

SUNDAY SPECIAL

Pull-out supplement



ARTICLE

Pyithu Hluttaw: making law in line with democratic principles that will benefit the nation and its people



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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 356, 3<sup>rd</sup> Waxing of Tagu 1380 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Sunday, 7 April 2019

## Advisory group seeks suggestions to combat natural disasters caused by climate change



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye poses for a group photo together with officials at the coordination meeting to obtain suggestions and assessment on natural disasters caused by climate change in Yangon on Friday. PHOTO: MNA

A COORDINATION meeting to seek suggestions on handling natural disasters caused by climate change was held at the Yangon Region Disaster Management Department office on Friday.

At the meeting, National Natural Disaster Management Work Committee Chairman Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

Dr. Win Myat Aye said it was a known fact that climate change is occurring. One of the ministry's policies in natural disaster management was to become a society that can resist and respond to natural disasters. The capacities to mitigate and have a high level of resistance towards natural disasters were raised at the Union and state/region levels. At the moment,

the negative impacts of climate changes were beyond the efforts made to combat natural disasters. The Union Government has been conducting mitigation works against natural disasters together with climate change activities. This was being carried out in a practical way by putting in place policies, laws, rules and instructions. Experts from the natural dis-

aster management advisory groups were requested to provide practical suggestions and assessments to ease the difficulties faced by the people, said the Union Minister.

Next, the Director-General of the Disaster Management Department discussed those natural disasters that could be caused by climate change.

Afterwards, natural dis-

aster management advisory group chairman U Maung Maung Khin explained about work conducted by the advisory group, followed by advisory group secretary meteorologist U Chit Kyaw, who discussed the possible effects on monsoons caused by weather changes in Myanmar.

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FLY AND FUN, INDOOR SKYDIVING

## Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees honours title recipient Ovada Cariya Sayadaws

OVADA CARIYA Sayadaws of the Board of Trustees of the Shwedagon Pagoda and Pali expert who were conferred with religious titles by the State were honoured by the board on Friday at the pagoda.

At the ceremony, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pavrabhivamsa of Nyaungdon Monastery, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Javanabhivamsa of Inya Kan Phyar Monastery

and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kemindasara of the Stubhommika Monastery were honoured.

The Aggamaha Pandita titles were conferred on the two Sayadaws by the Union Government. Pali expert U Soe Myint, who was conferred with Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dajha title, was also honoured by the board of trustees.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Zaw Min)*



A member of board of trustees presents the certificate of honour to the Ovada Cariya Sayadaw at Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Union Minister, Chief Minister open Home for the Aged in Manaung



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung and officials open the Home for the Aged and ordination ceremony in Manaung yesterday. **PHOTO: MIN MIN**

OPENING ceremony for the Home for the Aged constructed in Ayeyawady Region Manaung

Town, No. 2 Ward, Maha Dharmika Yama monastery compound was held at the Home for the

Aged yesterday morning.

The ceremony began with Union Minister for Religious

Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, Chairman of Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Federation and Border Areas and Hill Region Sasana Nuggaha Association Dr. Khin Shwe and officials cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

After the ceremony, attendees listened to a discourse delivered by Manaung town Kyankan monastery patron Sayadaw Dr. Bhaddanta Eindathaba, speeches were delivered by Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko, Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung and Chairman of Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Federation and Border Areas and Hill Region Sasana Nuggaha Association Dr. Khin Shwe.

Next, Home for the Aged trustee chairman U Than Swe spoke words of thanks and presented a commemorative flag to the Chief Minister. The Union Minister and the Chief Minister

then presented certificates of honors to the donors.

Later, Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko and Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung attended ordination ceremony for more than 800 monks, novices and nuns held in commemoration of the successful hoisting of a new umbrella onto Bontha Bweya Shwe Bontha Pagoda in Manaung town.

At the ceremony Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko, Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung and donors offered soon (alms-food) to the more than 800 monks, novices and nuns. Principal donor of the ceremony U Zay Thiha, wife Daw Nanda Hlaing and family then donated K 30 million for the 'sunn' (food offered to religious persons) which was accepted by Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko. The Union Minister then presented the donation to the sayadaws.—Min Min ■

*(Translated by Zaw Min)*

## CVT Myanmar's vocational skills courses conclude

Center for Vocational Training -CVT Myanmar held a graduation of several vocational skills courses at Strand Hotel, Yangon yesterday.

At the ceremony Union Minister U Thein Swe said the 3 years long vocational training courses covered five types of jobs that include commercial assistant, cabinet maker, electrician, hotel & gastronomy assistant and metal working for those who have difficulties in continuing their formal education. These courses need to strive on toward improving

the current work site capabilities. It will ensure the livelihood security of youngsters and turn them into innovative and qualified technicians in work sites. Such qualified workers and technicians will support the development of their respective companies and will also benefit the country in implementing Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan. Relevant authorities and partner organisations will also be required to cooperate and participate in the work processes of National Skill Standards Authority (NSSA) said the

Union Minister.

Afterwards the Union Minister and officials presented course completion certificates for five types of jobs.

Department of Labour and CVT Myanmar jointly organized and conducted the vocational training and skill courses with the aim of providing vocational education and human resources development, poverty reduction, development of MSMEs (micro, small and medium enterprises) and to create job opportunities it is learnt.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Zaw Min)*



Union Minister U Thein Swe delivers the speech at the graduation of vocational skills courses of Center for Vocational Training in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

“ Our country is still in poverty with necessities in every sector; which is why we need to carry on our struggle and work hard in all sectors. In the international arena, we are facing pressure, criticisms and misunderstandings. The challenges and difficulties our country and our people are facing today are many. Although every issue cannot be solved easily, we will have to make utmost efforts to solve these issues according to each priority sector.

(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2018)

“ Let me solemnly thank all our friends at home and abroad, who have helped us and are still helping us; organizations, business entrepreneurs, people from academia and professionals, and especially our people who have supported and assisted us with understanding and empathy. Those who have helped us once, we should never forget. Those who have helped us again and again are our real friends; they bring fulfillment to our lives.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of NLD Government on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018)

## Private nursing schools urged to educate qualified nurse assistants

Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe has called upon private schools of nursing to conduct training meeting with standards set by the ministry and the National Skills Standard Authorities.

He made the remark in his opening address at the workshop on nursing assistants at the University of Nursing in Yangon yesterday.

“The Ministry of Health and Sports has not yet officially permitted private schools for nursing assistants,” said the Union Minister, urging private nursing schools to graduate qualified nursing assistants as part of efforts for supplying the demand of nurse assistants in Myanmar.

He also called for cooperation among stakeholders for development of nursing and midwifery sectors in the country.

A workshop on Nursing Aids was held at the University

of Nursing (Yangon) yesterday morning.

The Ministry of Health and Sports considered the development of nurses and midwives as a priority.

Graduating nursing assistants would greatly support the work of nurses, and better health care could be provided for patients in hospitals, said the Union Minister.

In order to fulfill the nurse and midwife requirements starting from 2018, the ministry had been training up to 400 nursing science trainees, 3,600 nurse-midwife diploma three year course trainees and some 1,300 all-round midwife diploma trainees yearly.

The ministry had conducted a 9-month Nurse Aid course (once a year), producing about 3,020 nursing assistants. As of February 2019, some 1,400 were employed in the ministry's hospitals and clinics, while some of the



Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe calls on private schools of nursing to conduct training meeting with standards set by the ministry and the National Skills Standard Authorities yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

remaining 1,620 were working as nurse assistants in private hospitals and clinics.

Following the ceremony, the Union Minister, together with

Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Mr. Lee Sang-hwa, attended the dissemination workshop on primary healthcare system strengthening in Hlegu

Township jointly conducted by Korea Foundation for International health-KOFIH. —MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

## U Thanug Tun visits Adidas Shoe Factory in Thar Du Kan Industrial Zone



Union Minister U Thaung Tun visits Adidas Shoe Factory in Thar Du Kan Industrial Zone, Shwepyitha Township, Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION MINISTER for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, accompanied by members of the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC), visited, yesterday, the Myanmar Pou Chen Factory in Thar Du Kan Industrial Zone, Shwepyitha Township, Yangon Region.

The Myanmar Pou Chen, with the approval from the MIC, made the 100 per cent investment in Adidas Shoe Factory in Myanmar. With a number of over 5,000 workers, the factory has exported over five million pairs of shoes yearly.

First, the Myanmar Pou Chen Factory Managing Director Mr. Ou, Chin-Nan explained about the factory background to the Union Ministers and party. In his remarks at the factory, Union Minister U Thaung Tun

said that the MIC was striving to draw the foreign and local investors, especially accountable investments in Myanmar. We were glad that a total of more than 5,000 employment opportunities had been created, and which could set a good example for the investments.

Also, it was found out that emphasis has been placed for the welfare of the factory staff while making a good working environment. As for the foreign and local investors, it was the best time to set up their business enterprises and implementation would be made to encourage their investments. Following this, Union Minister U Thaung Tun and party observed the compound of the factory and coordinated the operation of the factory.—MNA ■ (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

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marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com  
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gnldaily@gmail.com  
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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.

**Free eye treatment to be provided in Tangyan, Shan State**

**FREE EYE** treatment, including eye surgery, will be provided from 23 to 25 April by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kusala (Agga Maha Thadhamma Jotikadhaja) from Kaikon Pariyatti Monastery in Tangyan Township, Shan State (North).

The free eye treatments will be available, in cooperation with the Trachoma and Blind Prevention Department under the Ministry of Health and Sports.

The medical team, led by eye specialist Dr. Maung Maung Myo Win Oo, will provide free eye care services to patients with eye diseases.

The township administrator and officials from the related departments, the medical superintendent and the staff from the 25-bed Tatmadaw hospital, along with doctors and nurses from the township public health department and members of social organizations, will assist



**FILE PHOTO:** An ophthalmologist provides special eye treatment to the local people. **PHOTO: MIN LWIN OO (IPRD)**

in the free eye care services. The 25-bed No.3 Tatmadaw

hospital will continue to provide treatment for patients.—Min

Lwin OO (IPRD) ■ (Translated by Hay Mar)

**Fifth Myanmar mango festival to be held in Mandalay**

**THE 5<sup>th</sup>** Myanmar mango festival will be held in May at the Hotel Hazel, Mandalay, according to Daw Than Than Swe, chairperson of the Mango Association.

The festival will be held to generate high volume of sales at Myanmar's mango markets, as well as to introduce local mango products.

At the festival, many types of mangoes, both of Myanmar origin and foreign species grown in Myanmar, will be displayed.

Moreover, many local value added mango products will also be exhibited.

There will also be a competition and display of well-known mango products on 11

and 12 May, such as Sein Ta Lone, Shwe Hintha, Yingwe and other species of Myanmar mangos.

At the festival, agricultural machines, fertilizers and other production-related items will also be displayed.

"The mango festival is really interesting. We can reach the local mango market through

this kind of festival. The festival is visited not only by local travelers, but also by foreign travelers. If the products' quality is good, we will see interest from traders", said U Myint Win, a mango field owner from Kalargyi Chan village, Pathein Gyi Township.—Myantrade ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

**Maungtaw border trade to remain open during water festival**

**THROUGHOUT** the water festival, trade at the Maungtaw border gate will remain open, according to an official from the border trade camp.

Border trade between Myanmar and Bangladesh is conducted through Sittway and Maungtaw cross-border trade camps, but Maungtaw border trade is busier than the others,

resulting in surpluses in the balance of trade.

The level of trade has remained normal this year, according to the traders.

"For those exporters who want to trade during the water festival, we are ready to accept their commodities", he added.

Some exporters, however, said they will suspend exporting

during the water festival.

"We have to take a break during the water festival because the festival is held only once a year. During the festival period, some boats will not operate", said an aquatic products exporter.

Marketable items at the Myanmar-Bangladesh cross-border camps include

bamboos, ginger, peanuts, saltwater prawns and fish, dried plums, garlic, rice, mung beans, blankets, candy, plum jams, footwear, frozen food, chemicals, leather, jute products, tobacco, plastics, wood, knitwear, beverages and human hair.—GNLM ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

**Refrigerator fire destroys three shops in Ye Township**

A refrigerator fire broke out on Friday night in Ye Township, Mawlamyaing District, Mon State, destroying three shops, a motorbike and farm equipment, according to a police report.

No injuries were reported.

According to officials, the fire began at about 11.50 p.m. on 5 April, due to a malfunctioning refrigerator at a snack shop of U Zaw Win, located at the corner of Zinyaw Street and MINGAUNG Street.

Three shops, including the

snack shop and nearby shops, were a complete loss, valued at approximately K790,000, according to the township fire department.

Firefighters extinguished the flames by 12.05 a.m.

The police are still inves-

tigating the fire and action is being taken against the house owner, under Section 285 of the Penal Code for negligence.—Township IPRD ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

# Muse trade down by \$761 mln as of 29 March

THE value of Sino-Myanmar border trade through Muse gate fell by US\$761 million from 1 October, 2018 to 29 March, 2019 compared with the corresponding period of last fiscal year, according to data of the Ministry of Commerce.

During Oct-March period, export through Muse gate is worth \$1.57 billion while import is valued \$863 million, totaling \$2.4 billion which plunged from \$3.19 billion of last year.

Export through Muse gate drastically dropped owing to tight confiscation and trade suspension by China since October 2018, coupling with closure of border gate.

Muse is the major border gate in Myanmar that performs the largest trade volume but it saw a steep drop as China has

been strictly combating against illegal goods.

Myanmar merchants cannot export to China through legitimate channel as the tax levied by China is too high for traders to pay.

The import duty is set 35 per cent to 100 per cent. Some duties are imposed up to 150 per cent. Therefore, rice confiscation and price manipulation often occur.

Myanmar's rice, sugar, pulses, sesame seeds, corn, dried tea leaves, fishery products, minerals and animal products are exported to China, while agriculture machinery, electrical appliances, iron and steel-related materials, raw industrial goods and consumer goods flowed into the country.—GNLM ■  
(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



Truks seen at 105-mile trade zone Muse, northern Shan State. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

## MoC issues registration cards to 11 local, foreign companies for retail-wholesale trading

THE Ministry of Commerce (MoC) recently issued registration cards to 11 retail and wholesale trading services, according to the ministry's announcement.

Those 11 businesses include four foreign owned companies, three joint ventures and four domestic enterprises.

The MoC issued terms and conditions for retail and wholesale trading last year, allowing foreign investors to establish 100% foreign owned trading companies and joint ventures,

including for foreigners in Myanmar.

Types of goods that will be sold and distributed include beverages, sanitary napkins, wet-tissues, masks and cosmetic puffs, Pocari sweet drinks, consumer goods, food products, household goods, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment, foodstuff, industrial chemical and related tools, as well as automobile parts and machinery, including pallets, racks, and forklifts.

