

SUNDAY
SPECIAL

Pull-out supplement

NATIONAL

PRC President Mr Xi Jinping
departs from Nay Pyi Taw

PAGE-2

BUSINESS

HK firm to sell power
from plants in Kyaukpyu

PAGE-7

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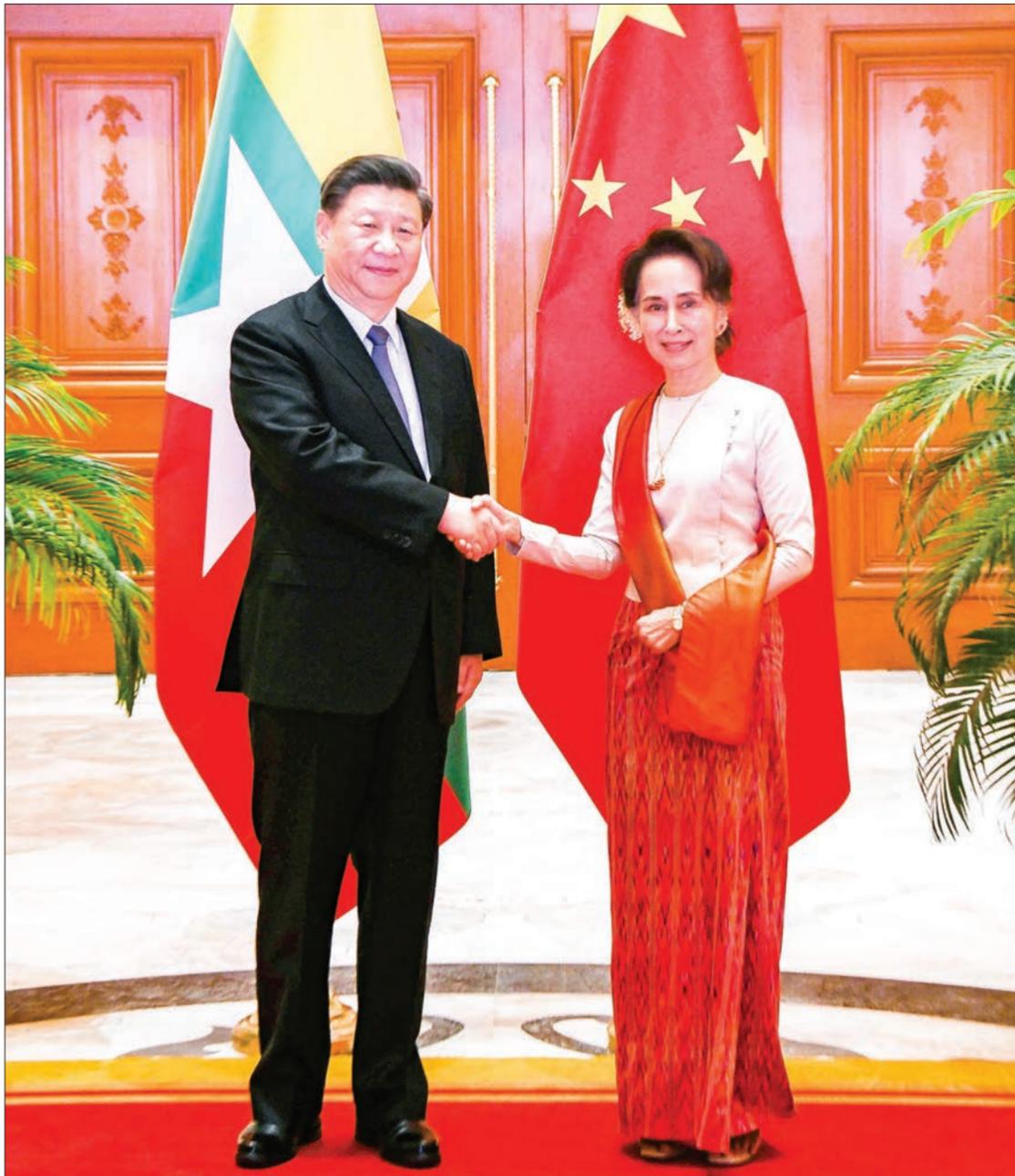
Sunday, 19 January 2020

State Counsellor, President Xi Jinping hold bilateral talks, witness signing 33 agreements

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Chinese President Mr. Xi Jinping took part in the Myanmar-China bilateral talks in the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the talks, both sides cordially exchanged views on peace and development of Myanmar, involvement of non-signatories in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in the peace process after signing the NCA, China-Myanmar corridor, Kyaukpyu special economic zone and deep-sea port, successful implementation of China-Myanmar economic zones and New Yangon Project, progress of Myanmar's industrial, electricity, transport, agriculture, investment and trade sectors, export of Myanmar's products, further promotion of people-to-people relations, Paukphaw (fraternal) relations, and establishment of a community sharing weal and woe.

Attending the meeting together with the State Counsellor were Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, Dr. Pe Myint, U Min Thu, Dr. Aung Thu, U Thant Sin Maung, U Win Khaing, Dr. Than Myint, U Thaug Tun, U Han Zaw, U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Myo Thant Pe and officials. The Chinese President was accom-



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with President of the People's Republic of China, Mr Xi Jinping. PHOTO: MNA

panied by Mr. Wan Yi, member of the State Council of the PRC and Minister of Foreign Affairs, senior officials and Chinese Ambassador Mr. Chen Hai.

After the talks, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President Mr. Xi Jinping graced the signing and exchanging of bilateral agreements and MoUs between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China.

Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint and Chairman of National Development and Reform Commission of China Mr. He Lifeng of China signed and exchanged the MoU on Promoting Production Capacity and Investment Cooperation; Union Minister Dr. Than Myint and Minister of Commerce of China Mr. Zhong Shan, MoU Accelerating Negotiation on the Framework Agreement on the China-Myanmar Ruli-Muse Cross Border Economic Cooperation Zone, MoU on the Establishment of the Working Group for the Promotion of Smooth Trade, and Implementation Agreement of the China-aid Upgrading of No.2 Industrial Training Centre (Mandalay) Project; Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe and Minister Mr. Zhong Shan,

SEE PAGE-3

The Dagon Beverages Co.,Ltd products are being exported to South East Asian countries such as Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, Cambodia, to Asia, Japan, South Korea, China, Hongkong and also to Ausitralia, Newzealand and Solmon Islands of Pacific Island countries and to the United States.

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PRC President Mr Xi Jinping departs from Nay Pyi Taw

A Chinese goodwill delegation led by President Mr Xi Jinping left Nay Pyi Taw for China by a special flight yesterday.

The PRC President and delegation were seen off by Vice President U Myint Swe, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun and Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Myo Thant Pe, Chinese Ambassador Mr Chen Hai, Permanent Secretary U Soe Han of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other officials at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



President of the People's Republic of China, Mr Xi Jinping being seen off by Vice President U Myint Swe at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister for H&T attends ASEAN Tourism Forum 2020, related meetings

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung visited booths on Myanmar tourism destinations promotion, booths of ASEAN member states and the business activities of international hotels and tourism companies at the Empire Brunei Hotel in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei Darussalam on 14 January.

At his meeting with US-Business Council (US-ABC), he discussed evolution of Myanmar's hotel and tourism industry, promotion of digital-based tourism and technology assistance from US-ABC. The Union Minister attended the dinner marking the opening ceremony of ASEAN Tourism Forum 2020.

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung took part in 23rd Meeting of ASEAN Tourism Ministers (23rdM-ATM)

and attended the Cambodian Night held by Cambodia on 15 January.

The next day, he participated in the 19th Meeting of ASEAN+3 Tourism Ministers where future work programs were approved. In the afternoon, he attended the meeting between the Sultan and Yang di-Pertuan of Brunei and ASEAN Tourism ministers at the Istana Nurul Iman and the press meet of ASEAN plus Three tourism ministers.

He attended the award-presenting ceremony and closing ceremony of the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2020.

Thingaha Hotel (Nay Pyi Taw), Hilton Hotel (Nay Pyi Taw), M Gallery Hotel (Nay Pyi Taw), Yadanabo Home (Mandalay) and Sanctum Inle Resort (Shan State) of Myanmar won

ASEAN Green Hotel award, Loikaw, Dawei and Taunggyi won ASEAN Clean Tourist City award, Myeik and Myaing destinations won ASEAN Sustainable Tourism, and Wyndham Grand

Yangon Hotel (Yangon) and M Gallery Hotel (Nay Pyi Taw) won ASEAN MICE Venue award.

