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**SUNDAY
SPECIAL**



THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Sunday, 12 November 2017



State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi walks with a Filipino military officer upon her arrival to attend the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit and related meetings, in Clark, Pampanga Philippines. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor arrives in Clark, Philippines

Media coverage on Rakhine issue to be speeded up

SEE PAGE 2

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrives in Clark, Philippines

FROM PAGE 1

To display Philippine's diverse cultural heritage, Nayong Philipino foundation was constructed on 5.4 hectare of land in Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga Region on 22 December 2007.

The park displays a miniature-version of ethnic villages in Cordillera Central, Ilocos, Bicol and Visayas region, architecture of Philippines, model of villages, some of the 175 ethnic nationals' traditional houses,

history and traditions of the ethnic nationals.

In the evening, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended a dinner hosted by former Philippines President Arroyo at Midori Hotel Fiesta Hall, Clark city.

The State Counsellor is in the Philippines at the invitation of the Philippines President Mr. Rodrigo Duterte to attend the 31st ASEAN Summit and related meetings that will be held in Manila from 12 to 14 November. —Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi visits ethnic national's traditional houses in the Philippines. PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

All children to be vaccinated against Japanese encephalitis

The Ministry of Health and Sports is preparing to conduct a nationwide mass vaccination of about 14 million children between the ages of 9 months and 15 years against Japanese encephalitis, it is learnt.

Students under 15 years old registered under the school-based vaccination programme will be vaccinated from 15 to 23 November. Children between 9 months and 5 years of age and non-school attending children up to 15 years old in the people-based vaccination programme will be vaccinated from 11 to 28 December. Students remaining to be vaccinated under the school based vaccination program will also be vaccinated during this period.

An aggressive immunization programme is considered a high priority for the Government. The Union Minister for Health and Sports has emphasised efforts taken to reach every child in Myanmar with vaccines through immunisation campaigns. Vaccination under the two programmes will be conducted simultaneously in villages in difficult-to-reach, distant and border areas, it is learnt.

The school-based vaccination programme will be conducted in designated primary, post-primary, middle, high, monastic education, private and international schools, while the people-based vaccination programme will be conducted in township hospitals, child and maternal health care departments, regional health clinics, station hospitals, village health departments and sub departments, ward/village admin-

istrative offices and designated private homes.

Vaccination is the best prevention from Japanese encephalitis, and the World Health Organization is advising countries having a threat of Japanese encephalitis to include the Japanese encephalitis vaccination program in its regular vaccination program it is learnt. Myanmar has conducted organised informational efforts in schools, townships, wards and streets to have Japanese encephalitis vaccination. Japanese Encephalitis is an animal disease that can spread to humans—primarily transmitted by mosquitoes that feed on infected birds, pigs and other mammals that in turn pass on the infection to humans living and working in rural areas around rice paddies and irrigation systems. Children under 15 years of age seem particularly susceptible to infection. The majority of cases are asymptomatic, meaning persons do not exhibit symptoms. Some patients will develop neurological symptoms such as tremors, seizures (especially children), an expressionless face, and sudden paralysis which can affect the respiratory system and cause bladder retention problems. Patients may also experience behavioural changes which can be misdiagnosed as psychiatric illness. Japanese Encephalitis can be fatal in 20 per cent to 30 per cent of cases and many survivors continue to have long-term neurologic, psychiatric, or cognitive problems. —Yi Yi Myint, Ohnma Thant ■

Media coverage on Rakhine issue to be speeded up

FROM PAGE 1

Meanwhile, the government has given medical care and provided assistance to the people gathered at the border before they left for their original places.

"The reasons why they left for their original places on their own volition are involvement in terrorist attacks, threatened by terrorists, lured by their relatives that they would get the aid and cash when they arrive at the camp in the neighbour-

ing country and they would get opportunity to settle in a third country," said U Chan Thar, Rakhine State Social Affairs Minister.

He also said the government would work together with UEHRD to draw a town plan.

Following the meeting, the delegation led by Dr Pe Myint, and Chief Minister U Nyi Pu visited a camp established at Danyawaddy Sports Grounds where Hindus fled from Khamaungsei, Yebawkyia and Tamanthar villagers are sheltering.

At the meeting, Hindu people expressed thanks to the authorities for providing aid, shelter and education to their children, requesting to settle the Hindu community in one area.

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint pledged to convey voices from the Hindus to the people via media.

The delegation donated K3.1 million for 539 people from 155 Hindu families through officials at the camp. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint, Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and party meet with Hindu villagers at the camp established at Danyawaddy Sports Grounds. PHOTO: YE HTUT

First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin attends stake driving ceremony for Visakha Ponami Gonwei four story building

A stake driving ceremony for a Visakha Ponami Gonwei four storey building for Thilashins (nuns) was held yesterday morning at Visakha Ponami Gonwei Thilashin school in Lewe, Nay Pyi Taw and First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin graced the ceremony with her presence.

At the ceremony, First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin drove a stake and sprinkled scented waters on the land where the four storey building will be built and then Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung, Visakha Foundation patron Professor Dr. Win Min Thit, chairperson Dr. Su Hla Han and vice chairperson Daw Shwe Zin drove stakes at designated places.

Next, the Visakha Foundation patron explained about the reason for donating the four storey building and Foundation chairperson explained about the activities of the foundation.

Afterwards First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin gave a speech honoring the donors of the four storey building. Similarly, Visakha Ponami Gonwei Thilashin school chief patron Thilashin-



First lady Daw Su Su Lwin drives stake for construction of Visakha Ponami Gonwei four story building in Lewe, Nay Pyi Taw on 11 November 2017. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Sayagyi Daw Zayya Theingi also delivered a speech of thanks.

Earlier in the year on 18 June 2017, the Visakha Foundation has also donated and opened a new thilashin school building and a library in Visakha

Ponami Gonwei Thilashin school, it is learnt.

At the ceremony, following comments were made by officials on the donation of the Visakha Ponami Gonwei four story building.

Thilashin Sayagyi Daw Zayya Theingi, Vithanka Ponami Gonwei Thilashin school chief patron

In our school, more than 200 children including nuns were taught from KG to grade

9 with nine teachers. For grade 10 and 11 students, we arrange ferry and sent them to a government high school. Once this building is complete, we plan to accept about 500 students. Both formal education and religious education were provided. Sewing and computer courses were also provided in order to support the students' livelihood.

I was assigned to be responsible for the thilashin school on ME 1369 (2007). Children who could not attend school for any reason were provided with an education here so that they could become good sons and daughters of the nation.

Professor Dr. Win Min Thit, Visakha Foundation patron

Our foundation was formed with an aim to provide health, education, board, lodging and livelihood training to all people of Myanmar who are of different religion, ethnicity and region, especially orphans. The foundation is donating this building to this school as it is providing formal and religious education to more than 200 nuns and orphans.

Our foundation will continue implementing these aims.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint attends ceremony for donations to Rakhine State and opening ceremony of Yangon Book Street

A donation ceremony for Rakhine State reconstruction and development work was held yesterday morning at the meeting hall of the Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu Road, Yangon with Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint in attendance to accept the donations.

The Union Minister delivered a speech of appreciation saying, "Government as well as civil society organisations and individual well-wishers participated in the Rakhine State reconstruction and development work. These works allow our country to show its unity. It also shows the fullest extent to which our Myanmar nationals have humanitarian feelings. I am very much happy for this. I also thank the Myanmar Printers & Publishers Association for donating money." Myanmar Printers & Publish-

ers Association Chairman U Min Han explained the reasons for helping Rakhine State, then donated Ks20 million, which was accepted by Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint.

The donations were made to conduct Rakhine State reconstruction and development work and will be donated to the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD), it is learnt.

Next the Union Minister attended the opening ceremony of Yangon Book Street (Saturday-Sunday Yangon Book Street) and cut a ceremonial ribbon together with Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) chairman, Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe and Myanmar Publishers and Dis-



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint attends the opening ceremony of Yangon Book Street (Saturday-Sunday Yangon Book Street). **PHOTO: YE HTUT**

tributors Association Chairman Dr. Tha Tun Oo.

Afterwards, the Union Minister toured the book stalls and handicraft shops displayed in the Yangon Book Street.

A total of 170 shops and stalls

will sell books and souvenirs in Yangon Book Street. In addition to providing gift books to book enthusiasts who come to the location, events such as discussion session between writers and readers, reading circles of

writers, literature quizzes, music programmes and caricature drawings by cartoonists will also be held.

On the occasion of the opening of Yangon Book Street, the street will be opened for three days from November 11 to 13 (Saturday, Sunday, Monday) and on the following weekends, the venue will be opened as usual on Saturdays and Sundays from 9 am to 5 pm.

The Ministry of Information organised Yangon Book Street under the books and literature development programme with the support of Yangon Region government and YCDC. It was opened for the first time from January to March and is now being opened for the second season, this time until early April, it is learnt.— Myanmar News Agency ■

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

Hotel projects to be undertaken around Rih Lake

TO enhance the development of Chin State tourism, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and the Chin State Government have jointly carried out construction projects in the Rih Lake area in order to be prepared for a second visit from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Rih Lake is heart shaped which makes it an attractive place for tourists to visit. It's located in the northwestern region of Chin State, about two miles from the border between Myanmar and India. It's situated at 2,966 ft. above sea level and is located north of Rihkhawdar Township. The geographical composition, the recent environmental situation and the natural conditions of nearby villages are also being surveyed to develop the implementation of tourism in



Rih Lake is 2,800 feet above sea level situated between Chin and Indian mountain ranges. **PHOTO: ZO HAY SAR**

the region.

"As an initiative to expand the areas of tourism, the transportation infrastructure is being upgraded. Soon the status of all the hotel's development will be confirmed due to previous visits from the Ministry of Hotels and

Tourism. Currently there are ten investors who have a keen interest in the project" said an official from the Chin State government.

"The Chin State Government is working to promote Rih Lake as an ASEAN Heritage Area in 2018 and they are

expecting visitors coming from the Myanmar Indian border for day junkets.

The visits will commence during the peak season of this year" said an official from Chin the State Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. —Nay Su (Chin Mountain) ■

Disabled request bylaws for their rights at the soonest

May Thet Hnin

IN order for the law on the rights of persons with disabilities passed by parliament on November 5th 2015 to come into force, bylaws is needed to be introduced as soon as possible, said a spokesman for the disabled.

"We expect to develop bylaws by International Day for Persons with Disabilities, which will fall on 3rd December", said U Nay Lin Soe, a consultant for the Myanmar Independent Living Initiative, which works with the disabled and physically challenged.

Seventeen chapters and 94 sections are incorporated in this law in an attempt to eliminate discrimination against persons with disabilities in all kind of fields.

This law is formulated in order to protect the rights of the disabled.

Sections related to education, health, easier access to transportation, rehabilitation, and job opportunities are incorporated in this law.

Though the law was enacted last two years ago, it is not effective unless the government brings in bylaws.

"The law needs to be alive and it would be careless to drag it out to introduce it as it is a law concerning social issues", said U Nay Lin Soe.

The disabled requested the government not to prolong the formation of a National Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to make the law come into force.

Only a few people including civil staff and businessmen knew of the enacting of this law, said the activist groups for the rights of persons with disabilities.

"The law enactment is good. After bylaws come into force, the authorities need to provide an awareness campaign to concerned departments to make the law a reality.

We would like to change people's views on people with disabilities.

People with disabilities also need to know their own rights," said U Aung Ko Myint, the chairman of Inclusive Business Disability Initiative.

The law prohibits behaviours and actions that

mentally and physically affect people with disabilities and which are discriminatory and harmful.

The government and organisations in a society need to provide basic needs such as visual and sound aids at road crossings, for instance.

"People with disabilities struggle in their life more than normal persons. Therefore, we have to encourage their life.

We also have to give them a chance to participate in politics, economics and business", said U Myat Thu Win, the general secretary of the Disabled Association in Myanmar.

According to the 2014 census, Myanmar has a population of more than 2.3 million people with disabilities, accounting for 4.6 per cent of the country's total population of over 51 million.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement's 2010 statistics show that around 85 per cent of people with disabilities are lacking employment. Therefore, most of the disabled are poor. ■

Car crash on Kawkayeik-Myawady Asia Highway

A two-vehicle crash occurred on Thursday evening on Kawkayeik-Myawady Asia Highway in Kawkayeik District, Kayin State. No one was seriously hurt in the road accident that happened at around 8.15 pm on 9 November, police reported.

A 22-wheeled lorry carrying 400 gas cylinders driven by Htet Shine, 20, of Pyu Township, crashed into the back of six-wheeled vehicle. Due to the collision, both vehicles went down to into a ditch on each side of the road. The two drivers sustained no major injuries.

Action is being taken against Htet Shine for alleged careless driving.—District IPRD ■

Middle-aged man found dead in sea

A man was found dead in the Gulf of Mottama located one mile east of Aungthadan Village in Yangon's Thongwa Township on Thursday evening, according to township police.

According to the police investigation, the body found off the coast has been confirmed as that of a 52-year-old man named U Aung Win of Seinkyunywathit Village in Khayan Township.

No injuries were found on his body, investigators said. An investigation is underway, although at this stage it is not thought to be suspicious. The death is currently being categorised as unexplained.—U Kyaw Hsan ■



Container ships being seen in Yangon River. Foreign traders imported \$3.8 bn worth of manufacturing products from Myanmar this year. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

Myanmar earns over \$3.8 bn from export of manufactured goods

MYANMAR exported more than \$3.8 billion worth of manufactured goods to its trade partners between April and early November of this year, an increase of \$607 million than that of the similar period of last year.

This time last year, foreign traders imported \$3.199 bn worth of manufacturing prod-

ucts from Myanmar.

According to the statistics of the Ministry of Commerce, the export of manufactured goods from the government sector was \$1.96 bn in total, while the private sector sold \$1.84 bn worth of the same products to foreign buyers.