A company can execute retail and/or wholesale trad-

ing services. They can apply for registration at the Trade Department of MoC in Nay Pyi Taw and the Export/Import Licence Office of the trade departments in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay, depending on the types of companies.

Other documents needed include the company registration, copy of approval or endorsement from the Myanmar Investment Commission for certain foreign companies and joint ventures, municipal permits and types of goods.—GNLM ■

## MACC, UMFCCI sign MoU to promote trade, investment ties

THE Mercosur-ASEAN Chamber of Commerce (MACC) and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) last Friday at the UMFCCI office, in a bid to promote trade and investments.

Mercosur is an economic and political bloc, created in 1991, which includes Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Venezuela and Paraguay. The MACC is promoting trade, investment and tourism cooperation.

At the event, Argenti-

na-based MACCS chair Mr. Piet Verdult and vice president Dr. Maung Maung Lay of UMFCCI signed the memorandum to cooperate in providing information on business opportunities, business law, rules and policies; promoting trade and investment; reducing economic sanctions and exchanging technology and programs.

MACC delegations expressed their desire to work together with their counterparts on Labour and legal affairs, tourism and the education sectors in Myanmar.—GNLM ■

## Export of manufactured goods up 40% on 23-29 March

MYANMAR'S exports of manufactured goods topped US\$135 million in a week between 23 and 29 March, an increase of \$38.9 million, or 40.5 per cent, from the corresponding period in the previous fiscal year, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

The total exports of manufactured goods included \$31.36 million by the public sector and \$103.67 million by the private sector. At this time last FY, the country's export of the same totalled \$96.08 million. From October through March in the current fiscal year, the country's exports of manufactured goods reached \$4.45 billion, with public sector exports pegged at \$1.62 billion

and private sector exports valued at \$2.83 billion. According to the ministry, Myanmar exported manufactured goods worth \$4.53 billion in the 2018 mini-budget period between April and September, with the public sector earning \$1.6 billion and the private sector fetching \$2.932 billion. The country earned \$6.9 billion from the export of manufactured products in the 2017-2018 FY, \$5.7 billion in the 2016-2017FY, \$6.5 billion in the 2015-2016FY, \$4.6 billion in the 2014-2015FY, \$4.4 billion in the 2013-2014FY, and \$4.08 billion in the 2012-2013FY, according to the ministry's annual statistical report.—Shwe Khine ■  
(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

## Mineral exports decline 55% since October

MINERAL exports between Myanmar and overseas traders stood at US\$498.6 million in the current 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, down notably by over \$600 million, or 55.2 per cent, from this time last 2017-2018 FY, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

At this time last FY, the country's mineral exports were over \$1 billion, with \$561.9 million in the public sector and \$551.2 million reported by the private sector.

Between 1 October and 29 March, this FY, public exporters sold minerals valued at \$32.8 million, declining by nearly \$529.1 million from the

corresponding period last FY.

Also during the first half of this FY, the private sector's export of the same reached \$465.8 million, a decrease in value by over \$85.3 million against the corresponding period last FY.

Other products which saw a downward trend in export growth in the current FY contained forest-based products and other miscellaneous items.

When compared with the same period last FY, the current export value of forest products declined slightly by nearly \$8 million, while the export of miscellaneous prod-

ucts this FY dropped by \$167.4 million.

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

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

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

# World powers demand halt to Libya advance

TRIPOLI (Libya)—Libyan forces under Khalifa Haftar battled their way to the south of Tripoli on Friday, prompting the UN Security Council and the G7 to demand a halt to the military advance on the capital.

Haftar, commander of the self-proclaimed Libyan National Army (LNA), launched an offensive on Thursday to take the capital, held by a UN-backed unity government and an array of militias.

The lightning assault was ordered as UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres was in Libya for a visit aimed at cementing a political deal on holding elections.

After meeting with Haftar in the eastern city of Benghazi, Guterres said he was leaving “Libya with a deep concern and a heavy heart” and voiced hope that a “bloody confrontation” could be avoided.

Shortly afterwards, LNA forces clashed with a pro-government alliance less than 50 kilometres (30 miles) south of the capital, a unity government source said. Haftar’s press office confirmed there had been “violent fighting on the edge of Tripoli with armed militias”.

## Halt all movements

After a closed-door emergency meeting in New York, the Security Council called on Haftar’s forces to halt their advance and warned that those responsible for re-igniting the



Militiamen pushed back forces loyal to commander Khalifa Haftar who had launched a lightning offensive on the capital Tripoli. **PHOTO: AFP**

conflict will be held responsible.

The appeal for Haftar to halt his offensive was unanimously backed by the council, including Russia, which has supported the strongman.

The council “called on LNA forces to halt all military movements” and “on all forces to de-escalate military activity,” said German Ambassador Christoph Heusgen, who holds the council presidency.

UN envoy Ghassan Salame told the council that Haftar made clear to Guterres during the Benghazi meeting that he had no intention of halting his campaign, diplomats said.

G7 foreign ministers meeting in the French resort town of Dinard urged an immediate halt to “all military activity and movements toward Tripoli”, warning that civilians were in danger.

LNA forces briefly took over the ruins of a destroyed airport but were driven out by fighters from the capital, government interior minister Fathi Bachagha told Libya’s Al-Ahrrar television station.

“The fighting is currently taking place in the Gasr Ben Ghechir region” south of the airport, he said.

LNA spokesman Ahmad al-Mesmari said five fighters

from his group had been killed in clashes over the past 24 hours, but insisted that it had made “an important step forward”.

Earlier in the day, LNA forces were pushed back from a key checkpoint less than 30 kilometres from the capital, checking their offensive.

Pro-government militiamen from the coastal town of Zawiyah, west of Tripoli, retook the base after a “short exchange of fire”, a source said on condition of anonymity.

The head of the UN-backed unity government, Fayez al-Sarraj, visited the checkpoint on Friday accompanied by military

commanders.

## Time has come

The Zawiyah militia is one of dozens that have proliferated since the 2011 overthrow of dictator Moamer Kadhafi and are variously aligned with Sarraj’s government and a rival administration in the east backed by Haftar. Most of the pro-Haftar fighters who briefly captured the checkpoint late on Thursday were rival militiamen from the town of Sabratha, further west along the Mediterranean coast.

Haftar said “the time has come” to take Tripoli in an audio message released on Thursday, pledging to spare civilians and “state institutions”.

The United States and its allies issued a joint statement urging “all parties to immediately de-escalate tensions”.

Russia called for “all possible efforts to fully resolve the situation with peaceful political means”.

Analysts say the advance by Haftar’s forces comes at a key moment as the UN bids to get elections back on track after an abortive effort last year.

“The risk of a flare-up has increased,” said Jalel Harchaoui, a researcher at Clingendael Institute in The Hague.

“Capturing Tripoli... remains a possibility” for Haftar, with the support he receives from Saudi Arabia and its allies Egypt and the United Arab Emirates, he said.—AFP ■

## Power restored after Mexican tourist hotspots hit by blackout

MEXICO CITY (Mexico)—Power was restored in Mexico’s south-eastern Yucatan Peninsula Friday after a four-hour blackout struck the region, including the popular tourist spots of Cancun, Cozumel and Isla Mujeres, the government said. “Service has been 100% restored in the three states affected,” the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE) said in a statement Friday night. CFE director Manuel Bartlett had earlier blamed the outage on a damaged transmission line caused by a routine fire set at a sugar cane plantation. A similar blackout happened last month. The outage affected 1.6 million customers across Yucatan, Quintana Roo and Campeche states, with local media reporting it also impacted cellphone networks.—AFP ■

## Morocco upholds sentences against Hirak protesters

CASABLANCA (Morocco)—Dozens of activists linked to the Hirak protest movement that rocked northern Morocco in 2016 and 2017 had prison sentences of up to 20 years upheld by a court of appeal on Friday. The ruling against the 42 protesters in the western city of Casablanca was met with cries of “corrupt state” from relatives.

The Al-Hirak al-Shaabi, or “Popular Movement”, protests took hold in the country’s marginalised Rif region in October 2016. The social unrest was sparked by the death of a fisherman and escalated into a wave of demonstrations demanding more development in the neglected region and railing against corruption and unemployment. Authorities accused the activists of having separatist aims. The sentences were first handed down in June



The Al-Hirak al-Shaabi, or “Popular Movement”, protests took hold of the country’s marginalised Rif region in October 2016. **PHOTO: AFP**

last year, prompting further demonstrations calling for the group’s release, backed by human rights organisation such as Amnesty and Human Rights Watch.

“There is no hope... this trial has been unfair since the start and that is how it has ended,” said de-

fence lawyer Souad Brahma. The movement’s leader Nasser Zefzafi and three others received prison terms of 20 years for threatening the security of the state. Other sentences also confirmed on appeal ranged from one to 15 years. Eleven others were pardoned

last year by King Mohammed VI. Journalist Hamid el Mahdaoui was sentenced to three years for failing to tell police he had been offered weapons during the protests—what he called an “imaginary crime”. “It’s an injustice,” his wife told AFP. Zefzafi, 39, emerged as the face of the movement as a result of his rallying speeches, accusing the authorities of corruption.

Amnesty International has said the activist was held in solitary confinement and subjected to “conditions tantamount to torture”. He boycotted the appeal proceedings along with 37 other defendants, after denouncing the first case as a “political trial”. In response to criticism, the Moroccan authorities have insisted the judicial process has followed international standards.—AFP ■

# Britain, EU set out competing Brexit delay dates

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Prime Minister Theresa May asked the European Union on Friday to delay Britain's departure until 30 June while Brussels suggested that it might be best to postpone the split for up to a year.

EU leaders also reacted sceptically, saying that there had to be a strong justification for any further delay.

The competing visions of how to unwind Britain's 46-year EU membership will be hashed out again at a summit in Brussels on Wednesday.

Strong resistance is likely against May's plan, which would involve Britain planning for European elections on 23 May but then not actually holding them.

The current Brexit deadline of 12 April has already been pushed back once from 29 March because of the UK parliament's repeated failure to back the deal May signed with the other 27 EU leaders in December.

May's formal request to EU Council president Donald Tusk said Britain thinks the delay "should end on 30 June 2019"

—the same date she asked for and was refused at the last EU summit last month.

"If the parties are able to ratify (the withdrawal agreement by) this date, the government proposes that the period should be terminated earlier," May wrote in a letter released by Downing Street.

A senior EU official said that Tusk's own idea for a "flexible" 12-month extension "will be presented to member states today".

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte—seen as one of May's closer European allies—said the letter "doesn't answer" important concerns. Meanwhile a source in French President Emmanuel Macron's office said it was "premature" to consider the request without "a clear plan" from May about what she intended to do with the extra time. France's Europe Affairs Minister Amelie de Montchalin said: "Another extension requires that the UK puts forward a plan with a clear and credible political backing.

"In the absence of such a plan we would have to acknowl-



The current Brexit deadline is 12 April, which has already been pushed back once because of the UK parliament's repeated failure to back premier Theresa May's deal with the EU. PHOTO: AFP

edge that the UK chose to leave the EU in a disorderly manner," she said. Amid fears of a possible no-deal departure, EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier will travel to Dublin on Monday for Brexit talks with Irish leaders, Prime Minister Leo Varadkar's office said.

## 'Political cover'

May said Britain would start preparing for European Parliament elections in case it is still a member of the bloc when they begin on May 23.

The idea is deeply unpopular

with Britons who voted to quit the EU and chart their own future in a 2016 referendum whose arguments are still being waged to this day. Political analysts in London said May probably knew that her new deadline will be rejected because EU leaders do not think she can get her deal through parliament any time soon.

May is under intense pressure from the right wing of her Conservative Party to pull Britain out of the bloc as soon as possible—with or without a deal.

"I think that Theresa May is looking for political cover be-

cause she is asking for an extension she knows she can't get," said King's College European politics professor Anand Menon

She wants Brussels to "force her to do something else so that at least she won't get accused of selling out." The other 27 EU nations must give unanimous backing to any deadline extension.

Some EU leaders fear that Britain's participation in the European Parliament vote will help boost the standing of anti-EU parties due to their popularity among Brexit-backing Britons. —AFP ■

## Venezuela's Guaido calls demo to maintain pressure on Maduro

CARACAS (Venezuela)—Venezuela's opposition leader Juan Guaido urged his supporters to demonstrate in the streets Saturday to maintain pressure on his rival President Nicolas Maduro, amid rising anger over the collapse of public services.

Thousands of opposition supporters are expected to march through the capital Caracas from 11:00 am on Saturday as Venezuela's power struggle is exacerbated by massive blackouts and the collapse of water supplies.

Guaido, recognized as interim president by more than 50 countries, said in a Twitter message on Friday: "Let's remain firm in the streets, this fight is for the lives of all Venezuelans."

Maduro, who blames US-backed sabotage on recent blackouts that deprived millions of power, has also called a pro-government march in Caracas, urging his supporters onto the streets for a "March in defence of peace."



Juan Guaido is recognized as Venezuela's interim president by more than 50 countries. PHOTO: AFP

Guaido said earlier this week he feared abduction by government agents after pro-Maduro lawmakers stripped him of his parliamentary immunity on Tuesday and authorized the country's top court to prosecute him for proclaiming himself president.

The United States, among the first countries to recognize Guaido when the National Assembly leader proclaimed himself interim president on 23 January,

meanwhile kept up the international pressure on Maduro to step down. Vice President Mike Pence announced fresh sanctions against 34 vessels belonging to Venezuela's state oil company and two companies that ship crude to Cuba. "The United States will continue to exert all diplomatic and economic pressure to bring about a peaceful transition to democracy," Pence said in a speech in Houston, Texas. —AFP ■

## Iran in risk of more floods as relief efforts underway

TEHRAN—While the Iranian relief organizations, armed forces and volunteer groups are contributing to the restoration of ordinary life in Iran's flood-hit areas, reports forecast heavy rainfall in the coming days. Iran's Meteorological Organization announced that a new wave of rainfall will happen on Friday evening and will affect the western as well as southwestern regions of Iran. Iran's southwestern Khuzestan province has been put in an alert condition for the likelihood of flooding, according to the Iranian Student News Agency (ISNA) on Friday. Iran's interior minister said Friday that five provinces adjacent to Khuzestan are in alert condition to deploy assistance amid the flood risks, ISNA reported. Besides, the meteorological reports predicted that the flood-stricken areas of Golestan province will see a heavy rain from on Saturday.

Following the recent calamity like deadly floods and landslides, the global community has expressed sympathy for the Iranian

authorities as well as the victims. Turkey, Germany and Kuwait have sent their relief aids to Iran amid the Iranian officials' outcry that the United States has banned the dispatch of international assistance to the Iranian victims.