The Union Minister also met the general secretary of ASEAN-Korea Center. Cambodia will

host the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2021 under the topic "ASEAN – A Community of Peace and Shared Future".

(Translated by KyawZinTun)



Union Minister U Ohn Maung and ASEAN ministers pose for a documentary photo at the 19th ASEAN Plus Three Tourism Ministers Meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 14 January. **PHOTO: MNA**



A newly built apartment block for staff in Sagaing. **PHOTO: KO YE**

14 housing, 5 public rental projects to be built in Sagaing Region

FOURTEEN buildings for government staff and five public rental residential projects in Sagaing Region will be built during the 2019-2020 financial year, according to the Department of Urban and Housing Development.

The staff housing developments will include 196 rooms and will be built in 12 townships in Sagaing Region in the 2019-2020 FY. Twenty staff housing buildings with 276 rooms were also constructed in 16 townships during the 2018-2019 FY, accord-

ing to the department.

The five public rental residences will include 190 rooms and be located in 5 townships, and the rooms will be rented at a cost of K20,000 per unit for government employees who have at least 25 years' length of service and are retired, and low-income members of the public who do not own a house.

The allocation of rooms among government employees and low-income public will be made in accordance with the Regional government's instruction,

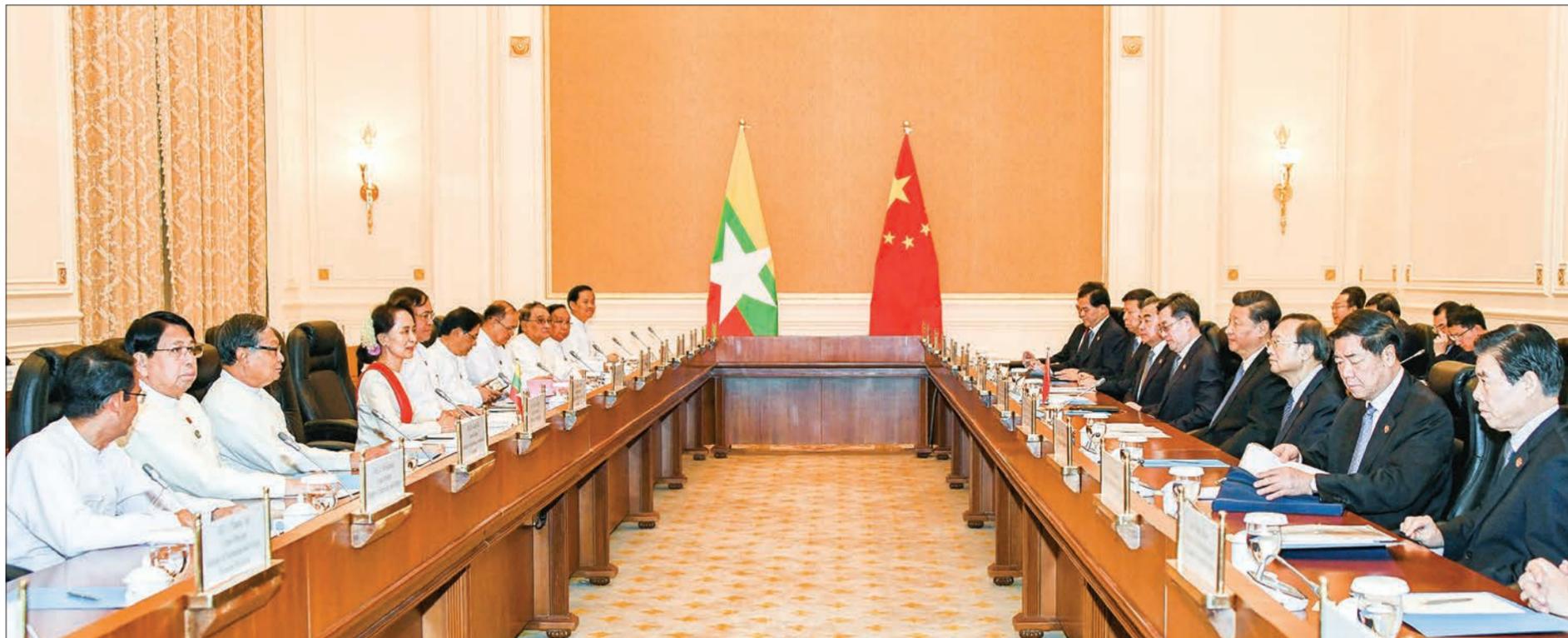
according to Daw Mya Yi Mon, Deputy Director-General of Urban and Housing Development Department.

In previous financial years, 14 public rental residences with 672 rooms were constructed in five townships, and rented out.

These projects were built to develop housing, establishing a safe, pleasant and sustainable development system, and to improve the living standards of citizens, said Daw Mya Yi Mon.—Hmwe Kyu Zin

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

State Counsellor, President Xi Jinping hold bilateral talks, witness signing 33 agreements



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President of the People's Republic of China Mr Xi Jinping holding the Myanmar-China bilateral talk. PHOTO: MNA

FROM PAGE-1

Handover certificate of the Yangon Police Command Centre; Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe and Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) Mr. Wang Xiaotao, Exchange Letter for the Provision of (6) Patrol Boats for Myanmar Police Force; Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung and Chairman of CIDCA, Exchange Letter for Feasibility Study on 3-Year De-

velopment Plan of Border Areas in the presence of the State Counsellor and the Chinese President.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint and Minister of National Radio and Television Administration (NRTA) of China Mr. Nie Changxi signed and exchanged Agreement on Cooperation between National Radio and Television Administration of China and Ministry of Information of Myanmar;

and MoU on Co-organizing the Myanmar Day of 2020 Lancang-Mekong TV Week; Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu and Ambassador Mr. Chen Hai, Protocol on Plant Inspection and Quarantine Requirements for Exporting Rice from Myanmar to China, Protocol for Heat Processed Cocoon to be imported from Myanmar to China, and Protocol on Quarantine Health Requirements for Slaughter

Myanmar and China signed 33 MoUs, Agreements, Exchange Letters and Protocols which during the State visit of Chinese President Mr. Xi Jinping.

Bovine to be Exported from Myanmar to China; and Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu and Chairman of CIDCA Mr. Wang Xiaotao, Exchange Letter for Project of Agriculture Product Quality Control

Centre and Exchange Letter for the Project of Hybrid-Rice Research Centre.

Later, Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung and Minister of Commerce of China Mr. Zhong Shan signed and exchanged Implementation Agreement for Procurement of (28) Nos. of Passenger Coaches Project by China's Interest-Free Loan; Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaug Tun and Minister Mr. Zhong Shan, MoU on Enhancing Infrastructure Development Cooperation; Union Minister U Thaug Tun and Chairman of CIDCA Mr. Wang Xiaotao, MoU on Human Resources Development Cooperation; Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw and Minister Mr. Zhong Shan, Implementation Agreement of the Kunlong Bridge Project; Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Re-

settlement Dr. Win Myat Aye and Chairman of CIDCA Mr. Wang Xiaotao, Exchange Letter for the Feasibility Study on Resettlement Project for Internally Displaced Persons in Kachin State.