When compared with the same period of last FY, the pri-

rate sector export of manufactured products as of November 3 saw an increase of \$477 mn, while exports from the government sector increased by over \$120 mn. The ministry's figures show that the country's total export value exceeded \$8.2 bn in the current FY. The number increased by \$1.27 bn from that of last year.—Khine Khant ■

Import of food and equipment for hotels and restaurants increased this year

THE import of food and equipment for hotels and restaurants increased by nearly 20 per cent this fiscal year when compared to the previous year, according to a report in the Myawady Daily.

“Food and equipment are selling well in the opening season. But this year, we have imported more products than last year,” said U AungMyint, general manager of the Grand

Wynn Group of Companies.

U AungMyint said that, although his company has imported beef, goats, sheep, turkeys and frozen meats to the hotels and restaurants, those meats are not selling well in the local market because of the high price.

“Therefore, we do not supply those meats to sell in the supermarket. Currently, we

have only distributed yogurt, milk, spice powder and slightly lower-priced Brazilian chicken to the supermarkets”, he said.

Currently, the Grand Wynn Group of companies imports over 1,000 types of food and equipment to hotels and restaurants in Myanmar. A portion of the food and equipment is being distributed to supermarkets.—GNLM ■

Audi, Fiat to open car showrooms in Yangon

AUDI and Fiat, the well-known car manufacturing companies based in Europe, will open car showrooms in Yangon, according to a report in the Myawady Daily.

According to the new automobile import law which will come into force at the beginning of 2018, the government will allow imports of only left-hand drive vehicles into Myanmar. Therefore, the German Audi

and the Italian Fiat companies, which only manufacture left-hand vehicles, are planning to sell their vehicles with the cooperation of local entrepreneurs.

“Most of the left-hand-drive cars are manufactured by European countries. From the beginning of 2018, Myanmar will widely use the left-hand drive cars. Therefore, European car manufacturing companies will invest in the car showroom

service in Myanmar,” said U Aung Win, chair of the Authorized Automobile Distributors' Association.

Both companies are planning to open car showrooms in other townships, depending upon market demand. Moreover, car manufacturing companies from China which manufacture only left-hand drive cars will also open car showroom in Myanmar next year.—GNLM ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း **“Sunday Special”** အချုပ်ပို (၈)
မျက်နှာပေါင်သော The Global New Light of Myanmar
နေ့စဉ်ထုတ် သတင်းစာကို အောက်ပါမြို့များတွင် ဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

“Sunday Special”
အချုပ်ပို (၈) မျက်နှာ
ပေါင်သည့်

နေပြည်တော်
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ် (၇) နေပြည်တော်၊
သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊
စီမံခန့်ခွဲမှုဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၄၁၂၁၀၈

နေပြည်တော်
နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)
ယေယျာသီရိမြို့နယ်၊ ခရိုင်လမ်းမ၊ နေပြည်တော်၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၃၆၁၄၈၊ ၀၆၇၃၆၁၂၉

ရန်ကုန်
The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၀၊
ငါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊
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မန္တလေး
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တောင်ကြီး
ရုံးကြီးလမ်း၊ သစ်တောရပ်ကွက်၊ တောင်ကြီးမြို့၊
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မကွေး
နတ်မောက်လမ်း၊ တပ်မ (၈၈) တပ်နယ်ဇေးအနီး၊
မကွေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၃၂၃၇၁၂

ကျိုင်းတုံ
မြို့ပေါ် (၃-၁)၊ အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းသွယ်၊ မြို့ပေါ်လမ်း၊
ကျိုင်းတုံမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၄၂၂၇၉၂

ကလေး
အောင်ဇေယျာရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊
ကလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၁၃၃

မြင်းကြီး
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စစ်တွေ
ရမ္မာဝတီလမ်းနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ရိပ်သာလမ်း၊
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ဖုန်း - ၀၄၃၂၃၀၆၈

လားရှိုး
ဟူးမွန်ကျေးရွာတိုင်း၊ ဟူးမွန်ဆည်ဘယ်ဘက်ခြမ်း၊
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မြတ်
မေတ္တာလမ်း၊ ရှမ်းချောင်းရပ်၊ ကလွင်ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု၊
မြတ်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၉၄၂၁၀၃

မော်လမြိုင်
ကြာအင်းကျေးရွာ၊ မော်လမြိုင်မြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၅၇၂၇၂၅၊ ၀၅၇၂၇၂၆

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နန္ဒဝန်ရပ်ကွက်၊ ဆက်သွယ်ရေးတံတိုင်းအနီး၊
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Sales from Maungtaw paddy kept as national budget

Interviewd by – Media group

After the attacks by ARSA terrorists, the Rakhine State government is working with guidance from the Union Government to restore various sectors in the region. The Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and State Ministers conducted a field survey on 8 and 9 November to assess the condition of ripe crops in Maungtaw, establishing Kanyin Chaung economic zone and setting up camps for Islamic and Hindu people returning from abroad. The following is an excerpt from an interview with Chief Minister U Nyi Pu.

Q: How are you dealing with the ripe paddies that are left untouched?

A: We don't want the paddies to go to waste so we are doing our utmost to quickly reap them and plus this can contribute to the national budget as well. The money that we receive from sales of these crops will be used in this state's development. The Union Government wants us to quickly sell the paddies after they have been reaped so we don't have plans to store them for a long period.

We've already made negotiations with a buyer, who is also from the area. He will buy all the paddies produced from the area. We have already signed a



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu. **PHOTO: MIN HTET**

contract with him.

Q: We hear there are technical shortcomings and lack of labor in reaping the paddies. How are you dealing with this?

A: We are currently reaping the paddies in Yathedaung and Southern Maungtaw, and we will eventually head towards Buthidaung. We currently have 44 tractors to reap the paddies and there are 25 more tractors on the way. The southern part of Maungtaw has the most ripe paddies, over 40,000 acres, so we are starting from there.

Q: What is the procedure in selling the paddies after they've been reaped?

A: There are some difficulties drying and storing the paddies so we're going to sell most of it to a merchant in Maungtaw for USD 2.65 per basket

(40.88kg). If the buyer has any difficulties selling the paddies then the government will provide as much support as it can. As per the contract, money from the sales of the paddies will be deposited in a bank account as part of the national budget. As to how the money will be utilized will depend on the policies and guidelines the Union Government puts forward.

Q: There are over 70,000 acres of rainy season paddy in Maungtaw. How much paddy do you predict will be procured from that?

A: That's right, there are over 70,000 acres of paddy fields in Maungtaw and that will pro-

duce about 2 million baskets (81,769 tons) of paddy. We estimate about 20 per cent of it will be lost or damaged but it depends on how much we can accomplish and how quickly we tractors arrive to the area.

Q: What is the situation of building camps for IDPs returning to the area?

A: We've chosen Taungpyolet and Ngakhuya outposts/villages for the IDP camps. From there we will relocate and resettle the IDPs in either Kainggyi, Konetaing or Thittone Nakwasone village.

We will also help rebuild the Hindu village of Ohtain village that got burned down. The De-

partment for Development of Border and National Races is contributing to the rebuilding of the burnt Nanthartaung Village.

Q: Can you tell us when and how you will relocate and resettle the IDPs?

A: We are beginning to clear the land of wreckage for the rebuilding efforts and we will follow the Union Government's guidelines in the relocation efforts.

The State Counsellor is trying hard to get this done as quickly as possible and she has made everyone home and abroad aware of that. They have already officially announced to accept the IDPs according the 1993 agreement. ■



Paddies harvested from fields in Southern Maungtaw being dried in the Sun. **PHOTO: MIN HTET**

YANGON DECLARATION adopted by Institute of Social & Cultural Studies (ISCS), India and The Myanmar Institute of Strategic & International Studies (Myanmar-ISIS) on 11-Nov-2017 on the occasion of the International Conference on 'India-Myanmar Relations: The Way Forward'

India and Myanmar delegates have arrived at and suggested the following recommendations:

Following is excerpts of the recommendation.

As democracies, India and Myanmar should enhance bilateral cooperation in all areas.

Contribute to the peace process in Myanmar through sharing of India's experience in resolving disputes with ethnic groups in the North East part of India.

Security

Globally, terrorism and flow of refugees are two of the biggest concerns of our times. Having a peaceful, prosperous and stable neighbourhood is in everybody's interest.

Security and peace in Myanmar is not only important for the security of India but also for the security of the region.

Security forces of India and Myanmar work together to prevent extremist activities on either side of the border. More efforts and cooperation

are suggested to prevent cross-border Non-Traditional security threats.

The Bay of Bengal is an important element in India-Myanmar security cooperation.

Trade & Investment:

Trade between India and Myanmar doubled to over USD 2 billion in the last decade. Both countries are to intensify efforts to address obstacles to trade ranging from better connectivity, to improving soft infrastructure, freer movement, better logistics and financial connectivity, etc.

Myanmar should reform its banking sector especially in core banking areas to make the financial system in sync with other nations.

Indian FDI in Myanmar is far from optimal.

Indian companies should be aware of the future opportunities in Myanmar.

Facilitate use of Myanmar-Indian currencies and exchange for trade.

Leverage the strategic potential of Myanmar for trade and investment for the ASEAN, India, and ASEAN-FTA markets including benefiting from duty-free trade preference provided by India to Least Developed Countries.

North Eastern India and Myanmar

North Eastern states of India especially States bordering Myanmar and vast parts of Myanmar's hinterland in the West can gain from the Trilateral Highway, Rih-Tedim Road and Kaladan Projects.

To further gain and ensure a move from informal to formal traffic; the

two countries should ease VISA procedures. Currently, movement on business and E-VISA facilities are restricted at Moreh-Tamu border gates.

Setting up Special Economic and Industrial zones in border areas of both India and Myanmar and along the connectivity corridors like the Trilateral Highway and Kaladan Multi-Modal Transport Project and other potential routes with a focus on the agriculture sector.

Improve connectivity, both cargo and passenger by sea routes between Indian and Myanmar ports.

Tourism and Medical Tourism

Both countries should leverage their respective strengths including nature, culture, wildlife, river tours and medical facili-

ties, to promote tourism.

India should promote and improve facilities and infrastructure on the Buddhist pilgrimage circuit for pilgrims from as well as South and South East Asia. Management and land ownership issues and bureaucratic restrictions limiting pilgrim travel should be looked into urgently.

Buddhism and People-to-People

India and Myanmar should jointly promote the message of peace, compassion and loving kindness (Metta) and the Middle Path of Lord Buddha to the world.

Conduct Research on historic Buddhist ties between Myanmar and India, including Tagaung, the Pyu cities, Thaton, Bagan, Mrauk-U, etc.—GNLM ■



Japanese trade minister Toshimitsu Motegi (R) and his Vietnamese counterpart Tran Tuan Anh hold a joint press conference in Danang, Viet Nam on 11 November, 2017. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

TPP ministers agree on "core elements" of new trade pact without US

DANANG, (Viet Nam) — The ministers of the remaining signatories to the Trans-Pacific Partnership after the withdrawal of the United States said on Saturday they have agreed on "core elements" of a new trade pact to be implemented without Washington, though failing to have their leaders endorse it.

The 11 ministers made an announcement in a statement after a last-minute objection by Canada complicated the process, canceling a planned TPP leaders' meeting and leading Japan and Viet Nam to reconvene a ministerial meeting late Friday to reconfirm the "agreement in principle" reached earlier.

"We have maintained the high standard that the TPP 12 had," said Viet Nam's Industry and Trade Minister Tran Tuan Anh at a joint press conference with Japanese TPP minister Toshimitsu Motegi, who co-chaired recent rounds of ministerial meetings.

Motegi said the new agreement "sends a very strong message to the United States and other countries in the Asia-Pacific region."

The 11 TPP countries are Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Viet Nam. Including the United States, the Pacific Rim trade pact would cover around 40 per cent of the global economy.

Excluding the United States, the 11-party TPP's share of world gross domestic product drops to 13 per cent, but trade experts say the deal would still create a free trade area with high-standard market liberalization.

"Ministers are pleased to announce that they have agreed on the core elements of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for the Trans-Pacific Partnership," the ministerial statement said.

The new CPTPP pact has revised the original TPP text so that it can come into force 60 days after at least six signatories complete domestic procedures.

In coming to the agreement, the 11 countries reached a consensus on suspending 20 clauses in the original text if Washington stays out of the pact, including 11 on intellectual property.

Japan had hoped that the leaders of the TPP countries would back the deal on the sidelines of the two-day Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit through Saturday in the Vietnamese coastal city of Danang, but Canada's unexpected move led to the cancellation of the leaders' meeting set for Friday afternoon. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau did not show up at the venue of the meeting after holding talks with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Friday. Abe said Canada "was not at a stage to confirm the agreement" reached at the ministerial level.

Trudeau said in a Tweet following talks with Abe, "We're making progress on the TPP — and working hard to make sure we get the right deal for Canadians & Canadian businesses."

Canadian Minister of International Trade Francois-Philippe Champagne, said he welcomes the "progress" of the CPTPP but also said, "However, there still are

a number of issues that remain outstanding for Canada."

"We will only sign onto a deal that reflects Canada's interests and meets our objectives to create and sustain well-paying middle class jobs in today's competitive global economy," he said in a statement.

Motegi explained in the press conference that the Canadian objection was "because of domestic procedures in Canada."

A negotiation source said Canada seemed to have claimed that it has not yet agreed on rules on intellectual property as well as those on trade in the auto industry. Ottawa was also dissatisfied with the way Japan had chaired the TPP meetings, the source said.

After US President Donald Trump pulled the world's biggest economy from the TPP in January, saying the multilateral pact would hurt American jobs and that he prefers bilateral trade deals, Japan had been eager to clinch an accord at the APEC summit, with the remaining 11 signatories sharing the goal of an early implementation of the pact.

