

SUNDAY SPECIAL



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NATIONAL

11th coord meeting to produce Bogyoke Aung San biopic held in Yangon



PAGE-2

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Union Minister U Kyaw Tin opens MAWFA Fundraising and Charity Bazaar 2019



Wife of Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Dr Shwe Hluan, Union Minister U Kyaw Tin, and other dignitaries pose for a group photo at the opening ceremony of the "Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association(MAWFA) Fundraising and Charity Bazaar 2019" in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin attended and made an inaugural remark at the opening ceremony of the "Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association(MAWFA) Fundraising and Charity Bazaar 2019" which was held at 09:00 a.m. on 14 Sep-

tember 2019 at the Yangon Convention Center, Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon.

Present at the opening ceremony were Dr. Shwe Hluan, wife of Vice President 2 and Spouses of Union Ministers, wife of the Chief Minister of Yangon Region, Mr. Pehin Dato Abdu'r

Rahmani Dato Basir, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to Myanmar and wife, ASEAN Ambassadors and their spouses, Ambassadors and diplomats from the Diplomatic Missions in Yangon, senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Members of Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association (MAWFA) and Members of Women Association of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as representatives from the civil society foundations and charity associations such as Association for Prevention, Care and Protection of

Abandoned Children(APCPAC) (Myanmar), Withaka Foundation, Lay Kyunthu Foundation, Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association(MWEA), International Cultural and Charity Group (ICCG), Wayhyma Myitta Social Foundation, Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) and invited guests.

At the Opening Ceremony, Mr. Pehin Dato Abdu'r Rahmani Dato Basir, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to Myanmar also made a remark, on behalf of ASEAN Embassies in Yangon.

The MAWFA organized the Fundraising and Charity Bazaar 2019 with an aim to showcasing diverse cultures, foods and national costumes of ASEAN, promoting public awareness of ASEAN and strengthening unity and friendship. A variety of products, foods, handicrafts, jewelry, traditional costumes and textile from all ASEAN Member States will be displayed and sold at the Bazaar.

All the proceeds from the Charity Bazaar will go to "Safe House" caring for single mothers and their infants and to "Sharing Love Charity" providing education for Street Children. The Bazaar will be open to the public from 14 to 15 September 2019 at the Yangon Convention Center, Yangon.— Ministry of International Cooperation ■

11th coord meeting to produce Bogyoke Aung San biopic held in Yangon

AN eleventh coordination meeting of the work committee to produce biography film of Bogyoke Aung San was held at Kanbawa Avenue in Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yangon yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, Chairman of Bogyoke Aung San Biopic Development Committee and Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko said starting from the beginning of 2019 to August the processes to produce biopic of Bogyoke Aung San had been moving quite rapidly. This movement was due to the efforts of the people attending this meeting in numerous discussions and meetings and results of their practical works.

The making of this biopic had gone through many years of positive and negative views and opinions. Those itself were a source of strength allowing us to overcome everything with a firm determination and commitment toward making a biopic that would be an honor to national leader Bogyoke Aung San and an exemplary true history for the country.

The country had a history of the government and a ministry making movies. Although the aims were different what remains the same were the two different natures working together in making such movies. The nature of making



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko addresses the 11th coordination meeting of the work committee to produce biography film of Bogyoke Aung San in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

a movie under ministerial orders, instructions, processes and frames and a completely different nature of making movie under a free, independent and creativity. Departmental process work under a time schedule with tight financial constraint while artistic works were conducted in a wide ranging, free thinking creativities that had no limitation. As two different work natures were working together, much care was needed from both sides.

Now all these situations were overcome with mutual understanding. The support of

Ministry of Defence considered as a force was also of much help. Efforts of the costume designers were also extremely satisfactory. Support and contacts provided by Ministry of Foreign Affairs was also of much help in making the movie. As per suggestion of State Counsellor, director U Lu Min and U Soe Kyaw San had also conducted a study visit to the residence of Colonel Suzuki and rural area in Japan from 20 to 24 August 2019 to include those scenes in the movie.

Many meetings were conducted but the meetings that

were held lately were more work related toward the actual making of the move. More discussion were invited said the Union Minister.

In conclusion the Union Minister urges all to make a biopic of Bogyoke Aung San that would be a must-see for generations to come and to create more people like Bogyoke Aung San in the country.

Next Bogyoke Aung San Biopic Development Committee secretary Permanent Secretary U Tun Ohn explained about works conducted, work committee joint secretary 2 U

Lu Min explained about status of works conducted to make the movie and Red Radiance Digital Cinema Solutions Managing Director U Myo Min explained about camera and related accessory matters.

After a general discussion by sub-committees and meeting attendees, the Union Minister delivered a concluding speech.

A ceremony to commemorate the beginning of making "Aung San" movie will be held at Novotel Hotel, Yangon on 10 am Tuesday 24 September it is learnt.—MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)

2020 and Effect of Social Network – Social Media Forum 2019 held in Nay Pyi Taw



The forum named 2020 and Effect of Social Network being convened in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

TO review the effect of social network on the society a "2020 and Effect of Social Network – Social Media Forum 2019" was held at Thingaha Hotel, Nay Pyi

Taw yesterday morning. Ministry of Transport and Communications Permanent Secretary U Soe Thein first delivered an opening address.

The forum includes talks under the titles "Challenges and effects of social network in Myanmar" and "Good practices in using social network."

In the talk titled "Challenges and effects of social network in Myanmar" presenter and master of ceremony Ma Phyo Phyo Khaing led the discussion with Mandalay City Development Committee member Mandalay Smart City Chief Officer U Ye Myat Thu, Pyithu Hluttaw representatives for Natogyi constituency U Naing Htoo Aung, The Voice Journal/Living Color Media publisher and CEO U Zeya Thu, Kanbawza Bank Managing Director U Zaw Lin Aung and Miss Universe Myanmar 2013 Moe Sat Wine participating in the discussion.

Similarly the talk titled "Good practices in using social network" was led by Ayeyarwady Bank Managing Director (digital) U Chit Tun Pe with Myanmar Police Force Cyber Crime Department head Police Colonel Nyunt Wai, Dawei Special Economic Zone Management Committee's Legal

Advisory member U Min Tezar Nyunt Tin, Telenor Myanmar Head of Corporate Responsibility Daw Khin Pyae Wun Thawda, Ooredoo Myanmar Head of Corporate U Tin Naing Htut, Ministry of Transport and Communications National Cyber Security Center director U Ye Naing Moe and cyber security expert Ko Bon Myint (Mike) participating in the discussion.

During the forum information technology experts also conducted discussions under the titles of "Business & IT/Policy Advocacy," "MPT: Supporting Digital Literacy in Myanmar," "Global Partnership for Digital Literacy," "Digital Literacy," and "Unicode Migration Presentation."

After the discussions, suggestions and future works were reviewed and questions raised by forum attendees were answered and discussed.—MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint meets with MPPA, committees on republishing encyclopedia, publishing Hundred Myanmar Classic Book series

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint met with a group led by Myanmar Printers & Publishers Association Chairperson Daw Nan Kalyar Win at Myanmar Radio and Television meeting hall in Yangon yesterday afternoon and discussed arrangement for issuing publishing licence for one time publication under the Printing and Publishing Law and its bylaw, the requirement for publishers to send one copy to the National Library as prescribed in the National Library Bill, making suggestions on the bill, formation of an agency stipulated in the law, printing and publishing technologies.

Earlier in the morning the Union Minister met with expert group on republishing Myanmar

encyclopedia consisting of Steering Committee on Republishing Myanmar Encyclopedia Chairman Sithu U Thaw Kaung and Tun Foundation Chairman U Thein Tun and Work Committee members to continue publishing Hundred Myanmar Classic Book Series.

The Hundred Myanmar Classic Book Series was published with the aims of putting into the hands of readers the Myanmar literature that started from Bagan era, retain and preserve Myanmar literature for future generations, for youths to value and cherish Myanmar literature and for the people to acquire and develop reading habit. The first three volumes of 100 Myanmar Classic Book Series were already published



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint discusses with Steering Committee on Republishing Myanmar Encyclopedia Chairman Sithu U Thaw Kaung, Tun Foundation Chairman U Thein Tun and Work Committee members to continue publishing Hundred Myanmar Classic Book Series. PHOTO: MNA

and Volume 4, 5 and 6 will be published in October while arrangements were made to publish Volume 7, 8 and 9 it is learnt. — MNA
(Translated by Zaw Min)

Maternal and Child Cash Transfer project to be launched in Ayeyawady Region



The meeting to launch the Maternal and Child Cash Transfer project in Ayeyawady Region being convened. PHOTO: MNA

MINISTRY of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is planning to launch the Maternal and Child Cash Transfer (MCCT) project in Ayeyawady Region.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye held a meeting with local authorities, Civil Society Organizations-CSOs, Non-governmental organizations-NGOs and International Non-governmental Organizations-INGOs yesterday in Patheingyi and discussed the project. At the meeting, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung pledged that the regional governmental departments would fully cooperate with the project.

Following the meeting, Director-General of the Social Welfare Department detailed about the project and the attendees at the meeting raised questions.

The MCCT project started in 2017-2018 in Chin State, Rakhine State and Naga Self-Adminis-

trative zone, and it expanded in Kayah State and Kayah State in 2018-2019.

The budget allocated was K 17.832 billions from the government treasury and MMK 5.592 billions from international aid agencies. Before the meeting, the Union minister and party held a separate meeting the Ayeyawady Region Cabinet at the government's office and coordinated works for social security, disaster management and rehabilitation in the region. The meeting also focused on prevention of human trafficking, promoting rights of disabled persons, disaster management, budget allocation for works of the youth affairs committee and reconstruction of agricultural transport facilities which were damaged in disaster.

The Union minister handed over K15 million to the government to construction three bridges in villagers. — MNA
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

MIPPA to conduct 5th Intellectual property right course

With the help of World Intellectual Property Organization and UMFCCI, the Myanmar Intellectual Property Proprietors' Association (MIPPA) will conduct the course at My-

anmar Cosmetic Association, Gamone Pwint Mall on Gaba Aye pagoda road, on 21 September.

The course includes trade mark law, industrial

design right law, patent Law, copy right law.

The course is for the right lawyer and public. — MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Tourists entertained with Naga dance in Homalin

NAGA people entertained tourists, who are now in Homalin Township, Saging Region, with camp fire dance at Naga Literature and Cultural Grounds, Nan Phot Maw Ward, Homalin Township yesterday.

The ceremony was opened by Makuri male dance group playing log drum, and they ignited the fire.

Then, eight performances followed including Makuri male and female dance, Tanku male and female dance and dance by Mercy Home nursery school.

Thirty five tourists arrived at Homalin air-port from Yangon International Air-port. Then they arrived at Naga cultural grounds. They toured

around the place to know more about its culture. They were served with Naga rice wine. They had documentary photo taken with Naga people.

It is reported that more tourist are expected to come to the region on 23rd September. — Lin Lin ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)



Naga ethnic people entertain the tourists at the Naga Literature and Cultural Grounds in Homalin on 14 September. PHOTO: LIN LIN

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YCDC to start single-window tax payments in 3 months: U Phyo Min Thein

By Aye Yamone

THE Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) will try its best to launch a single-window system for tax payments within three months, said U Phyo Min Thein, the Chief Minister of Yangon Region.

“Paying taxes through a single window, using mobile banking, will be very convenient. It will also contribute to fight against corruption,” he said.

“We will accept other revenues from the single window. The YCDC is putting forth great

efforts to allow people to use the single window in such a way that they don’t need to come to the office, and they only need to connect their telephones to the internet,” said U Phyo Min Thein.

“Regarding the issue of construction permits, we have already introduced an online system. We plan to offer this system to everyone,” he said.

“Moreover, although we have introduced issuing of map history with the use of the online system, this system involves many steps, and thus, the YCDC

is trying to launch a single window to deliver a comprehensive service,” he added. “There have been several complaints that the system is posing difficulties to the general public in Yangon Region. The support given by the YCDC needs to be effective. So, we have invited foreign investors to ensure an enabling environment for the use of this system,” the Chief Minister added.

Preparations are being made to upgrade Yangon Region because foreign investments mainly flow into the region.

“The Chief Minister said that the single window will be operational within three months. We are trying our best. We have already made enough preparations for the project,” said Daw Hlaing Maw Oo, the secretary of the YCDC. The YCDC is introducing a total of 39 softwares. Currently, the committee is programming a new software to distribute water through a PPP (public private partnership) system, under the supervision of the Yangon Region Chief Minister.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Electro-fishing declining in Ayeyawady dolphin protection zone



PHOTO: WCS (MYANMAR)

WITH a team conducting two rounds of inspections every month, the practice of electro-fishing is gradually declining in the area from Mandalay to Bhamo in the Ayeyawady dolphin protection zone, according to U Kyaw Hla Thein, who is part of the Wildlife Conservation Society’s dolphin conservation project.

A combined team, with members drawn from the Fisheries Department, the Wildlife Conservation Society, the Marine

Police Force (Mandalay), and other concerned organizations, is conducting the inspections and also organizing awareness campaigns.