Then Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo and Chairman of CITIC Consortium Port Investment Limited Mr. Chang Zhenming signed and exchanged Concession Agreement Shareholders Agreement of Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone Deep Sea Port Project; Minister for Planning and Finance of Mandalay Region U Myat Thu and Secretary of Yunnan Province Committee of Chinese Communist Party Mr. Zhang Guohua, MoU on Local Cooperation under the Framework of Joint Building China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC) between Yunnan Province and Mandalay Region; Minister of Development Affairs of Yangon Region U Maung Maung Soe and Secretary Mr. Zhang Guohua, MoU on Establishment of Friendship-Province/Region between Yunnan Province and Yangon Region; Yangon Region Minister U Maung Maung Soe and

SEE PAGE-4



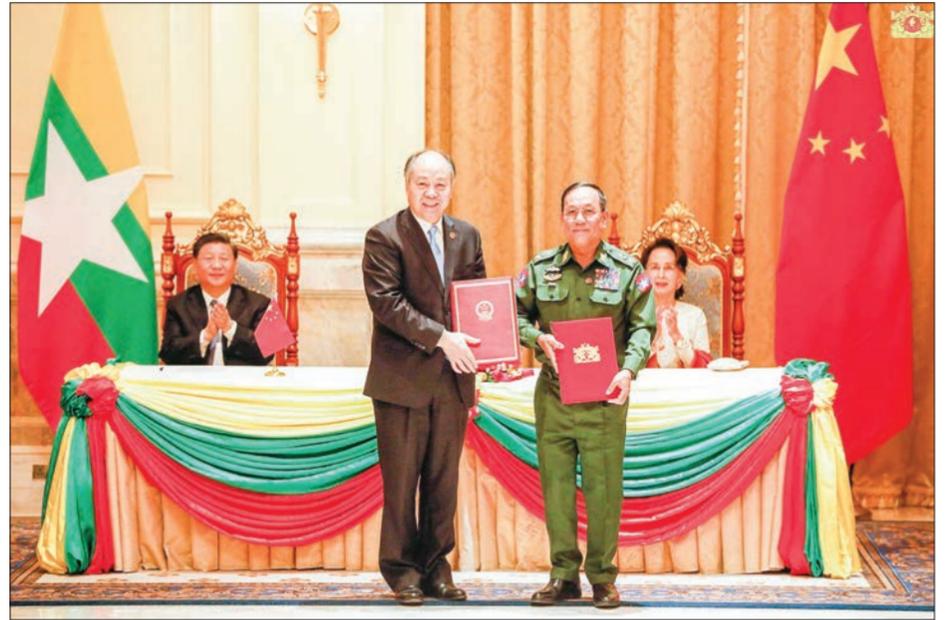
State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President of the People's Republic of China, Mr Xi Jinping view handicraft displayed at the dinner for President Xi Jinping in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor, President Xi Jinping hold bilateral talks, witness signing 33 agreements

FROM PAGE-3

President of China Communications Construction Company Ltd Song Hailiang, Letter of Intent Regarding New Urban Development of Yangon City; Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Soe Han and Ambassador Mr. Chen Hai, Agreement on Mutual Provision of Embassy Lands and Buildings; Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Electricity and Energy

of Health and Sports Dr. Thet Khaing Win and Ambassador Mr. Chen Hai, MoU on Cooperation between Chinese Football Association and Myanmar Football Federation; Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Construction U Win Tint and Chairman of China Harbour Engineering Co. Ltd Mr. Tang Chaoliang, Handover and Receipt of Detailed Feasibility Study Reports of Mandalay-Tigyain-Muse Expressway and Kyaukphyu-Naypyitaw Highway Pro-



Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung and Chairman of CIDCA Mr Wang Xiaotao, exchange Letter for Feasibility Study on 3-Year Development Plan of Border Areas in the presence of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping. **PHOTO: MNA**



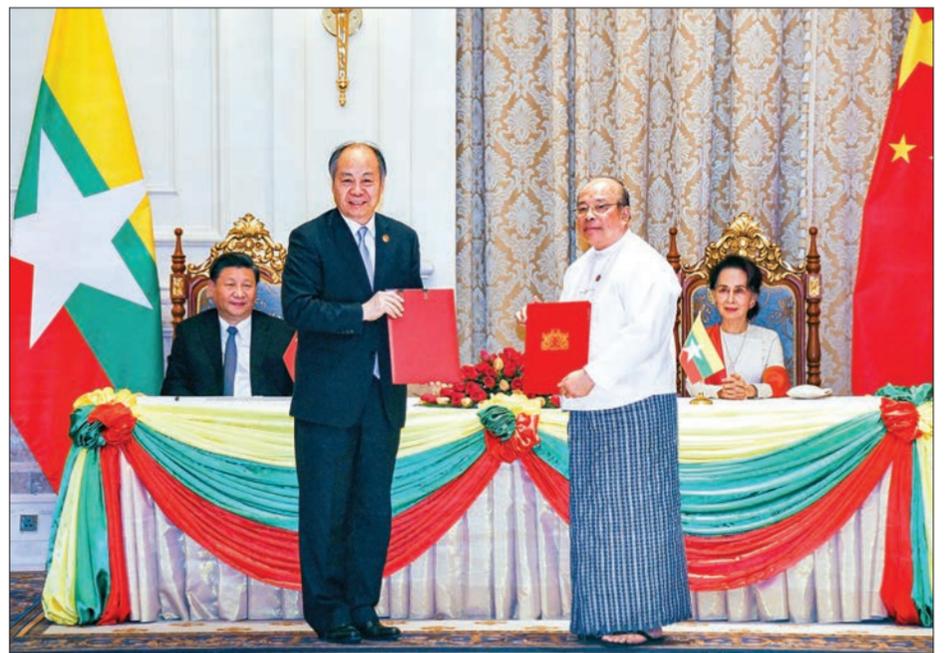
Union Minister Dr Aung Thu and Chairman of CIDCA Mr Wang Xiaotao exchange Letter for Project of Agriculture Product Quality Control Centre and Letter for the Project of Hybrid-Rice Research Centre in the presence of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung and Minister of Commerce of China Mr Zhong Shan exchange the Implementation Agreement for Procurement of (28) Nos. of Passenger Coaches Project by China's Interest-Free Loan in the presence of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister Dr Than Myint and Minister of Commerce of China Mr Zhong Shan exchange the MoU Accelerating Negotiation on the Framework Agreement on the China-Myanmar Ruli-Muse Cross Border Economic Cooperation Zone in the presence of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister U Thaug Tun and Chairman of CIDCA Mr. Wang Xiaotao, MoU exchange the letters on Human Resources Development Cooperation in the presence of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Tin Maung Oo and Chairman of China South Power Grid Mr. Meng Zhangping, MoU on Conducting Feasibility Study of the Myanmar-China Power Interconnection Project; Permanent Secretary of Ministry

jects; and Managing Director of Myanmar Railways of the Ministry of Transport and Communication U Ba Myint and Chairman of China Railway Engineering Company Mr. Zhang Zhongyang, Handing Over of

the Muse-Mandalay Railway Feasibility Study Report.

In the afternoon, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi hosted a luncheon in honour of the delegation led by President

Mr. Xi Jinping at the Shwesanein Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. After the luncheon, the State Counsellor presented a photo album of the visit to the Chinese President. —MNA (Translated by TMT)

President Mr. Xi Jinping, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hold discussions

PRESIDENT of the People's Republic of China Mr Xi Jinping and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing held talks on relations between the two countries and cooperation between the two armed forces at the Horizon Lake View Resort Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the talks, the Chinese President said it is the first visit of a Chinese president to Myanmar in a 19-year period and his first visit to the country in his capacity as the President. The visit to Myanmar which is his first foreign visit in 2020 reflects the strong bonds of Sino-Myanmar relations. Extra force should be applied in further strengthening fraternal relations between the two countries and the bilateral cooperation must be cemented to establish a community sharing weal and woe.

The Senior General in his

discussions said Myanmar gained a lot of experiences during the nine years of political reforms, and there are also challenges. One of the important challenges is State stability. Serious attention is paid to peace as it is important. He continued to say that Myanmar appreciates and supports Chinese government's solving of its internal problems in accord with the law and he reiterated Myanmar's support for One-China Policy. The government of a country is much important for its peace and stability. Myanmar is also applying various means for maintaining peace and stability. Myanmar is an immediate neighbour and a close friend of China. So, China's OBOR projects will be supportive for the peace process and bring development and happiness to Myanmar if they are implemented for the benefit of Myanmar. All the ethnic races



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talk with President of the People's Republic of China, Mr Xi Jinping in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

should understand that peace process can be carried out only in accord with the law. I would like to request Your Excellency to urge them to understand this.

The Tatmadaw will make

utmost efforts in lending a helping hand to the endeavours for establishing a bilateral community to overcome all challenges in weal and woe and serving the people's interest, said the Sen-

ior General in his discussions, according to the news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.—MNA

(Translated by KZL)

Forty top lawyers from across government agencies gathered on 16-17 January 2020 for a deepening on international criminal law

Top Lawyers Conduct Two-Day Deepening on International Criminal Law

THE Office of the Union Attorney General convened a two-day session on international criminal law for 40 top lawyers from his Office, the Office of the Judge Advocate General, the Ministry of International Cooperation, and the Office of the State Counsellor. Union Minister Kyaw Tint Swe opened the session, in the presence of the Attorney General, the Directors-General of his Office, and other distinguished lawyers of Myanmar.