The pullout of the United States came as a shock to the other 11 members, given that the Pacific Rim deal was a landmark pillar of Trump's predecessor Barack Obama's policy of a strategic rebalance, or "pivot," to the Asia-Pacific region and had significance not only economically but in security aspects amid the rise of China.

The deal was initially signed in February 2016 by the 11 countries and the United States. —Kyodo News ■

US, South Korea joint exercise in Sea of Japan gets underway

SEOUL — South Korea and the United States on Saturday kicked off a joint naval exercise in the Sea of Japan involving three US aircraft carriers amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said that the four-day strike force exercise is "aimed at enhancing deterrence against North Korea's nuclear and missile threats."

According to the US Navy, it is the first three-carrier exercise in the Western Pacific since 2007. The three flattops are the USS Ronald Reagan, Nimitz and Theodore Roosevelt. They will successively enter the exercise area in international waters east of the Korean Peninsula over the weekend, and at one point around Monday will operate together. Also to be mobilized are 11 US Aegis ships and seven South Korean warships.

"The strike force plans to conduct air defence drills, sea surveillance, replenishments at sea, defensive air combat training, close-in coordinated maneuvers, and other training," said a statement from the Navy's 7th Fleet, which is responsible for monitoring the Pacific including North Korea.

The exercise is taking place while US President Donald

Trump is on an Asian tour and presenting a united front with regional leaders.

Trump said in a speech at South Korea's parliament Wednesday, "Currently stationed in the vicinity of this peninsula are the three largest aircraft carriers in the world loaded to the maximum with magnificent F-35 and F-18 fighter jets." In a commentary released on Saturday, the Korean Central News Agency, North Korea's official media, criticized the United States for "heightening military tension in the Asia-Pacific region."

"The US efforts to expand its military influence in Asia-Pacific and the movement of big neighboring powers to contain it escalate the military tension and increase arms race in the region with each passing day," it said. Tensions have been running high since North Korea test-fired two intercontinental ballistic missiles in July, conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test on 3 September and flew ballistic missiles over Japan on 29 August and 15 September. It has repeatedly threatened to launch ballistic missiles into the waters around the US territory of Guam. Trump has vowed to "totally destroy" the country if overly provoked.

—Kyodo News ■



File photo taken in August 2009 shows the US aircraft carrier Nimitz. The US and South Korean navies began a four-day joint exercise off the east coast of the Korean Peninsula on 11 November, 2017, involving three US aircraft carriers including the Nimitz. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Detailed records for rice harvest in Rakhine

By Aye Min Soe

THE Agricultural Mechanization Department has harvested the rice in Maung-taw in order to prevent waste and to complete the harvest in a timely manner.

Meanwhile, the Settlements and Land Records Department (SLRD) has put the harvested rice on record with the owner's name, plot number, and quality of the rice. The rice was dried to a moisture level of 13 per cent, bagged and then stored in designated storage areas.

When it started the harvesting effort, the government announced that transparency will be ensured, with records of rice per acre with the names of the farmers who own the land from areas where terrorists attacked happened.

However, foreign media who covered the rice harvest in Rakhine have

said that the refugees were not likely to reclaim their rice and farmland, as their rice has been harvested. This sort of irresponsible reporting is very dangerous. The truth of the matter is that it is the intention of the Myanmar government to return the rice, either in cash or as rice to the original owners of the land as recorded by the personnel of the Settlements and Land Records Department.

In solving the Rakhine issue caused by the terrorist attacks, the news media plays an important role. They are obliged to report the true facts in any given situation instead of using their imagination or engaging in speculation so that the people can know the true situation on the ground.

The government has taken immediate steps since the terrorist attacks in late August to restore peace and stability

in northern Rakhine and the situation in Rakhine State is now moving towards stabilization as a result of efforts by the Myanmar Government, the official said.

This is a proof that the Myanmar government is doing its best for the resettlement and rehabilitation of refugees who had crossed over to Bangladesh, in the northern Rakhine. The United Nations and the international community should have patience and provide constructive assistance in cooperation with Myanmar for a proper settlement of the issue.

Today, the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance and Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) has speeded up its efforts for rebuilding of Rakhine State focusing on different sectors of the economy, job opportunity, education, health and socio-economy.

The Union Government has expressed its commitment to the world that it will perform the implementation of big projects, with the concerted efforts of the Union Government, the private sector, INGOs, NGOs, UN agencies and international and regional financial institutions and the people of Myanmar, to get rid of the roots causes of the problems and to find durable peace and stability.

The media should cooperate to make people and international communities know the true situation in Rakhine.

The Rakhine issue is an internal affair of Myanmar. The most powerful force for making the country peaceful and developed is its people. No matter how much anger, hatred and bullying, we are ready to face the challenges and we shall overcome all challenges and obstacles. ■

Top 10 most widely traded animals in the Golden Triangle identified in new report

- Recent surveys by WWF and TRAFFIC have identified 10 of the most widely trafficked animals in the Golden Triangle.
- These top 10 animals are: the tiger, elephant, pangolin, bear, rhinoceros, serow, helmeted hornbill, gaur, leopard, and turtles.
- The wildlife markets in the Golden Triangle cater mostly to tourists from China and Vietnam, the report noted.

Large casinos, hotels, shopping malls and markets flourish in Southeast Asia's Golden Triangle — the area where Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar converge. These gambling halls and markets, known to be centers of prostitution and drug trafficking, have now emerged as hubs of wildlife trade.

From tiger skin and bones to skulls, forelegs and gall bladder of the goat-like serow, the Golden Triangle's shops and hotels have become a haven for illegal wildlife products, according to recent surveys by WWF and TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network.

Based on these surveys, the teams have identified 10 of the most widely trafficked animals in the Golden Triangle: the tiger, elephant, pangolin,



An elephant pulls a teak log in a logging camp in Pinlebu Township, Sagaing Division. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

bear, rhinoceros, serow, helmeted hornbill, gaur, leopard, and turtles.

"Bear farms and tiger farms, along with wide open wildlife markets across the Golden Triangle, are a menace to wild populations of these species and should be closed," Bill Possiel, WWF-Greater Mekong regional conservation director, said in a statement. "This region has a deserved reputation as both a destination and source of some of the world's most endangered species and that has to stop or these species could go extinct."

The wildlife markets cater mostly to tourists from China and Viet Nam, the survey teams noted in a report. Keen to consume wild animal parts, either in traditional medicines,

food, or as symbols of wealth, these often-elite tourists travel to MongLa and Tachilek in Myanmar, and border areas like Boten and the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone (GT SEZ) in Laos — a joint venture between a Chinese company called the Kings Romans Group, and the Laos government.

"Visitors [in GT SEZ] can openly buy endangered species products including tigers, leopards, elephants, rhinos, pangolins, helmeted hornbills, snakes and bears — smuggled in from Asia and Africa," the Environmental Investigation Agency had reported in 2015. "Restaurants [offer] endangered species on their menus, from 'sauté tiger meat' and bear paws to reptiles and pan-



Wildlife parts in the Golden Triangle region. **PHOTO: WWF-GREATER MEKONG**

golins; one business kept a live python and a bear cub in cages, both of which were available to eat on request."

Meet the top 10 most widely traded animals in the Golden Triangle:

1. Tiger

Tigers — both poached from the wild and captively farmed — are favorites in the Golden Triangle. Nearly every part of the tiger is on sale there, the report notes, either in the form of traditional medicine or as decoration, tiger wine or meat.

2. Elephant

Again, the survey teams found almost every part of elephant on sale in the region, including elephant teeth, hair,

bones, tails, trunks, and ivory. Even elephant skin was available for consumption in restaurants as a cure for stomach ailments, the authors write. While much of the elephant ivory is thought to be smuggled from Africa, elephants in Myanmar are being poached, then skinned, to meet the demands of elephant skin.

3. Pangolin

Chinese and Vietnamese tourists in the Golden Triangle seek out pangolin meat, considered a delicacy, as well as pangolin scales, which are used in traditional medicine. International trade in all eight species of pangolins — four African and four Asian — is prohibited under international law.

SEE PAGE-9

Second day of 7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee holds meeting

THE second day of the 47-member leading committee meeting of the 7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held yesterday at Wizaya Mingala Dhamathabin Hall in Thiri Mingalar Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon.

The meeting was attended by Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maharattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bharmo Sayadaw Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa and member sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, while Permanent Secretary of Ministry for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tun Ohn, Director General of Department of the Religious Affairs Department U Myint Oo and responsible persons from the



The second day of the seventh meeting of the 47-member leading committee of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held in progress. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Department of Religious Affairs and Region and State religious officers were also present at the meeting.

Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka

Committee Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa chaired the meeting and State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Joint Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Gunika

Bhivamsa was master of ceremony.

During the meeting, the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee members discussed on Vinnisara, religious

affairs, educational matters being carried out by the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (second sub group).

The State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (second sub group) made clarification regarding the discussed matters and the report on measures taken by the committee during its sixth term period the joint secretary Sayadaw got the approval for the report. The meeting came to an end in the afternoon.

The member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee were offered breakfast by U Yan Myo Aung and Daw May Phyu Sin family and lunch by Sayadaw Saddhamma Jawtikadhama Bhaddanta Marnita and donors. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker attends cash donation ceremony



Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than attends the collective cash donation handing over ceremony in Yangon. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

AMYOTHA Hluttaw speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than attended the donated cash handing over ceremony at Myanmar Baptists Convention, Min Ye Kyaw Swar Road, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon.

The donated cash were collective donation of Christian churches in Myanmar and other organizations for the resettlement and development of Rakhine State. General Secretary of Federation of Catholic Bishop Myanmar Father Maoris Nyunt Wai prayed and spread

loving-kindness. Then, Sayagyi Saw Pat Tric Luni, chairman of Myanmar Christian church council explained the reasons of the donation. Vice Chairman of Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) as well as Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye received the donated cash, Ks51.157 million handed over by representatives from Christian churches in Myanmar and other organizations. The Union Minister gave words of

thank and certificates of honors.

General Secretary of Myanmar Evangelical Alliance Federation, Reverence Saya Dr Maoris Hlan Nar prayed and spread loving-kindness for the victims in Rakhine State and Chairman of Myanmar Baptists Convention reverence Saya Dr Al Zaw Latt prayed for bliss.

Attended at the meeting were Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun and representatives from Christian churches in Myanmar and other organizations. —MNA ■

Top 10 most widely traded animals in the Golden Triangle ...

FROM PAGE-8

4. Rhino

Most rhino products in the Golden Triangle are believed to have been smuggled from Africa. Rhino horns are, again, popular in traditional medicine, and are also bought as a symbol of wealth, particularly in Vietnam, according to the report.

5. Bear

The Golden Triangle region is home to bear farms, where bile is extracted from species like the Asiatic Black Bear and the Malaysian Sun Bear. The bile from their gall bladders is used in traditional medicine, and the bears' paws are used to make soup. Many of these bear farms likely house bears that have been illegally captured from the wild, the report says.

6. Serow

The goat-like serow that lives in remote mountains across Asia is yet another commonly traded animal in the Golden Triangle's markets. The survey teams found serow horns, skulls, forelegs, heads, gallbladders and medicinal oil on sale. The animal's parts are especially prized in Laos traditional medicines.

7. Helmeted hornbill

This critically endangered bird has a solid bill casque that is extremely prized in China, where carved casques are used as an ivory substitute.

Chinese demand for these casques have led to a drastic decline in helmeted hornbill numbers, the report notes, especially in Indonesia.

8. Gaur

This wild species of cattle is being poached mostly for its majestic horns. Surveys of the markets of the Golden triangle revealed horns, gallbladders for medical purposes and whole heads as trophies, according to the report.

9. Leopard

Leopard products in the markets of the Golden Triangle range from entire skins to heads sold as trophy. The origin of these leopard parts are, however, difficult to pinpoint, the report says. Among the leopards on sale, the teams found that clouded leopards were being traded in particularly high numbers.

10. Turtle

The survey teams found numerous turtles and tortoises in



Leopard skin on display with elephant tusks in a shop in Mong La—2014. **PHOTO: CHRIS R. SHEPHERD / TRAFFIC**

the markets of the Golden Triangle being sold as live animals, decorative items and food. Some turtles on display included soft-shell turtles, Asian box turtles and

impressed tortoises. ■

This article is previously published by Shreya Dasgupta/ Mongabay.com.

Putin, Trump call on all countries to build up humanitarian support to Syria



Russia President Vladimir Putin and US President Donald Trump. PHOTO: TASS

DA NANG /Viet Nam — The Presidents of Russia and the US Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump said in a Joint Statement they are calling on all countries to build up humanitarian assistance to Syria.

The statement, which the presidents approved on sidelines of the APEC summit in Da Nang on Saturday, says the presidents have agreed it is necessary to ease the humanitarian suffering in Syria and called on all the UN member countries to increase within coming months their input in

satisfying the humanitarian needs there.

The conflict in Syria does not have a military solution, Presidents of Russia and the US Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump said in a Joint Statement.

The Presidents of Russia and the US said in a Joint Statement they have agreed to continue the existing military communication channels for security of the US and Russian military, as well as to prevent dangerous incidents involving the partner forces in fighting IS

(terrorist group Islamic state, outlawed in Russia - TASS).

The statement, which the presidents approved on sidelines of the APEC summit in Da Nang on Saturday, says the presidents confirm those efforts would continue to the final defeat of IS.

The Presidents of Russia and the US said in a Joint Statement they hail the 8 November memorandum between the US, Russia and Jordan, supporting success of the initiative on ceasefire in southern Syria.

The presidents agreed the final political settlement should be in the framework of the Geneva process in compliance with the UN SC Resolution 2254, including the constitutional reform and free elections, the statement reads. The presidents noted the recent statement of Syria's President Bashar Assad about the adherence to the Geneva process, the constitutional reform and the elections in compliance with the UN Security Council's Resolution 2254.—Tass ■

APEC leaders agree to address 'unfair trade practices'

DANANG, Viet Nam — Asia-Pacific leaders on Saturday agreed to address "unfair trade practices" and urgently called for the removal of "market distorting subsidies."