“The main reason for the death of dolphins in the Ayeyawady protection zone is electro-fishing, and most fishing vessels are catching the fish illegally. Moreover, electro-fishing cases have been seen even in the daytime. With the Marine Police Force taking strict action and conducting awareness cam-

paigns since 2017, electro-fishing has decreased slightly,” he added.

In 2018, 10 fishermen were arrested and 32 fishing vessels, 37 electric fishing nets, 31 batteries, and 19 machines were seized between the Mandalay and Kyaukmyaung dolphin protection zone. Action was taken against eight more fishermen, and 18 fishing vessels, 8 electric fishing nets, 18 batteries, and 9 electric machines were confiscated. According to data from

January to July, the Mandalay Marine Police Force has taken action against 24 fishing boats for electro-fishing.

“At present, electro-fishing has nearly ceased due to the cooperation between the regional Fisheries Departments and other departments. But, a few instances of electro-fishing are still being witnessed. We carry out inspections twice a month, and sometimes we receive reports of electro-fishing during periods when there are no inspections,” he said.

“The conservation of the Ayeyawady dolphins can boost tourism and create job opportunities for local people. It is also linked to the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan,” he added.

Six dolphin deaths were recorded in 2018. In February and May, two dolphins were reportedly killed out of the total 72 in the 400 kilometres area between the Mandalay and Bhamo dolphin protection zone. Dolphin breeding was also observed in the month of May. According to data recorded in February, 2018, there were 76 dolphins in the 400 kilometers area from Mandalay to Bhamo, which forms a part of the Ayeyawady dolphin protection zone. — Khine Set Wai

(Translated by La Wonn)

Private apartments can soon be purchased with ODA loan

THE Urban and Housing Development Department under the Ministry of Construction will soon allow the purchase of apartments built by private companies with the help of JICA’s official development assistance (ODA) loans, according to an official with the department.

The loans will be offered at an interest of just 8.5 per cent per

annum, he added.

The Urban and Housing Development Department under the Ministry of Construction will sell 12 types of low-cost housing apartments with ODA loans, beginning from the last week of September. The ODA loans will be provided through JICA for purchase of apartments that are earthquake resistant, have

emergency stairs, and good ventilation, according to the Ministry of Construction.

“The ODA loans can be obtained at an interest of only 8.5 per cent per annum. This rate can save buyers 4.5 per cent, when compared to the rate currently offered by banks for property loans. The loan period would be up to 15 years, depending on

the age of the purchasers,” said JICA.

Those who have opened an account with the CHID bank and have sufficient savings as of 31 August can obtain application forms for the apartments in the low-cost housing project, according to the Ministry of Construction.—Aye Maung (Translated by Hay Mar)

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India yet to respond to request on mung bean import this year: association

By Nyein Nyein

THOUGH seven months have lapsed since Myanmar asked India to purchase 400,000 tons of mung beans this year, the neighbouring country has not given any response yet, said U Min Ko Oo, the secretary of the Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

“As we said, we have sent the draft contract to India via the Indian embassy. But, they haven’t responded to our request yet, even though this fiscal year is going to end in September. And, even if they reply to us now, we cannot sell in this fiscal

year because there is not much time left for us to coordinate the sale. So, sale through the government-to-government channel could not be carried out this year,” said U Min Ko Oo.

The Union Minister for Commerce had attended the 4th ASEAN-India Expo and Summit, which was held in New Delhi, India, in February, along with beans and sesame merchants. The delegation had met with Indian officials and requested them to purchase 400,000 tons of mung beans from Myanmar this year. However, the Indian authorities have not responded to the request yet.

“Since India introduced the quota system in 2017, the local bean price has become unstable. It is difficult to surmise that it will benefit local farmers. So, local farmers have already reduced acreage under mung beans and pigeon peas, as their sales rely on the Indian market in toto,” said U Min Ko Oo.

“Due to instability in the Indian market, which is the main source of customers for Myanmar, we need to suggest a further reduction in mung beans and pigeon peas cultivation to our local farmers in the coming year, or we must ask them to grow other types of beans,” he added.

This year, India had announced that it would import 150,000 tons of mung beans and 200,000 tons of pigeon peas.

Although Myanmar’s mung bean production has declined this year, Myanmar could have produced over 300,000 tons of mung beans, according to the Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

Besides India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Dubai, Malaysia, Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan, and the European countries buy beans and pulses from Myanmar. But, they purchase only a small volume of beans and pulses, according to the association.

The Ministry of Commerce is coordinating with those concerned to sell pulses and beans to India under a government-to-government pact. The ministry is also exploring markets in other countries to export pulses and beans, said U Aung Htoo, the Deputy Minister of Commerce.

Local farmers and merchants have been adversely affected by the volatility in the bean market after India changed its import policy in August, 2017. Currently, the price of mung beans is K760,000 per ton, while that of pigeon peas is K830,000 per ton. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Pre-Thadingyut festival: Yangon hosts 20th Yangon International Lifestyle Furniture Fair

THE Thousand Islands Business Group launched the 20th Yangon International Lifestyle Furniture Fair on 12 September as part of pre-Thadingyut sales at the Tatmadaw Hall along U Wizaya Road in Yangon.

The venue was crowded with visitors on the first day of the fair, which ends 16 September.

Over 40 companies have set up 198 booths, featuring bamboo, timber, and cane furniture for offices, schools, gardens, and kitchens, and other household goods at the fair. Visitors will be able to buy various kinds of furniture at a fair price in one place, according to the organizers.

At the fair, most companies will hold lucky draws for customers, with prizes including a 32-inch LED TV for customers purchasing goods worth K1 mil-

lion, a double bed, a single bed, refrigerator, washing machine, air conditioner, among other things.

The fair will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day, and entry will be free.

U Tin Maung Tun, the Speaker of the Yangon Region Hluttaw, U Han Tun, the Regional Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Energy, Dr. Myo Thet, the vice president of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), U Saw John Shwe Ba, the Managing Director of Myanma Timber Enterprise, and other officials opened the 20th Yangon International Lifestyle Furniture Fair by cutting the ceremonial ribbon. —Pwint Thitsar ■

(Translated by La Wonn)



20th Yangon International Lifestyle Furniture Fair held on 12 September as part of pre-Thadingyut sales at the Tatmadaw Hall along U Wizaya Road in Yangon. PHOTO: PWINT THITSAR

Myanmar rubber exports surpass target for current fiscal; touch \$250 mln

MYANMAR exported over 190,000 tons of rubber, worth around US\$250 million, to its trade partners in the past 11 months, surpassing the targeted volume of 170,000 tons for the current fiscal year, according to figures released by the Ministry of Commerce.

In the October-August period, more than 192,980 tons of rubber, with estimated value of \$247.557 million, was shipped to external markets, an increase of 41,000 tons from the year-ago period, when the export volume was registered at over 151,890 tons, worth \$184.36 million. The increase in earnings in the current fiscal was pegged at \$60 million. About 150,000 tons of rubber was shipped to foreign markets in the 2017-2018FY, and Myanmar had raised its export target to 170,000 tons for the 2018-2019FY as latex production was expected to increase this year, according to the Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association (MRPPA).

“There are over 1.63 million acres of rubber plantations across the country, of which, latex is produced on 700,000 acres. The production acreage increased up to 800,000 this

year, and so, we increased the export target,” according to the association.

China accounts for 70 per cent of Myanmar’s rubber exports. Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Viet Nam, South Korea, India, and Japan also purchase rubber from Myanmar.

At present, rubber prices are ranging between US\$1,500 and \$1,700 per ton, depending on the rubber variety (Ribbed Smoked Sheets, or RSS, 1,2,3, 4, and 5).

Rubber prices can vary depending on the dollar rate, global crude oil prices, and the global political climate.

As Myanmar’s rubber is substandard owing to weak harvesting techniques and unsystematic latex tapping methods, there is a price gap between global and local rubber prices. The dollar exchange rate fluctuation in the local currency market adds to the volatility of local rubber prices.

All stakeholders in the rubber supply chain are making concerted efforts to produce profitable quality rubber. The MRPPA has also called for rubber zones in the

producing regions and states, in addition to main producer Mon State. At present, the rubber law is still being drafted. The government and rubber associations are endeavouring to set up a central rubber market after the rubber law comes into effect.

Rubber is primarily grown in Mon and Kayin states and Yangon, Bago, and Taninthayi regions. — Ko Htet ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



Workers rolling rubber into sheets of raw rubber to dry in the sun. PHOTO: KHON (WIN PA)

MIC approves investment proposals with over 3,100 jobs



Union Minister U Thaung Tun addresses the Myanmar Investment Commission meeting (15/2019) in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Myanmar Investment Commission-MIC approved eight projects yesterday in the Livestock & fisheries, manufacturing, hotel, real estate, oil and gas and transport & telecommunication sector, with investment amounting to US\$ 36.745 million and K 163302.753 million.

The projects will create 3159 job opportunities for Myanmar citizens.

The MIC granted the proposals at the meeting (15/2019) at the office of the MIC yesterday in Yangon.

U Thaung Tun, Chairman of the MIC, Dr Than Myint, Vice Chairman and (10) members

attended the meeting.

A total of 1806 foreign enterprises in 12 sectors from 50 countries were permitted, with the total pledge amount of US\$ 81597.743 million from 1988 to the end of August 2019.

Among the them, Singapore, People's Republic of China and Thailand are the leading countries.

The top sector is Oil & Gas sector, accounted for 27.48%, followed by the Power sector, accounted for 25.95% and manufacturing sector, accounted for 14.01% of the total permitted amount of foreign investment.

— MNA ■

Chinese movie series to be aired on MRTV

CHINESE Embassy in Myanmar, China Radio International, Sky Net and Dehong TV from Yunnan Province introduced Chinese movie series at Wyndham Grand Yangon Hotel yesterday.

At the event, Chief Minister of Yangon, U Phyo Min Thein, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai, Director General of the Information and Public Relations Department of Ministry of Information U Ye Nang delivered keynote speeches.

U Phyo Min Thein said "there are similarities and diversities in our cultures. Myanmar

is one of the countries in Chinese Belt and Silk road project. Along with that, we should collaborate on economy, social and culture. We should try to get there series closer to the public. I think the series should be not only shown on TV but at public places. So that public will know one's culture and we will also show our culture".

The series will include Chinese masterpiece fictions: "Journey to the West" made in 1986, "The Romance of the Three Kingdoms" made in 1994, and "The Hexi Corridor". There will also be 10 documentary se-

ries. These series will be shown on Sky Net Drama Channel, Knowledge Channel, Asia Movie Channel and MRTV Entertainment with Myanmar dubbed or with Myanmar subtitle.

Mr Chen Hai said "Myanmar Dubbed "A Dream of Red Mansions" received positives comments. We will air selected movies on Myanmar TV and we hope Myanmar will like them".

The movie theme songs were played and Myanmar dubbed 1 episode of "Journey to the West" was shown.—Nyunt Ko Ko ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Seeds dropped over mountains around Inle Lake



Officials drop seeds over mountain by helicopter to replenish forests around Inle Lake in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State. **PHOTO: SAI AL BEL (NYAUNGSHWE)**

SEEDS were dropped yesterday by helicopter over mountains, in a bid to replenish forests around Inle Lake in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State.

The Ministry of Resources and Environmental Conservation dropped balls containing five seeds from different tree species across 1250 mountain acres.

The ministry plans to drop some 145,800 balls over 332,520 acres in the mountains around the lake.

"To drop seeds, we choose seven mountains which are 4000 to 6000 feet high in the eastern part of Inle Lake, along with on mountains west of the lake," said U Thein Toe, Director of the Forest Department (Yangon).

The seeding took place at the jetty near the Inle Hotel Zone in Nyaungshwe from 8 am to 4 pm yesterday. — Sai Al Bel (Nyaungshwe) (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Fingerlings released in dams in Banmauk

FINGERLINGS were released on 13 September into the Nar Yakar and Hae Htan dams in Banmauk Township, Katha district, Sagaing region, in a move aimed at enriching the country's fisheries resources.

The fingerlings were released in a ceremony attended by regional Hluttaw representative U Win Shwe, Katha district Fisheries Department Deputy Director U Tint Lwin, the township Police Superintendent Tint Ko Ko, Township Women Association Chairman Daw Nan Mya Than, locals, and officials from the related township departments.

About 30,000 fingerlings of rohu and 20,000 fingerlings of barb were released during the ceremony.

A total of 50,000 fingerlings of rohu and barb were released into the Nar Yakar dam in Banmauk



Officials release fingerlings into the Hae Htan dam in Banmauk Township on 13 September. **PHOTO: NGWE OO (KATHA)**

Township. "Myanmar's fisheries resources have become depleted due to illegal fishing and irrational human activity, which has led to scarcity of fish habitats and water pollution.