The occasion for the event

was the recent establishment of a Special Unit on International Criminal Justice under the Union Attorney General's Office, with members from that Office, from the Office of the Judge Advocate General, and the Ministry of International Cooperation. The mandate of the Unit is to strengthen Myanmar's capacity to investigate and prosecute core international crimes, and to provide expert advise to the Government on international criminal law and justice.

In his remarks, the Union Minister stressed the importance of the Special Unit, as Myanmar needs enhanced do-



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, officials and top lawyers pose for a group photo at the Training Course on International Criminal Law. **PHOTO: MNA**

mestic capacity in this area. He said that the two-day event was timely also because Myanmar faces a related challenge by The

Gambia and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation before the International Court of Justice. He said that Myanmar will

prevail in that case, as there was nothing even remotely similar to genocide in Rakhine in 2017.—MNA

Myanmar Medical Association holds 66th conference



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe opens the 66th conference of Myanmar Medical Association. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE 66th conference of Myanmar Medical Association was held at its auditorium in Yangon yesterday, and the new executive body was elected. Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe said MMA is serving the interest of the country's medical world through its continuous teaching programs and public healthcare undertakings. The subject-wise groups of MMP should enhance cooperation and links among them in developing healthcare

sector and medical and related subjects. Master's degree courses in family medicine will be conducted in addition to the ongoing family healthcare diploma courses. Modern technology should be applied in sending the discussions of the conference right to the doctors working in remote areas. The Union Minister also highlighted the importance of safety in surgical operations and other medical treatments.

President of MMA Professor Dr. Ye Mya explained progress of

work and future programs, and presented gifts to presidents and representatives of medical association of China, India and Thailand. Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe, Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein and MMA president formally opened the medicine and medical equipment exhibition. The Union Minister observed the election of the executive committee members and cast a vote. The conference continues till 22 January.—MNA

(Translated by TMT)

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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.

Italian cyclist team reaches Myingyan

A cyclist team comprising four Italians from Porto Viro, Veneto region reached Myingyan at 12 noon on 18 January. The team left the ancient city of Inwa, Mandalay, early in the morning.

Officials from Myingyan town and Myingyan bicycle fans welcomed the Italians at Nabuain Village and escorted them into Myingyan Town.

The Italians, Mauro Garbin, Vincenzo Mancin, Vittorio Cacciatori and Mario Mantovan, left Inwa, together with U Zaw Myo Latt, the director of the regional Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, and U Win Aung, the deputy director from the Bagan branch office.

Along the road, the Italian cyclist team had the opportunity to observe the ancient cultures and natural scenery.

Moreover, the Italian cyclist team posed for photos, together



Italian and Myanmar Cyclists hold the Italian cyclist jersey on their arrival in Myingyan on 18 January.
PHOTO: ZAW MIN NAING (MYINGYAN)

with the fans from Myingyan, at the town entrance and in front of the Bogyoke Statues. Then, the Italian cyclist team signed

the Italy shirts worn at the world cup and gives them away as presents. The Italian cyclist team stayed in Myingyan over night

and left for Bagan culture zone on 19 January.—Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Survey on Ayeyarwady dolphins to be conducted in February

A survey to determine the population of Ayeyarwady dolphins will be conducted in Ayeyarwady River in February, according to the Regional Fisheries Department.

The Ayeyarwady dolphin population is believed to have increased this year, compared to previous years, said an official from the Ayeyarwady Dolphin Conservation from the Fish-

eries Department. "We found many new dolphins, as well as offsprings this year. The survey will be conducted from Mandalay to Bhamo Town," he added.

The Fisheries Department found two newly born dolphins during the dolphin survey trip, which was conducted in the second week of December.

According to February 2019 statistics, 72 Ayeyarwady dolphins

were recorded between Mandalay and Bhamo town along the river. Also, three dolphins were found dead last year.

One dolphin was found dead near Ywardanshay Village, Madaaya Township, on 7 January, 2020. An educational campaign about fishing and conservation of Ayeyarwady dolphins will be provided, together with the survey by the Fisheries Department, in

cooperation with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). The team, comprising members of the WCS, will disseminate information about conserving the natural environment and protecting the population of Irrawaddy dolphins.

The Ayeyarwady dolphins give birth only once every three years.—Aye Cho

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Maymyo flower growers unhappy with lower profits

MAYMYO flower growers are unhappy with lower profits, as the price of flowers has fallen.

"This year, early blooming flowers receive a good price of K 120 for two flowers. After that, the price of flowers has declined. Now, the flowers cost only K 40 for two. Some flower growers are not selling flowers this year, and are keeping their flowers for next season," said a local grower from Maymyo.

"In our village, all the villagers grow Maymyo flowers. There are many Maymyo flower species. We grow only one species, called the Yoseinkyaukni Maymyo flower. We are growing Maymyo flowers with the use of pesticides while the stalks are small. The stalks must be watered every day and we have to use fertilizers to grow the flowers. The flowers are ready for sale after 60 days. The cultivation of the flowers costs K 70,000



A farmer picks flowers up in her garden in Maymyo. **PHOTO: MYINT TUN MIN (IPRD)**

per 0.10 acre. Even though there are a few costs of cultivation, we are receiving only a small profit because of the lower price of flowers," said Ma Than Than Soe, a local flower grower from Shan Su village.

"We have been growing

Maymyo flowers for more than 20 years. The Maymyo flowers sell for high prices every year. But last year and this year, the price of the flower was not really good. So, we have received only small profits," said U Kyaw Win, a local Maymyo flower grower

from Aung Gone village.

Although the entire villagers grows the Maymyo flower, they grow only 0.20 acres of flowers per person.—Myint Tun Min (IPRD)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

YRTA: Willing to pay income tax, if needed

By Nyein Nyein

THE Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA) will, if required, pay income tax on its earnings from leasing of land and vehicle supervision charges, said U Hla Aung, Joint Secretary of the YRTA.

He made the remarks at an event marking the 3rd anniversary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA), held on 16 January at the Sky Star Hotel.

"The YRTA is standing by collection of management charges. We have no burden to pay the income tax as it will be spent on the people and the country. We have our own businesses, such as leasing of shops and buildings transferred by the former All Private Bus Lines Control Committee. During their time, the committee also paid out the tax. The authority concerned will review this matter, and we are willing to pay the income tax, if it is needed," said U Hla Aung.

According to a report on the Yangon Region government's spending in the 2017-2018 financial year, the YRTA's net income was over K7.6 bil-

lion. The net income was derived from the lease of land and vehicle supervision charges, after deducting spending. But, the YRTA did not pay an income tax. The YRTA's gross income was estimated at K9.487 billion, while spending was approximately K1.796 billion, as per the Yangon Region Auditor General's report.

Regarding the income tax payment, the YRTA is willing to follow the rules, if the authority directs us to pay it, said U Hla Aung. The YRTA was formed to improve transport facilities in Yangon for the convenience of the public. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein was appointed as the Patron of the transport authority, while the Yangon Region Minister Daw Nilar Kyaw was made the Chairman. In April this year, the number of members was increased to 22 from 16, with the YRTA appointing the Security and Border Affairs Minister as Vice Chairman 1 and the Yangon Mayor as Vice Chairman 2, besides officials from related departments and organizations.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Lemon growers reap handsome profits



Fresh lemons in pile before being delivered to market stalls in Kya-in-seikkyi Township.

PHOTO: KO MYO (ZAMIMYAT)

WITH the yield of lemons high in Kya-in-seikkyi Township, Kawkaik District, Kayin State, local farmers are growing the fruit on a commercial scale.

The grafting of lemon trees costs between K500 and K1,000. Some local farmers grow lemons by grafting, while some sow seeds.

Grafted lemon trees blossom after three years. Lemon trees grown from seeds blossom after five or six years.

Earlier, local farmers grew lemon trees using traditional cultivation methods. With the development of cultivation tech-

nology, people are growing lemon trees systematically by using fertilizers and watering as they can make a handsome profit.

Lime, a small citrus fruit, is fresher and more fragrant than lemon. It has light green flesh and is approximately 6 cm in size. Lime is also used as an ingredient in cooking, and when used in drinks and sauces, it creates a fresh and "zingy" taste.

Lime plants can be seen throughout the country. The fruits grown in Kya-in-Seikkyi Township are often sent to nearby markets. Also, lime is sought after by the public as it helps in

weight loss and increases immunity from diseases.

Although lemon production is high in the monsoon season, local farmers receive just K10 or K15 per fruit as they cannot make value-added products.