A joint statement issued

by 21 countries of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) following their meeting in Viet Nam showed the influence of US President Donald Trump, who has vowed to rewrite trade pacts he sees

as unfavourable to the United States.

"We will work together to make trade more inclusive, support improved market access opportunities, and address unfair trade practices,"

the statement read.

"We urgently call for the removal of market-distorting subsidies and other types of support by governments and related entities." —Reuters ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Putin links peace treaty with Japan to Tokyo's defence alliances

DANANG, Viet Nam — President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday that concluding a peace treaty with Japan would involve Russia examining how it could be affected by Tokyo's security commitments to its allies.

Russia and Japan have never formally ended their hostilities after World War Two because of a dispute over a chain of islands in the Pacific.

Putin was speaking at the end of an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in Viet Nam at which he said he discussed talks on the treaty with Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.—Reuters ■

N Korea says Trump begged for a war during his Asia trip

SEOUL — North Korea said on Saturday that US President Donald Trump's first trip to Asia showed he was a "destroyer" and he had begged for war on the Korean peninsula, in a statement carried by the state news agency.

"Trump made his conceived attempt yet again to alienate our people from the government," the foreign ministry spokesman said.—Reuters ■

US Republican Senate campaign wing ends fundraising tie with Moore — Politico

WASHINGTON — The Republican Party's Senate campaign wing has severed its fundraising deal with Alabama Republican Senate nominee Roy Moore, Politico reported on Friday, a day after allegations emerged that he initiated a sexual encounter with a 14-year-old girl when he was 32.

Politico said Federal Election Commission paperwork filed on Friday showed the National Republican Senatorial Committee was no longer listed as part of a joint fundraising committee with the campaign of Moore, who is now 70, or the Alabama Republican Party and the Republican National Committee.—Reuters ■

Israel says downed Syrian spy drone over Golan

JERUSALEM — Israel shot down a Syrian spy drone over the Golan Heights on Saturday, the Israeli military said.

The drone was downed with a Patriot interceptor missile over the Golan demilitarized zone that has separated Israeli and Syrian forces since the ceasefire deal that followed their 1973 war.

The military initially told Reuters the UAV was Russian-manufactured but offered no evidence. A military source later said it was unclear whether the UAV was indeed Russian-made.

"It was a reconnaissance UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) and not an attack UAV and we are checking whether there is any connection to Iran and Hezbollah," military spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Conricus, told Reuters.

Israeli Defence Minister Avigdor Lieberman said Israel viewed the incident gravely and would respond to any provocation.

"We hold the Syrian regime responsible for any firing or breach of sovereignty and call on it to hold back all players active in its territory," Lieberman said in a statement.

Russia intervened in the civil war on behalf of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in 2015, joining a de-facto alliance with Iranian forces, Lebanese Hezbollah and other Shi'ite Muslim militias helping Damascus beat back Islamic State and other Sunni Muslim insurgent groups.

Israel fears an eventual Assad victory could leave Iran with a permanent garrison in Syria, extending a threat posed from neighbouring Lebanon by the

Iranian-backed Hezbollah and has been lobbying Russia and the United States for reassurances that Iranian and Hezbollah forces will not be allowed to deploy near its border or set up bases within Syria.

"We will not allow the Shi'ite axis to establish Syria as its forefront base," Lieberman said.

The Golan, which Israel captured from Syria in the 1967 conflict, has seen spillover violence from the Syrian civil war. Israel has at times fired to foil what it deemed deliberate cross-border attacks and has struck suspected Hezbollah arms shipments around 100 times in Syria during the civil war.

For its part, Russia has set up a military hotline to prevent warplanes or anti-aircraft units clashing accidentally over Syria. —Reuters ■

Iraqi forces launch offensive to recapture last town in Islamic State control

ERBIL, (Iraq) — Iraqi forces launched an offensive on Saturday to capture Rawa, the last remaining town under Islamic-State control, leaving the group's self-proclaimed caliphate on the verge of complete defeat.

The capture of the town would mark the end of Islamic State's era of territorial rule over a so-called caliphate that it proclaimed in 2014 across vast swathes of Iraq and Syria.

Syria's army declared victory over the militants on Thursday, after seizing the last substantial town on the border with Iraq.

The army and its allies were still fighting Islamic State in desert areas near Albu Kamal, the last town the militant group had

held in Syria.

Two Iraqi infantry divisions and Sunni tribal forces are participating in the offensive to recapture the small town of Rawa and its surrounding areas along the border with Syria, the Joint Operations Command said in a statement.

Last week, Iraqi forces recaptured the larger town of al-Qaim, in what Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi called "record time", leaving just a few small pockets of land in Islamic State's hands.

Iraq has been carrying out its final campaign to crush the Islamic State caliphate while also mounting a military offensive in the north against the Kurds who held an independence referendum in September. —Reuters ■

Hezbollah says Saudi declares Lebanon war with Hariri detention

BEIRUT/PARIS — Hezbollah's leader said on Friday that Saudi Arabia had declared war on Lebanon and his Iran-backed group, accusing Riyadh of detaining Saad al-Hariri and forcing him to resign as Lebanon's prime minister to destabilize the country.

France became the first Western country to indicate that Saudi Arabia was holding Hariri against his will, saying it wished for him to have "all his freedom of movement and be fully able to play the essential role that is his in Lebanon".

Hariri's resignation has plunged Lebanon into crisis, thrusting the small Arab country back to the forefront of regional rivalry between the Sunni Muslim monarchy Saudi Arabia and Shi'ite revolutionary Iran.

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the Hezbollah leader, said Saudi Arabia's detention of Hariri, a long-time Saudi ally who declared his resignation while in Riyadh last Saturday, was an insult to all Lebanese and he must return to Lebanon. "Let us say things as they are: the man is detained in Saudi Arabia and forbidden until this moment from returning to Lebanon," Nasrallah said in a televised speech. "It is clear that Saudi Arabia and Saudi officials



Lebanon's Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah is seen on a video screen as he addresses his supporters in Beirut, Lebanon on 10 November, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

have declared war on Lebanon and on Hezbollah in Lebanon," he said. His comments mirror an accusation by Riyadh on Monday that Lebanon and Hezbollah had declared war on the conservative Gulf Arab kingdom.

Riyadh says Hariri is a free man and he decided to resign because Hezbollah was calling the shots in his government. Saudi

Arabia considers Hezbollah to be its enemy in conflicts across the Middle East, including Syria and Yemen. Western countries have looked on with alarm at the rising regional tension. US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson warned other countries and groups against using Lebanon as vehicle for a larger proxy fight in the Middle East, saying Washington strongly

backed Lebanon's independence and respected Hariri as a strong partner of the United States, still referring to him as prime minister.

"There is no legitimate place or role in Lebanon for any foreign forces, militias or armed elements other than the legitimate security forces of the Lebanese state," Tillerson said in a state-

ment released by the US State Department. Tillerson told reporters on Friday there was no indication that Hariri was being held in Saudi Arabia against his will but that the United States was monitoring the situation.

The French foreign minister said earlier on Friday that he also believed Hariri was a free man — a statement at odds with the later French foreign ministry comment that it wanted Hariri to have "all his freedom of movement". Hariri has made no public remarks since announcing his resignation in a speech televised from Saudi Arabia, saying he feared assassination and accusing Iran and Hezbollah of sowing strife in the Arab world.

Two top Lebanese government officials, a senior politician close to Hariri and a fourth source told Reuters on Thursday that the Lebanese authorities believe Hariri is being held in Saudi Arabia. Nasrallah said Saudi Arabia was encouraging Israel to attack Lebanon. While an Israeli attack could not be ruled out entirely, he said, it was unlikely partly because Israel knew it would pay a very high price. "I warn them against any miscalculation or any step to exploit the situation," he said. —Reuters ■

Russia's upgraded Tu-160 strategic bomber prototype to perform debut flight in 2018

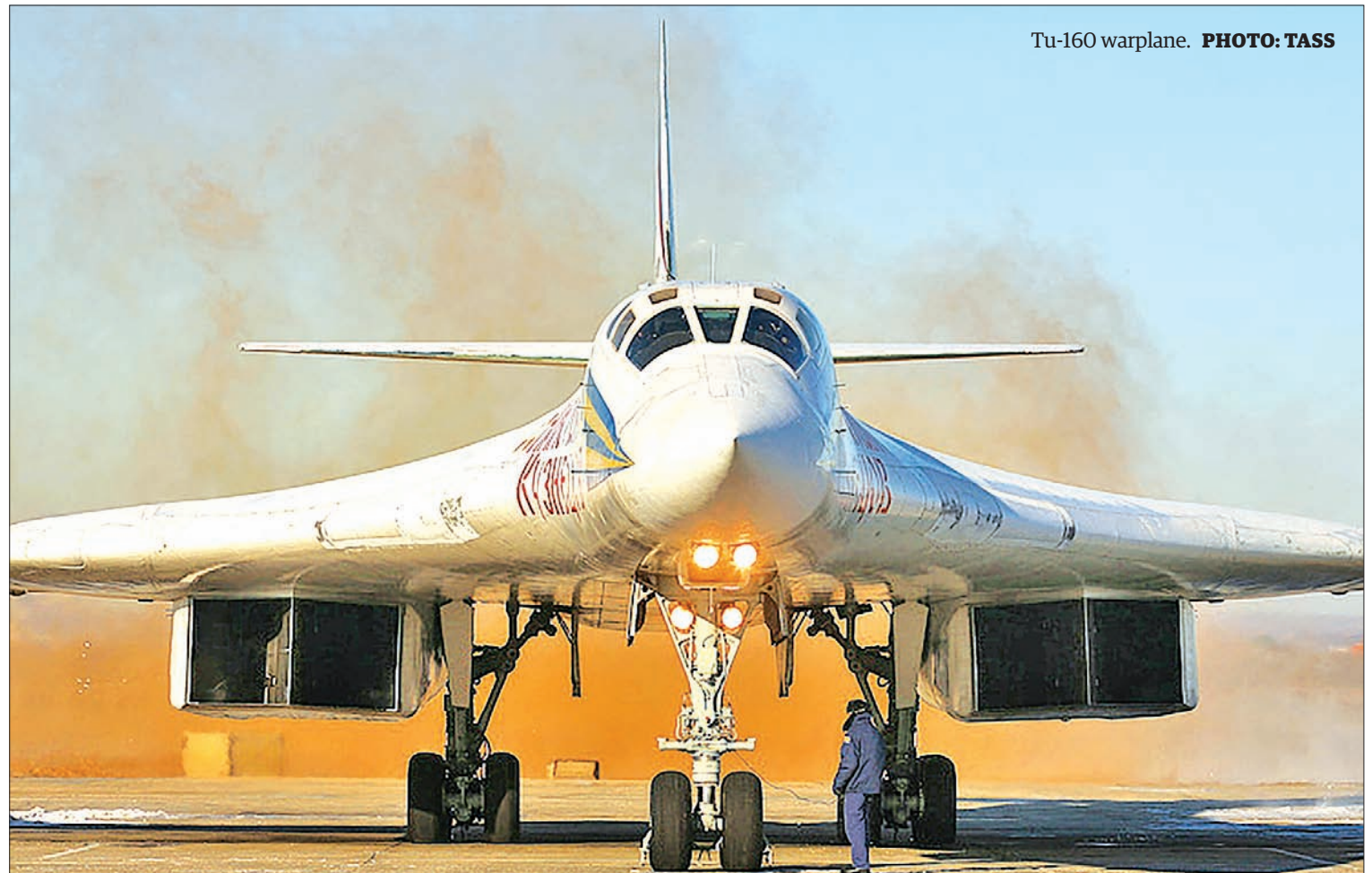
MOSCOW — The Tupolev Tu-160M2 strategic bomber prototype originating from Soviet aircraft breakthroughs will take to the skies for the first time from the airfield of the Kazan Aviation Enterprise in February 2018, a source in the Russian defense industry told TASS on Thursday.

"The plane with the factory number 804 based on Soviet aircraft breakthroughs will be rolled out of the final assembly workshop of the Kazan Aviation Enterprise and delivered to the flight testing station in November this year. The plane is expected to perform its debut flight from the enterprise's aerodrome in February next year," the source said.

This "will be the first combat aircraft capable of performing the same assignments, which operational 16 Tu-160 planes do," he said.

"The 804th plane will be subsequently upgraded to the Tu-160M2 variant," the source said.

It was reported in 2015 that Russia had made a decision to resume the production of Tu-160 bombers in their upgraded Tu-160M2 modification and re-schedule the development of the new-generation bomber PAK DA (Perspective Airborne Complex of Long-Range Aviation) for a



Tu-160 warplane. PHOTO: TASS

later term. The Russian Defence Ministry reported that the serial production of Tu-160M2 bombers should begin in 2023. The Russian Aerospace Force intends to purchase no less than 50 such aircraft. Aerospace Force then-Commander-in-Chief Viktor Bon-

darev said earlier that the Tu-160M2 might take to the skies for the first time already in late 2018.

The Tu-160 is the Soviet strategic missile carrier armed with cruise missiles that can carry nuclear warheads. Along with the Tu-95MS missile carrier, the

Tu-160 makes part of Russia's strategic nuclear forces along with the ground-based missile systems and submarines.

According to data from public sources, the Russian Aerospace Force currently operates 16 such aircraft built during

the Soviet period. About a half of these bombers has already undergone repairs and modernization. Russian Deputy Defence Minister Yuri Borisov earlier said that all the Tu-160 bombers operational in the Aerospace Force will be fully upgraded.—Tass ■

Anti-Trump group says most of US economy backs Paris climate pact

OSLO — US cities, states and businesses accounting for more than half the country's economy remain committed to the 2015 Paris climate accord despite President Donald Trump's plan to pull out, an anti-Trump alliance said on Saturday.