Therefore, we need to

add fingerlings to produce fish in lakes and creeks as well as paddy fields," said U Tint Lwin, the deputy director of the District Fisheries Department. —Ngwe Oo (Katha) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

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Boiler chicken price declines due to increase in boiler chicken breeders

THE price of boiler chicken has fallen by nearly half due to the increase in the number of boiler chicken breeders in Monywa town, Sagaing region, according to boiler chicken sellers.

Previously, there were only nine boiler chicken import companies in Monywa Town. Now, the retail price of boiler chicken has declined to over K 3,000 per viss, from the earlier K 5,000 per viss, because of the increase in the number of chicken breeders.

“The price of CP chicken has declined, not because of the falling number of consumers, but because of the increasing number of CP chicken breeders. We sell the chickens mainly to restaurants and households,” said a local seller from

Monywa town market.

A chicken shop sells nearly 300 chickens per day. The market price of the chicken bred by the companies also dropped in the market.

Previously, chickens from Monywa Town were sent to Haka in Chin State, Myitkyina in Kachin State and some towns near Monywa. Now, chickens are being bred in those towns, and chickens from Monywa town are sold only at Monywa market, according to the boiler chicken companies.

Although the price of boiler chicken is on the decline in the market, the price of Myanmar chicken has reached K 12,000 per viss.—Aye Cho ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Border trade value hit \$9.5 bln in current fiscal year

THE value of border trade, this fiscal year, from 1 October, 2018 to 6 September, 2019 reached US\$9.5 billion, recording an increase of \$1.03 billion when compared to the same period last year, according to the statistical report of the Ministry of Commerce.

The total border trade value included \$6.62 billion in exports and \$2.85 billion in imports. This time last year, border trade was valued at \$8.43 billion.

Myanmar is trading with her neighboring countries, including China, India, Bangladesh and Thailand. Sino-Myanmar border trade is carried out through the Muse, Lweje, Kanpiketee, Chin

Shwe Haw and Kengtung gates, while Myanmar is conducting border trade with India via the Tamu and Reed gates. The country's border trade gates with Bangladesh are Sittway and Maungtau. Gates for Thailand are in Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthaung, Myeik, HteeKhee, Mawtaung and Maese.



Myanmar mainly exports agricultural products to its neighbouring countries. PHOTO: THANT ZIN (MUSE)

Among all 17 border trade camps, the Muse border gate sees the largest volume and value of all border trade. But, the income earned by Muse border gate declined this year to \$ 4.6 billion, from \$5.8 billion compared to last year because of clashes in northern Shan State, causing large losses to Myanmar producers and exporters.

Myanmar mainly exports

agricultural products, animal products, as well as forest products, minerals, fishery products, manufactured goods and other products, while capital goods, raw industrial materials and consumer products are imported into the country. Currently, some 80 per cent of the country's external trade is carried out via sea routes. — Zwe ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

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People's participation provides power to overcome challenges of democratic transformation

INTERNATIONAL Democracy Day falls on 15 September, when every democratic country commemorates International Democracy Day.

Myanmar followed a parliamentary democratic system from 1948 to 1962 after her independence, and became a member of the International Parliamentary Union. In 1962 the Revolutionary Council took over the reins of state power and Myanmar came under military rule.

Myanmar had no democracy for half a century when ruled by successive military governments.

After multi-party democratic reforms in 2010, Myanmar again became a member of the IPU on 5th April 2012. Since then, Myanmar has observed the day, and today's 2019 event marks the ninth consecutive commemoration for the country.

In every democratic country around the world, parliamentary legislative institutions are the souls and lifeblood of the foundation of the respective democracy.

Likewise, in a democratic society, government is a basic entity which exists together with political parties, civil societies, other associations and the media.

The democratic system is based upon the theory which states that "democratic government is to serve the people, not that the people are to serve the government". To nurture democracy, we have to abstain from wrong-doings, and it is necessary for all to take part in establishing democratic roots to foster peace, development, human rights and rule of law.

In the democratic system, parliaments, while exercising legislative power, are exerting their greatest efforts to reflect the people's voices, people's aspirations and people's wills in fulfilling the needs of the people.

It is only natural that people expect, and want to see, instantaneous results from democratic reforms, but it is important to note that in democratic principles, the process takes time as it involves people's participation and deliberation.

The pace of democracy might be slow, but it is the only way to overcome 21st century challenges.

To reach our goal of democracy, our citizens are also obliged to respect and abide by existing laws, and to set aside ethnicity, religious, regional, ideological and political party differences for the sake of the citizens' overall socio-economic development.

Myanmar is a multi-ethnic and multi-religious country, as many ethnic nationalities with different cultural backgrounds and faiths live together. It is important to create harmony and unity in diversity.

During a lecture in Singapore last year, the State Counsellor underscored that people's participation in the democratic transformation process provides powerful strengths, as well as significant challenges. It is indeed a great challenge to integrate the wills and aspirations of the millions of people to highlight the complex diversities of the country.

We believe our journey towards a democratic federal republic might not continue for a great distance, as the citizens of Myanmar will surely overcome successfully the challenges of the democratic transformation process.

Natural environment encompasses all living and non-living things

"Always on my mind" is a phrase to be attached to each and everyone with regards to the natural environment as it is related to all on this planet. Correlatively, man and environment are inter-related. Lot of enormous changes have had taken places in my locality during the span of my lifetime. In 1956, our family moved to an area called Windermere closely linked with Inya Road and Golden Valley.

Those were the days that the area was filled with very large tropical trees and giant banyan trees where ten adults could go merry-go-round at each tree.

Green grass around our home was supplemented with shady large trees with varieties of birds chirping and singing. A small water pool was there with wind blowing over a calm surface making a pleasant atmosphere.

Lay Kyun Sat Kyar Dat Paung Su Pagoda is the most famous stupa or pagoda with a spacious precinct in our locality. Thar Du Chan or enclosure was filled with large tall trees near the beautiful and cozy living quarters named (99) ward with at least half an acre of land in each enclosed space.

On our way to the nearest Myay Ni Gone Market in Sanchaung Township, we walked past the jammed packed tall trees and bamboo trees.

Totally changed is the landscape in our locality with the visible features of an area of land, its landforms, and how they integrate with natural or man-made features.

Residential buildings popped up like the mushrooms and mildews along with the luxurious hotels, inns and rest houses in the midst of tall condominiums.

Once spacious enclosures and compounds have been dissected into small pieces and sold out to new owners.

Gone were the small forest and tall trees along with the singing birds, just leaving only the large black birds with unpleasant cry locally called crow.

Dense population occupies the locality and the single and separate unit residences were substituted with tall apartment buildings.

Visible development of marvelous structures is all there but

The Environment and I

By Professor Dr. Aung Tun Thet



Eight villages between Ayeyawady and Chindwin rivers in Yasagyo Township are expected to get access to solar power at the end of October.

PHOTO: THAN LWIN (MAGWAY)

with the indefinable and intangible loss of natural environment is also there for sure.

Wind of change, an influence or tendency that cannot be resisted, is blowing in the whole country with regards to the natural environment.

Just by being on earth, at any given moment, and doing something or even nothing we are already changing the world.

First Assessment Report was issued in 1990 on natural environment risks. After 18 months work, the chairman of the IPCC (UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) working group looking at the impacts of climate change wrote the issue with the words "potentially the greatest global environmental challenge facing humankind".

News from the United Nations on the likely impacts of climate change is dire, especially for the poorest people on the planet. There will likely be more floods, more droughts and more intense heat waves, says the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. As human emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise, natural ecosystems come under extreme stress with "significant" knock-on effects for societies.

During my university years pursuing on economic, a good degree in economics or a related subject had taught such as statistics, mathematics, or business studies; but the theme on natural environment never came in the

educational domain.

Development and growth are the main theme that we focus upon, and that the criterion was the income generation and the volume of cash.

Priority was given in the classes and lectures on how to get rich.

she means that something is good because it is big.

Advocating that appropriate size and standing is the best, the author opposed the concept of "Large is good".

Natural Environment and Economic

A couple of weeks back, I had the opportunity to lecture at a company where I talked about the three-R's: "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle"; a motto highly in need at every company and establishment.

One episode is always on my mind that occurred during my PhD research job when I came across a foreign researcher working on Myanmar perception.

"Small is Beautiful" is the name of his famous book.

Small Is Beautiful brought critiques of Western economics to a wider audience during the 1973 energy crisis and emergence of globalization.

At that time, the idea and concept of "Bigger is better" was in the center stage. The meaning of this proverb is opposite to that of "Good things come in small packages." They use this proverb to say that if something is bigger than others, it is better. If someone says, "The bigger, the better," he/

and showed correctly and exactly the linkage and inter-relationship between the natural environment and the economic development.

The Millennium Development Goals were eight international development goals for the year 2015 that had been established following the Millennium Summit of the United Nations in 2000.

Member nations of the UN have accepted the MDGs, and that one of the goal is to ensure environmental sustainability.

It is critical that the natural resources base on ecosystems are managed sustainably to ensure that people's food requirements and other social, economic, and environmental needs are sufficiently met.

Climate change, conflicts over access to resources, and increased water scarcity all pose a threat to not only environmental sustainability but also food security.

Everything changed during the Industrial Revolution, which began around 1750. People found an extra source of energy with an incredible capacity for work. That source was fossil fuels — coal, oil, and natural gas, though coal led the way — formed underground from the remains of plants and animals from much earlier geologic times.

Human beings have overused the natural resources without the slightest idea of sustainability. Just thinking of the present situation and circumstances for

Momentous political and economic events of the late 1990s have occurred on this planet. It created



economic development, the people were in oblivion without contemplation for the future.

In our beloved country Myanmar, the world famous teak wood is extracted without plan and management. Exploitation of natural teak forest has not been controlled by yield fixation.

In fact, Myanmar Teak Wood is the trademark of Myanmar product.

The Third Anglo-Myanmar War, also known as the Third Burma War, was a conflict that took place during 7–29 November 1885. One of the root causes of the third Anglo-Myanmar War, in the context of political deadlock, was the prohibition of Myanmar King to the British Companies to stop extraction of Myanmar teak.

Spiraling fear is arising that the Myanmar teak would be extinct in the foreseeable future and that the sample teak might be literally has to be displayed in the respective museum.

Short term hallucination based on greed and corrupted mindset has created an ugly scenario in the country. Despite the efforts to curb the dilemma through the law and order, the mayhem overwhelms the situation along with the state of disorder due to disregard of the law.

Natural Environment and Internal Peace

Each component interrelates with all the others that covers the natural environment and the internal peace, creating arms conflicts in the areas where natural resources are abundant.

Ironically, the excessive extraction of natural resources is fanning and flaming the arms conflicts in many areas of the country.

The Monywa copper mining complex, comprised of the Let-padaung and the Sabetaung and Kyisintaung (S&K) mines, is Myanmar's largest copper mining project.

These copper mines have left a trail of land disputes and alleged environmental damage, and local farmers fear they may never receive redress.

It is much similar to the lunar landscape being characterized by impact craters and ugly surface.

SEE PAGE-10

MESSAGE ON INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY

15 September 2019

At heart, democracy is about people. It is built on inclusion, equal treatment and participation — and it is a fundamental building block for peace, sustainable development and human rights.

These values and aspirations cannot be seen as tokens or lip service. They must be real in people's lives.

Yet the International Day of Democracy takes place at a time when trust is low and anxiety is high.

People are frustrated by growing inequalities and unsettled by sweeping changes from globalization and technology.

They see conflicts going unresolved, a climate emergency going unanswered, injustice going unaddressed, and civic space shrinking.

As we mark Democracy Day, I urge all governments to respect the right to active, substantive and meaningful participation; and I salute all of you who strive tirelessly to make this happen.

Source: United Nations Information Centre, Yangon.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 14th September, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weak elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 15th September, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Naypyitaw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions and (Northern and Eastern)Shan States, scattered in Rakhine and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Southern Shan and Chin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35)m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (6–9) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (4–6) feet off and along Rakhine Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Taninthayi Region.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15th September, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15th September, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15th September, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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FROM PAGE-9

It is much similar to the lunar landscape being characterized by impact craters and ugly surface.

In place of the current use of irreplaceable and extremely rare energy such as oil and gas, the most prevalent forms of renewable energy must be substituted such as solar, wind, biomass, hydro power, geothermal and bio-fuels. However, the complex political implication is tangled in such application; the actual implementation on alternative sources of energy is not feasible.

Coming to the round table discussions with cool and calm concept to find a solution is not possible as the narrow minded people are shouting at the top of their voices for their own agenda based on self-interest and greed.

There is a saying, "Think of tomorrow, the past can't be mended", and therefore, it is useless to be discontented and dejected.

With regards to the natural environment each and everyone is relevant and pertinent to all on this planet that needs to keep always on our mind.

We need to prevent environmental degradation as much as we could.

Natural Environment and Plastic Pollution

A few weeks back, I have had the opportunity in attend-

ing an event at Chatrium Hotel (Yangon) near Kandawgyi Lake, where I unexpectedly witnessed a sight with much amazement to be remembered. Drinking water was served to the guests in elegant glassware instead of customary plastic bottles..