This summer, lemon prices ranged between K80-K100 per fruit although growers used fertilizers and watering. So, local farmers are happy with the good profits.

Lemons from Kya-in-Seikkyi Township are usually sent to Mawlamyine, Mon state through the depot.—Ko Myo (Zamimyat)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Total border trade value increases by over \$625 mln this FY

THE value of border trade has reached US\$ 2.96 billion as of 10 January, this fiscal year, up over \$625 million compared with the same period last year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

This fiscal year, which ran from 1 October, 2019 to 10 January, 2020, the country's exports via border gates amounted to \$2.05 billion, while imports reached \$910 million.

This fiscal year's figures increased by \$625 million compared to the same period in FY 2018-2019, when it was reported at \$2.34 billion.

Muse topped the list of border checkpoints with the most trade, valued at \$1.6 billion, followed by Hteekhee with \$472 million.

Myanmar mainly con-

ducts border trade with neighboring China through the Muse, Lweje, Chinshwehaw, Kanpikete and Kengtung border gates, and with Thailand through the Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese border gates.

Border trade is also conducted with Bangladesh through the Sittwe and Maungtaung gates, and with India through the Tamu, Reed, Thantlang and Kenglap border gates.

The country's agricultural products, animal products, fisheries, minerals and forest products are mainly exported, while capital goods, intermediate goods and consumer goods are imported.—Zwe

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Hong Kong firm to sell power after building power plants in Kyaukpyu

By Nyein Nyein

A Hong Kong-based company, which is among the top investors in the electricity sector in Myanmar in the current financial year, will generate and sell power to consumers locally after building power plant in Kyaukpyu, said U Thant Sin Lwin, Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

"This company is a Hong Kong-based company operating with 100-per cent foreign direct investment, and it is supplying electricity in Myanmar," said U Thant Sin Lwin.

Hong Kong-listed CNTIC

Vpower KY3 Limited Company will invest US\$140.47 million for the generation of 150MW of electricity from LNG. It will supply and sell electricity on an IPP (BOT) basis in Kyaukphyu Township of Rakhine State.

The project will generate 658.8 million kilowatt-hours of power which would be supplied and sold to consumers locally, he added.

Moreover, 20 per cent of the output will be distributed to residents of Rakhine State, while the remaining 80 per cent will go to the national grid.

This is the fourth time the Vpower Company is investing in the power sector. It had earlier

invested \$65 million for running a 90MW gas engine power plant on 8 acres of land owned by the Ministry of Electricity and Energy and located at Sagar Village, Taungtha Township, Mandalay Region.

It also implemented a 145.49-MW gas engine power plant in Kyaukse Township, and supplied and sold the power in cooperation with a joint venture company.

Vpower Company also invested \$363 million for generating 400MW of electricity from LNG, and supplied and sold power on an IPP (BOT) basis in Thakayta Township in Yangon Region.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

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Doing our best in writing the Child Rights Law to protect the next generation

To protect and promote the rights of children in Myanmar, the Child Rights Law was enacted after years of discussion and debate.

Every effort by the Union Government has targeted socio-economic development and the rule of law in the country. In other words, current efforts would result in a superior heritage for the country's next generation, who are now children.

Hence, for our next generation the new child rights law was written, and is consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and is to be adaptable to changing situations in the country.

We need to take into account the role of the parents and relatives whom children rely on. Only then can we enforce the legal framework and achieve the success of the policy of the Union Government.

There must be rules within the new Child Rights Law to implement the rights of our children. Before the law, every child must have equal opportunities. Therefore, the rules which will be drafted soon must guarantee granting equal rights and benefits for every child in different areas.

The new law defines a child as anyone younger than 18, and provides that all children born in Myanmar have the right to their births being registered.

Hence, we should pay more attention to issues related to the care and punishment of children, when the rules are drafted. At the same time, child adoption must be

allowed without deviation from the country's existing rules and regulations.

It is also necessary to have clear tasks for implementing the rules of the new Child Rights Law, which sets higher standards for safeguarding the rights of children in all circumstances, and these directives should be in line with the law.

We are confident that the ability of experts who make up the committee for writing the rules of the law would overcome possible challenges in their work through negotiation and coordination.

We need to take into account the role of the parents and relatives whom children rely on. Only then can we enforce the legal framework and achieve the success of the policy of the Union Government.

Children are the most important and vulnerable part of society. We used to focus on institutional care, but now we are aiming to branch out to alternative care. The process is not easy, but if everybody is dedicated and willing to protect the nation's children, it is not impossible.

No law is perfect. But we did our best in enacting the law, and now need to again do our best in creating the rules of the law.

We are going to protect child rights in the interests of children, and not for the benefit of others. The value of human society depends upon how it protects its children.

Press Release on the State Visit of H.E. Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

1. At the invitation of U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Excellency Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, paid a State Visit to Myanmar from 17 to 18 January 2020.

2. President Mr. Xi Jinping and the Chinese delegation arrived at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by special flight in the afternoon of 17 January 2020. The President was welcomed by Vice President U Myint Swe, Union Ministers and responsible officials at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

3. In the evening, President U Win Myint accorded a ceremonial welcome to visiting President Mr. Xi Jinping at the lawn of the Presidential Palace. Then, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi cordially greeted President Mr. Xi Jinping at the Presidential Palace. Subsequently, President U Win Myint held a meeting with President Mr. Xi Jinping at the Credential Hall of the Presidential Palace. During the meeting, the two leaders candidly exchanged views on matters pertaining to the further consolidation of the existing bilateral relations and expansion of cooperation, joint celebration of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Myanmar and China, enhancement of cultural and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries. They also extended their wishes for greater successes in each other's efforts for peace, prosperity and further development in their respective countries.

4. It was followed by a State Banquet hosted by President U Win Myint in honour of the visiting Chinese President Mr. Xi Jinping at the State Banquet Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw. At the banquet, the two leaders delivered speeches and exchanged toasts expressing their aspiration to work hand in hand for strengthening of friendship and partnership to the mutual benefit

of the two countries and peoples.

5. Afterwards, the Chinese delegation led by President Mr. Xi Jinping left the Presidential Palace for the Myanmar International Convention Centre (2). President Mr. Xi Jinping was greeted by Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat and Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than and they had a group photo taken. Subsequently, President Mr. Xi Jinping met with representatives of 17

invited guests with traditional dances.

6. In the morning of 18 January 2020, bilateral talks between State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and President Mr. Xi Jinping was held at the Presidential Palace. During the meeting, both sides stressed the importance of further enhancement of the existing Myanmar-China relations for mutual benefits, expansion of multi-faceted cooperation including Belt and Road Initiative (BRD), Chi-

China to provide Yuan 4 billion for Myanmar's development

33 Agreements, MoUs and Documents signed or exchanged during President Xi Jinping's visit to Myanmar

na-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC) Projects, infrastructure projects, commemorative activities and events of the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of Myanmar-China diplomatic relations throughout the year 2020 in both countries, promotion of people-to-people exchanges and closer collaboration and coordination in both regional and multilateral fora on issues of mutual interest.

7. The State Counsellor stressed the importance of the prevalence of peace and stability in Myanmar and the achievement of peace process for successful implementation of the bilateral cooperation projects. The Chinese side reiterated its continued support of the Myanmar Government's ongoing efforts for national reconciliation, peace process and the repatriation and resettlement of displaced persons from the

Rakhine State. The Chinese government pledged to provide Yuan 4 billion in three years as development assistance to Myanmar. The Myanmar side expressed its appreciation to China for its assistance for Myanmar's development efforts.