The "America's Pledge" report, presented on the sidelines of 200-nation talks on global warming in Bonn, Germany, said non-federal US backers of the Paris pact accounted for \$10.1 trillion or 54 per cent of US 2016 gross domestic product.

"The group ... represents a bigger economy than any nation outside the US and China," said former New York mayor Michael Bloomberg, a leading opponent of Trump's decision in June to

withdraw from the agreement and to promote US coal and oil.

No other nation has followed Trump's lead. The report, led by Bloomberg and California Governor Jerry Brown, said it was the first to assess the extent of non-federal support for climate action by US cities, businesses and states. The Paris agreement seeks to end the fossil fuel era this century with a radical shift to cleaner energies such as wind and solar power to curb heat waves, downpours, floods and rising sea levels. "California strongly supports the United Nations' unstoppable move to decarbonize the world economy," Brown said.

Backing the Paris Agreement meant rallying around a target set by former President

Barack Obama to cut US emissions by between 26 and 28 per cent below 2005 levels by 2025, the report said. It also said 20 US states, 110 US cities and more than 1,400 businesses with US operations representing \$25 trillion in market capitalization had already set quantified targets to cut emissions. Together they accounted for 900 million tonnes of greenhouse gases per year, it said. "You are part of an unstoppable movement that is stretching North and South, East and West," Patricia Espinosa, head of the UN climate change secretariat, said in a statement. America's Pledge said climate action did not brake economic growth. US net greenhouse gas emissions have dropped by 11.5 per cent in the



A woman walks past a giant tent, set by US groups opposed to US President Donald Trump, on the sidelines of UN climate negotiations in Bonn, Germany on 9 November, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

past decade, while the economy grew by 15 per cent, it said.

The report said that a next phase of the report, in 2018, would look more in detail at the extent of US actions. On Friday, former US vice president Al Gore predicted in Bonn that the United States

would meet the goals set by Obama. "The leading experts in the United States are telling us that the US is on track to meet and exceed the Paris commitments regardless of what Tweets or statements come from the White House," he said.—Reuters ■

Indonesian forces prepare to storm Papua villages held by rebels

JAKARTA — Indonesian security forces in the eastern province of Papua are preparing to storm five villages that they say are being held by an armed rebel group, police officials said on Saturday.

Around 200 police and military personnel have been deployed and are awaiting orders to secure the area, where an armed separatist group linked to

the Free Papua Movement (OPM) is preventing about 1,000 people from leaving an area near a giant copper mine, operated by the American miner Freeport-McMoRan Inc.

“Today the joint police and military forces have occupied various posts to be able to take action,” said Papua police spokesman, Suryadi Diaz. “They will be taken dead or alive,”

he said of the around 100 rebels that police say have tortured and abused the villagers since taking over the area several days ago.

A state of emergency has been declared in the area and at least 300 additional security forces have been deployed to the area of the province after a string of shootings since 17 August that killed one police officer and wounded

six. The rebel group, the West Papua National Liberation Army (TPN-OPM), on Friday denied occupying villages near the mine, but said it was “at war” with the police, military, and Freeport. Papua has had a long-running and sometimes violent separatist movement since it was incorporated into Indonesia after a widely criticised UN-backed referendum in

1969. President Joko Widodo has sought to ease tension in the two provinces by stepping up investment, freeing political prisoners and addressing human rights concerns. This is the first escalation of violence during his term.

Freeport’s Grasberg mine has been dogged by security concerns for decades due to a low-level conflict waged by pro-in-

dependence rebels in Papua. Between 2009 and 2015, shootings within the mine project area killed 20 people and wounded 59.

More recently, Freeport, the world’s largest publicly listed copper producer, has been grappling with labour problems at Grasberg and a dispute with the Indonesian government over rights to the mine.—Reuters ■

Australian MP resigns over dual nationality in new blow for government

SYDNEY — Australia’s Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said he would not call a general election after a citizenship crisis claimed another member of parliament on Saturday, leaving his government clinging to power with the support of two independents.

Australia’s constitution bars dual nationals from parliament, and Turnbull’s centre-right coalition government was thrown into disarray last month by a High Court ruling that five of them were ineligible to be lawmakers.

Earlier on Saturday, Conservative Liberal party MP John Alexander told reporters in Sydney he was no longer certain that he was solely Australian, and that meant he had to resign.

Turnbull will deal with issues such as a no-confidence motion when they arise, he told a televised news conference in Viet Nam’s central city of Danang, where he is attending a summit of Asia-Pacific leaders.

“We have the support of the crossbench on matters of confidence and supply. There is no question of that happening,” Turnbull added, ruling out the possibility of a no-confidence motion.



Australia’s Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull takes part in a dialogue during the APEC CEO Summit, ahead of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders summit in Danang, Viet Nam on 10 November 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

His centre-right coalition government must rely on the two independents to vote with it to safeguard its position and block the passage of legislation it opposes. Turnbull said he expected a 2 December by-election would return Barnaby Joyce both to parliament and to his former position as deputy prime minister, thus bolstering the government.

He ruled out an early return to Australia following Alexander’s resignation. “It is my obligation that I must resign,” Alex-

ander told a news conference. “That’s what I will do. I think there is a great need for certainty, to clarify the situation and to do so as expeditiously as possible.”

Alexander had been waiting for Britain’s Home Office to clarify whether he held British citizenship by descent. It is not known whether they responded.

He would have to confirm sole Australian citizenship before fighting a by-election to regain his seat.

Alexander said he

planned to contest the by-election which The Sydney Morning Herald said must be announced no later than Monday, to allow the minimum 33-day campaign required to hold the poll on 16 December.

Only the two independents now guarantee Turnbull’s position after the High Court ruling expelled three members of the Liberal-National coalition government from parliament, with a fourth resigning days later, after confirming his dual nationality.—Reuters ■

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Taylor Swift's 'Reputation' debuts to strong sales, mixed reviews

LOS ANGELES — Taylor Swift's revenge-tinged new album "Reputation" soared to the top of the iTunes charts on its first day of release on Friday, earning mixed reviews from music critics while fans devoured the lyrics for clues about her latest targets.

"Reputation," Swift's first studio album in three years, marks another transformation in image for the country-turned-pop star. It was not made available to music streaming services, in line with the singer's previous releases. Swift, 27, is known for using her love life for inspiration without ever directly naming names.

In "Reputation," fans and music writers saw hints of her ex-boyfriends Calvin Harris and British actor Tom Hiddleston as possible subjects in the tracks "I Did Something Bad" and "Dancing with Our Hands Tied."

The singer's current love, British actor Joe Alwyn, was widely seen as the inspiration for some of the more romantic tracks



Taylor Swift performs "Out of the Woods" at the 58th Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, California on 15 February, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

like "Gorgeous" and "Delicate." Swift's long-running feud with rapper Kanye West surfaces again in the track "This Is Why

We Can't Have Nice Things." "There I was giving you a second chance, But then you stabbed my back while shaking

my hand," she sings.

The 15-track album's mix of hip-hop, dance and just one acoustic ballad projects a tougher,

more vindictive image of the singer who made her name 10 years ago with yearning songs about first love and being an outsider.

Swift declared that her old self was dead in "Look What You Made Me Do," released in August as the first single from the "Reputation" album. It had the biggest YouTube debut in history with more than 43 million views in the first 24 hours.

In a review headlined "Taylor Swift is no longer America's sweetheart", Entertainment Weekly's Leah Greenblatt called "Reputation" an "oddly bifurcated creation, half obsessed with grim score settling and celebrity damage, half infatuated with a lover who takes her away from all that." USA Today's Maeve McDermott said the album was a "fully formed look at a singer in love, and in control," while Jon Caramanica at the New York Times called it "bombastic, unexpected and sneakily potent." — Reuters ■

Sam Rockwell grapples with race and anger in 'Three Billboards'

LOS ANGELES — As a San Francisco native, Sam Rockwell says he doesn't know why he gets offered roles to play "a lot of red-necks and country guys," but he's taking the opportunity to try to understand complex, unlovable male characters.

Rockwell, 49, who recently played a Klansman and a brutish Texas colonel, currently co-stars as a racist, angry police officer in the movie "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri."

"I think he's very lonely. I think he was probably abused. His father hit him when he was a kid, and he's got a weird relationship with his mom," Rockwell told Reuters of his character, Dixon.

"All this adds to a lot of complexity," he added. "Three Billboards," out in US theaters on Friday, stars Frances McDormand as Mildred, a woman on a mission to get the local police in her small Missouri hometown to properly investigate the murder of her daughter.

The film, produced by Fox Searchlight, has already attracted awards buzz and strong critical praise for both McDormand and Rockwell. McDormand's hardened, foul-mouthed Mildred



Director Martin McDonagh (L) and cast member Sam Rockwell pose for a portrait while promoting the movie "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" in Beverly Hills, California, US on 3 November, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

places questions on three large billboards about the town's police efforts that cause her to clash with law enforcement, particularly Dixon. "None of these characters live in the black and white. They live in the gray," Rockwell said. "Three Billboards" writer and director Martin McDonagh said Dixon isn't a "representation of a thing or an idea or a group." Furthermore, Dixon's character in "Three Billboards" is forced to face humility and he ends the film in an unexpected place.

"If I was just writing a strictly racist brute, then you

wouldn't have found the hope or the change or the humanity in him," McDonagh said. While "Three Billboards" was first written about eight years ago, its exploration of a small, isolated town and a racist police officer has some resonance with present day racial tensions in America. McDonagh and Rockwell said they hoped the film sparked conversations around the issue. "I think it's good to put out a film that starts off in a place of anger and rage but kind of has a lot of hope and humanity to it too," McDonagh said.—Reuters ■

Movie Review: Qarib Qarib Singlle

MUMBAI — In "Qarib Qarib Singlle" (Almost single), Irrfan Khan plays a smart-talking, glib man who goes on a road trip across India. But unlike 2015's "Piku", this trip doesn't seem to be as much fun. Khan plays Yogi, a middle-aged man with lots of time and money who signs up with a dating website. He meets Jaya (Parvathy), a widow whose friends egg her on to "get some action." She lives alone and faces the same problems that any woman above 30 in India faces while looking for companionship — the stigma attached to being a widow and the lack of suitors.

She and Yogi seem diametrically opposite — she is a South Indian, a working professional, and one who has strong ideas of right and wrong. He is a drifter with a disregard for rules and a ready repartee that often puts her off-guard. A love story between these two would have been interesting enough without inserting the travel bit into it, but director Tanuja Chandra and co-writer Gazal Dhaliwal are determined to take these two on what turns out to be a wild goose chase. An off-hand remark about Yogi's ex-lovers

turns into a plan for a road trip to go and meet all of them, and Jaya finds herself tagging along. As they meet the women who made up Yogi's romantic past, Jaya finds herself inexplicably drawn to this strange, whimsical man. But Chandra loads her narrative with too many things — Jaya's unresolved issues with her friends, Yogi's half-baked romances — and all of them do nothing to enhance the story. For what it's worth, the beginning of a relationship between two people in their late 30s in India is a film waiting to be made, but Chandra lost focus.

Luckily for Chandra, her lead performers are powerhouses who can make even middling screenplays look good. Irrfan Khan seems to be having the most fun — he gets the best lines and takes great relish in serving them out. Parvathy as the woman struggling to give love a second chance is the star of the film — she's expressive, vulnerable at all the right moments, and just the perfect amount of ditzy. If only Chandra had focused on her two strongest characters and left out the rest, we'd have a winner on our hands.—Reuters ■

Outgoing Singaporean Ambassador calls on Union Attorney-General

AMBASSADOR of Singapore to Myanmar Mr. Robert Chua, who has completed his tour of duty in Myanmar, called on Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo on Friday in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting at the office of the Union Attorney-General, the outgoing ambassador and U Tun Tun Oo discussed several issues including promoting bilateral

friendship between the two countries, keeping on cooperation in promoting legal sector, further cooperating in conducting human resource development and legal training courses under the Memorandum of Understanding signed by Singapore's Ministry of Legal Affairs and the Union Attorney-General Office. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo receives outgoing Singaporean Ambassador Mr. Robert Chua in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 November. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Kirakira Japan II to be broadcast every Saturday



Kirakira Japan II with 7 episodes to be broadcast every Saturday starting from 6th January 2018. Moe Set Wine will serve as a presenter in the program. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

MOE Set Wine, will serve as a presenter in the Kirakira Japan II with 7 episodes to be broadcast every Saturday from 6.30 pm to 7 pm as from January 6th, 2018.

Kirakira Japan II introduces the great history, nature and world leading manufacturing companies in Japan. Moe Set Wine tastes local cuisine, experiences Japanese culture and reports what she feels. Additionally, she meets students and workers from Myanmar and unveils their lives in Japan. Kirakira Japan II lets the Myanmar audience discover today's Japan.

In the first episode, Moe Set visits Shizuoka, home to Mount Fuji, which is well known among Burmese people. She encounters an oppor-

tunity to see a Japanese wedding ceremony at the biggest shrine in the area, the Mishima Taisha Shrine.

Then she feels moved by the Genbei River's clear water abundant with melted snow and rainfall from Mount Fuji. Next, while visiting Karuizawa, a resort area in Japan.

She tastes local wagyu beef shabu shabu and enjoys shopping at a large outlet mall. In Fukushima, she meets Burmese students and reports on the reconstruction after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. She also buys some Kirakira souvenirs such as a music box and glasswork as gifts for the viewers. Watch the shows and apply on the official Facebook page. —GNLM ■

Poems in Dottyville — How two traumatised soldiers changed notions of war

EDINBURGH — An imposing 19th Century building with elegant manicured lawns and sweeping views of the Edinburgh skyline seems an unlikely place to have earned the nickname “Dottyville” from one of Britain's most revered poets.