Drinking water is healthy, but disposable water bottles contain chemicals that have been linked to environmental pollution and degradation. A few months back, I have witnessed mountain of discarded disposable water bottles at Mahar Sadan Cave in Hpa-an Township. Beautiful Ngapali Beach in Myanmar is fairly popular from the mass tourism; and unfortunately, it is filled with plastic water bottles.

In an alarming degree of danger, the use of food containers made of foam is on the rise at all restaurants and food courts.

Once upon a time in the past, Myanmar people ordered and bought food from the eateries and carried in stainless steel containers or metal containers. Nowadays, people use plastic bags in carrying food.

Still lingering in my mind is the way that we bought Mokehinga Phat (rice noodles) wrapped in large green leaves, and the gravy in the stainless food carrier.

Plan and project in discarding and dumping plastic bags are to be considered seriously, right away. Substitution of plastic bag with other method

being managed at the City Mart is laudable ambition.

Use of personal water containers is advisable for all office staff members at offices and worksites. Plastic bottles never ever bring good results, but worst consequences.

Over 1 million marine animals (including mammals, fish, sharks, turtles, and birds) are killed each year due to plastic debris in the ocean. Currently, it is estimated that there are 100 million tons of plastic in oceans around the world. Recent heavy floods and landslides occurred because the natural environment has been sadly neglected. Decisions made on short term objectives have resulted with greater loss and damages.

Answer is the outcome of a solution while solution is a way of reaching answer.

Non-renewable energy comes from sources that will run out or will not be replenished in our lifetimes, and that they are to be maintained and preserved.

It is essential to use renewable sources of energy because they are biodegradable, and will never effect the environment.

Objectives with regards to natural environment

A couple of weeks back, I had the opportunity to lecture at a company where I talked about the three-R's: "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle"; a motto highly in need at every company and establishment.

The 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) to transform our world being accepted in 2015 have incorporated five objectives on conserving natural environment. Among them is "Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns".

People are consuming more than necessary and producing unnecessary items creating havoc to the environment with high pressure. Some may say that people could pay less attention due to poverty which is merely unacceptable excuse. It is nothing to do with the status of poverty and prosperity.

Ordinary Things That Everyone Ought to Do

Ordinary things that everyone ought to do must be done with courage and guts.

There exists a misconceived idea and thought with regards to sustainable development. It is not advocating for sacrifice and use sparingly for the posterity.

Contemplation and concentration on the present situation and circumstances is needed to be convenient and to go without a hitch, and also to visualize the future possible scenario.

Looking into the gas industry of Norway, half of the income from gas has been set aside for investment for the security and well being of the posterity, and at the same time the government is managing for the comfort and convenient of the citizens. Norwegian public finances are

boosted by significant revenues from the petroleum sector.

Motley assortments of issues with regards to natural environment consist of many different and connected matters in complexity in soft and sensitive nature.

Responsibilities lie with us to handle with care far away from extreme way of approach. It is not just in the domain of economic sphere, but to keep in mind that it is interwoven with politics, social and culture.

"Green Growth and Green Economy" is the paradigm that we must step ahead in balanced manner with the participation of all citizens.

In some cases, individual behavior and manners is needed to be in order, limit or rule to certain extent, and that irrelevant lifestyle in the society must be changed.

There is a Myanmar saying that one small grain of sesame could not produce oil; however, gathering the sesames is the answer for producing necessary amount of oil.

In conclusion, I would like to say that each individual, each decision, and each compilation must be aimed at the greater good of all mankind. All our actions aim to have impact which improves the living conditions of humanity. I would like to wrap up by urging to think hard and act fast.

Translated by UMT (Ahlon)

River catfish, Viet Nam butter fish to be bred in Myanmar

By Aye Yamone

RIVER catfish and Viet Nam butter fish will now be bred as local species in Myanmar, according to U Hla Htay, the deputy head of the Yangon Region Fisheries Department. Meanwhile, basa fish, bred in hatching camps, will be phased out, he added.

He made the remarks at the 16th regular meeting of fishery sector entrepreneurs, held on 10 September at the Myanmar Fisheries Federation, Yangon.

"Last year, around 20 river catfish fingerlings were brought from Twantay to the Hlawgar hatching camp. This year, we will hatch the river catfish on a trial basis. We have already informed the director-general and officials from the fisheries department of our plans to breed river catfish. We received Viet Nam butter fish



Freshwater catfishes are seen at a small-scale fish farm. **PHOTO MYINT OO (MYEIK)**

when the Kandawgyi aquarium was shut down. At the time, the fish were handed from the

Kandawgyi aquarium to the fisheries department. Now, we are planning to breed only these two

species. Thereafter, the breeding of Bocourti and Hypophthalmus species of catfish will be discontinued in the hatching camp," said U Hla Htay.

"Currently, Myanmar is producing catfish which is a combination of the Hypophthalmus and Bocourti species. So, we are finding it difficult to name this hybrid species. We are also facing difficulties recommending the species, when we export catfish to China," he said.

"We cannot say the catfish is either Bocourti or Hypophthalmus because it is one and the same fish. Foreign countries verify fish by checking them against the name of the species. We need to say unambiguously that the catfish is either Bocourti or Hypophthalmus," he added.

The Hypophthalmus species of catfish have been bred in My-

anmar since 1994. In 2009-2010, officials from the related ministry visited Viet Nam and imported 23 Bocourti species of catfish. Those Bocourti species of catfish were hatched at the Hlawgar hatching camp on a trial basis.

Taking stock of the international market conditions in 2011, Bocourti species were hatched as a pilot project because this species enjoyed greater demand than Hypophthalmus, said U Hla Htay.

Myanmar shipped one container load of Pangasius Hypophthalmus species to China informally on a trial basis in September, 2018, because the species was not registered on the Chinese website, according to the Myanmar Fisheries Department. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Yemeni rebel drones spark fires at two Saudi Aramco oil facilities

RIYADH (Saudi Arabia) —Drone attacks sparked fires at two Saudi Aramco oil facilities on Saturday, the interior ministry said, the latest such assault claimed by Yemeni rebels as the energy giant prepares for a much-anticipated stock listing.

Huge palls of smoke rose into the sky after the pre-dawn attacks on Abqaiq and Khurais, two major Aramco facilities in eastern Saudi Arabia, which follow a spike in regional tensions with Iran.

The attacks highlight how the increasingly advanced weaponry of the Iran-linked Huthi rebels — from ballistic missiles to unmanned drones — poses a serious threat to oil installations in Saudi Arabia, the world's top crude exporter.

"At 4:00 am (0100 GMT) the industrial security teams of Aramco started dealing with fires at two of its facilities in Abqaiq and Khurais as a result of... drones," the interior ministry said in a statement carried by the official Saudi Press Agency.

"The two fires have been

controlled."

The statement added that an investigation had been launched after the attack in the kingdom's Eastern Province, but did not specify whether operations at the two facilities had been affected.

Interior ministry spokesman Mansour al-Turki told AFP

there were no casualties.

But the full extent of the damage was not immediately clear as reporters were not allowed near the plants where Saudi authorities appeared to have beefed up security.

In recent months, the Huthi rebels have carried out a spate of cross-border missile and

drone attacks targeting Saudi air bases and other facilities in what they say is retaliation for a long-running Saudi-led bombing campaign on rebel-held areas in Yemen.

The rebels launched "a large-scale operation involving 10 drones that targeted refineries in Abqaiq and Khurais

in eastern Saudi Arabia", the group's Al-Masirah television reported.

Last month, an attack claimed by Huthi rebels sparked a fire at Aramco's Shaybah natural gas liquefaction facility — close to the Emirati border — but no casualties were reported by the company.

Rebel drones also targeted two oil pumping stations on Saudi Arabia's key east-west pipeline in May, shutting it down for several days.

Rebel threat

The growing attacks underscore how Saudi infrastructure, including oil installations, are increasingly vulnerable to rebel attacks four years after a Saudi-led coalition launched a military intervention in Yemen.

The Abqaiq facility, 60 kilometres (37 miles) southwest of Aramco's Dhahran headquarters, is home to the company's largest oil processing plant.

Khurais, 250 kilometres from Dhahran, hosts a major Aramco oil field.—AFP ■



Smoke is seen billowing up from an Aramco oil facility in eastern Saudi Arabia after drone attacks claimed by Yemen's Huthi rebels sparked fires at two oil facilities. PHOTO: AFP

New Italy government lets rescued migrants disembark

ROME (Italy) — Italy on Saturday agreed to allow rescue ship Ocean Viking to disembark 82 migrants on southern islands Lampedusa after six days at sea following a European deal to distribute them.

"The Ocean Viking just received instructions from the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre of Rome to proceed to Lampedusa," SOS Mediterranee tweeted.

"An ad hoc European agreement between Italy, France, Germany, Portugal and Luxembourg has been reached to allow the landing," said French Interior Minister Christophe Castaner, referring to the division of the migrants between the five countries.

"We now need to agree on a genuine temporary European mechanism," Castaner added.

France and Germany have agreed to take 25 per cent of the migrants each, with Italy to take 10 percent.

The offering of a safe port to the Ocean Viking is a reversal of the hardline stance taken by the country's ex-interior minister Matteo Salvini last year.

Under far-right leader Sal-

vini, charity vessels with rescued migrants on board faced fines of up to a million euros as well as the arrest of the captain and impounding of the boat.

'Abusive ministers'

"Here we go, ports open without limits," Salvini tweeted after the safe port announcement. "The new government is reopening the ports, Italy returns to being the refugee camp of Europe. Abusive ministers who hate Italians," wrote Salvini, who

pulled the plug on the previous government in August in the hope of snap elections.

His move backfired and the League leader is now in opposition after previous ally the Five Star Movement and the centre-left Democratic Party agreed a coalition. While Salvini spent much of his time as minister launching diatribes against migrants and rescue charities, his replacement is a civil servant and immigration expert, Luciana Lamorgese.—AFP ■



The offering of a safe port to the Ocean Viking is a reversal of the hardline stance taken by Italy's ex-interior minister Matteo Salvini last year. PHOTO: AFP

At least 11 dead in Rio hospital blaze

RIO DE JANEIRO (Brazil) —At least 11 people, many of them elderly, were killed when a fire swept through a hospital in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro as staff and desperate visitors battled to rescue patients from smoke-filled wards.

Hospital authorities said the blaze late on Thursday was thought to have been caused by a short circuit in a generator, although the city mayor said sabotage could not be ruled out.

Firefighters tackled the fire at the private Badim hospital, near Rio's Maracana World Cup football stadium, for several hours before finally managing to extinguish it. The city's forensic institute said most of the dead were aged 66 or over, many of whom were in the intensive care unit. "The majority were due to suffocation and other causes related to the accident... the devices keeping them alive stopped working because of the fire," Gabriela Graca, director of the forensic institute, told local media.

Emergency personnel searched through the burned-out building until the early hours of Friday to recover bodies.

The hospital said there had been 103 patients in the building when the fire broke out and that "more than 100 doctors were mobilized to bring help to the victims." Seventy-seven of them had been moved to other hospitals while 14 had been cleared to return home.

During the evacuation, patients on gurneys and stretchers were carried into surrounding streets as ambulances struggled through crowds of curious onlookers to transport patients to other medical facilities. "The doctor arrived in the room and told us that there was a fire and that we had to evacuate as quickly as possible," 58-year-old Teresa Dias, who was visiting her father, told AFP.

"They put him on a wheelchair and tied him up to prevent him from falling out. There were a lot of other sick people on stretchers on the stairs."

Staff wheeled medical equipment outside, and the most seriously ill patients were taken at first to a nearby children's nursery. Sheets tied together were seen hanging from hospital windows.—AFP ■

Yangon Hluttaw delegation visits Vsmart smartphone Factory in Hanoi

YANGON Hluttaw Myanmar delegation visited Vsmart smartphone factory of VinSmart at the Hoa Lac Hi-tech Park, Hanoi, Vietnam last month. Welcoming the delegation led by Chairman of Yangon Hluttaw, U Tin Maung Tun at the factory, Mr. Hoang Anh, Director of Vsmart smartphone Factory introduced the delegation with the construction scale, production capacity and advanced equipment lines.

After introducing to the delegation the latest models of Vsmart phones - which are also the models that will be sold in Myanmar in September 2019, the Vsmart Smartphone Factory Director led the delegation to visit factories and production lines.

Vsmart smartphone factory on first phase was built on 21,500 m2, with 2 floors.

First floor is the producing area for mobile phone with SMT producing lines (Surface Mount Technology), test line for SMT; assembly lines for mass products. Second floor is for producing Smart TV and air-conditioner.

Currently, the first phase factory is operating with a capacity of 5 million products / year, by September 2019, it will reach a capacity of 23 million products / year. The equipment and machinery of VinSmart apply advanced technology in the world such as SMT, automated



Yangon Hluttaw delegation visits Vsmart smartphone factory of VinSmart at the Hoa Lac Hi-tech Park, Hanoi, Vietnam. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

circuit testing line using technology from the US, Germany and Japan.