Unprecedented floods across Iran over the past weeks have claimed the lives of at least 70 people, official IRNA news agency reported on Friday. Deputy Road and Construction Minister, Abul Hashem Hassannia, said that opening transportation paths was his main priority, according to Press TV. Hundreds of people have also been relocated as downpours and floods surrounded villages and cities in Iran. Dozens of villages have disappeared under the mud and sludge in the west of Iran. On Friday, Shahin Fathi, deputy director at Iran's Rescue and Relief Organization, said that 1,900 cities and villages are affected by flood over the past weeks, Tehran Times daily reported. —AFP ■

## State-run media celebrates 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary

ALL newspapers have their own characteristics. The state-owned newspaper's main purpose is to be a leading public media platform.

In Myanmar's transition to become a democratic federal republic, the government owned newspaper serves as an important media in supplementing the public's knowledge pool, so that they are informed of all aspects of the day's news.

The state-owned media, including the newspapers, aim to pipe information from the government to the people and to give voice to the people, while serving as a bridge between the government and its people.

The News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information, which publishes the state-owned media, celebrates its 21st anniversary today.

We honoured those who worked for the print media, including journalists, printing experts and staff of the enterprise, along with the history of the NPE.

The state-run media serving the public does not focus on gaining profits. However, it has to carry out reforms, considering its commercial base of operation in the market oriented system so it does not suffer losses.

At the same time, we should seek other ways that can develop the private media industry, which is facing crippling distribution problems, rising costs and decreasing circulation.

The success and failure of a newspaper is directly related to public support. Only a media that people trust and support will continue to thrive.

If public support starts to wane and newspapers start to show a net loss, the respective authorities will review the newspaper's performance and the paper will struggle to stay in operation. In such times, the national businesses will have to choose a path that is most appropriate for their survival.

The role of state-run media could be seen as the sine qua non in the transition to democracy. The newspapers avoid harmful news and events that can damage the public, while maintaining the ethics and standards of the world of journalism as its responsibility.

In the Rakhine issue, interference by some foreign countries, bias by some international media, and some international media's ignorance of the true situation were evident. In this situation, state-run media is necessary to provide news for the country and its people.

Lastly, newspapers provide another perspective, to the best of their abilities, for the public to supplement the many news stories that they consume.

Hence, the state-run media, following the rules and procedures of the public service media, will make relentless efforts to ensure that the people have the right of access to information.



# Pyithu Hluttaw: making law in line with democratic principles that will benefit the nation and its people

In addition to standing as a legislative body, the Hluttaw also provides continued support in the Union Government's peace process.

Speaker U T Khun Myat

By Nandar Win  
PHOTO: AYE THANT

THE Hluttaws carry the responsibilities and functions of legislating on national and socio-economic development, safeguarding public interest and promoting their welfare.

Our Constitution states that the Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with 440 Hluttaw representatives consisting of one MP from each of the 330 townships in Myanmar and 110 MPs who are nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. Currently there are 323 MPs in the Second Pyithu Hluttaw, who are independent MPs and individuals who were elected with their representation for 13 political parties, and 110 Tatmadaw MPs.

In addition to standing as a legislative body, the Hluttaw also provides continued support in the Union Government's peace process. The Hluttaws marked their third year in existence on 1 February 2019. We interviewed Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat who is presiding on the Second Pyithu Hluttaw on what they have accomplished in their third year.

**Q: Could you tell us what laws were enacted in the third year of the Hluttaws?**

**A:** First, let me say that we lawmakers are working towards the nation's democratic goals while strengthening the legislative pillar. We do not have any bias nor favour towards any political parties, race, region, or ideologies. You can evidently see us working for legal protection for the public, their safe living and their equal rights for all, especially in our third year.

We enacted laws that will promote the tourism industry and help develop it, such as The Myanmar Tourism Law. We also enacted The Forestry Law and The Myanmar Gemstone Law which intend to conserve our forests and safeguard our natural resources while combating illicit trade of gems and jewellery. These



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat.

three laws are among the 15 new laws we've enacted in the third year. Other than that, we passed 13 amendments to laws, revoked two laws and enacted 9 laws including the National Planning Law, the Budget Law, and the Union Tax Law.

**Q: What were the highlights of the questions raised during the Hluttaw sessions? And tell us a bit of the motions tabled and approved.**

**A:** Every MP tries to fulfil the needs of their constituents and the questions they raise in the Hluttaw are for the benefit of the nation and its people. For example, there was the question on the cracks on South Nawin Dam in Paukkaung Township caused by earthquakes and following up on what authorities were doing to ensure the safety of the local residents before the rainy season.

Another significant question was about whether there were plans to review telecommunications service providers for violating consumers' rights.

Of the 50 motions tabled 24 motions including a motion urging the union government to draw up and implement a plan to raise the socio-economic development of ethnic nationals living in remote and far-off rural areas and a mo-

tion urging the government to review the grazing, vacant, fallow and virgin lands and designate as human settlement areas, systematically set up town and village plans to ease the scarcity in living areas caused by rapidly rising population were approved, 22 motions were put on record, a motion not approved and 3 motions not appropriate to be considered.

**Q: Explain about forming of committees.**

**A:** Four standing committees – Bill Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee and Government Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee were formed under 2012 Pyithu Hluttaw Law section 24 while international relations committee; farmers and workers affairs committee; ethnic affairs and internal peace establishment committee; banking and finance development committee; agriculture, livestock and rural social life development committee; education development committee; health and sports development committee; natural resources and environment committee; transport, communication and construction committee; electricity and energy development committee; investment and industry development committee; economy



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat receives Korea-Myanmar Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Association Chairman Mr. Kim Jaewon in Nay Pyi Taw on 21 February 2019. PHOTO: MNA

and finance development committee; public affairs management committee; citizens' fundamental rights committee, judicial and legal affairs committee; complaints and appeals committee; and women and children affairs committee were formed under 2012 Pyithu Hluttaw Law section 27.

**Q: What were the arrangements made to ease the Hluttaw representatives' works in legislative works?**

**A:** Research department provided news and information according to set research policy without regards to party, ideology and preferences to support and ease the work of Hluttaw representatives conducting their legislative works.

During the third one year period of Second Pyithu Hluttaw 355 questions were answered, 23 short papers, 10 short papers on special matters, 21 publications on current affairs and 8 data news letters were prepared and published as well as being contacted and sent by emails. A Research Enquiry Desk was opened to provide research service works.

**Q: What was done to raise the capacity of Hluttaw personnel?**

**A:** Pyithu Hluttaw Office, Hu-

man Resources Department had drawn up and implemented Human Resources Management Plan and Learning and Development Plan. In addition to this a work process stage of HRD Sub-Strategy project for Myanmar Hluttaw Strategic Plan (2019-2022) was being implemented.

During the third one year period of Second Pyithu Hluttaw, a total of 112 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Pyithu Hluttaw

Office personnel were sent to workshops, meetings and conferences in 21 countries as well as to local workshops, meetings and conferences.

**Q: What was the arrangement made to provide the people with timely news and information about Pyithu Hluttaw?**

**A:** Pyithu Hluttaw Office posted news and information about Pyithu Hluttaw on its website

<https://www.pyithu.hluttaw.mm>, on Pyithu Hluttaw Facebook Page and Twitter – PyithuHluttaw@Pyithuwebnews. For Myanmar nationals all over the world Live Streaming of Pyithu Hluttaw meetings were made to provide timely information about Pyithu Hluttaw. News and meetings of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, Deputy Speaker, committee chairmen and about Pyithu Hluttaw were being published fully. In addition to these, a link with Myanmar National Portal was made and news about Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and Deputy Speaker receiving guests were posted.

**Q: What must a visitor do to visit Pyithu Hluttaw?**

**A:** A visitor who wanted to visit Pyithu Hluttaw can make online application with an Online Registration Form. Images of visits conducted were also posted on Visit to Hluttaw Facebook Page. During the third one year of Second Pyithu Hluttaw a total of 16,104 local and foreign visitors visited the Pyithu Hluttaw.

**Q: Is there anything that you want to add?**

**A:** Hluttaw and Hluttaw rep-

resentatives were mainly performing legislative duties. During the three year period a Hluttaw calendar for 2018 was drawn up and implemented like all parliaments allowing systematic management and strengthening our country's democracy base foundation, increasing the protection and benefit to the country and the people, conducting works benefiting the people's socio-economic and region's development and resolution of farmland and other land matters.

During the third one year period security of people's lives, national reconciliation and internal peace were being strived for while laws that were not in line with the time and era were being amended and repealed while new laws were being enacted. To establish a democracy federal union that had been yearned for by the people a joint committee to amend 2008 Constitution was formed according to rules and regulations and all out physical and spiritual efforts were being made toward amending the Constitution.

(Translated by Pandarri and Handytips)



Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives attending the meeting for Pyithu Hluttaw.



# Settlement of Disputes by Arbitration and Myanmar Arbitration Centre

By Dr. Maung Maung Thein

## Introduction

Disputes are inseparable part of homo sapiens and it would lead to disaster if they are left unchecked. Because of this tendency people seek ways to settle the disputes amicably. Settling disputes amicably herein means settling disputes without resorting to force or coercion or litigation (Adjudication) but by using conciliation, mediation, and arbitration. Those methods of settling disputes are collectively referred to as "Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).

Conciliation is a method where a third party facilitates communication between parties in dispute in an attempt to help them settle their differences. Mediation is almost the same as conciliation except that the mediator assists the parties throughout the mediation process to help them reach a solution to their dispute by themselves. Unlike in the case of conciliation, a mediator cannot propose a solution to end the dispute. Both conciliation and mediation are informal, unstructured processes, they cannot decide or make a solution.

Arbitration in essence is same as conciliation and mediation in that a neutral third party involves in settling a dispute. But the arbitrator has power to make decision, i.e., can decide who is right or who is wrong and he can also make a solution, based on the evidence, on his own. Arbitration is a formal, structured process and its decision has binding power over the disputed parties by way of their own consent.

Arbitration is one of the oldest method of settling disputes peacefully and it was practiced in ancient Greece and Rome. Arbitration is a familiar and most-favoured method of settling disputes in ancient Myanmar legal history. We do have many digests of famous arbitrators such as Khone Taw Mg Kya Bun et al.

## Why Arbitration

People favour settling disputes by Arbitration. In the research done by PWC (Price waterhouse Coopers) and Queen Mary College, University of London, it is found that 73% of the respondent corporations favour Arbitration over litigation.

Why?

The first and foremost factor that attracts people in disputes to Arbitration is saving factor. Because of congestion in courts and their appellate process, resolutions of disputes by litigation is more expensive and slower than Arbitration.

Settling disputes amicably herein means settling disputes without resorting to force or coercion or litigation (Adjudication) but by using conciliation, mediation, and arbitration.

Therefore, compared to litigation, Arbitration provides significant savings in terms of both time and money<sup>1</sup>. In essence, Arbitration aims to resolve disputes with maximum speed and at minimum cost.

The second important factor which makes preference to Arbitration over litigation is the involvement of technical or industry experts. By the very nature of technical or industrial disputes, such disputes are difficult for a non-expert to understand. The arbitral process can be tailored to fit the issues, i.e., by appointing technical or Industrial experts as Arbitrators providing parties with greater confidence that the substance of their dispute is properly understood by those deciding its outcome. It may be argued

1 - Black Law Dictionary, Fifth Pocket Edition, P.148  
2 - Halsbury's Laws of Singapore, Vol 2, Butterworths, 1998, P.3

3 - Law, Practice and Procedure of Arbitration- Sundra Rajoo, second edition, P.50 that experts can be appointed for technical expertise in litigation process. It is True. But there is a real danger that a judge without the requisite technical expertise and experience may be influenced more by the confidence of the expert in his opinion, and the expert's powers of persuasion than by the actual technical merits of the evidence. That is the reason the German descent British Citizen the famous Judge, Jurist and writer, Sir Michael Kerr opined that the calibre and experience are of paramount importance for Arbitrators

Let me quote the famous Lord Justice Mustill here. The Lord said: "The great advantage of Arbitration is that it combines strength with flexibility. There is strength because Arbitration yields enforceable decisions, and is backed by a judicial framework which, as

a last resort, can call upon the coercive powers of the state. Flexible because it allows the contestants to choose procedures which fit the nature of the dispute and the business context in which it occurs"<sup>5</sup>.

## Arbitration Law in Myanmar

The world's earliest Arbitration Law was enacted in England in 1698. The first Myanmar Arbitration Law is the Arbitration Act of 1944 which came into force on 1st March 1946. It is repealed by the existing Arbitration Law of 2016. The existing Law has four distinct features:

- (1) It encourages to settle disputes by arbitration (Section 4(C)),
- (2) Arbitral awards whether it was handed in Myanmar or overseas shall be enforced by courts (Section 40, Section 45),
- (3) It recognizes the finality of arbitral awards (Section 38), and
- (4) It encompasses all the elements of arbitration which will be explained hereunder.

The Elements of Arbitration Settling disputes by Arbitration consists of three elements:-

- (1) The Arbitration Agreement or clause,
- (2) Party Autonomy, and
- (3) Judicial Element.

In order for a dispute to be resolved by Arbitration, the essential requirement is an Arbitration Agreement or Clause, without this there would be no Arbitration at all. This Agreement or clause usually provides that the dispute if any between parties shall be resolved by Arbitration, referring to certain

Arbitration Law, venue and governing laws. The Arbitration Law 2016 of Myanmar defines Arbitration Agreement "as a written agreement by parties to settle all or some disputes which have arisen or which may arise in respect of a legal relationship, whether contractual or not".

The second element of Arbitration is "Party Autonomy". It is the hallmark of Arbitration. It means that the disputed parties have a choice not only to refer their dispute to arbitration and to choose their own arbitrators, but also to prescribe the time frame for such reference. The Principle of "Party Autonomy" is given statutory force by the Myanmar Arbitration Law 2016 at section 7 and 22(a).

The Judicial Element is the third element of Arbitration. The Arbitrator is obliged to decide any dispute referred to him in accordance with the rules of natural justice. Natural justice comprises two principles. The first principle is the principle that a decision-maker must hear to a person whose interests will be adversely affected by the decision. It means that the decision-making must

the Arbitration Act 1944 of Myanmar was mentioned in Arbitration Clauses particularly in contracts entered by Myanmar Government Departments and foreign parties. Since the dawn of democracy in 1989 when our country revisited market economy the Arbitration Clauses especially in private contracts refer again to foreign arbitration.

We have difficulties in going for foreign arbitration. We do not simply have knowledge of laws of those foreign arbitrations and have to hire expensive lawyers. We have to put deposits in the region of 10% of the disputed amount. We have to travel to and fro between Myanmar and the seat of arbitration to give testimonies etc. These will incur expenses and become a financial burden. Language might also be a barrier for us. Time is also of essence.

Because of the abovementioned factors we normally could not afford foreign arbitration. We are on the losing edge when it comes to disputes and then eventually we have to be generous or patient or forgiven. In view of this and because of

Arbitration is a familiar and most-favoured method of settling disputes in ancient Myanmar legal history.

not only hear the voice of one disputed party but must also hear the voice of other disputed party. This principle in short is known as "the right to be heard (audi alteram partem in latin). This principle is given force of law by section 21 of the Myanmar Arbitration Law 2016. The second principle of natural justice is "the rule against bias". This principle said that Arbitrators must be free from bias. It is enshrined in our Arbitration Law 2016 at section 14(a) (b) and 14 (c) (1).