But Craiglockhart War Hospital, now part of a Heriot Watt University campus on the outskirts of the Scottish capital, was where traumatised souls took refuge from war and where Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen wrote about their terrifying experiences as part of treatment for shell-shock in 1917.

Their friendship and mutual admiration became the catalyst for some of the most vivid and best-known writing in English about war, playing a big part in changing public perceptions of a patriotic death being a glorious destiny.

This weekend, Britain commemorates its war dead on Remembrance Sunday with the laying of wreaths at official ceremonies up and down the country.

Owen and Sassoon, whose work often features in such ceremonies, were treated for a kind of post-traumatic stress disorder when they were sent to Craiglockhart, a psychiatric military facility Sassoon affectionately nicknamed Dottyville in a play on the English slang word for “mad”.

The doctor treating Owen recommended a “talking cure,” urging him to write to overcome the terror of being blown into the air by a bomb, Catherine Walker, curator of the War Poets' Collection housed at Craiglockhart, told Reuters.

His first poems were published anonymously in The Hy-



Actors Jake Morgan and Sam Ducane extend their hands to catch poppies, as they pose for photographs at the launch of the 1918 Poppy Pledge in a re-creation of a First World War trench at Pollock House in Glasgow, Scotland on 10 November, 2017. The actors appeared in the The Wipers Times, a play named after a magazine published by British soldiers in the First World War. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

dra, Craiglockhart's in-house magazine, which Owen edited.

Most of his poems, however, were published posthumously.

“Dulce et Decorum est”, in which he slates the idea that dying for one's country is an honour, portrays the terror of a soldier dying of gas-poisoning, hearing “the blood/Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,/Obscene as cancer.”

Owen was the younger of the two writers and worshipped published author Sassoon, who was from a wealthy influential family. Sassoon edited and encouraged Owen during a convalescence of several months in Scotland.

“You can certainly see that their poetry tightens up and becomes more powerful while they're here,” said Walker. “Anthem for Doomed Youth’ was originally ‘Anthem for Dead Youth’ and you can see in the original manuscript that ‘Dead’ is scored out and ‘Doomed’ is substituted, which was Sassoon's influence on Owen.”

Sassoon had escaped court martial after writing an open letter, read in Britain's parliament, declaring “wilful defiance of military authority because I believe that the war is being deliberately prolonged by those who have the power to end it”. Instead he was given leave.

Once at Craiglockhart, a former hotel, he described how it was “elaborately cheerful” during the day. “In the evenings it became, as Sassoon said, ‘a living museum of war neuroses,’” Walker said.

“People would hallucinate, have bad dreams, migraines and disturbed sleep and lots of officers stammered and were depressed.”

Their friendship and the cures espoused by their psychiatrists helped both to return to the front, driven by a loyalty to the men they fought with, despite their criticism of the war. Owen died in battle just before the end of World War One, in 1918, aged 25. Sassoon survived the war and died aged 80.—Reuters ■

Tearful Neymar denies problems at PSG

PARIS—Brazil forward Neymar denied he had problems with his team mates at his club Paris St Germain and was moved to tears after being given the backing of his national team coach Tite on Friday.

After helping Brazil beat Japan 3-1 in a friendly, Neymar refuted suggestions that he regretted moving to the French club.

“I don’t like whispers and stories so it’s better that you hear it from the horses mouth,” he told reporters after scoring one penalty and missing another during the game in Lille.

“I don’t have any problems at PSG, the only thing that bothers me is the pressure from the media. I’m a guy who likes to win, I like winning titles and that’s why I came to PSG.

“I’m very happy, I’m motivated. They are inventing stories which aren’t true, I don’t have any problems with (forward) Edinson Cavani or with my



Aris Saint-Germain's
Neymar. PHOTO: REUTERS

coach (Unai Emery).

“I came to help and to be happy, I didn’t come to upset anyone or cause trouble.”

Tite backed Neymar and denied suggestions that he also had a troubled relationship with the player.

“I keep hearing that Tite has problems with Neymar and I am tired of hearing that... we are tired of it,” he said.

“I know that if he did have problems, then he would have the decency and the good character to talk about them in the

dressing room.

“I can talk about Neymar’s temperament, his good nature and his big heart.”

Neymar was clearly moved by those words and left after being given a pat on the head by his coach.—Reuters ■

Nadal says cannot guarantee will be fit for ATP Finals

LONDON — World number one Rafael Nadal said on Friday that he still cannot guarantee he will play in London’s ATP Finals starting this week-end.

Nadal is due to play Belgium’s David Goffin in his first match at the tournament on Monday, but told reporters that his injured knee might not hold up. “I’m doing my best,” said the Spaniard, twice a runner-up but never champion of the season-ending event.

“I hope... (but) if I am not ready by Monday I won’t be here. If something negative happens, that’s it and you go home. “(But) my plan is to play here and be competing well.”—Reuters ■

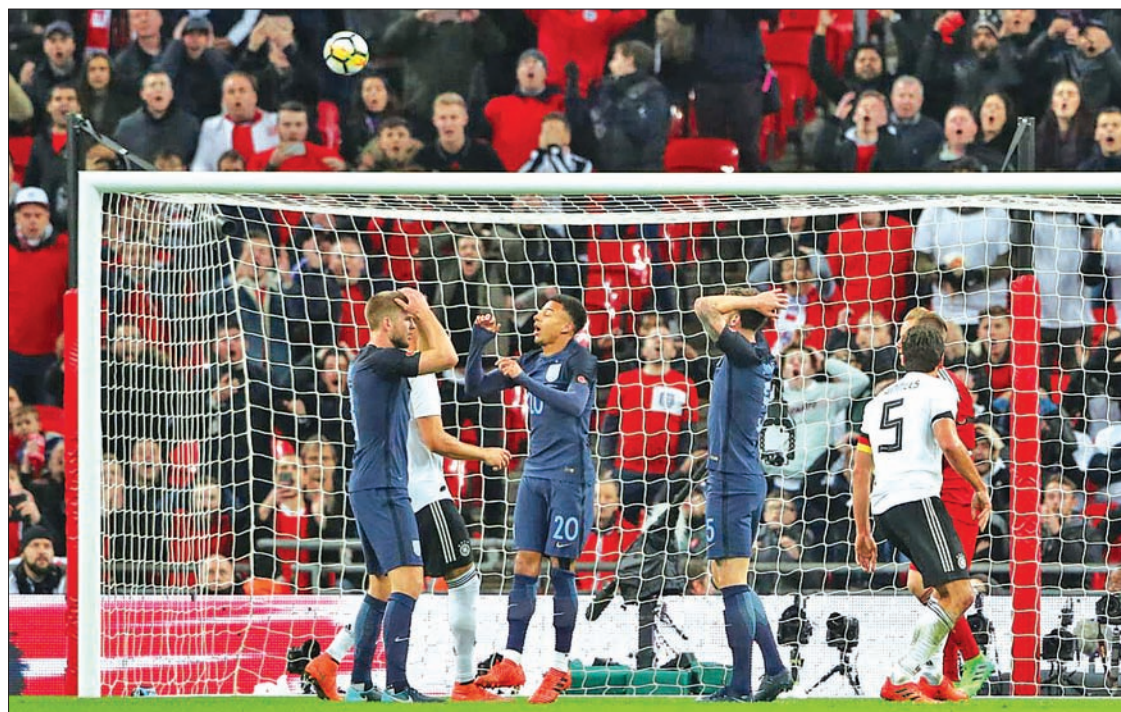
England’s Southgate delighted with composed youngsters

LONDON — England coach Gareth Southgate was delighted with the composure and intelligence shown by his fresh-faced team on Friday as a side that eventually saw five debuts settled down to go toe-to-toe with world champions Germany in a 0-0 friendly draw.

England were on the back foot for much of the first half but found a way to stop the flow of attacks and had good chances of their own as a Wembley crowd finally got some entertainment after sterile performances in the World Cup qualifying campaign.

“It was a proper game tonight. Against top players you have to be switched on and tactically right and I thought there were a lot of positives,” Southgate told reporters on a night when England’s team boasted fewer than 80 caps for much of the match. “There were a few shaky moments early on and their system caused us some problems but actually ours caused them some problems too. We showed real composure with the ball and were tactically better without the ball in the second half.

“This is a young group but they’re switched on. We’re asking



England’s Jesse Lingard reacts after a missed chance during the International Friendly match between England vs Germany on 10 November, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

them not to just go and play with their hearts and then press in the wrong place but to think about it, and one of the most pleasing things is that this group are responding to that.”

Jordan Pickford made some excellent saves to keep England in the game in the first half but it was fellow debutant Ruben Loftus-Cheek who most caught the

eye of the 82,000 crowd.

The big midfielder took the calm, almost casual approach that Chelsea did not consider good enough to give him more than occasional opportunities, on to the international stage.

“I’ve watched him do that since he was 16 but despite his size and talent he’s not hugely confident at times and it took him

10 minutes tonight to realise ‘I’m alright here’,” Southgate said of the 21-year-old who is on loan at Crystal Palace. “He has so many top attributes, maybe the wider public are not so aware of him but we believe in him and in the others and I’m really not surprised at what they’ve done.”

Germany coach Joachim Loew was also using the match

to look at some new and inexperienced faces and pronounced himself very pleased with debutant fullback Marcel Halstenberg

“It was a real test – England have improved since 2014 and have some dynamic young players,” Loew said after extending his unbeaten run to 20 matches since the Euro 2016 semi-finals.

“We were very good in the first half and made some good chances but in the second we could have broken forward a bit better and switched it around a bit more. “Sometimes in qualifying teams park the bus so this was a different challenge and we need to spend time working on how to break through and have a look at different players and how they perform against the top teams.” Germany host France on Tuesday, when England play Brazil at Wembley, and Loew said he planned more changes to keep his side fresh but also to ease the load on his experienced players with an eye on their defence of the World Cup next year in Russia.

“There is a lot of pressure on these players,” he said. “We want them healthy and at a top level at the end of the season.”—Reuters ■

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Kris Ye Yint
Student

TECHNOLOGY has been advancing at an unprecedented speed since complex tools and mechanisms were introduced in the first industrial revolution. Starting with the emergence of mechanisation in 18th century as the first industrial revolution, fascinating discoveries of the energy sources of electricity, oil and gas in the 19th century and the rise of modern electronics, nuclear energy and computers in the 20th century kept up the speed of growth. Nowadays, people are stepping into the world of the fourth industrial revolution, commonly called the Industry 4.0, where systems of eGovernment, Smart Cities and Artificial Intelligence is highly expected to usher the era of enhanced productivity, raised livelihood and escalated ease in performing our tasks, in all of the government, private and public sectors.

Up until this juncture of the start Industry 4.0, technology has been exceedingly advantageous to man. Communication is one of the many areas that benefited from the growth of technology. In olden times, communicating with people distant from a specific location was an inconvenient and burdensome task, requiring communication by physical letters and a lot of patience. These days, the internet made long distances transparent, almost taking away the factor of location on the task of communication. In an instant, users can correspond with people from the other side of the planet. In addition, technology has enhanced our connectivity, with cell phones and devices providing an always-on link to the global communication network. This evolution in communication



has opened doors to a great number of opportunities such as online conferences, product ordering and event organising. It has also diminished a lot of pain such as waiting to get important messages sent and being unable to get emergency help.

Technology has had significant effects on the healthcare industry as well. Advancements in the tools of diagnostics have enabled doctors to identify diseases easily, increasing chances of successful treatments and saving lives. The frightening diseases of the past that has caused deadly epidemics such as small pox and

diphtheria has been almost eradicated by the advancements in medicines and vaccines. Modern medicine had allowed patients to manage chronic conditions that were once debilitating, such as hypertension. Technological advancement in the healthcare industry have improved quality of life for people worldwide and extended lifespans.

Another area where computers and the internet have become exceedingly crucial is education. Having the ability to store large amounts of data in a small space, computers have reduced entire

shelves of reference books into CDs of data. The internet also serves as a colossal resource for learning, linking informational sites and allowing the curious to search for any topic imaginable. A single computer could store a great amount of education audio, video and games and allow students access to a wealth of knowledge. In the classroom, virtual whiteboards can replace blackboards, allowing teachers to provide interactive content which were nearly thought of science-fiction in the olden days.

SEE SUPPLEMENT-H

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

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Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

Wh questions (Question Words)

Types of questions

There are two types of questions:

- Yes or no questions
- Wh questions

Question words

Question words are also called **wh** questions because they include the letters 'W' and 'H'.

Question words	Meaning	Examples
who	person	Who's that? That's Nancy.
where	place	Where do you live? In Boston
why	reason	Why do you sleep early? Because I've got to get up early
when	time	When do you go to work? At 7:00
how	manner	How do you go? By car
what	object, idea or action	What do you do? I am an engineer
which	choice	Which one do you prefer? The red one.
whose	possession	Whose is this book? It's Alan's.
whom	object of the verb	Whom did you meet? I met the manager.
what kind	description	What kind of music do you like? I like quiet songs
what time	time	What time did you come home?
how many	quantity (countable)	How many students are there? There are twenty.
how much	amount, price (uncountable)	How much time have we got? Ten minutes
how long	duration, length	How long did you stay in that hotel? For two weeks.
how often	frequency	How often do you go to the gym? Twice a week.
how far	distance	How far is your school? It's one mile far.
how old	age	How old are you? I'm 16.
how come	reason	How come I didn't see you at the party?

Asking questions

1. If you ask about the subject of the sentence, simply add the question word at the beginning:

Example:

James writes good poems. — **Who** writes good poems?

2. If you ask about the predicate of the sentence (the part of a sentence which contains the verb and gives information about the subject), there are three options:

- If there is a helping (auxiliary) verb that precedes the main verb (for example: can, is, are, was, were, will, would...), add the question word and invert the subject and the helping (auxiliary) verb.