Earlier, in December 2018, VinSmart Company introduced the first Vsmart smartphone products to consumers. In March 2019, VinSmart officially launched the

smartphone in the Spain. At the end of May 2019, the company also officially launched the products in Myanmar.

In December 2018, Vsmart had officially introduced to consumers 4 smartphone products.—GNLM ■

Siemens, Orascom to rebuild vast Iraq power plant

TRIPOLI (Libya)— An airport near the Libyan capital was hit by a new round of rocket fire and air strikes, the UN-recognised government said Saturday, two weeks after it was closed due to repeated attacks.

The Government of National Accord accused forces loyal to eastern-based strongman Khalifa Haftar of being behind Saturday's attacks on Mitiga airport, but did not report any casualties.

An air strike by "Emirati drones" hit the airport early Saturday morning, followed by "Grad rockets launched by (pro-Haftar) militia", the GNA said on Facebook.

The former military airbase had been Tripoli's sole functioning airport until a rocket attack on September 1 wounded four civilians including three pilgrims returning from Mecca in Saudi Arabia, the latest in a string of similar incidents.

Authorities responded by diverting flights to Misrata, 200 kilometres (120 miles) to the east, until further notice.

Haftar's self-styled Libyan National Army has

been battling since early April to seize the capital from pro-GNA forces.

The two sides have since become embroiled in a stalemate in the capital's southern outskirts.

Haftar's forces, which accuse the GNA of using Mitiga for military purposes, say they are targeting "Turkish drones" being launched from the airport to attack their troops in southern Tripoli.

The GNA's interior ministry has identified at least 11 attacks on Mitiga since 21 June, not including Saturday's incident.

The Tripoli-based GNA called Saturday's attack a "desperate attempt" at revenge for losses sustained the previous day.

Haftar's forces announced overnight that two senior commanders of a pro-LNA armed group from the town of Tarhuna, southeast of Tripoli, had been killed in an air strike south of the capital.

Since April, the fighting around Tripoli has killed at least 1,093 people and wounded 5,752, while some 120,000 others have been displaced, according to the World Health Organization.—AFP ■

PayPal cautious about future of Libra cryptocurrency

SAN FRANCISCO (United States) — PayPal is cautious about the future of Facebook-backed cryptocurrency Libra, which is slated to debut with the pioneering digital payments firm as part of its oversight association.

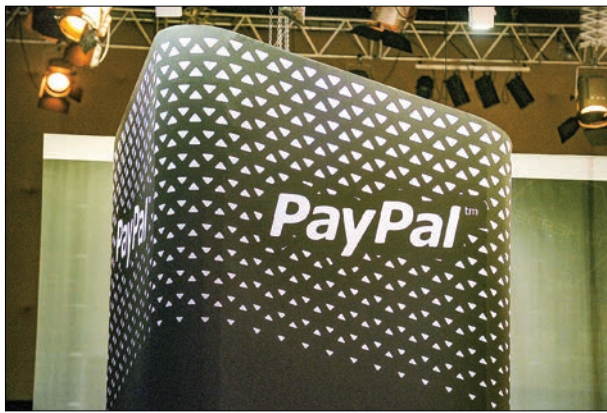
International outcry is mounting over Libra — with central banks, governments and regulators railing against Facebook's upstart cryptocurrency and questions over how it would be regulated.

The social media giant unveiled plans in

June for Libra — which will roll out in 2020 — to be backed by a basket of currency assets to avoid the wild swings of Bitcoin and other virtual units.

"It's a non-binding commitment," PayPal investor relations vice president Gabrielle Rabinovitch said Thursday of the California-based company signing on to the Libra Association.

"And obviously, I think there's a lot of work to happen before we get to that point where it becomes something more than just a very exciting



The file photo shows the logo of online payment company PayPal is pictured during LeWeb 2013 event in Saint-Denis near Paris on 10 December 2013. **PHOTO: AFP**

idea." The nonprofit Libra Association, based in Geneva, will oversee the

blockchain-based coin, maintaining a real-world asset reserve to keep its value stable.—AFP ■

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120-year-old Government Technical Institute (GTI) in Insein Township, Yangon Region. PHOTO: TAYA

Insein GTI where qualified technicians with **A.G.T.I. diplomas** were born

By Nanda Win

INSEIN Government Technical Institute or Insein GTI near Ywama (Pyidawtha) in Insein Township, Yangon Region had been devoid of students for more than a decade and had been resurrected with students for only two education years.

Civil Engineering, Electrical Power Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Industrial Engineering and Information Technology subjects were being taught in Insein GTI.

Those who completed the three year courses were awarded with A.G.T.I (Associate of Government Technical Institute) diplomas and those who passed outstandingly can continue their engineering study in Technology University starting from third year courses.

Selection based on matriculation marks

In education year 2018-2019 any students who had passed the matriculation ex-

amination with maths, physics or chemistry combination can apply to attend Insein GTI first year courses. Selection is based on the maths and English marks obtained in the matriculation examination.

Insein GTI Principal U Myat Ko said, "The school reopens in education year 2017-2018 so we only have up to A.G.T.I second year. We were producing skilled technicians. At the moment we were working toward quality assurance. All are invited to Insein GTI to become skilled technicians."

For education year 2017-2018 students who matriculated with a combined maths and English marks of 144 was accepted to Insein GTI. For education year 2018-2019 students who matriculated with a combined maths and English marks of 134 was accepted to Insein GTI.

460 students studying in Insein GTI

Insein GTI had a total of 460 students in education year



Insein GTI is an institute with an interesting history. PHOTO: TAYA

2018-2019 consisting of 265 first year students and 195 second year students.

Past and present

Insein GTI starts as Government Engineering School in 1 April 1895 at a location west of Lanmadaw Railway Station in Yangon. In 1908, it was moved to the present location in Insein Ywama and was called Government School of Engineering.

In 1912 it was renamed Government Technical Institute (GTI). According to records in 1995 and 1996, first year and second year classes were moved to Thanlyin GTI. Insein GTI was closed in 2000 and the place was transferred from Science and Technology Ministry to Yangon City Development Committee.

From then on, Insein GTI compound and buildings became staff houses, car show room, private hospital and private schools.

In one of the earliest asterisk marked question raised at

Second Pyithu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw representative for Insein Township U Maung Maung Oo asked whether there was a plan to reopen Insein GTI that had a long distinguished history as a training school that produces technicians in various engineering sectors.

Responding to the question at the Second Pyithu Hluttaw meeting held on 10 June 2016, Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi said Insein GTI was a historical school that had produced qualified mid-level engineers since 1895. The Union Minister added further that arrangements were made to reopen Insein GTI during the incumbent government terms as a school where technical and vocational trainings were given producing qualified and trained technicians.

Question asked to prevent future occurrences and produce opportunities

When asked on the reason behind raising this first asterisk marked question of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw representative for Insein Township U Maung Maung Oo said it was to prevent future governments from conducting similar acts of closing such institutions ever again and to create opportu-

nities for future generations.

Despite the school being closed for more than a decade and used for other matters, Insein GTI still had class rooms, hostel rooms, sports ground and education support materials.

Classes reopen

In September 2016 Yangon City Development Committee transferred Insein GTI compound and buildings to Ministry of Education and Ministry of Education Department of Technical and Vocational Education and Training reopens first year courses on 1 December 2017.

Insein GTI second year mechanical student Maung Zin Mo Lwin said, "I wasn't even born when this school was a famous and successful education entity. I'm so happy to be a student of the school after it was closed for more than 17 years. As my parents live in Insein I don't need to go far away education entities. Travel is easy and convenient and much time was saved for learning and studying."

Evening classes on civil engineering, electronic engineering, electrical power engineering and mechanical engineering were opened in education year 2018-2019.

"Insein GTI was famous

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and well known. There were 7 hours of teaching time per day with emphasis placed on practical hands-on works. With the exception of high student to teacher ratio, there were full ranges of teaching support materials," said second year student Ma Myint Mo Htut Oo.

Electrical Power second year student Maung Pyae Phyio Than spoke of his interest in electricity generation and distribution being the driving force that made him attend the course. He pledges to become a skilled technician to uphold the name and dignity of the school.

Household wiring course, factory machinery installation and maintenance course and basic computer course were being conducted as short term courses starting from January to July 2019. Garment making, management, hotel and travel service courses will also be conducted.

9th Blue Plaque building in Yangon

Insein GTI was the first engineering school to be opened in Myanmar and was more than 120 years old. Celebrations were held in 2015 when it reaches the age of 120 years.

Yangon Heritage Trust, Yangon City Development

Committee and supporting partners honor key heritage sites throughout Yangon by installation of the commemorative blue plaques. Blue Plaques are permanent signs installed in a public place to commemorate a link between that location and a famous person, event, or landmark—serving as a kind of historical marker.

Insein GTI main building was attached with a Blue Plaque on 12 December 2015 while the 120th anniversary celebration of the school was being held. (966 words to here)

The institute inaugurated on 1 April 1895 at a small cottage west of Lanmadaw Railway Station was moved to the Main Building in 1908 and to the Blue Plaque was attached to this Main Building.

Handing the school back to the students

"The pleasure of seeing new generation students attending the school happily and enthusiastically with pride could not be described. As a student of the school in 1988, I am extremely happy to hand-over the school back into the hands of the students" said Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Oo.

Translated by Handytips



Myanmar International Series: Day 5 ends with Thet Htar Thuzar's defeat

DAY five of the Myanmar International Series 2019, held at the National Badminton Stadium in Yangon, finished yesterday with Myanmar Badminton Star Thet Htar Thuzar's loss to Indonesian Maharani Sekar Batari in the semifinal of the Women's Single match.

As the match is a semifinal, both players displayed their all-out efforts.

Indonesian Maharani Sekar Batari defeated Thet Htar Thuzar 21-15 and 21-17.

Thet Htar Thuzar initially led the match, but the Indonesian player's better tactics saw

Thet Htar Thuzar becoming increasingly exhausted, resulting in a loss in two matches, 15-21 and 17-21.

As the winner, Maharani Sekar Batari has already advanced to the final, where she will take on Kaushal Dharmamer of India.

Kushal Dharmamer beat Krishna Adi Nugraha of Indonesia 21-10 and 21-14 at Court II at the National Badminton Stadium.

In another event yesterday, Karon Karon of Indonesia defeated Chong Yee Han of Malaysia 21-14 and 21-17 in the Male Singles Event.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Myanmar's Thet Htar Thuzar (blue) competing against Indonesian Maharani Sekar Batari (black) during yesterday's semifinal match of the Myanmar International Series 2019 at the National Badminton Stadium in Yangon. **PHOTO:THET HTAR THUZAR'S FACEBOOK PAGE**

World Billiards, Snooker Championships: Three Myanmar players reach Quarterfinals

THREE Myanmar Billiard players, Nay Thway Oo, Chit Ko Ko and Min Sithu Tun, have advanced to the Quarterfinals of the billiards championship at the World Billiards and Snooker Championships 2019, which began on 9 September at the Multi Purpose Indoor Stadium in Mandalay.

A total of 24 players participated in the billiard event during the tourney. Myanmar's Nay Thway Oo and Chit Ko Ko will compete in the Last 16 stage, as Nay Thway was the defending Asian Billiard Champion and Chit Ko Ko was the third place player in the Asian Billiard Championship. In the Last 24 stage, Min Si Thu Tun (Myanmar) beat Pauk Sa (Myanmar) 4-3, and Aung Htay (Myanmar) defeated Rajeev Sharma (India) 4-0. Min Si Thu Tun and Aung Htay advanced to the Last 16 stage.



Myanmar's Nay Thway Oo competing in the Billiard event at the World Billiards and Snooker Championships 2019 in Mandalay. **PHOTO:IBSF**

In the Last 16 stage, Myanmar's Chit Ko Ko beat India's Dhruv Sitwala 4-2, while Myanmar's Min Sithu Tun was victorious over India's Siddharth Parikh 4-1. In the meanwhile, defending Asian Billiard Champion Nay Thway Oo of Myanmar trounced Yuttapop Pakpoj of Thailand 4-0.

In the Quarterfinal stage,

Myanmar's Nay Thway Oo will play against Singapore's Peter Gilchrist. Next, in the Quarterfinal, Myanmar's Min Sithu Tun will meet Mike Russel of England.

This will be followed by Myanmar's Chit Ko Ko, who will compete with India's Pankaj Advani, who is the 21-time World Billiard Champion.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

England 'spurred' by 2015 World Cup flop, says Farrell

MIYAZAKI (Japan) — England captain Owen Farrell said Saturday that memories of the team's horror World Cup four years ago will be a driving force as they seek redemption in Japan.

Farrell, part of the Stuart Lancaster-coached England side that became the first host nation to fail to reach the knockout stage, warned they were a different animal this time, and the players could not wait for the tournament

to start after settling at their base in Miyazaki, southern Japan.

"It's obviously different – it's four years ago," said the Saracens flyhalf.

