great Guest

By Tin Moe
Translation by Myint Zan

The cigar's shortened
The sun's brown
[Someone?] send me back
[To my own place?].

I would add that there are more than one translation into English of this short, enigmatic poem – probably one of the most well-known of Tin Moe's poems. It might have been translated into other languages than English. In fact this writer has the opportunity to publish a brief translation and commentary of Tin Moe's poem but also a longer tribute-poem written by Tin Moe's colleague and Mandalay University class mate now New York-based poet Maung Swan Yi (U Win Pe) which I saw online a few weeks after Saya Tin Moe's passing. (Myint Zan, 'Shortened Cigars Stained with Nostalgic Tears', 2010 Westerly Journal published by the University of Western Australia.)

Maung Swan Yi's poem was about how he, Tin Moe and the late Kyi Aung (U Kyi Lin) (of Ava/Innwa) were present when Tin Moe impromptu composed the poem in Mandalay while all three were studying at the University of Mandalay in late 1958 or early 1959. According to Maung Swan Yi, it was Kyi Aung where among three friends, (Tin Moe, Maung Swan Yi and Kyi Aung) and after a long day of eating and chit-chatting (ex)claimed (in Burmese) ' the cigar's shortened .. the sun's brown'. Then Tin Moe (supposedly) suddenly said 'wait a minute' and then added the last line of the poem 'Send me back' and named the poem or the 'doggerel' 'The Great Guest'.

Maung San Yi also stated that Tin Moe was initially reluctant to include this 'doggerel' in his collection ဖလမ်းအိမ်ကဗျာများ (မူရင်းသတ်ပုံအတိုင်း)

The Lantern which won the prize

Sarpaybeikman for Poetry for the year 1959 or 1960. If that was so we have to thank Saya Maung Swan Yi for persuading, urging, perhaps almost cajoling to include one of Tin Moe's most well-known poems in The Lantern. As a consequence, the rest, as they say, is modern Burmese poetic(al) history.

On or about 2 March 1972 at

ဦးချစ် လက်ဖက်ရည်ဆိုင် U Chit Tea Shop near Ramanya Hall at (then) Rangoon Arts and Science University I had the chance to enquire the meaning or 'explanation' about his poem to the poet himself. This writer (from his vague recall) gave two 'interpretations' of Tin Moe's poems and 'softly' enquired from the poet what was his intended meaning. Saya Tin Moe though not (necessarily) dismissive or curt was brief and 'inconclusive' in his reply. He replied "ဘာမှမဟုတ်ပါဘူးကွာ" ('it is nothing'). The writer was, of course, a CHAR TAIK ချာတိတ် (an 'immature youngster') so I can understand and retrospectively indulge, so to speak, in Saya Tin Moe's reticence.

Just as I was writing the above paragraphs an 'association of ideas' (in fact, poems) comes to mind. This writer has in the decades that he had learnt about and (in a certain sense) touched by 'The Great Guest' Poem has never made the connection so to speak until now. Parts of the Scottish poet Robert Louis Stevenson's (13 November 1850-3 December 1894) Requiem reads :

Under the wide and starry sky
Dig the grave and let me lie.
Glad did I live and gladly die
Home is the sailor, home from sea,

And the hunter home from the hill.

Irrelevant? Perhaps (not). Stevenson's poem did specifically use the word 'Home', Tin Moe's poem did not albeit the theme of 'return' to one's own place can be discerned in both poems in the English and Burmese languages composed about roughly 65 years (1893/1894 to 1958/1959) by two poets.

Unpossessed Flower

The second poem by Tin Moe is:

မပိုင်ပန်း

မနေလိုသည်
သူ့ကိုမြင်ဖူးနေရ၍
မသေလိုသည်
သူ့ကိုမြင်ဖူးနေရ၍

နေမှု၊ သေမှု
ဤနှစ်ခုကို
ယခုထက်တိုင်
မဖြတ်နိုင်သည်
မပိုင်ပန်းက ပွင့်လေ၍။ ။

My translation:

Unpossessed Flower

By Tin Moe

Translated by Myint Zan

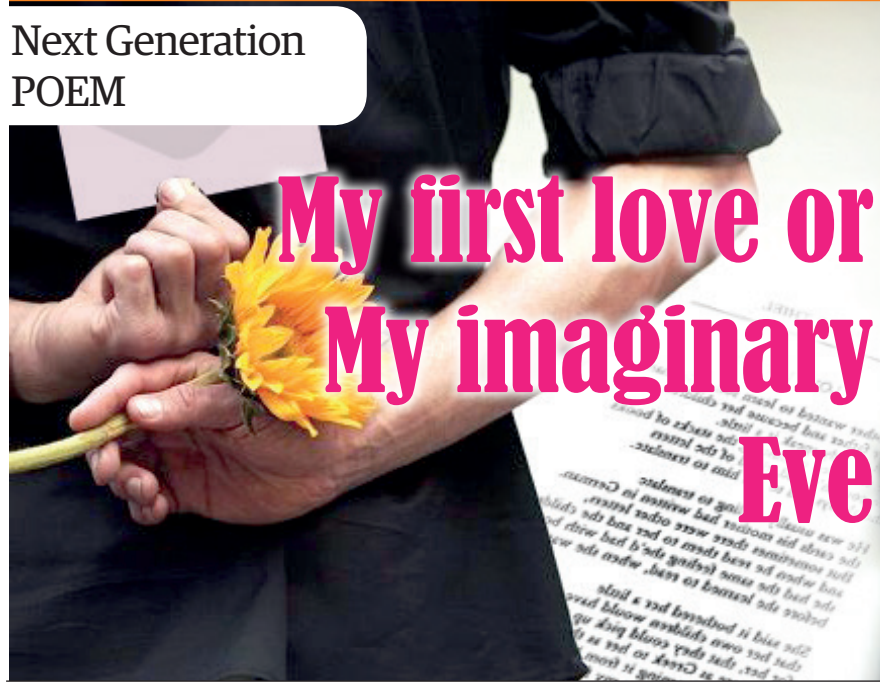
[I] do not want to live
becoz (because)/since I am adoring [pining for]
the person/ [phenomena]

[I] do not want to die
becoz (because/since) I am adoring [pining for]
the /phenomena]

the phenomena [points] of life and death
cannot be crossed
as yet
since the Unpossessed Flower
is blossoming

I first noticed this poem in Tin Moe's collection of poems လှေတစ်စင်းနှင့် သီချင်းသည် (မူရင်းသတ်ပုံအတိုင်း) ('A Boat and the Singer') first published around 1963 or 1964. All of the poems in A Poet and the Singer' was translated into English by Saya Maung Tha Noe (born around 1931). Since I do not have the book with me Maung Tha Noe's translation would certainly be different. The writer does not claim or infer that the writer's translations

Next Generation POEM



My first love or My imaginary Eve

I'm not sure The first two lovers of the world wrote poems about love each other.

So as me, I'm writing poems dedicated to you But not know how to send you.

But that's yes; We've rarely, if never, become lovers.

Ever I hope you're OK Whether I am OK or not.

No need to measure my love No give-and-take then I want.

During the days I love you I'm crazy to the max But proud of myself thinking it.

Never do I hope taking back While my love I'm giving you.

If someone asks Who told the things apropos of nothing. Point to me and say he was.

But as for me, I was lost in my thought; Thinking about the days we'd be walking hand in hand in the first two lovers' Eden garden.

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

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here are cogent -far less (im)precisely convey the theme of the poems- but one hopes that his translations are not that 'off-the-mark'.

Perhaps (and arguably) the above poem is predominantly a 'love poem'. The writer first read it as a teenager and anomalously his impression then of the poem was not as a love poem but (also) partly as a metaphysical or 'religious poem' where human wants and desires -at times to the point of longing for, alternating, syncopating so to speak between the points of both life and death- is transitory and in context and in perspective 'unachievable'.

When one longs for a certain thing unpossessed (so to speak) hence the 'Unpossessed Flower' puts the speaker or the poet 'on the horns of a dilemma' where the 'points' of 'life and death' နေမှု၊ သေမှု can 'till now' ဝလုထက်တိုင်

'cannot be crossed' (MA PHYAT NA-ING).

Saya Goandoo ဝုက်ထူး U Thein Naing (born 27 March 1936), a slightly younger colleague of U Tin Moe informally in a personal conversation a few decades ago told me that it was (primarily) a 'love poem' based on (now long past) personal experiences or shall one say 'infatuations' of the poet.

I do not impute that Saya Tin Moe intends to depict (or not) existential, metaphysical or ('soft') religious themes in his 'Unpossessed Flower' poem but as poems have 'lives' on their own so to speak, and varying 'interpretation' or imputations is perhaps within the reader's 'privilege'. Here I record my appreciation of Tin Moe's poem as well as the 'slant', as it were, that I took of it.

The Poem of the Epoch and the History of the Epoch

The year 1973 was, in then Burma, a year where the incessant, relentless and propagandistic charade of the adoption of what was to become known as the now defunct one-Party 1974 Constitution of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma reached its apogee with the 'adoption' of the Constitution where (can we say that now?) through a fake or at the very least 'non-choice' referendum took place virtually at the end of the year).

The referendum and the 1974 Constitution retrospectively and prospectively constitutionalized, legalized what was already a fait accompli if not since the military coup of March 1962 then two years later in March 1964, when the then Revolutionary Council regime by a decree abolished all political parties except its own party the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP). They were depressing times indeed.