Examples:

He can speak Chinese. — **What can he** speak?

They are leaving tonight. — **When are they** leaving?



- If you ask about the predicate and there is no helping (auxiliary) verb and the verb is "to be", simply add the question word and invert the subject and the verb.

Example:

The play was interesting. — **How was the play?**

- If there is no helping (auxiliary) verb in the the predicate and the main verb is not "to be", add the auxiliary "do" in the appropriate form.

Examples:

They go to **the movies** every Saturday. — **Where do** they go every Saturday?

He wakes up **early**. — **When does** he wake up?

They sent a **letter**. — **What did** they send?

Exercises

I. Choose the correct question words

1. ----- do you live? - I live in London. (What, Where, Why)
2. -----'s that girl? - She's my sister. (How, Whose, Who)
3. ----- do you go to school? - By bus. (When, How, Which)
4. ----- do banks open? - At eight O'clock. (When, Why, What)
5. ----- are you wearing that coat? - Because it's hot! (How, Who, Why)

II. Fill the correct question words

1. ----- are you going tomorrow?
2. ----- are you traveling?
3. ----- would you like to have for dessert?
4. ----- are you crying ?
5. ----- one do you like?
6. ----- do you feel today?
7. ----- time are leaving?
8. ----- book is this?
9. ----- has broken this vase?
10. ----- don't you see a doctor?

III. Write question about the words in bold.

Example:

He drank juice. - What did he drink?

1. They went to **Spain**.

2. He writes **novels**.

3. **Lacy** likes soccer.

4. The girls watched a **serial**.

5. He discovered **the truth**.



See you next week !
Global New Light of Myanmar

(Answers on Supplement-C)

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ABSORBED as each of us with personal crises, we may lose perspective toward problems around us. Perhaps, we ignore them because they are such tremendous proportions, almost incomprehensible in their immensity. Or else our own little world is so selfishly satisfying that we want to restrict the scope of our concern. Or we may just not know that there is anything else. But teachers and pedagogues cannot restrict their thoughts and activities to the pleasure of their own company. They are forced to be aware of the world outside and to lead their children or wards and charges into it with understanding, sensitivity, and a basic concern for the various problems of others.

But, does the general public know this important role of the teacher? Hardly..... The stereotype of the teacher, although changing, and as unfair and inaccurate as most stereotypes are, in often the buxom, dominant woman or the "Saya Saw" type old man wearing drab, ill-fitting, unchanging clothes.

A concomitant stereotype about teachers, which tends to persist particularly in rural regions, is a belief that employing a teacher is a genteel kind of charity. Teachers (generally of primary and secondary levels, university faculty being subjected to the "prima donna concept") often come under supervisory and administrative pressures resulting from an extension of this notion / concept of employment.

Not only have some administrators absorbed this attitude but they have merged it with still another persistent view, that teaching involves a mystical call; that the teacher is a combination of missionary and pioneer; that he should accept the hazards and forego the rewards of his profession.

Another commonly held prejudice is that the study of Education is at worst a kind of scholarly astrology. At best it relates to the respectable disciplines about the same way the chiropractic does to medicine, and the teacher in wasting a substantial amount of time on Education is becoming an apprentice quack and should be treated as such.

Voices of authority have been criticizing teachers and the way they are prepared. The premises from which they start are usually something like these. May be teachers know HOW

to teach, but let's be practical What about subject matter?

I'd love to teach, but oh, those education courses are

Those who can, do;
Those who can't, teach,
Those who can't teach, teach the teachers
The teachers colleges are doing a terrible jobs
Everybody knows that

As such accusations fly, many who are in teacher preparation or teacher education do the human thing. They deny, defend, or use the well-known "better than ever" routine.

And then, at the end of the argument, they go home depressed and disgusted with themselves for running away, for making every effort "to get along with the cook". Their remorse can be traced to some obvious facts: Many of them know there is a great deal wrong with the preparation of future teachers; they also know what should be done about it .. but their unconscionable RELUCTANCE to move quickly and decisively is a stunning source of embarrassment and shame to many in the profession.

Improvement, whether it is of a person, a country, or a profession, has to come from WITHIN.

In John Keats' diatribe against teachers and those

who teach them, his approach seemed too antagonistic, but a few of his points hit the spot or the bull. There ARE some teachers, hopefully not too many, who mark time until the next paycheck, run around the principal in circles, fail to keep up with the research in their own field, bury one's self in administrative detail, or teach exactly as one was taught years ago, and, as a result, LOWER the entire PROFESSIONAL LEVEL of us pedagogues.

No educational system can be better than its teachers. None can ever improve without both QUANTITY and QUALITY.

Something more critical than more classrooms and higher teachers' salaries is involved. It is the capacity to produce personnel who will be fully qualified, both academically and professionally, to lead the free and noble education world.

In order for education to advance significantly, it needs sweeping changes ON THE INSIDE Inside the profession, equating high standards with hard work and more of it can be depressing when quantity is everything and QUALITY fades out of the educational picture. The importance of the qualitative work must be stressed over and above that of the quantitative aspects of Pedagogy.

Our society cannot achieve greatness unless individuals at

ALL LEVELS of ability accept the need for HIGH standards of performance (or professional expertise) and strive to achieve those standards within the limits possible for them.

For this, we must foster a CONCEPTION OF EXCELLENCE which may be applied to every degree of ABILITY and to every socially acceptable activity. A missile may blow upon its launching pad because the chief designer was incompetent. The same is true of everything else in our society. We need excellent space physicists and excellent mechanics. We need excellent cabinet members and excellent office clerks. We need excellent professors and excellent first grade primary assistant teachers.

Many factors interfere with the search for and establishment of proper codes of conduct, ethics or standards of which we can always be proud.

Attitudes that too frequently permeates our society and are transmitted to our children are revealed in such modern slang expressions as "doing someone in", "cutting someone short", "giving the dirty ends of the stick" or Myanmar "Yaiksar", meaning "gaining easy by swindling".

Also part of the atmosphere are the what's-in-it-for-me attitude, complacency, and condoning of laziness. It must be borne

in mind that, for both professional and citizen, competence is an elementary duty. The man who does a slovenly job, whether he is a bullock-cart friver or a Supreme Court Judge, a thoracic surgeon or a systems analyst lowers the tone of his society.

The highest standard to set for each child is to offer him the best, most profound, most challenging ideas in every subject area, and expect him to do all that he is capable of.

The highest professional ethic to set for the teacher or professor is to offer him the best, most profound, most challenging ideas in his chosen field or specialization, the art and science of education, and expect him to do all that he is capable of doing. For the Good of the Child or for the Good of the Professional Pedagogue's Student.

Answers from Supplement-B

- I. (1) Where, (2) Who, (3) How, (4) When, (5) Why
II. (1) Where, (2) How, (3) What, (4) Why, (5) Which, (6) How, (7) What, (8) Whose, (9) Who, (10) Why
III.
1. Where did they go?
2. What does he write?
3. Who likes soccer?
4. What did the girls watch?
5. What did he discover?

A Conception of EXCELLENCE



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



Two popular colonial-era forts in Magway

By Maung Lu Aye

FORT Minhla and Fort Gwaychaung, two late Konbaung ear forts built to resist a British invasion. For Minhla is situated inside the town of Minhla and Fort Gwaychaung is located at opposite bank of the River.

Fort Minhla

The Min Hla fort was built in 1860 – 1861. Construction was a collaborative effort between the younger brother of King Mindon, Prince Kanaung; French and Italian experts and Myanmar engineers.

The Min Hla fort was built on the western bank of the Ayeyawady river, measuring 184 by 171 feet in length, with a height of 26 feet. The telegraph office that was used during the time of the Myanmar monarchy still stands today, located in the northern wing of the fortification.

Today, it is recognized as the site of a great battle during the Second Anglo-Burmese War and it is a popular tourist attraction

in Minhla today.

In 1860 King Mindon had two Italian brothers build a brick colonial fort along the bend in the river to keep the British forces out of Burma, but after a series of conflicts, the fort ultimately fell to the British in 1885. The British got wind of the fortress and surprised them by coming in the back way by land.

Visitors can get into the fort to walk around and go up to the upper level.

The majority of foreign visitors who visited the fort are from countries such as the USA, Britain, Australia, Germany, Switzerland, New Zealand and Canada as well as lesser numbers of Asia region tourists.

The Minhla Fort is the main site foreign and local travelers visit once the boats dock at the riverside jetty in the town of Minhla.

Foreign visitor numbers habitually dwindle during the rainy months, when river waters are high, and increase again during the current cold season when the weather becomes more suitable for outside activity.

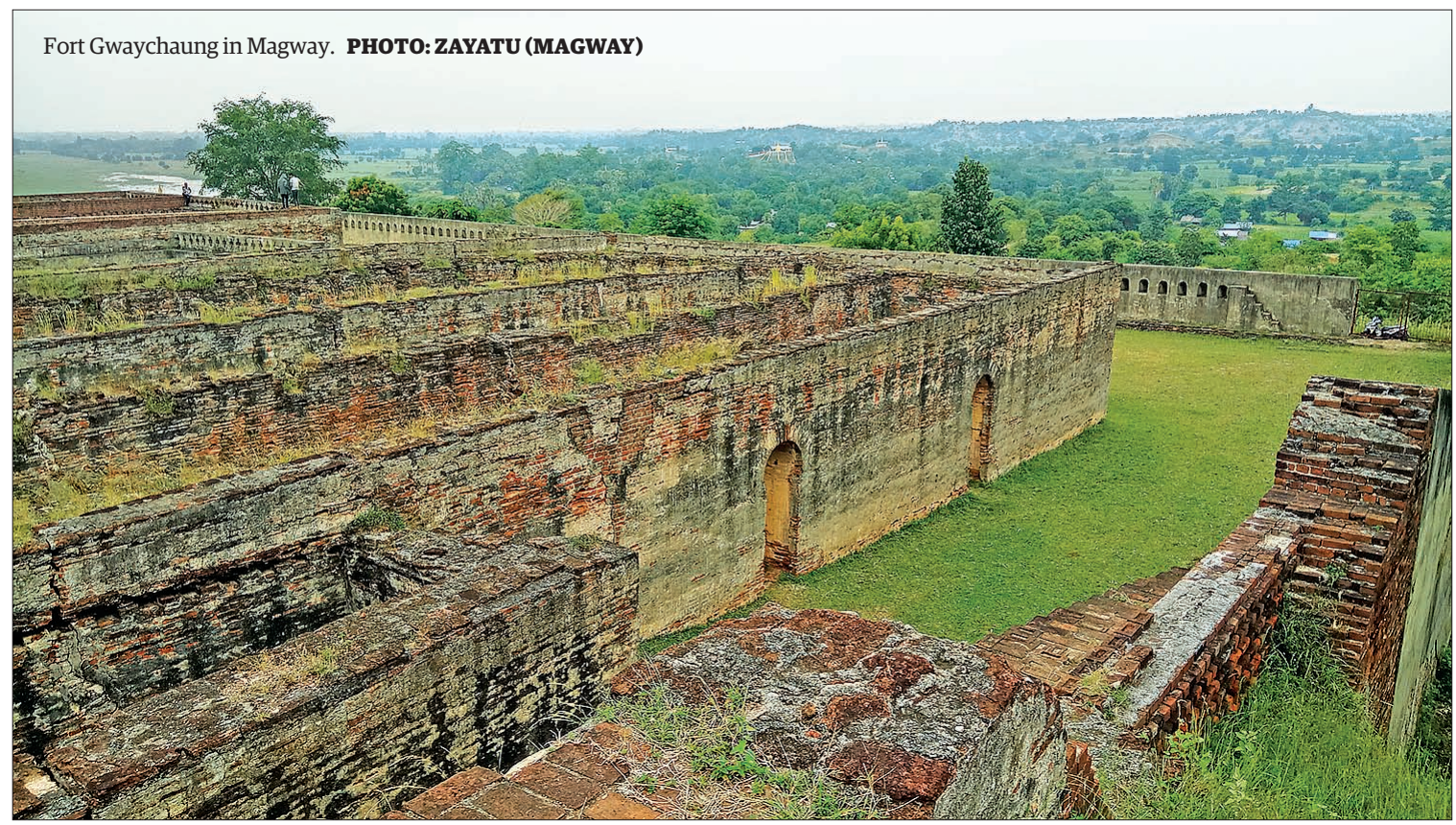
Privately owned foreign tourist river boats plough the water of the Ayeyawady

between Yangon – Mandalay and Mandalay – Pyay, with most travel itineraries lasting between 10 – 15 days. The rest stops that are made along the way are the towns of Thayet, Min Hla, Salay, Tantkyitaung, Yatnapo, Sagaing, Inwa and Amarapura.

Fort Gwaychaung

Like the Fort Minhla, historical Gway Chaung Fort located at opposite bank of River has also become one of popular inbound tour sites.

Fort Gwaychaung also attracts local and foreign visitors and the number of visitors is creasing year by year. Local travelers go on a trip to Gway Chaung Fort to observe the historical site. Gway Chaung Fort was built with a wall having 275 feet length, 155 feet width, 12 feet height and 4 feet thickness in order to resist British invasion. There are 159 rooms for Myanmar's soldiers to fight back the British invading troops in the east, west and north of the wall. It is also near Min Hla Fort situated 12 nautical miles away from Magway town.