8. Following the talks, the State Counsellor and the Chinese President witnessed the exchange of the agreements, memoranda of understanding and documents between Myanmar and China, namely, MoU on Accelerating Negotiation on the Framework Agreement on the China-Myanmar Ruli-Muse Cross Border Economic Cooperation Zone, MoU on the Establishment of the Working Group for the Promotion of Smooth Trade, Implementation Agreement of the China-aid Upgrading of No.2 Industrial Training Centre (Mandalay) Project, MoU on Promoting Production Capacity and Investment Cooperation, Handover Certificate of the Yangon Police Command Centre, Exchange Letter for the Provision of 6 Patrol Boats for Myanmar Police Force, Exchange Letter for Feasibility Study on 3-Year Development Plan of Border Areas, Agreement on Cooperation between National Radio and Television Administration of China and Ministry of Information of Myanmar, MoU on Co-organizing the Myanmar Day of 2020 Lancang-Mekong TV Week, Protocol on Plant Inspection and Quarantine Requirements for Exporting Rice from Myanmar to China, Protocol for Heat Processed Cocoon to be Imported from Myanmar to China, Protocol on Quarantine Health Requirements for Slaughter Bovine to be Exported from Myanmar to China, Exchange letter for the Project of Agricultural Product Quality Control Centre, Exchange letter for the Project of Hybrid-Rice Research Centre, Implementation Agreement for Procurement of Passenger Coaches by Interest Free Loan, MoU on Enhancing Infrastructure Development

Cooperation, MoU on Human Resources Development Cooperation, Implementation Agreement of the Kunlong Bridge Project, Exchange Letter for the Feasibility Study on the Resettlement Project for Internally Displaced Persons in Kachin State, Concession Agreement and Shareholder's Agreement of Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone Deep Sea Port Project, MoU on Local Cooperation under the Framework of Joint Building China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC) between the Yunnan Province and Mandalay Region, MoU on the Establishment of Friendship-Province/Region Relationship between Yunnan Province and Yangon Region, Letter of Intent Regarding New Urban Development of Yangon City, Agreement on Mutual Provision of Embassy Lands and Buildings, MoU between the Two Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and China on Strengthening Cooperation, MoU on Conducting Feasibility Study of the Myanmar-China Power Interconnection Project, MoU on Cooperation between Chinese and Myanmar Football Associations, Handover of Detailed Feasibility Study Reports of Mandalay-Tigyaying-Muse Expressway & Kyaukpyu-Naypyitaw Highway Projects and Handing Over of the Muse-Mandalay Railway Feasibility Study Report. Moreover, MoU on Feasibility Study for Yangon River Estuary West Bank Protection Project, MoU on Feasibility Study for Mandalay-Bagan Railway Line Project, Letter of Intent for Acceleration of Meel-lin-gyaing integrated LNG to Power Project and MoU of Feasibility Study for Watalone Tunnel Project were also signed on separate occasions during the visit.

9. In the afternoon, President Mr. Xi Jinping received Senior-General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services, at the Horizon Lake View Hotel. Then, President Mr. Xi Jinping, attended the luncheon hosted by State

Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at Shwe San Eain Hotel. After the luncheon, President Mr. Xi Jinping and the Chinese delegation departed Nay Pyi Taw for Beijing by special flight. They were seen off by Vice President U Myint Swe, Union Ministers and responsible officials at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

10. A Joint Statement was issued at the conclusion of the State Visit. In the statement, both sides agreed to consolidate the traditional bonds of friendship between Myanmar and China, promote comprehensive strategic cooperation and build Myanmar-China Community with a shared future based on the aims of mutual benefits, equality and win-win cooperation. Myanmar wished China to achieve its two centenary goals and Chinese dream of national rejuvenation. China wished Myanmar for success in national reconciliation, peace process

China to continue its support for Myanmar's efforts to achieve national reconciliation and peace process as well as to address the Rakhine issue

and economic development. Both sides expressed satisfaction on the steadfast adherence to the jointly initiated Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and strengthening of bilateral exchanges at various levels.

11. Both sides agreed to step up Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) cooperation and promote the three pillars of the CMEC, namely the Kyauk Phyu Special Economic Zone, Myanmar-China Border Economic Cooperation Zones, and new urban development of Yangon City as well as framework infrastructure

projects of connectivity such as roads, railways, electric power and energy. Both sides agreed to designate the year 2020 as "Myanmar-China Year of Culture and Tourism" to hold a series of joint celebrations for the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations; strengthen social and people-to-people exchanges and cooperation in education, culture, tourism, religion, and media; and deepen mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples. Both sides also agreed to continue cooperation in regional and multilateral fora such as the United Nations, China-ASEAN cooperation and Lancang-Mekong cooperation platforms.

12. The Chinese side firmly supports Myanmar in its aim to adopt a development path that is in line with its national conditions, the safeguarding of its legitimate rights and interests, as well as national dignity, on the international stage, and to maintain the momentum of development and stability. The Myanmar side reiterates its firm commitment to the One China Policy and supports the efforts of China to resolve the issues of Taiwan, Tibet and Xinjiang, which are inalienable parts of China.

13. The Chinese side supports the efforts of the Myanmar side to advance the national reconciliation and peace process through political dialogue based on the spirit of Panglong Confer-

for all its support to Myanmar.

14. Both sides agreed to designate the year 2020 as "Myanmar-China Year of Culture and Tourism" to hold a series of joint celebrations for the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations; strengthen social and people-to-people exchanges and cooperation in education, culture, tourism, religion, and media; and deepen mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples. Both sides also agreed to continue cooperation in regional and multilateral fora such as the United Nations, China-ASEAN cooperation and Lancang-Mekong cooperation platforms.

15. The State Visit of President Mr. Xi Jinping to Myanmar is a significant milestone in the bilateral relations of the two countries as it is his first visit to Myanmar after the assumption of the high office as the President of People's Republic of China in 2013 as well as the first visit of the Chinese President to Myanmar in 19 years. The Visit also coincides with the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and China.

16. During the visit, both leaders agreed to elevate the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership to the level of the building the Myanmar-China community with a shared future based on equality and win-win cooperation to the benefits of the two peoples. Moreover, China's provision of Yuan (4 billion) assistance for Myanmar's development and a total of (33) Agreements, MoUs and Documents which were signed or exchanged during the State Visit served as an impetus to further enhance bilateral ties and expand mutually beneficial multi-faceted cooperation between Myanmar and China.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
Date, 18 January 2020

Australia's farmers count cost after bushfires wipe out livestock



Australia is reeling from bushfires that since September have claimed 28 lives, including two on Kangaroo Island. **PHOTO: AFP**

KANGAROO ISLAND (Australia)—In the wake of ferocious bushfires that tore through Kangaroo Island, local farmer Rick Morris has endured the gruelling task of burying 400 sheep killed when most of his sprawling property went up in flames.

“It puts it in perspective to say that we’re one of the lucky ones,” he said.

Australia is reeling from bushfires that since September have claimed 28 lives, including two on Kangaroo Island, and razed 10 million hectares (25 million acres) of land — an area larger than South Korea or Portugal.

Vast swathes of the burned land were used for grazing cattle and sheep, and officials believe the livestock toll exceeds 100,000

across Australia — including at least 43,000 on Kangaroo Island alone, where farmers like Morris endured three blazes in just 10 days.

“We faced the full wrath of Mother Nature,” he told AFP at his 930-hectare (2,300-acre) farm.

“The fire (swept) from the south side to the north side of the island and took no prisoners between... I’m amazed there were not more people killed.”

Faced with the scale of the disaster, Australia’s army has deployed 3,000 soldiers to assist in bushfire-affected areas.

Here, the defence force flew in firefighters from the mainland and dropped bales of hay from helicopters to farmers isolated by fires in the island’s western

reaches.

Brigadier Damian Cantwell, the joint bushfire task force commander for South Australia state, said he foresaw a “long road ahead” for Kangaroo Island.

“I’ve seen a level of destruction which is still surprising me now,” he told AFP.

“There’s a lot of farmers that are in distress, a lot of community members are struggling, some families have lost everything, and they’re struggling to find out where they can move forward from here,” he said.

“There’s no end date assigned to this mission, and it’s very important that there’s no sense of anyone... thinking about when this is going to end.”—AFP ■

Farmer fury and environmental anger in protest-hit Germany

BERLIN (Germany)—From grumpy bee-keepers dumping honey on politicians’ doorsteps to furious farmers holding up traffic, increasing tensions between farmers and environmentalists have overshadowed the opening of the biggest show on Germany’s agriculture calendar.

Thousands of tractors descended on cities across Germany on Friday at the opening of Berlin’s annual “Green Week” trade fair, as the farmer’s collective “Land schafft Verbindung” (LSV) railed against tightening regulations.

Aggrieved at Germany’s latest agricultural reform that includes introducing an animal welfare label on food products and restrictions on pesticides to protect insects, the protesters claim they are carrying the costs for new environmental protection measures.

“Don’t forget that farmers feed you” and “No farm, no food, no future”, screamed posters held aloft by farmers, who fear the new laws will slash their revenues.

But lawmakers are being squeezed on both sides, with climate activists arguing that recent agricultural and climate reforms do not go far enough.