When I talked some time in late 1973 to a Rangoon law school class mate of mine the late Ko Tin Htay Aung, regarding the impending referendum I quoted an elderly Uncle, a close family friend, who stated in effect that in human history only in occasional 'blimps' can humans enjoy some sort of freedom. Immediately and in support Ko Tin Htay Aung recited Saya Tin Moe's poem, (which I later learned was composed on 23 January 1973- almost 46 years to the day as I write this tribute.) In my own translation it reads:

ခေတ်၏ကဗျာနှင့် ခေတ်၏သမိုင်း

ခေါင်းကိုခါ၏ ကဗျာတစ်ပုဒ်

ခေါင်းကိုကုတ်၏ တစ်ပုဒ်ကဗျာ

ခေါင်းခုံ့ ခိုင်း၏ သမိုင်းတစ်ကွက်

ခေါင်းကိုကုတ်၏ ရှက်မိသမိုင်း။ ။

The Poem of the Epoch and the History of the Epoch

By Tin Moe Translated by Myint Zan

heads shook [in dismay] a poem arises

heads scratched in puzzlement another poem arises

heads forced to bow down an episode of history

heads trying to hide in shame [the shameful, oppressive]

phenomena of history Ko Tin Htay Aung enthusiastically requested me to convey to Saya Tin Moe his statement that even if Tin Moe did not write any other poem with this poem alone he had made poetic history.

A few months later while attending a talk on the (Bengali) poet, sage and Saya Tin Moe's (as well hundreds of thousands of people inspired by his literary works) mentor Rabintranath Tagore at Ramakrishna Hall in Rangoon, in May 1974, I did convey Tin Htay Aung's message to the poet. Saya Tin Moe told me in a chuckle that he first sent the poem to then Rangoon Arts and Science University History Department magazine but it was not published.

The poem did see the light of day in another book of collection of Tin Moe's poems

နင်းဆီပွင့်၌ အိပ်ပျော်ခြင်း ('Sleeping on the Rose') first published in 1973 or 1974. Since the date of the composition of the poem was mentioned as 23 January 1973 it is to be noted that poet Tin Moe died virtually 34 years to the day on 22 January 2007 in Los Angeles, the United States (Burma Standard Time, early morning 23 January 2007).

'The Poem of the Epoch and the History of the Epoch' is the most political poem among the three poems discussed above.

The great American poet Robert Frost said 'A poem begins in delight and ends in wisdom'. Both the above three poems of Tin Moe are (to me) on the whole -beginning, middle and end- delightful or at least moving and inspiring.

'The Great Guests' ends with a thoughtful enigma.

'Unpossessed Flower' ends in part, highlighting the ephemeral nature of one's wishes and life's predicament.

'The Poem of the Epoch and the History of the Epoch' ends with -let's not beat about the bush- the despairing phenomenon, nature or at least aspects of human political history and governance.

With my translation and commentary - no doubt personalized and subjective- I pay tribute to poet Tin Moe on the 12th anniversary of his passing. Here is the original and translation of another contemporary poet and -like Tin Moe- former political detainee and, in a sense, human

rights activist Min Ko Naing in tribute to Saya Tin Moe:

"ညွှတ်သည်ကြီး ဇိုကာ"

===== ဆေးလိပ်တိုမှာ နေညိုမှာကို သူကြိုပြောခဲ့သား မဟုတ်လား။ သူဟာ အိမ်ကွင်းမှာ မပါနိုင်ခဲ့ ဒါပေမယ့် ဘယ်လိုမက်လုံးတွေကောင်းကောင်း ဘယ်တော့မှ အသင်းမပြောင်းခဲ့ အဲသလို မာ။

သူလွမ်းတဲ့အခါဆို ဟော ဟိုနောက်ဖေး ခြံစည်းရိုးကနေ လာလာဝေးသတဲ့။

ကြမ္မာရိုင်း လက်ကြမ်းကြီးက ပုတ်ချလိုက်တဲ့အခါ အရာရာ တဒင်္ဂပြုလဲ.. မှောင်မဲ သူ့ဖန်မီးအိမ်လေးကတော့ မကွဲကဲ.. ဒီအလင်းနဲ့ပဲ ဆေးလိပ်တိုကို နေညိုမှာ သူ့ကို နောက်ဆုံးပို့ကြမို့။ ။

မင်းကိုနိုင်

Commentary on 'The Great Guest'

By Min Ko Naing Translation by Myint Zan

that the cigar will shorten and the sun will turn brown hadn't he said that in advance?

he did not have the chance to play [a full role] in his homeland's [political] field still, no matter the 'enticements' offered him he did not change the team [sides] he is that firm [in his political convictions] when he felt nostalgic [of his homeland] from the backyard near the demarcation line [of two houses] he is said to come and gaze [at his homeland] when the rough hand of fate hit: everything for a while collapsed it is dark:

yet the lantern is not smashed now, with this light itself accompanying the shortened cigars and the browning [setting] sun let's send him on his last journey.