Fort Gwaychaung in Magway. PHOTO: ZAYATU (MAGWAY)

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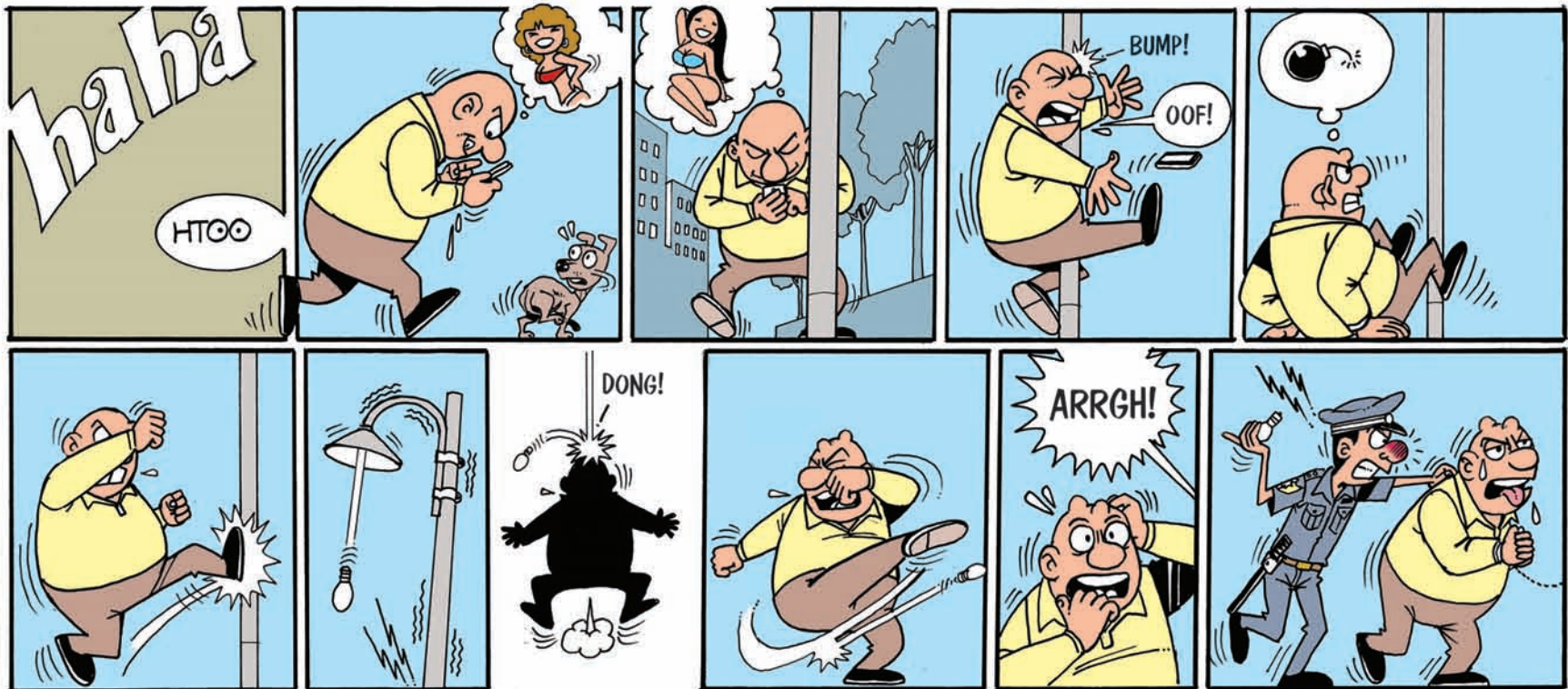
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Construction of Mayyu Mountain road will rapidly improve socio economic conditions of least developed villages

By News Team

TO improve the socio economic conditions of ethnic nationals living in Yathedaung township, Maungtaung township and Buthidaung township and to support in the administration Kyaukpandu-Indin-Zedipyin road and Kyeinchaung-Gopi road that connect Maungtaung and Buthidaung over the Mayyu Mountain range is being constructed by Ministry of Construction, Road Department, road construction group 3, road special group 17.

Deputy Director U Aye Tun Maw of road special group 17, Road Department, Sittway was interviewed about the Mayyu Mountain road.

Q. What is the status of constructing the second Mayyu Mountain road of Kyeinchaung-Gopi road?

A. The two east-west roads over Mayyu Mountain connecting Maungtaung-Kyeinchaung-Bandula road in Maungtaung and Buthidaung-Gopi road in Buthidaung are about 8 miles long but to have a smooth route (gradient) it is likely to be longer.

Q. How much has been completed in the Maungtaung Township side and Buthidaung Township side of the Kyeinchaung-Gopi road?

A. Construction of the Kyeinchaung-Gopi road over Mayyu Mountain was conducted by two groups, one from Kyeinchaung said and another from Gopi side. From Kyeinchaung side, a single lane road axis was being made up to more than 5 mile onto the mountain and from Gopi side up

to 3 mile totaling 8 miles. The remaining one to one and half mile portion near the top of the mountain where steep places and ravines are avoided is expected to be completed in the coming three days.

Q. What is the next stage after constructing a single lane road axis?

A. For the road to be an all-weather road and for ease of vehicles driven on the cross mountain road, road design group will conduct measurements for appropriate route in the open season and only after this will the road upgraded to a smooth paved road.

Q. How useful and strategically important is the Kyeinchaung-Gopi for Maungtaung region?

A. Maungtaung-Kyeinchaung-Bandula road in Maungtaung on the western part of Mayyu mountain range is on the sea-side that is well populated. But the difficulty of villagers of ethnic national villages in the eastern part of the mountain range in Buthidaung side going over the mountain is limiting the developing of these villages. Once this road is completed least developed ethnic villages will develop rapidly easing health, education and all else while it will be an essential road for the entire administration mechanism.

Q. What are the difficulties encountered in constructing Kyeinchaung-Gopi road?

A. Only foot path across the mountain range exists along



PHOTO: NAY LIN

the path of Kyeinchaung-Gopi road. And these foot paths are not all-weather. Mayyu mountain range is thick with forest and had many natural obstacles. Wildlife still exists on the Mayyu mountain range. There is a danger of wild elephants. Creeks, rivers and ponds also exist as natural obstacle. Work need to be done with increased momentum during the open season.

Q. From which budget is the Kyeinchaung-Gopi road is being built with?

A. For this year, the first road Kyaukpandu-Indin-Zedipyin road and the second road Kyeinchaung-Gopi road going across the Mayyu Mountain range is constructed from the President's special fund instead of the usual government budget. In the

following years, up to four more roads were being planned for the development of eastern and western part of Mayyu Mountain range.

Q. What is that status of the first road built across the Mayyu mountain (range), the Kyaukpandu-Indin-Zedipyin road?

A. Kyaukpandu-Indin-Zedipyin road connecting Maungtaung to Angumaw is on the western part of the Mayyu Mountain that is being maintained by the west group. This road is 49 miles and 4 furlong long. Similarly, on the eastern part of the Mayyu Mountain, rural department is constructing a more than 45 miles long Buthidaung to Angumaw road. Two parallel roads on the east and

west of Mayyu Mountain were constructed but both could not be used to go over the mountain. The Maungtaung-Angumaw road on the west of Mayyu Mountain can support the development of ethnic nationals on the eastern part of Mayyu Mountain as well as for its regional development. The Kyaukpandu-Indin-Zedipyin road that goes over the Mayyu Mountain range connecting these two roads is being planned to be build up to a smooth paved road. Just like the Kyeinchaung-Gopi road, Kyaukpandu-Indin-Zedipyin road is being constructed by two groups, one from Zedipyin side and another from Indin side. 15 machineries were being used and now a single lane road axis is connecting Kyaukpandu and Indin. For vehicle to go over this road, road design group need to conduct measurements for appropriate route in the open season and then it will be upgraded to a smooth paved road.

Q. Is there anything you want to add on building the roads across the Mayyu Mountain.

A. The two roads going over the Mayyu Mountain will support the development of Yathedaung Township in Sittway District, Buthidaung Township and Maungtaung Township in Maungtaung District and the socio economic condition of the ethnic nationals.



Love, Sympathy and Forgiveness to Peace



Nann Htet Hnin Htwe
Public speaking course of JC

IF we are born as human beings, we have feelings such as love, hatred, animosity, sympathy and so on. Human beings also have the brainpower to distinguish the rights and the wrongs and also have conscience to choose the good and the bad. This is one of God's blessings for human beings.

In fact, we are free to choose. We can choose love or hatred, forgiveness or revenge, sympathy or inhumanity and generosity or selfishness. Being good and being bad depends on us. If we want to be a good person, we must choose the right one not only for us but also for everyone. If we want peace in everywhere, we must make the right decision. Of course, we know what is right and good.

In LOVE and HATRED, we know that love is the right one. However, in real life, we hate each other instead of loving. This is because we don't know what love can bring to us. Some poets and writers portray love in various forms. In my opinion, love is one kind of peace. There are various kinds of love: love between boys and girls, love between husband and wife, love between parents and children, love between friends and so on. The same thing is that love creates the loyalty, care, faith and respect.

For instance, we love our parents and so we obey them. We love our brothers and sisters and so we care them. We neither hurt nor hate our parents, siblings and everyone whom we love. If we can consider everyone around us as our brothers and sisters, there will be no conflicts, hatreds and persecutions. In love, there is no discrimination. When we love, we care. Caring each other is the same as protecting each other.

As the Bible verses say, "Love your neighbours as yourself." For example, we

care our health, we try hard to achieve success for our future and we save money to have a comfortable life. This is because we love ourselves. If we can love the others as ourselves, how peaceful our environment will be! It is hard to love people whom we hate. But what can we do if we don't want to love? Hatred will make things worse.

Also, true love is necessary. When we love, there will be sometimes repayments and sacrifices. We should never stop loving one another no matter how difficult. In the Bible verses, it says, "Love is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never haughty or selfish or rude. If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him."

Therefore, if we can love each other neglecting the racial and religions, the world will be peaceful. Sympathy also makes our life peaceful. Sympathy is the feeling of pity and sorrow for someone's else misfortune. For example, when the natural disasters such as storms, floods, earthquake and soil erosion happen, there is always a large amount of destructions. Also, there will be homeless people and injured people. The consequences of natural disasters are really miserable.

Everyone who suffers natural disasters always face many difficulties such as lack of sanitation, foods and drinks, medicine, and good health. If we were them, we would feel the same as they feel. So, if we know what they need, we should give them without reluctance so that their needs can be filled by our perfection. This is called sympathy. Besides, nowadays, in every newspaper, we read about persecutions, bully, rapes, homicides and thefts. This is because lack of human's sympathy. Moreover, loss of natural resources, climate change, a large amount of garbage, the wastes of factories, unhealthy foods and the extinction of wild animals are also

because of human's greed and the lack of sympathy. They don't care what others had to suffer. They ignore other peoples' sorrows, pains, and problems. They just think about themselves.

In other words, they are very selfish. So, even if we can't do anything big to make the world better, we should sympathize to make the world peaceful. Furthermore, forgiveness maintains our peace. Forgiveness cures our pain. Instead of bringing hatred and revenge, it is better to love and forgive. Everyone makes mistakes and sins. We, human beings, are full of anger, greed, pride and jealousy. Sometimes, we lose self-control and conscience because of our anger, greed, pride and jealousy, and so we quarrel each other, make conflict among different kinds of people, and sometimes we destroy our unity. If we can't forgive each other's mistakes, sins and weakness when all of these things happen, our peace will be crumbled.

Everyone, every ethnic and every nationality has his or her own culture, likes and dislikes. We have to understand each other's feelings and conceptions. Mutual understanding is the branch of forgiveness. Sometimes, we could not do anything apart from forgiving. We must forgive no matter how it hurts us because forgiveness is the only way to release our grief.

The most important thing is that we should never take advantage of other people's love, sympathy and forgiveness. What I mean is that there are some kinds of people who are very bad because we love, sympathize and forgive them. Sometimes, we lose our patience, love and sympathy and we can't forgive anymore because they are taking advantage of our love. We should never be that kind of people. However, we must always know that truth and love always win at the end because truth was born from love. I would like you to know Mother Teresa's "ANYWAY" poem which is my favourite poem.



Anyway

People are often unreasonable
and self-centred,

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse
you of ulterior motives,

Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may
cheat you,

Be honest anyway.

If you find happiness, people may
be jealous,

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be
forgotten tomorrow,

Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have
and it may never be enough,

Give your best anyway.

For you see, in the end, it is be-
tween you and God.

**It was never between you and
them anyway.**

Mother Teresa

I like this poem very much. Of course, sometimes we are fed up with people and situations which are now happening although we try so hard to be good. But, we should never stop loving, sympathizing or forgiving because at the end of our lives, the haven will welcome us and not welcome them who take advantage of our love, sympathy and forgiveness. Besides, we should not say that nothing changes if we love, sympathize or forgive. Actually, it changes a lot although.

When the time is right, your love, sympathy and forgiveness will reward you although it may take long. If there were no love, sympathy and forgiveness, there would be wars, cries, moans and crimes. So, in order to make the world a better place and to build peace in our country, we need to love more, we need to show our sympathy and we need to forgive like we want to be forgiven.

The Importance of Technology

FROM SUPPLEMENT A

Technology has also vastly increased productivity. The function of computers to solve complete mathematical equations allows them to speed up any task requiring measure or other calculations, and this produced great advancements in the fields of science such as pure mathematics, astrophysics, chemistry and so

on. In the office, the ability of networked computers to share and manipulate data can speed a wide variety of tasks. In addition, computer modelling of physical effects benefits the manufacturing industry, giving engineers the ability to simulate structures, vehicles or materials to provide data before prototyping.

With all these advancements and the comfort that have been brought to

man in a wide variety of industries such as communications, education, health-care, productivity and progress of science, the growth of technology is to be highly appreciated. All must play a part in the development and appreciate the work of those who are doing. Most importantly, people should be aware of the benefits and be willing to adapt to and learn on the new technologies. Only then, the pace

of the development can be kept up and continued growth will be secured for man. To end, a quote from Vivienne Harr is to be remembered, "Technology connects us. Technology unites us. Technology amplifies our power."

Kris Ye Yint is studying at U.M.S 'Queen' and is learning to sit for the IGCSE O Levels.