## Myanmar Arbitration Centre

In Myanmar, contracts entered with foreign parties have arbitration clauses and they usually refer to foreign arbitration. But there was a time when

the existing Arbitration Law of 2016 which encourages to settle disputes by Arbitration, the idea was born to set up Myanmar Arbitration Centre (MAC) under the auspices of UMFCCI.

In setting up MAC, three pillars need to be erected. The first pillar is drafting of a set of procedures to be used in Arbitration Tribunals. It is now ready for use after 11 months of repeated reviews and amendments. It is in line with section 22(a) & (b) of the Arbitration Law 2016.

The second pillar is to set up an organization which will be the Secretariat of Arbitration Tribunals under the umbrella of UMFCCI.

## Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye provides cash assistance in Mawlamyine

A ceremony to provide cash assistance for the persons with disabilities, volunteer organizations, self-reliant primary schools and circles of mothers, was held yesterday, in the meeting hall of the Mon State Government's office, Mawlamyine, Mon State, where Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye delivered an opening speech.

First, Mon State Chief Minister Dr. Aye Zan delivered an opening address at the event. Then Union Minister and party provided totaling K 185,949,000, including K 86,760,000 for 2,892 persons with disabilities, K 6,843,000 for the Taungwine Home for the Aged, K3,168,000 for the Thaton Home for the Aged, K 6,336,000 for the Mudon

Home for the Aged, K 27,099,000 for Thawkamyang Welfare Centre, K 13,362,000 for the Pauktaw Welfare Centre, K 5,718,000 for the Six-pagoda Welfare Centre, K 2,052,000 for the Yetaung Welfare Centre, K 2,061,000 for Women's Centres, K 17,400,000 for 26 self-reliant primary schools in Mawlamyine District and K 2,550,000 for five circles of mothers, and the cash assistances were accepted by officials. Then an Amyotha Hluttaw representative extended words of thanks for the assistance, and the children were presented with nourishment food and toys.

In his remarks at the commemoration of the World Autism Day, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye said that the situations of autistic children in



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye presents gifts to the child at the meeting hall of Mon State Government in Mawlamyaing yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Mawlamyine have improved because there were many schools to take special care of them. Moreover children with autism

were listed in the persons with disabilities. There were many autistic children like them in the world and an event to mark

the World Autism Day was celebrated in the world. Concerted efforts had to be made to support the children with disabilities, in cooperation with people, social organizations and CSOs, and which aimed at taking part in education, healthcare, social sectors and politics. Next, Mon State Chief Minister Dr. Aye Zan and South East Command commander Maj-Gen Myo Moe Aung expressed their remarks at the event. Following this, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye and party visited the Mawlamyine Youth Training School, where they observed the training classes for household electricity, soap making and Myanmar's martial arts. — MNA (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

## Advisory group seeks suggestions to combat natural disasters caused by climate change

### FROM PAGE-1

Next, meteorologist Dr. Tun Lwin discussed studying monsoons, requirement of farmers and people in Myanmar to know more about changes in monsoons, effect and suggestions on rice cultivation and other related matters.

The natural disaster management advisory group members consisting of water resources management experts, agriculture experts, public health experts, environmental experts and engineers, conducted sector wise suggestions and assessments. After this, Deputy Minister U Soe Aung spoke of his appreciation for the sugges-

tions and discussions presented at the meeting and said that coordination with relevant ministries will be made for actual implementation of suggestions.

It was learnt that the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement would carefully weigh suggestions and discussions made by the natural disaster management advisory group and submit the required practical work program to the National Natural Disaster Management Committee chairman for implementation. It would also provide information to the people about climate change.

— MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

## ICOE issues press release

The Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) held their seventh meeting from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019.

The Commission discussed extensively the progress of its Evidence Collection and Verification Team (ECVT) with respect to depositions, documents and evidence collected from witnesses. The ICOE took stock of the work done so far and discussed the positive outcomes, challenges and limitations of the ECVT.

The ICOE deliberated on their proposed visit to Bangla-

desh and Cox's Bazar. The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh has agreed in principle to meet with the ICOE in May 2019. The Chair of ICOE paid a courtesy call upon the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar to hand deliver their letter in response to the agreement of the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh to meet with ICOE.

The ICOE had a group discussion with potential witnesses from different communities regarding the situation in Rakhine State. They also met with the United States Ambassador

and team to exchange views on the US State Department report.

The ICOE also reviewed the framework of their preliminary report and agreed on outline of the final Report.

On their last evening, the ICOE met with several Ambassadors from European Union, Asia, ASEAN to brief them on their work.

**Office of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE)**

Nay Pyi Taw  
6 April 2019

## Settlement of Disputes by Arbitration and Myanmar Arbitration Centre

### FROM PAGE-10

That organization will see everything from training and certification of Arbitrators, purvey seat for Arbitration, acting as office for Arbitration Tribunals etc. That organization by the title of Myanmar Arbitration Centre Co. Ltd. has been formed as a limited company by guarantee, may be first of its kind, with 12 directors, a constitution and a mandate of UMFCCI.

The third pillar is the selection and training of would-

be Arbitrators. MAC under UMFCCI will run Arbitrator training for selected industry veterans and will award Proficiency Certificate to those who pass the test after completion of the training. They will be trained in Arbitration Law and procedure together with related legal knowledge.

The whole process of MAC has now almost been completed and UMFCCI will officially open MAC in this year of its centenary. We will see in a very near future the historic Myanmar Arbitration Centre to fill

up the large gap in the development of Myanmar Industry and Trade.

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### About the Author

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## Rising Thai political star hit with sedition charges

BANGKOK (Thailand)—The telegenic leader of an anti-junta political party who rose to prominence in Thailand's election last month was charged with sedition Saturday, drawing hundreds of his supporters onto the streets urging him to "fight".

Billionaire Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit heads the youth-oriented Future Forward Party which won more than six million votes in the 24 March poll, the first since a 2014 coup, with its message of ousting the military from politics.

It had joined an anti-junta coalition with six others claiming the right to form a government in the aftermath of the disputed vote whose full results are expected by May 9.

Earlier this week he posted on Facebook that police had summoned him to appear on Saturday to face a sedition charge relating to an anti-junta rally in 2015. He said the charge was "politically motivated".

Hundreds turned up on Saturday morning in front of Pathumwan police station in downtown Bangkok, wearing T-shirts bearing the tycoon's face and shouting "Save Thanathorn!" while waving placards that said "Military, get out!" While inside, he and



Future Forward Party leader Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit thanks supporters outside Pathumwan police station after hearing sedition charges brought against him by the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO), in Bangkok on 6 April 2019. PHOTO: AFP

his party members tweeted out photos of what was happening, showing Thanathorn affixing his fingerprints on the charges and representatives from foreign embassies and the UN observing the police procedure. More than two hours later, he emerged from the station and told reporters he had been charged with "inciting unrest... helping the suspect escape... and the illegal assembly of more than ten people" for his

actions in 2015. "We believe we are innocent. I did everything in good faith," he said, denying the charges.

Before leaving the police compound, Thanathorn flashed a three-finger salute, a resistance symbol borrowed by Thailand's anti-junta movement from the Hollywood movie "The Hunger Games", as his supporters did the same while shouting "Thanathorn, fight, fight!" The char-

ismatic leader is already being investigated under Thailand's Computer Crimes Act for allegedly spreading false information when he criticised the junta in a Facebook Live discussion last year. Supporter Woranuch Sirthonchai, who travelled three hours from her coastal hometown of Rayong, said she supports Future Forward's anti-junta policies and "progressive thinking". — AFP ■

## EU, China struggle to agree summit statement

BRUSSELS (Belgium) — China's refusal to give the EU solid commitments over access to its markets is preventing the two sides from agreeing a joint statement for a high-profile summit next week, European sources said Friday.

Top EU leaders will sit down for talks in Brussels with Chinese Premier Li Ke-qiang on Tuesday but it looks increasingly likely there will be no common declaration at the end, dealing a blow to hopes the meeting could yield a breakthrough in Europe's complex relationship with the Asian giant.

The EU is seeking to build on "points of convergence" with China, its second biggest trading partner, but has deep reservations about Beijing's protectionism, trade practices and human rights record.

EU Council President Donald Tusk has told member states they should reject a draft summit statement, a source told AFP, "given that China has not delivered on key EU expectations and demands, including ensuring market access and a level playing field for European companies operating in China."

The source complained there was also a "lack of Chinese commitment" to serious World Trade Organization reform that would include industrial subsidies—a key demand of the EU, which says Beijing gives unfair support to its industries.

A senior EU diplomat confirmed that talks to agree a joint statement had foundered on the issues of market access and WTO reform.

"This doesn't bode well and constitutes already now a serious burden for the summit," the diplomat said.

"If China doesn't change its negotiating positions substantially and engage in a meaningful way, there will not be enough common ground to agree on a joint declaration."

Ahead of the summit, the European Commission last month labelled China a "systemic rival" and presented a 10-point plan proposing a more assertive relationship with Beijing, which French President Emmanuel Macron welcomed as a belated awakening. — AFP ■

## Indonesia's desperate housewives chase selfies on election trail

SRAGEN (Indonesia)—Tears stream down Lilis Hastirini's mascara-smudged face after she waited hours to snap a selfie with Indonesia's president, only to be thwarted by a crush of other female fans with the same idea.

It is a take-no-prisoners battle on the election trail in this selfie-mad nation, where few shots count more than a close up with "everyman" leader Joko Widodo, a former furniture salesman who rose from a riverside slum to high office. Hastirini was among some 10,000 other desperate housewives, mostly aged between 20 and 50, who braved searing heat as they screamed and jostled, pushing past security guards to reach Widodo at an event in Sragen on Java island this week.

"I'm sad, I couldn't get a picture with him," the 37-year-old told AFP as she sobbed and wailed. "He seems like such a nice person, kind of fatherly."

The lanky, heavy-metal music-loving 57-year-old, best known as Jokowi, seems happy to oblige housewives and other key voters—including millennials who



Indonesian President Joko Widodo (C) takes photographs with supporters during a visit in Sragen, Central Java on 3 April 2019. Widodo is running as a presidential candidate for the election taking place on 17 April. PHOTO: AFP

account for about one-third of the electorate—as he fights to keep a wide lead in the race for the presidency on 17 April.

Some 192 million Indonesians are set to cast a ballot in the world's third-biggest democracy, with a record 245,000 candidates vying for positions from the presidency and parliamentary seats all the way down to local council jobs. And garnering support on social media is essential. Indonesia is one of Instagram and Facebook's biggest markets glob-

ally, with some 62 million and 130 million users, respectively.

Jokowi's sole rival is Prabowo Subianto, a retired military general and son-in-law of the late dictator Suharto, who has ditched his trademark suit and tie for a campaign-casual khaki safari suit with sunglasses.

Prabowo, as he is known, is also trying to win over women voters and fans online, balancing his strongman image with an Instagram account of him and his cuddly cat, Bobby.

The 67-year-old and vice-presidential candidate Sandiaga Uno—a youthful 49-year-old business magnate—have generated online fan clubs including the Housewives Party in Support of Prabowo-Sandiaga, the Militant Housewives' Force and even the Voluptuous Housewives Who Fight for Prabowo-Sandi.

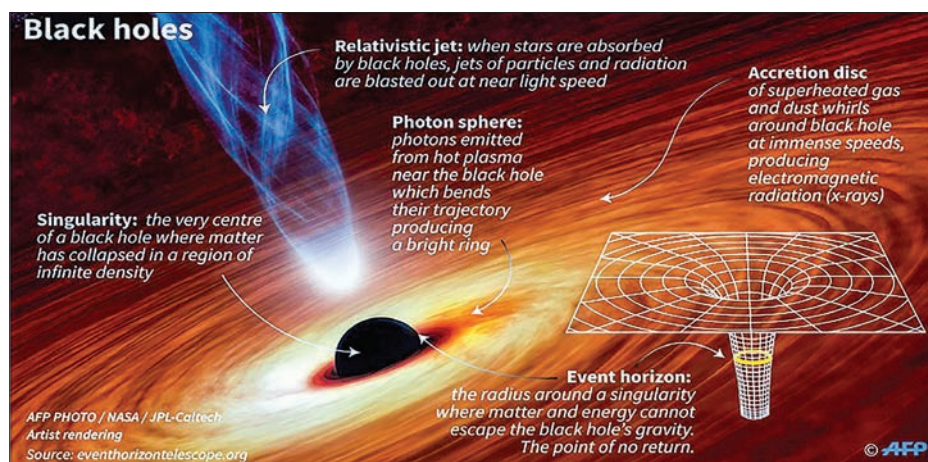
Both candidates are regularly mobbed by adoring female fans—though Jokowi appears more at home performing in front of the crowds. Back in Sragen, Hastirini almost reached Jokowi as he was exiting the arena when someone stepped on her seven-year-old daughter's foot.

In leaping to help her little girl, she had missed her moment with Jokowi. Also empty-handed was high school teacher Mariana Wahyu, who said she never bothered to get a selfie with her-then neighbour Jokowi back when he was mayor of Solo city. "O Allah, had I known then that he would become president, I would have taken a lot of pictures with him," she said in Central Java's Sukoharjo city.—AFP ■

# Scientists set to unveil first picture of a black hole

PARIS (France)—The world, it seems, is soon to see the first picture of a black hole. On Wednesday, astronomers across the globe will hold “six major press conferences” simultaneously to announce the first results of the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT), which was designed precisely for that purpose. It has been a long wait. Of all the forces or objects in the Universe that we cannot see—including dark energy and dark matter—none has frustrated human curiosity so much as the invisible maws that shred and swallow stars like so many specks of dust. Astronomers began speculating about these omnivorous “dark stars” in the 1700s, and since then indirect evidence has slowly accumulated.

“More than 50 years ago, scientists saw that there was something very



At its center, the mass of a black hole is compressed into a single, zero-dimensional point. The distance between this so-called “singularity” and the event horizon is the radius, or half the width, of the black hole. **PHOTO: AFP**

bright at the centre of our galaxy,” Paul McNamara, an astrophysicist at the European Space Agency and an expert on black holes, told AFP. “It has a gravitational pull strong enough to make stars orbit around it very quickly—as fast as 20 years.” To put that in perspective, our Solar System takes about 230 million years to circle the centre of the Milky Way. Eventually, astronomers spec-

ulated that these bright spots were in fact “black holes”—a term coined by American physicist John Archibald Wheeler in the mid-1960s—surrounded by a swirling band of white-hot gas and plasma. At the inner edge of these luminous accretion disks, things abruptly go dark. “The event horizon”—a.k.a. the point-of-no-return—“is not a physical barrier, you couldn’t stand on it,” McN-

mara explained. “If you’re on the inside of it, you can’t escape because you would need infinite energy. And if you are on the other side, you can—in principle.”