"A lot of work has been done since then but it will spur people on. What I can say is that we're in a very good place now. We're continuing to build and we're looking forward to this tournament – the lads can't wait to get going."

Prop Ellis Genge, who was

not involved in the last World Cup, insisted this England team would not be paralysed by fear, revealing that coach Eddie Jones wants his players to try and play expansive rugby.

"He's definitely told us to just be ourselves," said Genge.

"Obviously we didn't have a great tournament last time, but he told us to express ourselves and keep playing the way we've been playing."—AFP ■

Michael Owen says father was driving force and reveals son's blindness

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Former European player of the year Michael Owen says he owes his success to his father, who insisted he was given steak for dinner as a child while his four siblings made do with baked beans on toast.

The 39-year-old former Liverpool and England striker told The Times he even climbed into the boxing ring because his father Terry said he needed to "toughen up".

Despite this Owen, who won both his bouts, tweeted on Wednesday on his father's 70th birthday he was "the kindest man I ever met".

"I was the only one allowed a steak on a Tuesday," said Owen.

"My dad said, 'You're all having beans on toast, Michael's got

to have steak because we need to build him up for when he's going to be a footballer.'

"I did feel special, definitely. He was planting the seed constantly."

Owen says Terry, who was also a professional footballer with lower league clubs including Chester with whom he reached the League Cup semi-finals -- struggled to adjust to life after football so devoted as much of his time as possible to his son.

"He got jobs that would be perfect so he could come and watch me, even in a PE session, a poxy cross-country training run, or playing rugby," said Owen.

"My dad would be on the other side of the bush watching me. Unbelievable.—AFP ■



Michael Owen's father Terry used to spoil the former Liverpool and England striker by feeding him steak for dinner whilst his siblings were given baked beans on toast. **PHOTO:AFP**

Why we all should practise the nationwide use of

myanmar

Unicode System



By S. Shwe Lin Yaung
B.Sc, Patheingyi University

Almost every net-user including me are annoyed with the news which tells us Unicode system has to be used commencing from 1st October, 2019. As we have been much convenient in using Zawgyi system on Facebook, messenger and other net-platforms, we do not want to change to the other system. However, it is the very time in which we have to use Unicode system for the system can give us much more convenient access and benefit.

What is Unicode system ?

Unicode is a system in which every alphabet of all languages in the world is systematically coded as a particular digit for any program, any language and any net-platform.

Who assign it ?

It is assigned by the Unicode Consortium which is organized by international Unicode software corporations, governments, researchers, a lot of documented organizations and individuals. From language Unicode identifier, each letter in the designated code point (Code Set Point) for confirmation as well. The code is not pointed easily. It is checked by local language experts based on the field and set to approve.

In Unicode system to set Myanmar language, Michael Eric Everson first submitted in 1995. In 1998, Ko Zaw Htut submitted another proposal. Myanmar Unicode Version 3.0 was succeeded in 1998. In 2003, supported by the government, Myanmar Natural Language Processing (MMNLP) was first formed to implement the necessary measures. As Myanmar must act as the National Standard that will be used, Computer experts and Myanmar language experts conducted collectively. In 2005, Unicode Myanmar as a system (beta) was able to be produced Myanmar 1 Font.

As a result, the typography, statistics in planning, alphabetical order in Myanmar language on Web page writing, and sending email in Myanmar language were well implemented. In 2006, Myanmar language organization, Computer Federation, MMNLP and individuals collectively signed and submitted to Consortium to make major repair and then Myanmar 2 font was able to be produced as a test system (Phase 2). I would like to say here that in those who signed and submitted the document, there were also artificers who produced the Zawgyi font being used by many Myanmar net-users today.

Trying to continue to comply with the Unicode Version 5.1, Myanmar 3 font could be produced at the end of 2007 and distributed. Myanmar Unicode has been set so strongly that the Apple, one of the well-known companies, added Unicode Myanmar to adhere to the system in Mac OSX in 2011. Consequently,

SEE PAGE- S-8





By C. T. O

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

The following is the reply to the letter mentioned above:

No 1, Letpan Street, Kyaikto 23-10-83

Dear Khin Khin Lay,

I'm fine. I received your letters but I am sorry I was not able to write to you because I was very busy then. I'm sure you will forgive me. Glad to know that you are quite well. I am also working hard now. I am still not good at Maths.

Thank you very much for inviting me to come and stay with you. I have never been to Yangon. It's a great city and is also the capital of Myanmar. I am certain that my parents will give me permission. However, I won't be able to come. I am an active member of the Lanzin Youth and I have to attend the Lanzin Youth leaders training course in Moulmein during the summer holiday. Very sorry to refuse your invitation. I would very much like to go to all the places you mentioned in your letter. I hope that I shall get the same chance in the summer of next year. Ours is a small town but it is always crowded because there are pilgrims on their way to Kyaikhtiyo throughout the year. Once again, let me thank you for your invitation.

I shall send postcards to you from Moulmein. I still remember the days when we were together three years ago. We were very young then. I too miss you very much.

Wishing you success in your exam and happy summer vacation.

With love, Yours sincerely Nu Wah

Table with 2 columns: English words and their Burmese equivalents. Includes words like mention, reply, able, then, forgive, quite, Thank you, capital, certain, active, attend, training course, refuse, chance, crowded, pilgrims, on their way, send, throughout, once again, miss, won't-will not.

Write a letter to a friend of yours telling him or her how you spent the Thadingyut holidays.

No 15, Zawana Street Zawtika Ward Thaketa Township

Yangon 15-10-83

Dear Cho Gyi,

I received your long letter only yesterday. I feel very happy to hear of my old friends. You should write to me about them from time to time. Tell them to write to me. I'm fine. I did not do well in my first test, but I shall work hard from now on. Now I'm going to tell you how I spent my Thadingyut holidays.

The lighting festival was held for three nights. My friends and I went round the town only one night. It was on the Full-moon Day of Thadingyut. We went round in a jeep. We went to the Shwedagon and Kaba Aye Pagodas. They were brightly lit and crowded with people. There were stage-shows, film-shows and pwes in Yagyaw area, Kemmendine Township and in downtown Yangon. We went to all these places. We watched stage-shows and pwes. We were very happy. The City Hall was lit with multi-coloured lights. I spent the remaining holidays reading my lessons as well as novels. In the day time my friends and I played the guitar. Sometimes we went to the cinema. Sometimes we played table-tennis. I have made up my mind to work hard from now on.

How did you spend yours? I am sure you enjoyed yourself. I am thinking of visiting your town this summer. I shall stay at your house. I think you won't mind. Have you begun working hard how?

Wishing you good health and peace of mind.

Your loving friend Nay Dun Oo

Table with 2 columns: English words and their Burmese equivalents. Includes words like feel, from time to time, my first test, did not do well, the lighting festival, hold held held, went round the town, Full-moon Day, brightly lit, crowded with people, stage-shows, film-show, multi-coloured lights, remaining, table-tennis, made up my mind, from now on, in the day time, enjoy, peace of mind.

The following is a reply to the letter mentioned above:

No 47, Kanthayar Street, West Ward Baserin 25-10-83

Dear Nay Dun Oo,

Myat Oo and Nga Kyauk were with me when I received your letter. We all read it together. It's too short.

You should have written a longer one. Glad to know that you are fine. We did well in our first test. We have been working hard since the beginning of August. You should work harder at Maths.

The Thidingyut Festival of Lights here is not very grand. Pagoda, Government offices and houses were lit with multi-coloured lights and there were also pwes and film-show here and there in town. Three of our common friends and I went round the town on foot. We went to the Strand Road and had some noodles. We watched a film for a few minutes and then we went and sat on the bank of the river. We enjoyed the sea breeze and the cool moonlight. We talked of this and that. On the Full-moon Night we went to our college and watched the variety show staged by the students. We enjoyed it very much. We came back home late that night. I spent morning and afternoons doing sums or reading my lessons. In the evening I played football as usual.

I shall welcome you with open arms when you come. You can stay at my house as long as you like. Please do come. I shall take you everywhere.

Remember me to your family.

With love and best wishes, Your loving friend Cho Gyi

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လာဖြစ်အောင်လာပါ။

နေရာတကာ

အကောင်းဆုံးသော ဆန္ဒပြုခြင်းများနှင့်

too short

You should have written a longer one.

the beginning of August

grand

here and there

noodles

sea breeze

talked of this and that

variety show

staged

doing sums

as usual

welcome / d / d

with open arms

as long as you like.

Please do come

everywhere

with best wishes

Write a letter to your headmaster or headmistress asking for leave of absence for five days and giving your reasons why you need them:

No 17, 36th Street, Rangoon 28th Oct 1983

Sir,

Please grant me five day's leave of absence from school. My grandfather who lives in Toungoo is dying. We got the telegram only this morning. He is my mother's father and I am his favourite grandson. He wishes to see me before he dies. I am leaving for Toungoo by train tonight. I shall stay only three or four days. When I come back, I shall copy all the lessons I miss and shall work harder than before. Father told me that he would also write a letter to you, Sir.

Thanking you in advance.

Yours obediently Toe Than

Table with 2 columns: English words and their Burmese equivalents. Includes words like grant, leave, grandfather, favourite, telegram, leaving for, copy, work harder, Thanking you, obediently.

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

She gets what she has done, so does her friend



By K Author



Phyu Phyu was very popular among male students for her beauty. All of the male students at the school agreed that Phyu Phyu has flawless skin, stylish clothes and a perfect figure.

Most of them wanted to hang out with her. But, only seemed-rich students got chance to date with her. She often went bars and clubs, joined cocktail parties with the guys she wants, and stayed late outside at night. Moe Myint Chan Tha is one of these guys.

She stayed with her aunty in Yangon, studying at the West Yangon University after she had passed matric exam in her home town in Upper Myanmar.

Being asked for being late by her aunty, she always told her aunty that she was studying with her friends

as there are a lot of lessons to study. One day, her aunty went outside and saw Phyu Phyu at a beer station with her male friends.

When she arrived back home, Phyu Phyu, being asked, told her aunty that she wanted to run her own business after the school so she was learning how to run a business at the shop of her friend Moe Myint Chan Tha's uncle.

Her aunty told that for a young woman sitting in the beer station is inappropriate, and then running such a business is also wrong livelihood. Phyu Phyu complained her aunty that it can easily make money and it is also no more wrong livelihood as there are so many beer stations in the city.

Wai Wai is a plain girl who comes from a town in Ayeyawady Region. But she is good-hearted and ambitious. Mostly, she stays silent.

Once, being asked why she was mostly silent, Wai Wai replied that she stayed mostly silent as she only wants to say the things that are true and beneficial to others.

She has long hair and usually applies Thanakha on her face. Unlike Pyu Pyu, she doesn't have many male friends expect Phoe Kyaw who come from a small village of Twante Township and who wanted to be a writer.

Wai Wai and Phyu Phyu have become friends since first year as they lived in the same township Hline. They mostly went to school together.

It was a Wednesday when the two had a conversation, discussing about their future. Phyu Phyu wanted to be rich so she told that she would run an own business after the school.

For Wai Wai, she only wanted to be a teacher who can teach the students who

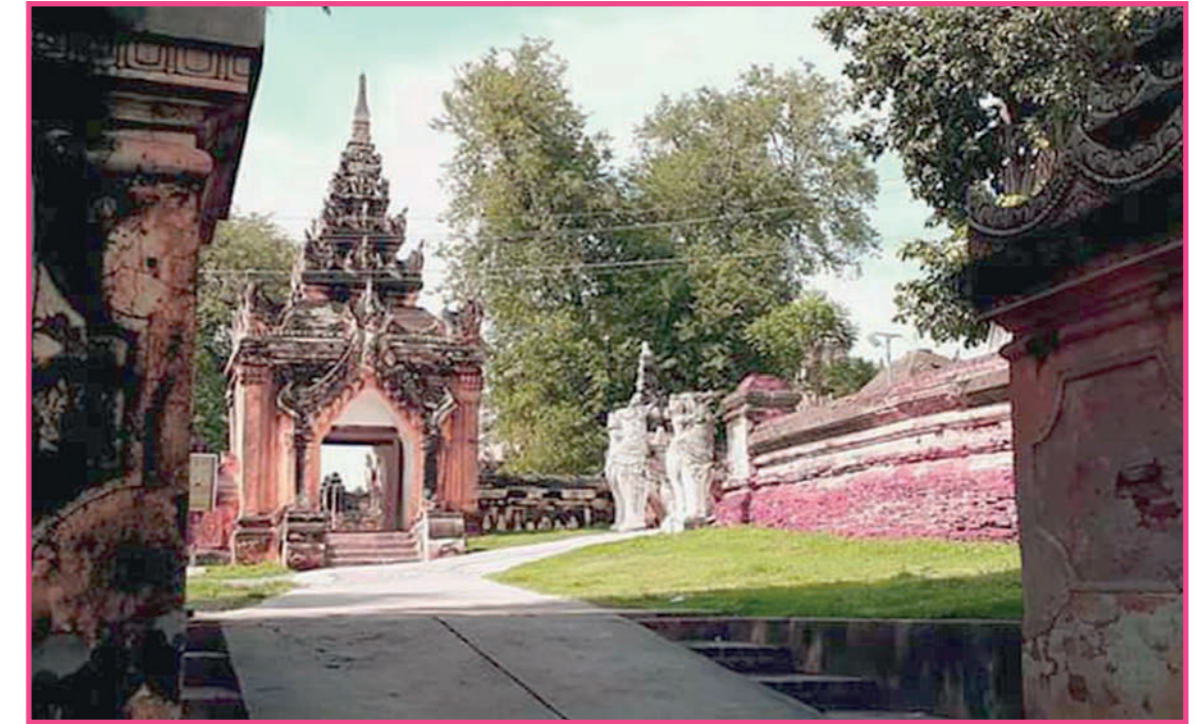
really want education regardless of their backgrounds.