Thousands of tractors descended on cities across Germany on Friday at the opening of Berlin’s annual ‘Green Week’ trade fair. **PHOTO: AFP**

The gulf between farmers and environmental activists has deepened in the last years as climate protection shot to the top of the political agenda following weeks of student-led Friday for Futures school strike protests.

The LSV protesters consider themselves a counterweight to the environmentalist grouping “We are fed up!”, which is expected to draw tens of thousands to the streets on Saturday to protest the damaging effects of industrial agriculture.

A yearly fixture since 2011, the green groups-led protests demand full-scale reform to support small farms and environmentally friendly agriculture. “The agriculture industry is fuelling the climate crisis and societal conflict — we have to stop it!” the organisers state on their website.

‘Bring city and country together’

At the opening of the Green Week on Thursday, Agriculture Minister Julia Kloeckner urged both sides to be open to compromise. “We need to bring the city and the country together,” said Kloeckner. Both LSV and “We are fed up!” have said they are open to talks with each other. But in practice, there has been little sign of a rapprochement.

“We are open to dialogue with the farmers, but we have to have the same objective of ecological transition. Sometimes I have the impression that that is not the case,” Saskia Richartz, a spokeswoman for “We are fed up”, told AFP.

Mark, a 22-year-old farmer and LSV protester from Brandenburg, was blunter in his criticism of the environmentalists.

“These people have nothing to do with agriculture,” he told AFP. Saturday’s protesters are not the only ones who are fed up with industrial agriculture.

On Wednesday, two beekeepers from the countryside outside Berlin dumped buckets of honey on the steps of the Ministry for Agriculture. They claimed that the use of glyphosate in nearby fields forced them to throw away four tonnes of honey every year.—AFP ■

Austria’s ‘ghetto’ language classes stir segregation fears

VIENNA (Austria)—Every morning Abulrahman leaves his normal primary school lessons in Vienna and joins about 20 other children for three hours to learn to read, write and speak German.

Only when his level is deemed good enough will the eight year-old, who arrived from Yemen in July, be allowed to stop what critics call the “ghetto classes”. Despite conservative Chancellor Sebastian Kurz’s new coalition partners, the Greens, having expressed concerns about the controversial policy, it looks set to continue. Kurz has pledged to maintain his anti-immigration reforms —with junior partner, the Greens, conceding—includ-



Pupils in Austria with weak German skills leave their normal lessons for special language classes. **PHOTO: AFP**

ing the special classes, which the government argues allow children with weak German skills to learn at their own pace without holding others back. “It is a way of preventing the permanent exclu-

sion of pupils unable to follow due to a lack of language skills,” said Education Minister Heinz Fassmann, who also held the portfolio in Kurz’s previous coalition with the far-right.—AFP ■

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Experts warn over scale of China virus as US airports start screening

HONG KONG (China)— The true scale of the outbreak of a mysterious SARS-like virus in China is likely far bigger than officially reported, scientists have warned, as countries ramp up measures to prevent the disease from spreading.

Fears that the virus will spread are growing ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday, when hundreds of millions of Chinese move around the country and many others host or visit extended family members living overseas.

Authorities in China say two people have died and at least 45 have been infected, with the outbreak centred around a seafood market in the central city of Wuhan, a city of 11 million inhabitants that serves as a major transport hub.

But a paper published Friday by scientists with the MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis at Imperial College in London said the number of cases in the city was likely closer to 1,700.

The researchers said their estimate was largely based on the fact that cases had been



The outbreak centred around a seafood market in the central city of Wuhan. PHOTO: AFP

reported overseas -- two in Thailand and one in Japan.

The virus -- a new strain of coronavirus that humans can contract -- has caused alarm because of its connection to SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), which killed nearly 650 people across mainland China and Hong Kong in 2002-2003.

China has not announced any travel restrictions, but authorities in Hong Kong have already stepped up detection measures, including rigorous temperature checkpoints for inbound travellers from the Chinese mainland.

The US said from Friday it would begin screening flights arriving from Wuhan at San

Francisco airport and New York's JFK -- which both receive direct flights -- as well as Los Angeles, where many flights connect. And Thailand said it was already screening passengers arriving in Bangkok, Chiang Mai and Phuket and would soon introduce similar controls in the beach resort of Krabi.—AFP ■

Thai Gov to impose measures to curb air quality from aggravating

BANGKOK—Enduring the ever-increasing fine dusts (particulate matter) PM2.5 in the major cities across Thailand, the Thai government will be implementing stricter measures against trucks emitting black smoke and open-air construction sites.

Narumon Pinyosinwat, government spokeswoman said on Saturday that 12 measures will be proposed to the Cabinet next Tuesday.

She said measures include extension of the restricted areas for trucks coming into Bangkok especially during office hours.

Six wheeler trucks and more will be banned to enter inner Bangkok on odd days from 6 am. to 9 pm. during January and February, Narumon said.

Checkpoints will be set up to screen vehicles emitting exhaust fumes, exceeding the safety standard in all 50 Bangkok districts, she said.

Also, construction sites of electric rail lines and other buildings will be inspected to enforce the regulations on curbing dust particles.

Air pollution in Bangkok have again on Saturday surged to unhealthy levels, with the Pollution Control Department reporting hazardous dust particles reaching 40 to 67 micrograms per cubic meter in Bangkok and three neighboring provinces.—Xinhua ■

Filipinos turn volcano's ash, plastic trash into bricks



Officials are combining ash with sand, cement and discarded plastic to form about 5,000 bricks per day. PHOTO: AFP

BINAN (Philippines)—Ash spewed by a Philippine volcano is being mixed with plastic waste to make bricks in an inventive response to the country's persistent problems of pollution and frequent natural disasters.

The Taal volcano burst into

life nearly a week ago, sending towering dust columns into the sky and leaving nearby Binan city coated in fine grey powder.

Environment officials did not just clean up the mess but decided to combine the ash with sand, cement and discard-

ed plastic to form about 5,000 bricks per day for local building projects.

"Instead of just piling up the ashfall somewhere, we are able to turn it into something useful. And it includes plastics, too," said city environmental officer

Rodelio Lee.

The Philippines faces a waste crisis, with a report last year saying it uses a "shocking" amount of single-use plastic, including nearly 60 billion throw-away sachets per year.

It is also plagued by some 20 major storms annually and regular, powerful earthquakes which together kill hundreds of people each year.

Due to its position on the Pacific "Ring of Fire" zone of seismic activity, it also has periodic volcanic eruptions.

Taal's jets of lava and 15-kilometer (nine-mile) walls of ash have sent more than 70,000 people into evacuation centres and prompted warnings that a far bigger eruption could happen at any time.

With volcanic ash and plastic both in plentiful supply, the officials in Binan see their project as a silver lining.

"During these times, our creativity becomes apparent," said the mayor of Binan, Arman Dimaguila.—AFP ■

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Ken Starr, celebrity lawyer Dershowitz join Trump defense team

WASHINGTON (United States)—Ken Starr, who was at the center of Bill Clinton's impeachment in the 1990s, and America's biggest celebrity lawyer Alan Dershowitz were announced Friday to be joining President Donald Trump's Senate impeachment defense.

The administration has yet to unveil the full team but confirmed that White House counsel Pat Cipollone will be lead lawyer, backed by Trump's personal attorney Jay Sekulow.

"President Trump has done nothing wrong and is confident that this team will defend him, the voters, and our democracy from this baseless, illegitimate impeachment," the White House said in a statement Friday evening. But where Cipollone is ultra-discreet, and rarely speaks on the record, Dershowitz and Starr will bring the legal world's equivalent of rock stardom when the trial begins on Tuesday.

US media reports said Starr, the special prosecutor in the 1998 Clinton impeachment saga, was joining the Trump legal team. He



Alan Dershowitz will bring celebrity firepower to US President Donald Trump's impeachment defense team. PHOTO: AFP

is a hero to many on the right, even if Clinton ultimately was acquitted in the Senate.

Among the first to react -- with expletive-laden astonishment -- was Monica Lewinsky,

whose affair with Clinton was the subject of Starr's investigation.