## A golf ball on the moon

At its centre, the mass of a black hole is compressed into a single, zero-dimensional point.

The distance between this so-called “singularity” and the event horizon is the

radius, or half the width, of a black hole. The EHT that collected the data for the first-ever image is unlike any ever devised. “Instead of constructing a giant telescope—which would collapse under its own weight—we combined several observatories as if they were fragments of a giant mirror,” Michael Bremer, an astronomer at the Institute for Millimetric Radio Astronomy in Grenoble, told AFP. In April 2017, eight such radio telescopes scattered across the globe—in Hawaii, Arizona, Spain, Mexico, Chile, and the South Pole—were trained on two black holes in very different corners of the Universe to collect data. Studies that could be unveiled next week are likely to zoom in on one or the other. Oddsmakers favour Sagittarius A\*, the black hole at the centre of our own elliptical galaxy

that first caught the eye of astronomers. Sag A\* has four million times the mass of our sun, which means that the black hole is generated is about 44 million kilometres across. That may sound like a big target, but for the telescope array on Earth some 26,000 light-years (or 245 trillion kilometres) away, it’s like trying to photograph a golf ball on the Moon.

## Testing Einstein

The other candidate is a monster black hole—1,500 times more massive even than Sag A\*—in an elliptical galaxy known as M87. It’s also a lot farther from Earth, but distance and size balance out, making it roughly as easy (or difficult) to pinpoint.

One reason this dark horse might be the one revealed next week is light smog within the Milky Way. —AFP ■

## Four-legged prehistoric whale fossil found in Peru

WASHINGTON (United States)—Paleontologists have found a well-preserved fossil of a four-legged amphibious ancestor of whales, a discovery that sheds new light on the mammals’ transition from land to the ocean.

The ancestors of whales and dolphins walked on Earth about 50 million years ago in the regions that now comprise India and Pakistan. Paleontologists have previously found partial fossils of the species in North America that were 41.2 million years old suggesting that by this time, the cetaceans had lost the ability to carry their own weight and walk the Earth.

The new specimen, described in a study published Thursday in the journal *Current Biology*, is 42.6 million years old and provides fresh information on the evolution of cetaceans. The fossil was found about 0.6 miles (one kilometer) inland from Peru’s Pacific coast, at Playa Media Luna. Its mandibles grazed the desert soil and during excavations, the researchers found the lower jaw, teeth, vertebrae, ribs, parts of front and back legs, and even the whale ancestor’s long fingers that were likely webbed. Based on its anatomy, the scientists say this cetacean of about 13 feet (four meters) long could both walk and swim.

“Part of the tail’s vertebrae showed similarities with that of present-day semi-aquatic mammals like otters,” lead author Olivier Lambert of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences told AFP. “This would therefore have been an animal that would have started to make growing use of its tail to swim, which differentiates it from older cetaceans in India and Pakistan.”

Pieces of four-legged whales were found in Egypt, Nigeria, Togo, Senegal and Western Sahara, but they were so fragmented that it was impossible to decisively conclude whether they could swim. “This is the most complete specimen ever found for a four-legged whale outside of India and Pakistan,” said Lambert. —AFP ■

### CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V AN NING

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V AN NING VOY. NO. (1902) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-04-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 ELDER TRIUMPHANT  
SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

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Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLPL TRUST VOY. NO. (1907 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-04-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

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M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY. NO. (005W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY. NO. (005W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-04-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.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 CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (119 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (119 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-04-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185



By Khin Zun Zar Linn

**N**EW facilities are being developed in Yangon for leisure and recreation of the locals and for attracting more visitors. An aquarium of international standard is set to open in Kandawgyi Park by October 2019, according to the sources of Yangon City Development Committee.

Yangon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and officials inspected the construction site of this aquarium on 15 March 2019. It will be the first world-class aquarium, with underwater tunnel, in Myanmar.

With the approval of Yangon Region government, it is constructed by Myanmar Aquariums Co., Ltd. Designed by Singapore-based international consultant company Surbana Jurong, this facility could attract both local and foreign visitors.

Visitors are expected to feel underwater experiences along its transparent tunnel. The two and half storey building is a steel structure

with over 20 displays of various fish species.

It is jointly operated by Yangon Region's Fishery Department and Myanmar Aquariums Co., Ltd with long-term contract after receiving permission of Yangon Region government.

At the entrance of this facility, information about fish species and displays will be introduced. The visiting children will get a chance to touch the fishes in some displays.

Both saltwater and freshwater fishes will be kept for show there. Thousands of local fish species will be collected from the confluence of Maykha and Malikha, Ayeyawady river, Rakhine coastal regions and other areas.

Moreover, foreign aquarium species will be received from Africa, Latin America and Asia. The collection process of these fish species has begun now. The visitors will also be able to see the freshwater fishes from the former aquarium of Kandawgyi Park.

The new aquarium will appear on 5-acre

land of former structure, and diversities of underwater species, their lifestyles and movements will be closely watched. The displays will be set up in the categories of Bay of Bengal, Adman Sea, Myeik archipelago and Inlay from both southern and northern parts of the country.

Consultants from Australia were invited to seek their advice for construction of this facility. And that, it is believed the aquarium will become an interesting site to gain knowledge for the visitors across the country.

Kandawgyi Park is one of the leisure and recreation places in Yangon, and it will soon develop as an oasis that is conserving environment with the world-class aquarium, Kantharyar Centre, amusement park, pedestrian bridges and shady trees.

Therefore, the aquarium is set to open in months, and it will surely foster the image of Yangon city.



## Evonik improves Dala primary school facilities in partnership with UPG Myanmar

**G**ERMANY-BASED specialty chemicals company Evonik announced the completion of an infrastructure improvement project at No. 12 Basic Education Primary School in Dala, one of Yangon region's most disadvantaged townships.

The project includes construction of a drainage, concrete paving of the outdoor grounds to prevent flooding, a new play-

ground, and repainting of the school buildings. Evonik teamed with Myanmar's leading paint manufacturing company, United Paints Group (UPG), who donated about 100 gallons of paint products. Speaking at the handover ceremony today, Peter Meinshausen, President of Evonik Asia Pacific South said: "The project aims to help create a more conducive, safe, and engaging learning environment.

Together with UPG, we thank the school and township officials for giving us this humbling opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way to the lives of the students, the teaching staff, and the larger community." Contributing his talent is Myanmar street artist Arker Kyaw who designed a unique marker for the project. Done in his signature street art style, the marker is an uplifting and colourful community wall

mural that features the Myanmar words for Learn, Create and Grow.

"Arker Kyaw's interactive art made this project even more fun for everyone. Creativity is one of our core competencies as a company and it shines through in all of our activities whether it's in research and development or corporate social responsibility," Meinshausen added.

"We would like to thank Evo-

nik and UPG for their generosity and goodwill. The transformation of our school has made a huge difference to our students' lives. Now, they have a safe and wide space to play in the schoolyard and a classroom that provides them a good learning atmosphere," said Daw Aye Aye, Principal of No. 12 Basic Education Primary School.—GNLM



# Yangon pedestrians feel 3D zebra crossing safer

By Aung Khin

**R**ECENT research has shown pedestrians in Yangon prefer 3D zebra to the traditional ones.

As part of the Making Myanmar Roads Safer (MMRS) campaign, with the collaboration of Road Transport Administration Department (RTAD) and the Myanmar Traffic Police, a sample of new 3D zebra crossing was designed by Dr. Felix Wilhelm Siebert from the Technische Universität Berlin and painted by HEINEKEN Myanmar.

In the survey, 63 per cent of respondents answered they see the 3D zebra crossing much safer for the pedestrians, 47 per cent said car drivers are expected to reduce their speed, 43 per cent replied they will choose these new crossings, and only 2 per cent remarked the new design is less safer. Meanwhile, 74 per cent of automobile drivers answered they slow down before passing through 3D zebra, 61 per cent

commented this design is safer for the pedestrians and 65 per cent concluded it is safer than traditional ones.

Some 201 pedestrians and 102 car drivers participated in the survey in December 2018 one month after the 3D zebra crossing was created. The findings of Kantar TNS, a full-service global market research agency in Myanmar, was analysed by Dr. Felix Wilhelm Siebert.

The analyst said, "Pedestrian road safety is an important topic for Myanmar, and good infrastructure is key for saving more lives on the streets. The 3D crosswalks can be a better alternative to traditional crosswalks."

"As they draw attention to high visibility, they are perceived as safer than traditional crosswalks by a majority of road users. Results of a first survey are promising but more research on long-term road safety impacts is needed," he said.

The 3D zebra crossing was painted on Pyay Road in Yan-

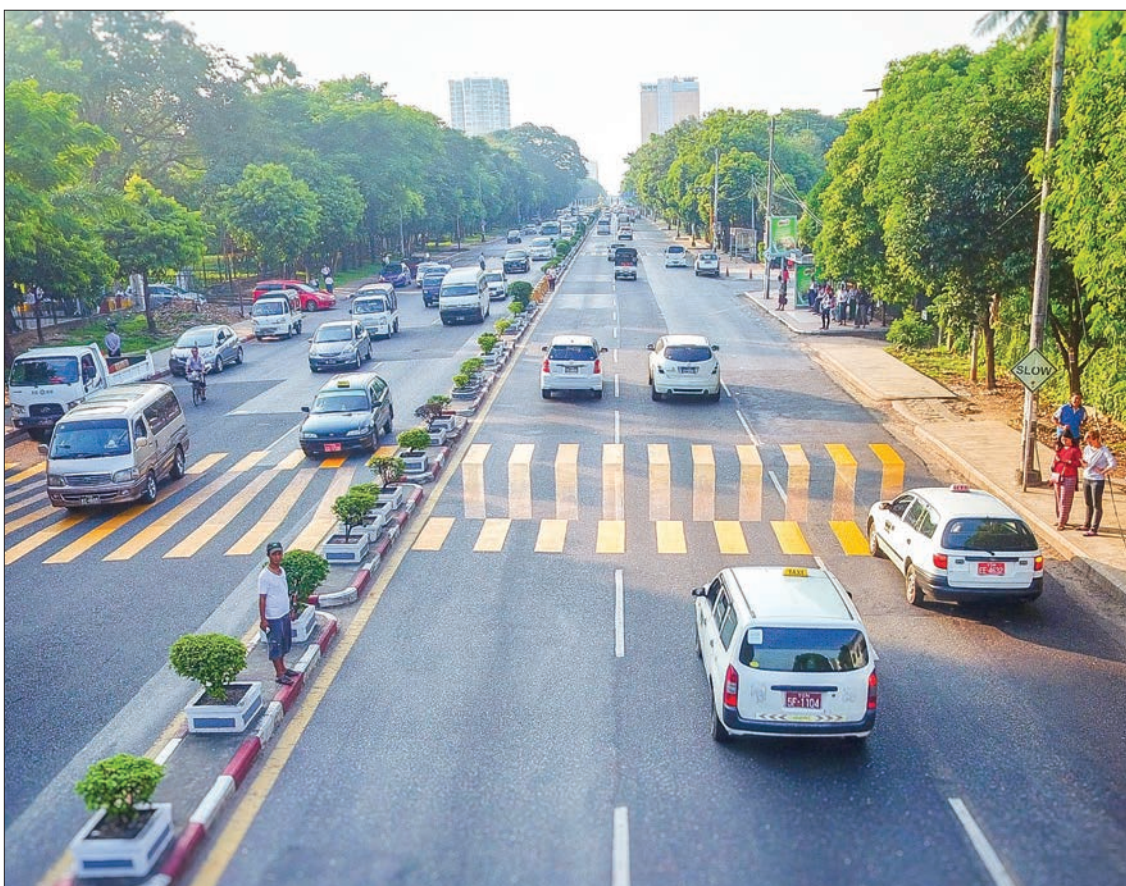
gon, between the Practicing School of the Yangon Institution of Education and the shopping centre Junction Square.

It was drawn by Artist Arker Kyaw, participating in Making Myanmar Roads Safer campaign on road safety.

Regarding the feedbacks on this 3D zebra crossing, Ms. Holly Bostock, Corporate Affairs Director of HEINEKEN Myanmar said, "The main reason to paint this temporary 3D zebra crossing was to raise awareness on reducing speeding when drivers are approaching to zebra crossings and encourage pedestrians to use zebra crossings."

She also said the findings will be shared with policy makers, and other road safety and health experts to give a message if these creative installations have tangible benefits to civilians elsewhere.

In 2018, MMRS focused on speeding, and it will turn its attention to raising awareness on No Drink Driving through education and research in 2019.



3D zebra crossing being seen on Pyay Road in Yangon. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

## Useful Information

### JAPANESE CUISINE

Ph: 09443399701, 09443399702, 11:00-23:00

### AJISHIN

No.192, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Myanmar Plaza, 4th Floor, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph: 09-970890390, Time- 10:00 to 23:00 (Open Daily)

### ANAIMO

No. 300, Mahabandula Park Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-378022. Time- 11:30-14:00/ 17:30-22:00  
(Saturday only evening and Sunday off)

### BIKKURA SUSHI & SASHIMI JAPANESE RESTAURANT

No. 16, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-799566917, 09-36714873. 10:30-22:30 (Open Daily)

### BUSHIDO

No. 75/ AB Boyar Nyunt Street, Dagon Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-260031197/ 09-420231330. 10:00-22:00 (Sunday Off)

### CHO JAPANESE DINNING & BAR

Level (1), Garden Wing, Beside Lobby Lounge. (Inside Sedona Hotel), Yangon Ph: 09-258322223/ 09-261322223. Lunch 11:30-14:30/ Tea Time 14:30-18:00/ Dinner 18:00-23:00 (Open Daily)

### DINNING FUKUROU

No. 37, Kabar Pagoda Road, Inside of Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon. Ph: 09-260031197 09-420231330. 11:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

### EDOZUSHI

A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khauk Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon. Ph: 056-23150-53/ 056-23313-318 (Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020. 11:00-21:00 (Open Daily)

### (3) YAKINIKU FUKAGAWA

A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khauk Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon. Ph: 056-23150-53/ 056-23313-318 (Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020, 11:00-21:00 (Open Daily)

### FUJINOBO

(Cherry Hill Hotel) No. 520/4 A, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Shwe Gone Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-450067052, 06:00-09:30/ 11:30-14:00/ 17:00-22:30 (Open Daily)

### FURUSATO

No. 137, West Shwe Gone Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-556265/ 09-73081914. 11:00-14:00/ 17:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

### GEKKO

535, Merchant Street, Kyauktada Township, 4th Quarter, Yangon. Ph: 01-386986, 09:00-23:00 (Open Daily)

### HOT POT KING and Hot pot and BBQ Buffet Restaurant

No - 26/27, Thitsar Road and Corner of Wai Za Yan Dar Road, South Okkalapa, Yangon. Tel - 09 777777 008, 09 09 777777 009, 09 777777 883.