In 2009, they both graduated. Two years later, they were in marriage -- Phyu Phyu with Moe Myint Chan Tha and Wai Wai with Phoe Kyaw.

After about 10 years, Moe Myint Chan Tha and Phyu Phyu divorced after the beer station they owned was dissolved as they met the business partners who break their promises. Phyu Phyu's aunty was upset for her niece but she told her, "You got the results of what you have done in the past. You met liars because you lied to me." Phyu Phyu keeps silent with no response.

Phoe Kyaw and Wai Wai were middle school teachers in a village near the hometown of Wai Wai. Phoe Kyaw was writing for newspapers and magazines in his free time. One day, they met their common classmate Ko Aung. He says them, "The life of your couple has no worry and is peaceful. I admire you." Phoe Kyaw gives a smile to his friend, while Wai Wai says "thank you."





Inwa or Ava, the old city displaying floral arabesques, carvings, and ornamentation from ancient architecture

By Aung Thant Khaing

Inwa or Ava, an ancient imperial capital from the 14th to the 19th century, dates back more than 400 years. According to historical records, 31 Myanmar kings ruled Inwa in succession. The ancient capital was, unfortunately, destroyed by a series of major earthquakes in March, 1839.



Visitors to the city can see architecture incorporating traditional Myanmar handicrafts. Among the city's ancient edifices, the Bargaya monastery, which is made entirely of teak, is particularly popular among visitors. The monastery, measuring 188 feet in length and 103 feet in width, was commissioned by King Bagyidaw (1813-1937 A.D.). It features 267 teak posts, the largest of which measures nine feet in diameter. The monastery was installed with

five brick ladders, which were decorated with Myanmar handicrafts and sculptures.

Religious and historical monuments are the top attractions for many domestic and international travellers visiting Mandalay, with travellers usually making a day trip to Amarapura, Inwa, and Sagaing towns.

To see the floral arabesques, carvings, and ornamentation of ancient architecture, an increasing number of local and foreign tourists are visiting the 180-year-old Bargaya Monastery in Inwa, TadaU Township, Kyaukse District, in the new year holidays this year.

Popular attractions in Inwa are Mae Nu Oak Kyaung, Bagaya monastery, Nanmyint Tower, Yadana Hsemee Pagoda, the Leaning watch tower and Win Gabar Pagoda.

The horse-drawn carriage ride throughout Inwa is popular and mostly used by the tourists. The horse cart riding in Inwa can give the strange experience and it is the best way to get around the ancient capital. You can feel the natural beauty of Inwa with its fascinating monasteries and pagodas.

The ancient city and horse carts can be marked as the trademark of Inwa. Inwa is well-known as the cultural heritage zone with its archaeological sites.

Most of the people residing in Inwa earn their livings as horse cart drivers, farmers, masons, carpenters, and other.

Translated by Nat Ye Hla



Local and overseas visitors explore the remains of an ancient city full of old stupas, pagodas, watchtowers, city walls and monasteries that feel a world away from the hustle and bustle of nearby city Mandalay.

PHOTOS: AUNG THANT KHAING

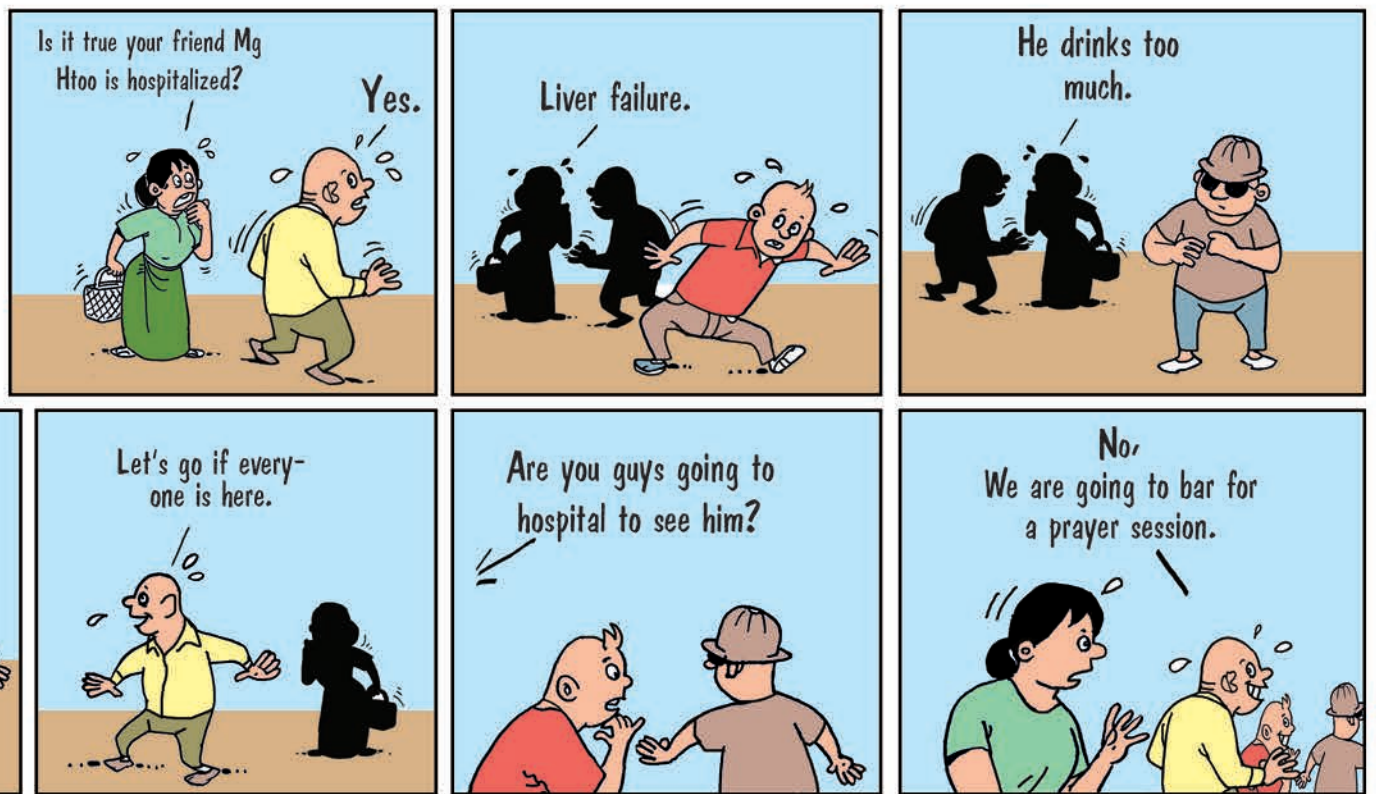


SUNDAY COMICS



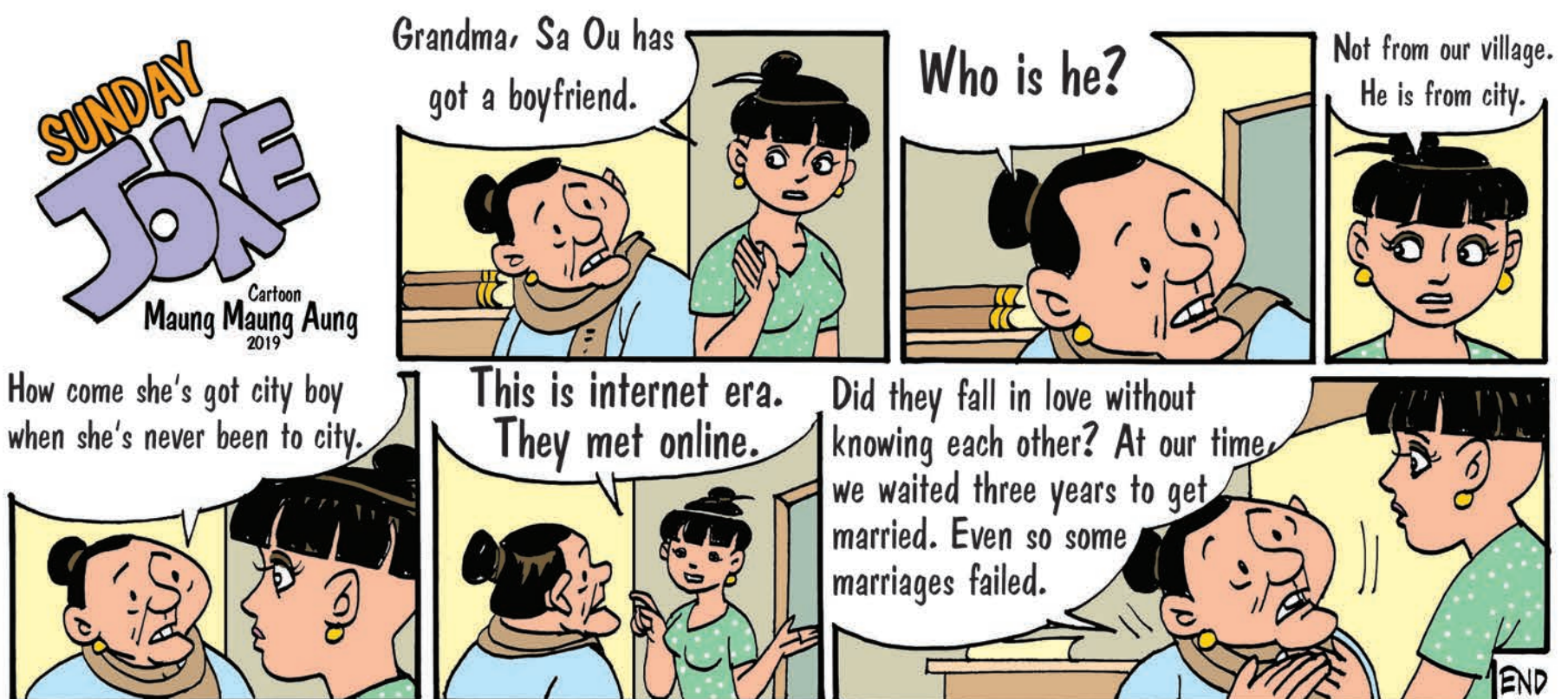
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2019



END

Trouble of Ignorance



By Nwe Phyo (Cherry Land)
M.A student, Specializing in English
Language, Yadanabon University

Knowing vaguely is worse than knowing nothing". It is totally true. Sometimes, some people think that they know something. But, they do not know what they think they know is just a half of the full information they should know. So, when they take action basing on their half knowledge, it results in half accomplishment. The phrase "hearing through grapevine" means the information you learn bases on what you acquired. Its examples can clearly be seen on social media. Though it cannot be denied that most of the information spreading on it is reliable, some of them come from unreliable sources. But, as the users do not realize and check what it comes from or whether it is reliable or not, they again share that untruthful information to others. Basing on these wrong facts, clashes and conflicts are dreadfully happening in the world. If we see those problems and their participants only on surface level, we will see that the participants are the main cause. If someone better than us analyses this problem, he or she will see the true cause is the hatred within the participants who cannot forebear the difference. However, when another more intelligent one investigates this one again, the true main cause he or she sees will become the ignorance and the darkness.

Some people say "Ignorance is Bliss." It is situationally true that it is better not too know about some cases. In Myanmar history, there are many examples, which prove this saying is right.

On the other hand, there is strong evidence for "Knowing vaguely is worse than knowing nothing". In Buddhist Litera-



PHOTO IMAGE: www.wikipedia.com myanmar

ture, there are three kinds of baskets: discourse, discipline and doctrine. In discourse, stories of the Buddha to be are included. Altogether, there are five hundred and fifty stories. There is a saying "five hundred are the state of immature, while the ten are in the state of mature." The ten are also known as "The Ten Great Birth Stories of the Buddha". They are how the Buddha to be fulfilled the ten perfections in those lives to attain the Enlightenment. The ten are the life of Prince Temi, the Prince of Janaka, Suvanasama, the King Nemi, Mahosadha the man of wisdom, Buriddatta the

serpent king, Candakumara the Prince, Narada the Bramhin, Vidhura the great sage, and Vessantara the great benefactor. Among them, Mahosadha and Vidhura are the symbol of wisdom, knowledge, education, and intellect. These two lives were the Buddha to be fulfilled the perfection of wisdom. Here, how Vidhura the great sage faced with the trouble of ignorance will be discussed.