### Hot Pot City 8 Miles

No(33), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road (7.34 km) 095 Yangon. Ph: 09 797 799111, 11:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

### 101 Hot Pot & Sushi

No.141, West Shwegondaing Road, Bahan T/s. near Yuzana Hotel. (1.78 km), 11201 Yangon.

### Little Sheep Hot Pot Myanmar

14/14B Kanbawza Street Golden Valley (1) Bahan Township (1.71 km), Yangon.

### HOTEL

**BELMOND GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE**  
No. 35, Taw Win Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-229860 01-229861.

### CHATRIUM

No. 40, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-544500/ 01-544244.

### CHERRY HILLS HOTEL

No. 520/4 A, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Shwegon Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-559722.

### HOTLE 51

No. 154/ 156, 51st. Upper Pazundaung Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-200823/ 09-429918554.

### HOTEL KAN KAW

No.93(A), Hnin Si Gone Road, Ahlone Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-228566/ 01-2301700/ 01-1221731.

### HOTLE SIDNEY

No. 8L/Mindhama Road, Between Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road and Parami Road, Mayangone Township. Ph: 01-655770/ 01-9669600-02.

### INYA LAKE HOTEL

No.37, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yangon. Ph: 01-9662866/ 01-9662857-9.

### LOTTEE HOTLES AND SERVICED APARTMENTS YANGON

No.82, Sin Phyu Shin Avenue, Pyay Road, 6 mile, Hlaing Township. Ph: 01-9351000.

### MERCURE HOTEL

No.17, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon. Ph: 01- 650933.

### NOVOTEL YANGON MAX

No.459, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-2305858.

### PAN PACIFIC YANGON

No. Corner of Bogyoke Aung San Road and Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Yangon, Ph: 01-9253810.

### PARK ROYAL

No.33, Alan Pya Phaya Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, Ph: 01-250388.

### PULLMAN YANGON CENTREPOINT

No.65, Corner of Sule Pagoda Road and Merchant Street. Ph: 01-382687.

### ROSE GARDEN HOTEL

No.171, Upper Pasodan Road, Yangon. Ph: 01-371992/09263440500.

### SAVOY HOTEL

No.129, Corner of Dhammzedi Road and Inya Road, Yangon. Ph: 01-526289/ 01-526298/ 01-526305.

### SEDONA HOTEL

No. 1, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-8605377.

### SULE SHANGRI-LA

No. 223, Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-242828.

### SUMMIT PARTVIEW HOTEL

No. 350, Ahlone Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-211888/ 01-211966.

### SUPER HOTEL

No. 51/ D, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, 10th Quarter, Mayangone Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-797109000/ 01-658210/ 01-658220.

Trade Mark Ads

Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355, 09974424848



Myanmar women's football team celebrates victory after defeating Indonesia 6-0 at yesterday's Round 2 Qualifiers for Women's Olympic Football Tournament 2020 at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay. **PHOTO: MFF**

## Yee Yee Oo's Hat trick gives Myanmar big win over Indonesia

THE Myanmar women's football team scored a big 6-0 win over Indonesia's team yesterday at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay during the second group match of the Round 2 Qualifiers for the Women's Olympic Football Tournament 2020.

Thanks to the hat trick by Myanmar star Yee Yee Oo, Myanmar scored a confident win.

Myanmar lined up with captain Khin Marlar Tun, goalkeeper May Zin Nwe, Wai Wai Aung, Khaing Thazin, Nge Nge Htwe, Win Theingi Tun, Khin Mo Mo Tun, Khin Moe Wai, Aye Aye Moe, Khin Myo Win and Yee Yee Oo, who scored the hat trick.

Myanmar forced play from the start, including the first goal scored by Captain Khin Marlar Tun at the 2 minute mark.

As a result of the Indonesia team's defensive error, Myanmar scored the second goal by Yee Yee Oo.

Again, Myanmar scored the third goal by Win Theingi Tun at the 31 minute mark.

The first half ended with a three goal lead by Myanmar.

The second half saw the Indonesia team play better with a change in tactics.

But it was again for Myanmar and the fourth goal scored by Captain Khin Marlar Tun at

the 48th minute. Myanmar did not reduce the team's tempo and again scored the fifth and sixth goals at 64 and 73 minutes by hat trick maker Yee Yee Oo.

Later minutes saw Myanmar reduce their power play, and the match ended with a 6-0 win for Myanmar.

As for the win, Myanmar stood in first place in group A of the Qualifiers, followed by India with the same six points, but with goal difference.

Myanmar will next play a decisive match against the India team on 9 April at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay. —Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

## AFC Congress elects U Zaw Zaw as Vice President

THE Asian Football Confederation (AFC) elected President of the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) U Zaw Zaw to the ASEAN Zone Vice Presidency at the 29th AFC Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia yesterday.

During the congress, AFC Vice Presidents were elected from each of the five AFC zones. They will serve a four-year term from 2019 to 2023.

On being elected to the AFC Vice President position, U Zaw Zaw becomes the first Football Sports President to be elected to the Asian Level position, said a source with the Myanmar Football Federation.

U Zaw Zaw was supported by members of the AFC plus

ASEAN football associations and federations for his position.

Also, Mr. Saoud A. Aziz M A Al-Mohannadi (Qatar) was re-elected by acclamation for another four-year term for the West Zone.

Joining him are three new Vice Presidents who were also confirmed by acclamation - Mr. Mehdi Taj (Islamic Republic of Iran) for the Central Zone, Mr. Zaw Zaw (Myanmar) for ASEAN Zone and Mr. Makhdoom Syed Faisal Saleh Hayat (Pakistan) for the South Zone.

Additionally, Mr. Ganbaatar Amgalanbaatar (Mongolia) was elected as the new AFC Vice President for the East Zone, according to the AFC.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■



MFF President U Zaw Zaw (second from right) poses for a group photo at yesterday's AFC Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. **PHOTO: MFF**

## Kim looking to erase memories of 2012 collapse

LOS ANGELES (United States)—Kim In-kyung hopes to take care of some unfinished business at the ANA Inspiration after firing one of the lowest rounds of her career on Friday.



Round two leader Kim In-kyung of South Korea hits out of the ninth fairway during the second round of the ANA Inspiration. **PHOTO: AFP**

The former tournament runner-up birdied the 18<sup>th</sup> hole to finish with a sizzling seven-under 65 and a three-shot lead in the second round of first major championship of the LPGA Tour season.

The South Korean's round included eight birdies and one bogey to take her total to eight-under 136 on the Mission Hills Country Club course near Palm Springs, California. "I knew my game was getting better," said Kim, who has seven LPGA titles. "I have been training a lot and improving every day." "The ball was playing shorter than yesterday so I had to adjust.

"Out here you get what you see. You can't really expect everything to go in. I was seeing some lines today and put some good speed on it." The 30-year-old Kim is hoping to redeem herself after missing a 35 centimetre (14 inch) putt on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole of the 2012 tournament that would have delivered her the championship.

Instead she went into a playoff with compatriot Yoo Sun-young

where she lost on the first extra hole. Katherine Kirk of Australia is alone in second after shooting a 68 to reach five-under 139. Ko Jin-young and Ally McDonald are tied for third at four-under 140, four strokes back of Kim. Tied for fifth is China's Yan Jing, England's Charley Hull, South Korean Park Sung-hyun and Americans Lexi Thompson and Danielle Kang who are all at three-under after two rounds. Kim got off to a roaring start by making birdie on three of her first five holes. Her only blemish of the round came on the par-four seventh where she made bogey. She then finished strong on the back nine with birdies on Nos. 15, 16 and 18. She birdied all four par-fives en route to recording the third lowest scoring round of her career.

Despite her final hole stum-

ble in 2012, Kim is not without a major victory. In 2017, she captured the Women's British Open, in a season that saw her win three times on the Tour. Kim didn't want to talk about her playoff loss seven years ago. "Sometimes it is difficult to take outcomes. I don't have control over it, that's the truth," she said. Kirk, of Brisbane, birdied six of her first 11 holes. She was tied with Kim on the tee at 17 but back-to-back closing bogeys and Kim's blazing finish dropped her into solo second. "Sometimes you get the breaks and sometimes you don't," said Kirk. "I made a club error on 17 and that is part of golf unfortunately. "On 18 it was a bad tee shot and so I didn't have much of a second shot. But overall I am happy with my score."—AFP ■

# SUNDAY SPECIAL

## The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

7 APRIL 2019

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR



By Pyae Phyo  
M.A student, Specializing in  
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Yadanabon University



**T**HOUGH Myanmar practiced monarchy in the past, the idealism was based on the words of the Buddha. It is very rare to see that Myanmar Kings did whatever he wanted to do without thinking about their people. Despite of the fact that Myanmar Monarchy was the absolute one, there was a legislative body called Hluttaw, which was the highest institution in the Kingdom, and controlled the power of the monarch. Myanmar Monarchs mostly sought advice from the Hluttaw whenever they had something to make decisions concerning with important matters like politics and religious affairs.

According to the tradition, the Monarch of Myanmar was not only the Defender of Faith but also the Supreme Commander of all armed forces. So, being a King deals with faith and military as well as politics. However, the King took advice of the Hluttaw.

The word Hluttaw has been used since the days of Bagan. It is said that the King Htilominlo was the very first king in Myanmar who set up the Hluttaw and recognized it as his legislative body. Being the youngest son, there was no chance for him to succeed his father's kingship one day. But only with the effort of his mother, surpassing his four elder brothers, he finally became the King. However, he gave his due respect to his brothers and always consulted with them in the matter of politics. Later, the four brothers made a decision that they would meet at the same place near the main palace which later became the Hluttaw. Since then on, the custom that four grand ministers were appointed to govern the Kingdom on behalf of the King. These ministers were not only the members of the Hluttaw but also the commanders of Armed Forces (Agamahasenapati). They fought in battlefield together with soldiers whenever the nation was at war. So, those who were experts at military, executive, judiciary, legislation and Buddhist laws and can-

# TRUE and FAIR



nons were appointed as Hluttaw Ministers. It resulted in the check and balance between the monarch and the Hluttaw.

Although Myanmar traditional Hluttaw was not similar to the western parliamentary system of today, the power vested in the Hluttaw was greater than that of the Lord of Life. In practice, the power of Judiciary, Legislation and Executive were vested in Hluttaw though they derived from the King. There were historical events that the Hluttaw could surpass the authority of the King. However, these events did make neither political turmoil nor collision between the roles of Executive and Legislation. And they were mostly in the days of Kongbong which was founded by U Aung Ze Ya.

The first one was in the days of Bodawphaya. Once, the King unknowingly took some parts of the fields near of his farm but those were the property of his relatives, who were living on growing paddy. As the King occupied parts of their farms, they finally came down to the Hluttaw to put the King on Trial as they could not run their business anymore. However, as the Hluttaw ministers were not brave enough to do so, U Paw Oo, a grand secretary accepted the accusation of the royal family members to the King. Next day, U Paw Oo summoned the King to be present at the trial in the name of the Hluttaw. However, the King sent one of his pages to the trial. As the King took the field of other people, breaking the rules and regulations, U Paw Oo bravely made a resolution: the King had to return the field he took to the original owners and to pay some amount of money as compensation. This event highlights the fact that the Hluttaw was the one which was true, fair and justice in the Kingdom.

Another event was inspired by U Yan Way, the Count of Pakkhan also known as Pakkhan Mingyi. U Yan Way was once the Abbot of Pakkhan Monastery but on the request of King Mindon he left the yellow robe order and became a Hluttaw Minister. As the King made him the count of Pakkhan, he was known as Pakkhan Mingyi. He was so venerable that the King and his Queens presented his family royal meals daily.

Despite of being a powerful Hluttaw Minister, he was not arrogant and did not follow every wishes of the King. He was such a wise one who opposed any negative actions of the King.

Once, the King consulted with U Hlaing, the Yaw Mingyi to increase tax in order to support the order of yellow robe more

SEE PAGE- S-3





By C. T. O

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

What have you been doing these day? မင်း ခုတလောဘာတွေလုပ်နေလဲ
birthday မွေးနေ့
invited ဖိတ်ကြားသည်
arrangements အစီအစဉ်
music ဝိတ
watch the television ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားကြည့်
bring ယူဆောင်လာသည်
transport သယ်ယူပို့ဆောင်ရေး
looking forward to seeing you တွေ့ဆုံရမည်ကို မျှော်လင့်လျက်

ထို့အပြင် မိမိထံပေးစာကို ဖတ်၍ ပြန်စာ (reply) ရေးတတ်ရန်လည်း လိုပါသည်။ အခြေခံပညာအဆင့်မြင့်တန်းစာမေးပွဲတွင် ထိုပုံစံမျိုးဖြင့် မေးလေ့ရှိသဖြင့် လေ့ကျင့်သင့်ပါသည်။
ပေးစာထဲတွင်ပါသည့် မေးခွန်းများလောက်သာ ပြန်ဖြေရုံဖြင့် မလုံလောက်ပါ။ ထိုမေးခွန်းများနှင့် ဆက်စပ်ဆီလျော်သော အကြောင်းများကိုလည်း ရေးရန်လိုပါသည်။ မိမိကလည်း မေးခွန်းများ ပြန်မေးနိုင်ပါသည်။ မေးခွန်းများကို ဖြေရာတွင်လည်း ဖြေရမည့်အကြောင်းအရာနှင့် ပတ်သက်၍ ၄-၅ ကြောင်း ရေးနိုင်ပါသည်။
အောက်တွင် နမူနာနှစ်ပုဒ်ပေးထားပါသည်။

4. Write a reply to the following letter:

No. 7, Pagoda Road
Myothit
May 6, 1979

Dear Khin Khin,
I am very happy to hear that you have passed the Ninth Standard. Now, we are both in the Tenth Standard and we must work very hard to do well in the examination.
I now study three hours a day in the evenings after dinner. Do you study in the mornings or in the evenings?
I find our English lessons very interesting, especially the lesson on Volcanoes and Earthquakes. I didn't know that Mount Popa is an extinct volcano. Did you? I would like to know more about it. I want to know when it last erupted and how high it is. If you know anything about it, please let me know. My father has promised to take me there during our October holidays. Would you like to come along with us?
My mother has told me about the earthquakes in Myanmar. Did you know that there was a very bad earthquake which destroyed the Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Pegu? If you want to hear about it, just let me know.
Please write to me when you have time. I look forward to hearing from you.

Your loving friend,
Mi Mi

to do well in the exam စာမေးပွဲကောင်းစွာဖြေနိုင်ရန်
find our Eng lesson interesting အင်္ဂလိပ်သင်ခန်းစာစိတ်ဝင်စား
extinct volcano ဖွယ်ကောင်းတာကို တွေ့ရ
erupted မီးတောင်သေ
promise မီးတောင်ပေါက်ကွဲခဲ့
ကတိပေးသည်

5. The Reply

No. 11, Ohndaw Street
Sulegon Ward
Monywa
May 11, 1979

Dear Mi Mi,
I received your interesting letter on May 8. I am very glad to know that you also passed your exam. Yes, we must try to get high marks in all the subjects.

You know, I want to be an economist and so if I get good marks, I will join the University of Economics. I study four or five hours a day. I read my lessons even on Saturdays and Sundays. I have a quiet corner in a small garden behind our house. I spend most of my spare-time there.

I also didn't know that Mount Popa is an extinct volcano. I have never been there. I also don't know anything about it. I asked father but he too couldn't tell me anything. He said nobody knew when it last erupted. He said there were no records. I like "Bogyoke Aung San," "Maha Bandoola" and " the Exile" best. As you know, I am more intersted in arts than in science subjects.

I am sorry. I won't be able to come along with you when you go to Mount Popa in October. Our grandmother is very ill and I have to take care of her. She needs me. She has been ill for about three months now.

I did not know there was a bad earthquake that destroyed the Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago. Please tell me more about it in your next letter.

We have not seen each other for nearly two years. Please send me your latest photo. I'll send mine next month. I am getting taller. I play badminton every evening.

I love reading your letters. Please write to me from time to time.

Your loving friend,
Khin Khin

economist ဘောဂဗေဒပညာရှင်
University of Economics စီးပွားရေးတက္ကသိုလ်
a quiet corner တိတ်ဆိတ်ငြိမ်သက်သော
spend ကုန်ဆုံးစေသည်
spare time အချိန်ပို
records မှတ်တမ်းများ
as you know မင်းသိတဲ့အတိုင်း
able နိုင်သော၊ စွမ်းဆောင်နိုင်သော
photo (photograph) ဓာတ်ပုံ
from time to time မကြာမကြာ
the best of everything အရာရာတိုင်း၏ အကောင်းဆုံး

6. Write a reply to the following letter:—

7, Pagoda Road
Myohaung
March 26, 1979

Dear Hla Hla,
Thank you very much for your letter of February 12th. I am sorry I could not reply earlier as I was also studying hard for the final exam. I did quite well in all the subjects. You must have done very well too.
In your letter you didn't tell me what your plans for the summer holidays are. As for me, my aunt who lives in Manadalay has invited me to visit her. She says she will take me to Maymyo, Sagaing and many other places. But I have not decided whether to go or not. Please tell me about your plans for the holidays.

Your loving friend,
Khin Khin

7. The Reply

No. 15, Seinban Street
Ohndaw Ward
Kemmendine
Yangon
March 29, 1982

Dear Khin Khin,
I am very glad to hear that you did very well in your exam. I did not do well in Physics, but I believe I'll get very high marks in the other subjects. I am sure you are now taking a good rest.

I have not yet made any plans for the summer holidays. I think I'll not be able to go anywhere. I have to do a lot of work at home since Mother is always busy with her little shop and I'm the only girl in our family. However, I do have my spare time.

As you know, my hobby is reading. I'll do a lot of reading this summer. I'll read both Myanmar and English books. My ambition is to become a writer one day. I'm also interested in poetry. I'll read a lot of poems and I'll begin writing poems myself. My aunt is a University teacher. She'll teach me English. There are many books, especially Myanmar novels and magazines in Father's home library. I'll read them. Father said he would select the books I should read.

I shall also go to the cinema very often. Unfortunately, we have no television set. I shall also learn cooking. It's a very important art.

I wish you could come and stay with us for a week; we would be very happy together.

Please take care of your health. You are always so thin. That's all for now.

Expecting an early reply,
with best wishes,
Your loving friend,
Hla Hla

Plan စီမံကိန်း
hobby ဝါသနာ
poetry ကဗျာလင်္ကာ
novel လုံးချင်းဝတ္ထု
library စာကြည့်တိုက်
select ရွေးချယ်သည်
art အတတ်ပညာ
take care of ဂရုစိုက်သည်
expecting an early reply စောစောပြန်စာကို မျှော်လင့်လျက်

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

# “Trees are significant importance for us”



By **Khin Moh Moh Aung**  
Yadanabon University

“THE care of the earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all, our most pleasing responsibility”, Wendell Berry said. This saying reveals that we, all human beings, have to take responsibility for caring the earth. There are many different ways to take care of the earth. Nowadays, the earth is in trouble because it is suffering from climate change which is also called global warming. To cure this disease, the earth needs doctors who are individuals who live in the world. There are many ways to help the earth, of which growing trees is a vital and effective mean.

Trees are essential things for the world, for human beings, for all the creatures surviving on the earth. They help us breathe fresh air, which can make us healthy. I cannot imagine how we can survive without any trees. Munia Khan said “Trees exhale for us so that we can inhale them to stay alive. Let us love trees with every breath we take until we perish.” Thusly, trees are one of the reasons why we can still alive on earth.

Not only can trees give us breath but they can also give us coolness with their shade. As it is really hot in summer, we really need the help of trees. However, some people do not value the

trees by chopping down the trees and by trading in. That is why deforestation appears in the world. Chopping down the trees is like destroying our lives. As I have mentioned above, trees provide us fresh air and shade. They are like our lungs and home. So, we all have to aware not to chop down the trees without being necessary.

Trees can help prevent natural disasters such as forest fires, floods, desertification, erosion, and long droughts. We all are suffering from natural disasters more than in previous times. It is because of deforestation. We really need to

plant trees to implement reforestation which can prevent natural disasters and climate change.

We, however, truly need to grow trees like our own children. Some of the people do so-called planting trees on remarkable days. They just plant trees by digging holes on the ground and water them on those days. Then, they neglect the trees they have planted. Frankly, I am the one who did the similar doing. But now, I am trying to get rid of that habit.

“Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree,” said Martin Luther. By seeing this saying, we all need to reflect ourselves by thinking that trees are significant importance for us.



## FROM PAGE- S-1

than ever and asked U Hlaing to inform the Hluttaw. After learning that what the King wanted to do was the breaking the ancient customs of tax collection, he strongly opposed to it and said “What he has done is like the monkey is destroying a beautiful garden.” Finally, the king withdrew his proposal.

Next, the Chief of Karanni asked the King to take over his land and the King sent a letter to the Hluttaw that he would put Karanni into his Kingdom. However, U Yan Way torn the royal letter, said “Though being the King, he doesn’t even know what to do and declare such

a notification.” And he ordered the messenger to make the King hear what his opinion is. The king was so furious that he summoned U Yan Way. But, his reply was “I am busy in the Hluttaw. So, you tell the King that I can’t attend his chamber.” And he did not attend the assembly for five days. He King asked him the reason on the sixth day. He said “The reason to cancel the royal proclamation is Karanni is such a small tribe and also a border area. It is better to leave this tribe alone. Otherwise, the Kingdom on the other side will declare war on us for such a small place. So, it will be better to receive their presents. If not, just dissolve the

Hluttaw.” The reason was right so the King remained silent.

Very soon, the King gave the asylum for rebellions running from the Mainland China. Learning that event, U Yan Way drove them away and told the king that there would be a war between Myanmar and China as the King received the enemy of it. The King confessed that he was wrong.

The final event shows how Hluttaw was more powerful than the King in executive function. The King appointed an earl with taking any advice from the Hluttaw. When the message had arrived, U Yan Way tore it and said the King that

it was the authority of the Hluttaw to appoint the governing positions but not the authority of the King.

Even in the Hluttaw of the monarchy days, the theme true and fair was present and practiced, thinking about people. Check and balance was practiced in governing the kingdom. Though the King was the head of the Kingdom, he respectfully followed the true and fair decision of the Hluttaw. So, today, whenever there is a dilemma that which is superior to which one: the Executive and the Legislation, we need those aforementioned events to take into account.



PHOTO: ChanThar

## Dat Taw Gyaing (a) Hampshire Falls – An Episode of a Boy

By Ye Htut

**D**AT Taw Gyaing is original Myanmar words meaning a Canyon where the sacred Relics are enshrined, of whom, most likely of a holy person. It does not mention a waterfall, was it not there when the legend started. Now it is also known as Hampshire falls, a waterfall discovered by a British colonial official at the close of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and named after him. It is about 8 miles from the town of Pyin Oo Lwin (May Myo), very near Anisakan, a village on the Mandalay-Pyin Oo Lwin highway. Anisakan was then known for two things, there is an air field for small aircraft nearby, and a Christian missionary novice seminary existed there long ago. This seminary was a school for youthful novice missionary brothers of the Roman Catholic Church and called Don Bosco after a Christian saint.

I learned about the place from a Don Bosco boy who was a member of our junior football team. We

were from the Red House, one of the four divisions of our St. Albert's English High School formed in such a way for competition among students in sports as well as in other activities such as academic and discipline.

St. Albert's Don Bosco boys were those who having passed out from Anisakan Seminary and sent to our school's seminary for further education. They attended classes together with us as normal students.

We were very young then in 1956 – that is 62 years ago. While playing football and resting, Paul, the Don Bosco boy, told us about the waterfall at Aniskan. I was 14 years old from the 8<sup>th</sup> standard and the others in the discussion were around the same age, one from the 8<sup>th</sup> standard, two from the 7<sup>th</sup> standard and one from the 6<sup>th</sup> standard who is my younger brother. The 8<sup>th</sup> standard boy was Saw Weiland, a Karen ethnic, the two from the 7<sup>th</sup> standard were

Yusuf, a Muslim, and Peter Fong, a Chinese, whose father owned a Chinese restaurant. Yusuf's father was a rich merchant owning a store selling rice, oil and other goods. We all expressed our interest in the waterfall.

If we wanted to go to the waterfall in a group excursion, it's not very troublesome because we could inform the Brother Prefect of Aniskan Don Bosco in advance and he could send along a guide, offered Paul and the deal was on with the D-Day fixed on next Sunday.

We discussed about the excursion the next day. We decided to ride there on bicycles. Everybody had one except Saw Weiland. Yusuf volunteered to lend his elder brother's bicycle for Weiland, "It's new", he said, and it has a repair tool leather pouch attached to the saddle and can repair punctures of tire tubes with it. We were all very thankful. My brother could ride along with his junior Humber cycle which was in fact a ladies

bicycle. Some bicycles had air pumps and backside carries to carry a passenger.

We would bring side bags with food such as biscuits, dried bread, fried noodles or parata packets, glutinous rice bundles and water bottles. I had a British Army side bag with canvas shoulder strap and water canteen also with shoulder strap for myself and my brother. Biscuits, dried bread and sticky rice packets and some sweets and a pen knife would go in my bag. A lighter was also in my mind.

We were to inspect our bicycles' worn-out tires and wheel chains and change them at repair shop, if necessary. All were warned to keep healthy during this period. Next Sunday, we were to meet at 6 AM sharp at the Independence Monument on Mandalay-Lashio road. It was summer and already bright by that time.

The summer morning was cool as we cycled along up and down the small hillocks. There

was no motor or traffic at all, either from Pyin Oo Lwin or from Mandalay side. In those days, traffic was very light on this highway and most freight went by railway. We reached Anisakan about an hour later, sweating and puffing without any mishap. The Brother Prefect at Don Bosco welcomed us with breakfast of fried rice and tea. He was a middle-aged Karen with a very kind face. We wolfed down the fried rice as we were very hungry.

A senior boy will be our guide, he told us. John, he called out, and bring along the bamboo rod-stick for them, he added. John came out with five six-foot long, one-inch in diameter sticks to lean on in climbing and descending. John seemed to be a tough boy though he was about sixteen. He seemed to be a Danu ethnic, the local race. He wore a worn-out British army shirt and khaki shorts and old ammunition boots. There was a coil of rope slung across his shoulders and a British army canvas belt on

his waist with a British army service bush knife hanging from it. He also had a stick just like ours. The knife, seen later, was very sharp.

There was a British Army camp at Aniskan until 1948 and when they left for home most of their surplus, equipment was left behind and some were donated to Don Bosco. "Let's go," John said. "It's getting hot," he exclaimed. "Wait for a while, John!" the brother said, and motioned us to follow him. "Pray before our Mother Mary." He told us and took us before the marble statue of Mother Mary holding a child, Jesus. "Repeat after me." He commanded. "Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus, Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us, forgive our sins, lead us not into temptation and deliver us from Evil, Amen." We repeat phrases one after another after him.

"And one more thing," he said. "Hold your tongue and think twice before you do anything. Forests are dangerous and there are spirits in the mountain forests which you can't see. They don't seem to like abusive language and loose talk that seem insulting to them. And they don't like urinating standing up. Keep close to one another

and there, in front of us, was the Dat Taw Gyaing and the waterfall from the hill crashing down. The creek up there must be quite big because the water volume, even in summer, was quite large and the cascade hitting the big pool below made a booming sound. The name of the Canyon fascinated me for quite a while so I asked John whether he knew of a shrine or a ceti (small pagoda) where holy relics might be enshrined somewhere around here. He shook his head, "There are many caves on the steep hillsides. Some vertical sites have rocky surfaces, and steep walls," he said. "Very hard to climb up to them and wild animals might be living inside."

I knew he place was full of wildlife. Recently in Pyin Oo Lwin, a leopard entered the town, took sanctuary in the Metro Cinema hall at night and had to be shot by an army officer from Burma Army Officers' Training School (BAOTS). Also two woodcutters were attacked by bears near the Botanical Gardens. Another example is that of the great hunter Colonel Naw Taung who was the Commanding Officer the 3rd Kachin Rifles unit based in Pyin Oo Lwin. He had shot hundreds of animals while residing in Pyin Oo Lwin. This officer's residence was near our own and on Sunday mornings, when he came back from his regular hunts around the locality, we could see carcasses of tigers, bears, deer, gaur and wild boars. The jeep he used has a trailer carriage. He was a fine marksman and an avid hunter, and his

group. Don't go astray or wander about in pairs or alone. Don't call out each other by name. Use numbers for names. You five are now Number 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, okay? Understand me?" He said and we all nodded. "Now you all can go, good luck. Don't stay too late," he concluded.

We followed John along a footpath until we reached a place of what seemed to be the edge of the hill. There was an adjoining one in front. John stopped at the point and looked down. Then, he mentioned us to follow. It was a path down between the two hills whose sides were very steep. It must be a gully where the water flowed down in the rainy season. We climbed slowly down and had had to use both hands, one for the leaning stick and the other to pull saplings to slow up. After going down for about 300 feet, the ground leveled but it was full of large rocks and boulders where the flowing down water had eroded the soil

at the foot of the hills, where there are many streams and some small rivers that are formed with water from the Shan Plateau. The plains are very wide going far up to the Irrawaddy River and there are many small rivers such as the Nar Daung Kya (the place where Bagagan King Anawratha's wife, Queen Saw Mun Hla's ear ornament or Nar Daung fell in the stream) the Zaw Gyi, Myitnge, and Paung Laung rivers etc.