In the Kingdom of Indapattananagara, Dannajarakorabya took over the throne after the demise of his father. He was fond of playing dice. One day, he kept fast together with three

kings from different abodes. They were close friends in their former lives. For some reason, they were in different abodes though they did the same good deeds. The three kings were the Serpent King, the Garuda King and the Celestial King. It was so difficult to keep Sabbath in their respective planes of existence that they came to their human friend's royal garden to take precepts peacefully. In the evening of the day before they returned to their homes, the four kings argued about whose precept was the most flawless and the noblest. The debate became heated and the resolution was

not yet settled down. So, they asked Vidhura the great sage to judge their morals. The sage said each of their precept were the same in abandoning of passion. They were so satisfied that they awarded their Judge what they had. Among them, the serpent King gave him his ruby necklace. Upon his return to his home, his Queen asked where his ruby was left and the King narrated what happened to it. He also added how great Vidhura's intellect was. Hearing that, the Queen was eager to hear dharma of Vidhura. However, at that time, it was not in tradition of asking one's husband to bring another man to deliver sermon. So, the Queen used her womanly guile that she pretended to get sick. When the King asked the reason, she said she was in ill as she wanted to eat the heart of Vidhura. Here, the trouble begins. Though the Queen said it was the sage's heart, it did not literally mean the real one and symbolically his intellect which was like his heart. However, as the King's ability to consider was hindered by Ignorance, he could not see the truth and he was in deep sorrow. Upon seeing her parents' being sadness, the princess decided to do something for them. The princess actually did not what the heart her mother said means. She was also kept in the trouble of Ignorance. She did not try to see the truth and she just knew the truth on surface. It is the "knowing vaguely". "Knowing vaguely is worse than knowing nothing". It results in bad actions. She sang a song in which she said she would get married with anyone who could get the heart of Vidhura for her mother. Punaka the powerful ogre heard her song and he promised to do so. He was the third one who was hindered by Ignorance and Attachment.

He thought that the heart of Vidhura means the real heart of Vidhura. Thus, he tried to get the heart of Vidhura in a fair way. He played dice with the King and finally he could beat the King. Consequently, he

SEE PAGE-S-8

FROM PAGE-S-1

in 2012, Myanmar Computer Federation inserted the font that will follow the Microsoft Windows 8. It also acted in accordance with an advanced computer system and was able to produce Pyidaungsu font containing the languages of ethnic races.

Although Zawgyi font is being widely used in Myanmar, it is not completely perfect in the measures of computer database. For example, if one types a word 'မြို့' meaning 'Town', there are 96 variations in typing (one can try it easily on any Zawgyi keyboard). As a computer is a machine which stores languages as digits and search them again, the definite solution can be got only when one types in the way as original typing before. Therefore, there will be unwanted steps in typing for a search on a computer. In using Unicode system, it is no need to heed these steps. For the word 'မြို့' meaning 'Town' to be typed, there is no variation, but just one pattern of typing.

If one practices and follows the Myanmar language system that is in conformity with the Unicode system, there will be much benefit for every net-users. They are as follows:

1. If one makes a verbal pronunciation, Gboard keyboard will automatically type it.
2. One can use Google Lens. In Google Lens, words are shot with camera and can be converted into Myanmar language as well as the words writ-

ten in English can be also converted into Myanmar language.

3. One can use Google map. In Google map, one can type in Myanmar language and search the place where he wants to go.
4. One can use Google translate. In Google translate, one pronounces a Myanmar word and it is automatically converted to any language in the world.
5. One can read the valuable facts in Wikipedia, a well-known net-encyclopedia, in Myanmar language.
6. One can watch any subtitled video on YouTube with Myanmar subtitles.
7. One can make a contact with the other people on Facebook who speak different languages in Myanmar language which is mechanically converted into their respective languages.
8. One can watch TED Talk program which give the audience much valuable knowledge with Myanmar subtitles.
9. One can study free of charge on a website like Khan Academy in Myanmar language.
10. The words written by one's handwriting can be obtained as an already typed words on computers not needing to be typed by either computers or phones.

All in all, the benefit mentioned above cannot accessed for the one as long as he is using Zawgyi system. Therefore, please do choose whether the net-users should start using Unicode system today or not.



FROM PAGE-S-7

urged the King to give him Vidhura. The King promised that if he lost the game, he would give him anything with the exception of himself, his family and his kingdom. But now, Punnaka was urging the King for Vidhura who was just like himself. He could not give Vidhura to Punnaka. But, upon the judgment of Vidhura, he had to hand over the Sage to Punnaka. On his way to the abode of Dragons, he tried many ways to make Vidhura die. He was still thinking to get the sage's heart as he was yet under the dominance of Ignorance. Finally, the sage asked Punnaka why he wanted to make him die. After learning the whole plot, he realized the Queen of Dragon wanted to hear his sermon but not to get his real heart. He is the only one who is not covered by darkness of Ignorance. So, he sees the truth and what the Queen truly wants. It is because of the intellect. First, he made Punnaka tame and then he asked him to bring the Queen though the ogre disagreed to do so. Upon his arrival, the Queen was pleased that her aim was fulfilled. Vidhura delivered sermon she was eager to listen to. Finally, the whole problem was resolved. Punnaka got married with the Princess. Both the King and the Queen were joyful and Vidhura could return to his home. All of the ignorance is solved. To analyze this story, the real cause is Ignorance.

"Knowing vaguely is worse than knowing nothing". It is not that both the King and his daughter did not know anything. In fact, what they knew was done vaguely. On the other hand, Punnaka was the one who knew nothing. The only thing he knew is that he would get married with the Princess if the task was done. Here, the one who knows vaguely is worse than who knows nothing. Whatever it is, their ignorance becomes a threat to another life; Vidhura's life. If he did not know the truth, not only he but also the Queen would pass away. Now, the counter of Ignorance, wisdom brings a win-win situation. The trouble of Ignorance is not only the trouble itself but also the trouble maker. Because of it, the world was in chaos, is in chaos and will also be in chaos. The only solution to this trouble is the Wisdom. Unless having wisdom, external or internal conflicts, which are based on ignorance, cannot be settled down. The world of today which is full of conflicts needs so many intellectuals who can see the real cause of problems, can solve them and can bring happiness to the world. May our world have so many people like Vidhura the great sage.



INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT SCHEDULE

YANGON TO BANGKOK

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG706	5:50	8:10	Daily
8M335	7:40	9:25	Daily
UB-019	7:45	9:40	Daily
TG2304	9:50	11:45	Daily
PG702	10:30	12:30	Daily
TG2302	11:30	13:25	3,4,5,7
PG708	15:20	17:20	Daily
8M331	16:30	18:15	Daily
UB-017	17:25	19:20	Daily
PG704	18:20	20:20	Daily
TG306	19:45	21:40	Daily

YANGON TO DON MUEANG

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
DD4231	8:05	9:50	Daily
FD252	8:30	10:15	Daily
SL201	9:25	11:15	Daily
FD254	17:30	19:15	Daily
FD258	19:25	21:15	Daily
SL207	20:45	22:45	Daily
DD4239	21:00	22:45	Daily

YANGON TO GUANGZHOU

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
8M711	8:40	13:15	2,4,5,7
CZ3056	11:25	15:55	3,6
CZ3056	17:30	22:00	1,5

YANGON TO SINGAPORE

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
UB001	7:30	12:00	Daily
8M231	8:20	12:50	Daily
SQ997	10:35	15:10	Daily
3K582	11:15	15:50	1,3,4,5,7
UB003	16:15	20:45	Daily
MI519	17:35	22:10	1,2,3,4
SQ995	17:35	22:10	5,6,7
MI521	18:30	22:55	3,4
3K584	19:15	23:50	1,2,5,6,7

YANGON TO HONG KONG

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
KA251	1:25	6:00	1,2,3,4,6,7
UB8027	7:25	12:05	3,5,7
KA275	17:05	21:50	1,3,5,7

BANGKOK TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
TG2303	7:55	8:50	Daily
PG701	8:50	9:40	Daily
TG2301	9:35	10:30	3,4,5,7
8M336	10:40	11:25	Daily
UB020	11:00	11:55	1,3,5,6,7
PG707	13:45	14:45	Daily
PG703	16:45	17:35	Daily
TG305	17:50	18:45	Daily
8M332	19:15	20:00	Daily
PG705	20:40	22:00	Daily
UB018	20:20	21:15	Daily

DON MUEANG TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
DD4230	6:20	7:05	Daily
FD251	7:15	8:00	Daily
SL200	7:35	8:25	Daily
FD253	16:10	17:00	Daily
FD257	18:05	18:55	Daily
SL206	18:55	19:45	Daily
DD4238	19:30	20:15	Daily

GUANGZHOU TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CZ3055	8:30	10:20	3,6
8M712	14:15	15:50	2,4,5,7
CZ3055	14:40	16:30	1,5

SINGAPORE TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
SQ998	7:55	09:20	Daily
3K581	8:55	10:25	1,2,5,6,7
UB002	13:15	14:45	Daily
8M232	13:50	15:20	Daily
MI518	15:15	16:40	1,2,3,4
SQ996	15:15	16:40	5,6,7
MI520	16:10	17:35	3,4
3K583	16:55	18:35	1,3,4,5,7
UB004	21:45	23:15	Daily

HONG KONG TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
UB8028	13:05	14:50	3,5,7
KA250	21:50	23:45	1,2,3,5,6,7
KA254	14:20	16:10	1,3,5,7

YANGON TO KUALA LUMPUR

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
AK505	8:25	12:40	Daily
MH741	11:30	15:50	Daily
OD551	12:25	16:45	1,4,7
MH743	16:15	20:30	1,4,6,7
OD553	23:55	4:20+1	2,3,5,6

YANGON TO SEOUL INCHEON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
KE472	23:15	7:35	Daily

YANGON TO TAIPEI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CI7916	10:45	16:20	1,2,3,4,6,7

YANGON TO KUNMING

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CA416	12:15	15:45	Daily
MU2012	13:10	20:05	3
MU2032	16:00	19:50	Daily

YANGON TO BEIJING

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CA906	23:50	5:50+1	1,3,5,7

YANGON TO HANIO

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN956	19:00	21:30	Daily
VJ918	18:55	21:15	Daily

YANGON TO HO CHI MINH

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN942	12:10	15:05	1,3,4,6,7

YANGON TO TOKYO

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
NH814	21:45	6:50+1	Daily

YANGON TO DOHA

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
QR919	7:40	11:55	1,3,4,6,7

YANGON TO CHIANG MAI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG724	13:10	15:05	Daily

KUALA LUMPUR TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
AK504	6:45	7:55	Daily
MH740	9:10	10:25	Daily
OD550	10:15	11:30	1,4,7
MH742	13:55	15:05	1,4,6,7
OD552	21:45	22:55	2,3,5,6

SEOUL INCHEON TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
KE471	18:15	22:10	Daily

TAIPEI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CI7915	7:00	9:50	1,2,3,4,6,7

KUNMING TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
MU2011	8:20	12:10	3,7
CA415	10:45	11:15	Daily
MU2031	14:30	15:10	Daily

BEIJING TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CA905	19:30	22:50	1,3,5,7

HANIO TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN957	16:40	18:05	Daily
VJ917	16:30	17:55	Daily

HO CHI MINH TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN943	9:30	11:05	1,3,4,6,7

TOKYO TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
NH813	11:15	16:05	Daily

DOHA TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
QR918	20:00	5:30	2,3,5,6,7

CHIANG MAI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG723	10:40	12:35	Daily

YANGON TO SHANGHAI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
MU2099	22:15	1:35+1	2,4,6

YANGON TO DHAKA

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
BG061	14:15	16:00	1,3,6

YANGON TO DUBAI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
EK389	2:20	5:40	5,7

MANDALAY TO BANGKOK

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG710	14:05	16:30	Daily
PG714	19:10	21:35	1,3,5,7

MANDALAY TO DON MUEONG

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
FD245	12:45	15:00	Daily

MANDALAY TO KUNMING

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
MU2568	10:20	13:25	1,3,5,7
MU2030	16:10	19:25	Daily

NAY PYI TAW TO BANGKOK

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG722	19:35	22:30	1,2,3,4,5,7

AIR LINES CODES

3K = Jet Star	MH = Malaysia Airlines
8M = Myanmar Airways International	MI = Silk Air
AI = Air India	MU = China Eastern Airlines
AK = Air Asia	NH = All Nippon Airways
BG = Biman Bangladesh Airlines	PG = Bangkok Airways
CA = Air China	QR = Qatar Airways
CI = China Airlines	SL = Thai Lion Air
CZ = China Southern	SQ = Singapore Airways
DD = Nok Airline	TG = Thai Airways
FD = Air Asia	TR = Tiger Airlines
KA = Dragonair	UB = Myanmar National Airlines
KE = Korea Airlines	VN = Vietnam Airlines