I have seen from the viewpoint on the Mandalay-Pyin Oo Lwin highway near the 21<sup>st</sup> Mile Post the plains below, of such beauty, dark green and very fertile, nourished with waters from the Shan Hills. The canyon we were in was very silent except for the sound of the waterfall. No person or bird was around; a perfect recluse for hermits. We were tempted by the pool, so green and so clear that we could see below the surface to swim. We asked John's permission who told us to wait a while.

John felled a bamboo stalk, and then cut a piece about two feet from the thick and tied one end of his rope to it. He threw the cut piece with the tied rope to the center area of the pool and told us swimmers to swim to the bamboo piece that was floating and to get hold of the rope or bamboo piece if anyone gets cramps in the cold water. We were all veterans of B.T Bro (Ba Tu Brothers, a coffee plantation company) swimming pool in Pyin Oo Lwin so there was no mishap. We were all experts in swimming and diving.

When we all came up from the pool, John said "Wait for a while." And carrying a bamboo shaft which he had sharpened one end into a spear went to a place near the waterfall and speared a big fish. It was a mountain white catfish weighing about two viss and white in color. The fall water had a lot of lime absorbed in it so that fish was very white in color. "People had mistaken big white fish swimming in the sunlight for human ghosts." John said. "Large mountain catfish have black heads and necks so they were mistaken for hair and the face from far looked like human." We had our lunch with barbecued fish and our food from our bags. Every one shared with John who took some choice items, put in on a banana leaf and offered it to the mountain spirits at a large tree. At that moment, two mountain crows, unseen before, flew off from a tree top and cawed loudly. "See, the mountain and jungle spirits are satisfied," exclaimed John. We were also very satisfied and happy.

We wanted to see the dark place behind the waterfall but

John vetoed the idea because there could be big snakes around there. So we wandered about a little in the bright areas and found nothing except rocks and bushes and my hopes of finding a small shrine or something resembling a ceti were dashed. "May be it was desecrated by robbers or greedy looters who were to rob the valuables, entombed together with the relics in the relic chamber. They would take away the valuables but would leave the relics behind because it was of no use to them." I reckoned.

"It's getting late." John said. So we gather our bags and followed John to the place where we descended. We had to climb up about 300 to 400 feet till we reached the top and the path back to Don Bosco. "Welcome back." Brother Prefect said, and we thanked him for all the care he had given us and told him we would be leaving then. I gave my pocket penknife to John as an act of friendship and he was thankful. All our surplus edibles were also left behind with John as we said goodbye. He had tears in his eyes.

He cycled along steadily, and the road was still quiet, so we sang our old Christian Mission School's classic anthem: "Cheer, cheer, for our old school, Wake up the echoes cheering her name, Send forth a valley of shouts on high, Bring out the thunder from out the skies What though the odds be great or small Our old school will win over all, While her loyal sons go marching, Onwards to victory, Rah, Rah, Rah."

After reaching the Pyin Oo Lwin Independence Monument, Saw Weiland followed the other two to return the bicycle and we pedaled home. So that was the happy ending of our excursion.

As I reminisced now about Pyin Oo Lwin and Anisakan and most of all about Dat Taw Gyaing, the places had changed greatly because it is now a major resting point on the Mandalay-Lashio Road. Anisakan, a small village then was already a town in itself, the abandoned airport is now expanded and active. How are the canyon and the falls? That I don't know for I had not been there since then, that is 62 long years.

I had been to Zee Bin Gyi where Naw Taung shot the large man-eating tiger because there are government training institutes there now, where I had gone many times for lecturing before my retirement. Along the China road were places that had been

place behind the waterfall but

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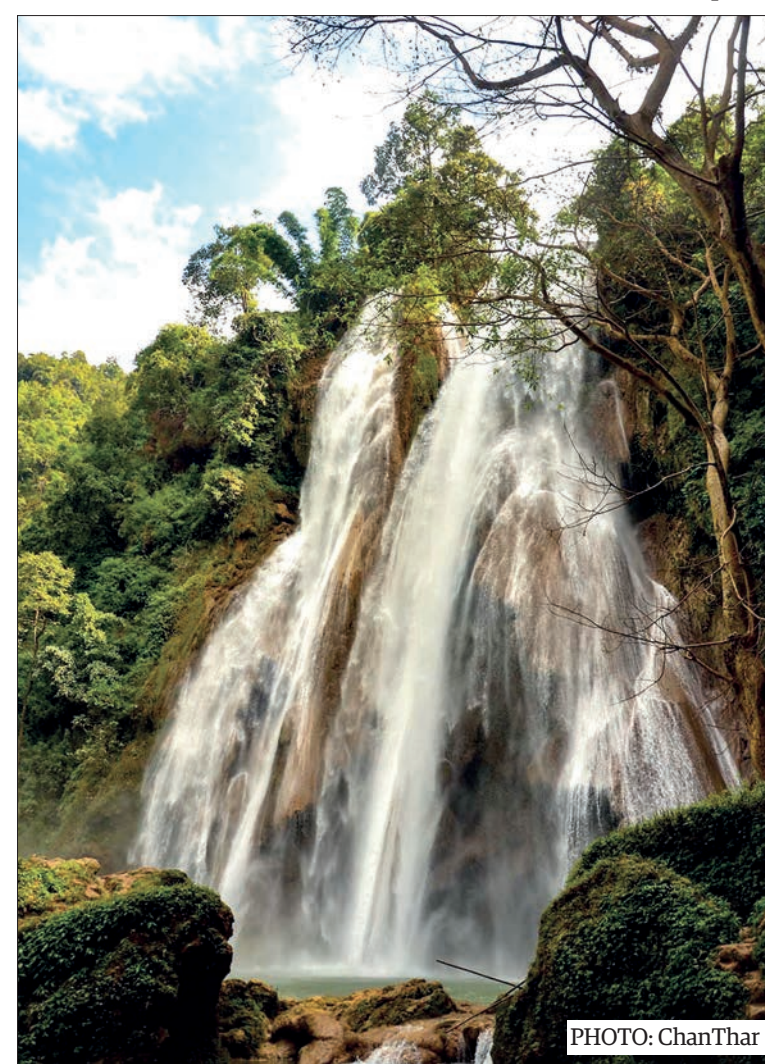


PHOTO: ChanThar

# SUNDAY COMICS

## PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon Maung Shwe Win

## SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon Maung Aung 2019

END



Ms. Moon  
Final year Honours  
( English )  
Dagon University



# When it needs for the heritage of our ancestors ...

**W**HEN young, I learnt Geography. I have known about the Geographical beauty of our motherland as a lesson since then. The beauty and usefulness of the great rivers called Ayeyarwady, Chindwin, Sittaung and Thanlwin have been well known. In addition, the beauty of Inlay lake from Shan hill which is figuratively called as a river of mountaintop by many foreigners has been heard. Then, I have also known the beauty of the mountain ranges – Rakhine Yoma and Bago Yoma over which there are endless scenery of green and lush forest. There are numerous flora and fauna and unexplored natural resources in that dense forest. I felt that feeling just in the school lesson that our Geography teachers explained. However, after the abundant use of color television and powerful access of internet, I can feel the real scenery of those beauties as if I had been there not needing to go there by myself.

It is Myanmar's Geographical sceneries that are very beautiful. What is more, there are abundance of above and underground natural resources. For this very reason, there are abundance of those who are salivating and craving for our natural resources. Some of them felt so frustrated and greedy that they deliberately had bullied our nation with the weapons, invaded our motherland and taken over the position. They were the colonialists and fascists. In fact, the sovereignty and the stability of territory of a country must be acknowledged and regarded by any other country. It must not be invaded and insulted. This is the international and fundamental ethic that every country must obey and practise. Only those who say themselves as gentlemen from large countries provoked the citizens of other country, bullied them and invaded the others' territory. These can have been seen on the pages of World History up to now.

Myanmar people are those who want to live, lived and are living in the green and lush environment in eternal peace. However, they are not idiots, plastic dolls or stumps of trees. They are those who are never going to bow their heads to the insulters. They are those who will never forget the guys who deliberately insulted them and invaded their land, as well. Though they are deeply religious, their blood is greatly thick for their motherland inherited from their ancestors. If one wants to know how sharp Myanmar people's swords are, ask the fascists and colonialists. They had ever tried the taste of their swords very well.

At the present moment, there have already been those who are starting to pick a quarrel Myanmar's sovereignty and the stability of Myanmar's territory. There is also the atmosphere which supports them with cash and technology in spreading information. In reality, it is not peculiar since both of them are the same bottle and the same stop-cork. The insulters and the supporters are in good association with for both of them are equally wicked and cunning. Nevertheless, I, from here, give a dauntless warning to those who are picking a quarrel to our sovereignty and stability of our territory and those who are supporting and inciting them behind the curtain with some lines of verse...

“...Though we just want to kiss  
The bud of peace  
Yet in an unkind situation  
We probably will have to draw  
The Battle-sword left by our grandpa...”  
In fact, the actual nationalism is the really sharp sword, isn't it? ■



FROM PAGE S-5

in Myanmar history for a thousand years. The kingdoms of Hsipaw, Hsenwi and Namkham were places in Bagan's King Anawratha's pathway on his famous march from Mandalay area to Yunnan to obtain the holy relics from the Governor of Yunnan where the legend of Saw Mun Hla, the Namkham Princess who became Anawratha's Queen, had been recounted in Bagan history.

Is still the canyon quiet and beautiful like heaven before? I doubt because of the year round visits of tourists from afar as well as those from around the whole country. Pyin Oo Lwin has become a booming overpopulated place. St. Albert's is no longer there together with Don Bosco, its sub-institution. Gone since 1965, but I hope it resurrects someday. I also don't know where my other companions of the excursion are, except my brother who is now Professor Dr. Paing Soe, retired Rector of the Institute of Dental Medicine, Retd Chairman of Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Association and present Chairman of Myanmar Dental Council.

Around there the thick and the lustrous forests are all denuded now, and so is the wildlife, valuable tigers shot by the scores yearly, and all the hills barren, the whole ecosystem has changed, so must be the creeks that abounded with water would now be shallow and shrunk. When I was in Zee Bin Gyi, I could see the sheer barren cliffs and the tiger cave that has become a recluse for a young learned monk who is practicing meditation. The trees and bushes are all gone and the hills eroded by the rain and wind.

Nowadays, newspaper stories highlight in pictures the felling of large trees with power chainsaws and giant trucks being loaded by tracked vehicles with heavyweight lifts. The situation is the worst in the border areas where rebels have sold large tracts of forests to purchase arms and supplies and

causing ethnic locals from nearby village to flee as not to be caught in crossfire of government troops and rebels. They become displaced refugees, which are plentiful today.

Nearly 95 % of Myanmar was once covered with forest before the arrival of the British. The made our timber a commodity that was demanded worldwide. Before then, the whole northern part of the country, including Katha and Bhamo areas, the Shan plateau, the great mountain ranges called the Yomas such as Rakhine, Pegu, Tenasserim were all heavily forested areas rich in teak and valuable hardwoods. Apart from the alluvial plains, even the great river basins were full of forests.

The pillage was unprecedented in the two centuries before World War II when the British fled the country. During Ne Win's era, the looting of natural resources was partially controlled but after the great upheaval in 1988, intensive greed of the selfish was wholly ignored by responsible persons. Even nowadays, you can see giant multiple wheeled trucks carrying 50-ton loads of wood heading for the border areas, wharfs, and construction sites in the hundreds in daily. So the countryside is now becoming a wasteland of bald hills and bare plains.

My memories are fading and my hands unsteady and my eyes blurred because I am already 77 years old and suffering from lung cancer. I wonder now if I can write my life experience in the Army for 40 years. I hope to do so in my last days. With this thought in my head, I conclude my story.

[The author is a retired Colonel and a Research Officer who had once won the National Prize for Literature (Political Category). He is also a winner of the Distinguished Service Medal (First Class).]

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INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO BANGKOK. Rows include PG706, 8M335, UB-019, etc.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: BANGKOK TO YANGON. Rows include TG2303, PG701, TG2301, etc.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO KUALA LUMPUR. Rows include AK505, MH741, OD551, etc.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: KUALA LUMPUR TO YANGON. Rows include AK504, MH740, OD550, etc.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO DHAKA. Rows include BG061.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: DHAKA TO YANGON. Rows include BG060.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO DON MUEANG. Rows include DD4231, FD252, SL201, etc.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: DON MUEANG TO YANGON. Rows include DD4230, FD251, SL200, etc.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO SEOUL INCHEON. Rows include KE472.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: SEOUL INCHEON TO YANGON. Rows include KE471.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO DUBAI. Rows include EK389.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: DUBAI TO YANGON. Rows include EK388.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO GUANGZHOU. Rows include 8M711, CZ3056, CZ8472.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: GUANGZHOU TO YANGON. Rows include CZ3055, 8M712, CZ8471.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO TAIPEI. Rows include CI7916.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: TAIPEI TO YANGON. Rows include CI7915.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: MANDALAY TO BANGKOK. Rows include PG710, PG714.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: BANGKOK TO MANDALAY. Rows include PG709, PG713.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO SINGAPORE. Rows include UB001, 8M-231, SQ997, etc.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: SINGAPORE TO YANGON. Rows include SQ998, 3K581, MI510, etc.

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Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: DON MUEANG TO MANDALAY. Rows include FD244.

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Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO HANOI. Rows include VN956, VJ918.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: HANOI TO YANGON. Rows include VN957, VJ917.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO HONG KONG. Rows include KA275, KA251, UB8027.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: HONG KONG TO YANGON. Rows include UB8028, KA250, KA252.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO HO CHI MINH. Rows include VN942.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: HO CHI MINH TO YANGON. Rows include VN943.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO TOKYO. Rows include NH814.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: TOKYO TO YANGON. Rows include NH813.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO DOHA. Rows include QR919.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: DOHA TO YANGON. Rows include QR918.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: YANGON TO CHIANG MAI. Rows include PG724.

Table with 4 columns: FLIGHT, DEP, ARV, DATE. Title: CHIANG MAI TO YANGON. Rows include PG723.

AIR LINES CODES table listing codes for Jet Star, Myanmar Airways International, Air India, Air Asia, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, Air China, China Airlines, China Southern, Nok Airline, Air Asia, Dragonair, Korea Airlines, Malaysia Airlines, Silk Air, China Eastern Airlines, All Nippon Airways, Bangkok Airways, Qatar Airways, Thai Lion Air, Singapore Airways, Thai Airways, Tiger Airlines, Myanmar National Airlines, Vietnam Airlines.

DATE table mapping numbers 1-7 to days of the week: 1 = Monday, 2 = Tuesday, 3 = Wednesday, 4 = Thursday, 5 = Friday, 6 = Saturday, 7 = Sunday.

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