"This is definitely an 'are you fucking kidding me?' kinda day," she tweeted. No less controversial is the choice of Dershowitz,

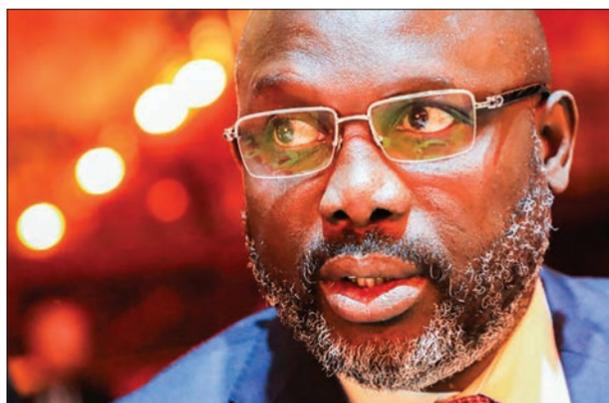
whose past clients include disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein, as well as film director Roman Polanski and former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson, both embroiled in notorious rape

cases. Dershowitz himself has been accused of being a witness and participant in Epstein's sex crimes -- allegations he strenuously denies. Dershowitz's most famous case was the successful defense of former NFL star O.J. Simpson, whose televised 1995 murder trial riveted the nation.

In the Senate, Dershowitz, who teaches at Harvard University, says he'll be pursuing loftier matters. In a post on Twitter Friday, Dershowitz said he would "present oral arguments at the Senate trial to address the constitutional arguments against impeachment and removal."

Lead lawyer Cipollone is the author of the Republican president's uncompromising strategy to stonewall the Democrats' impeachment investigation, calling it "partisan and unconstitutional." Another high-powered player will be Sekulow, a stalwart in the White House pushback against a two-year probe by special counsel Robert Mueller into Trump's controversial dealings with Russia.—AFP ■

Liberia souring on George Weah at two-year mark



Rampant inflation has left many people in Liberia struggling and increasingly turning their anger on President George Weah. PHOTO: AFP

MONROVIA (Liberia)—Dominic Kpadeh heaves a hammer over his head to crack a half-tonne rock in a northern suburb of Liberia's capital Monrovia, knowing his hard labour earns him far less than a year ago.

Kpadeh and his colleagues used to go home with \$1,000 (900 euros) a month between them crushing rocks for the construction industry. Now, he says, they're lucky to get \$250 (225 euros). Stories such as Kpadeh's are common in Liberia, where rampant inflation has left many people struggling and increasingly turning their anger on President George Weah. "I do this in order to feed the family," says Kpadeh, a 45-year old father of four, bent double from the effort. "People are no longer building like before. Even those who are coming for crushed rock want to buy it very cheap." A former football icon whose goals for AC Milan and Paris St Germain dazzled fans, Weah came to power in January 2018, promising to invest in education and create jobs.—AFP ■

Art blooms in gritty Dakar neighbourhood

DAKAR (Senegal)—Mamadou Boye Diallo, an art curator with a penchant for heart-shaped glasses, calls Dakar's working-class Medina neighbourhood an open-air museum.

Flitting on rollerblades between colourful murals in this part of the West African metropolis, Diallo, who is also a guide to the area, points to works by artists from all over the world.

He heads an association which aims to use murals to save fading colonial-era buildings from destruction and to make art accessible to all -- not just "guys in suits and ties".

The result is beautiful, if jarring. Swirling tableaux of geometrical or animal motifs enliven the walls in the otherwise nondescript cityscape.

One mural features a

fist raised against a hypnotic-blue background, for example. Underneath it, carpenters work steadily at wood pallets.

Another mural has two mysterious women set against brilliant indigos and azures staring into the distance. A real-life cow rummages on the ground at their feet.

Diallo and some associates started the asso-

ciation Yataal Art -- which means "expand art" in the Wolof language -- in 2010.

They were initially asking artists to decorate walls. But now artists are coming to them, says Melodie Petit, the associations' vice-president.

She adds that artists approach families and ask permission before painting, often offering them dinner in return.—AFP ■

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUO HSIUNG VOY.NO. (1114S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19-1-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

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Dala town jetty is visible from Yangon bank.

Dala: An Imminent new development

By Shin Naw
Photos: Lin Nyunt

CROWDS of people crossing over both Strand Road through zebra crossing and by an over-bridge building across Strand Road are a common sight we can see whenever we arrive at the junction of Pansodan Street and Strand Road in the downtown area of Yangon. Those crowds of people go to Yangon and come back to Dala every day. Motorboats seen along Yangon River carry commuters to other bank of the river; the place known as tree-covered Dala.

Dala home to more than 150,000 residents according to the 2014 census occupies a total area of 86.51 per cent square miles. There are 24 wards, 23 village tracts and 54 villages in Dala. Three are irregular among 24 wards. Those three wards are designated as the wards but against the urban standard. For that reason, water can't be supplied, revenues can't be collected

and garbage collection service can't be carried out in those three wards. Most of the people residing in Dala are farmers relying on farming in particular, but a difficult access to transport and electric power still remains there.

New Dala Bridge under construction

Dala is the township that contained as a part of the Master Plan of Urban Project of Yangon Region. A new Dala Bridge is under construction as a gesture of friendship between Myanmar and the Republic of Korea (ROK).

"If completed, infrastructures will be needed for preparations. For example, buildings, transport, water and power supplies are to be taken into consideration. Proper drainage system must be developed if good roads are wanted. The lengths of the drainage channel and the road have been submitted to

the mayor, the vice-mayor and the committees concerned. The feasibility study and budget are also the same matter," said Daw Myint Myint Kyi, chairperson of Dala Township Development Affairs Committee (DAC).

The responsible persons including the chairperson of Dala Township DAC went on a working tour to the ROK having discussions about the matters relating to the construction of ports in Seoul, Incheon and Busan from 18 to 23 August.

"A new port will be also built after Dala Bridge is finished. The existing roads are a low level of physical strength and the facilities need upgrade in Dala. Too much reliance on the budget of the State is out of the question in a bid to improve infrastructures from 2020. If international assistance and technical support are sought, the roads will be able to be upgraded at a time when a port and a bridge are completed,"

said Daw Myint Myint Kyi. The workless youth population is on the increase in Dala. When the town develops, vocational training ought to be created for workless young people in order to do a particular job. A new port will be constructed. If mechanical training capable of creating job opportunities suitable for port activities and technical support course on commodity flow are opened in advance, the youths will emerge as skilled workers at the time of the completion of port construction. The training and courses are needed to be open for the youths.

Raising of living standards

"Water resource is scarce in Dala. The availability of fresh water is a less likelihood. The farmland ownership of the farmers is plentiful. There are 54 villages. We must try for fresh water. If technical help, agricultural loans, inputs and productivity are



The photo shows a welcoming signboard in Dala town.

provided, farmers will be able to grow a double-crop and a triple-crop within year. Growing a double-crop and a triple-crop can

raise the standard of living of the farmers. If joint venture can be set up, the people from our village and town will welcome it. The roads must be upgraded, the qualified courses, opened and technical support plus finance, provided to the farmers. In doing so, our youths and farmers will see a rapid development from five to ten years. These matters were discussed during our visit and the ROK side liked our discussions. The ROK expressed desire to cooperate with us.”

Beginning with construction activities

Concerning the water supply, preliminary land preparatory measures have started in January.

A new world-class port to emerge soon

Asked if how much area is the new port to be built in Dala, Daw Myint Myint Kyi replied that we thought of the place of Arntgyi shipyard. The designated area starts from Kamarohn creek to Arntgyi east ward adjacent to Port Authority, Thamada beach adjacent to Port Authority and Sanpyadata creek adjacent to Port Authority. Feasibility study is underway for five years of first priority and ten years of second priority. The first phase is from 2022 to 2027 and the second from 2027 to 2030. The length of time is one decade during which a new world-class port will appear.

For the reasons mentioned above, Dala, the little known township in Yangon Region will be witnessed as a town with ur-

Donations raised by KBZPay customers through the KBZPay App are pouring into five organizations

KBZPAY, the leading mobile wallet in Myanmar, held a donation handover ceremony with partner organizations today. From 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019, KBZPay customers across the country contributed donations totalling MMK 28,241,102 using their KBZPay mobile wallets to five philanthropic organisations. As KBZPay streamlines everyday tasks that involve money in a way that is fast and secure for

to participate in the financial and digital economy, and to connect with one another. KBZPay has also allowed customers from across the country to donate through the in-app ‘Donation’ function to our partner organizations. As we aim to connect to diverse communities in the country, we carefully selected the organizations for collaboration. We will continue to upgrade the App technology and improve our support for social initiatives in the future. I would like to extend our appreciation to KBZPay cus-

During that time, KBZPay enabled its customers to contribute donations to people from the affected areas. The donations allowed Yangon Rescue Organization to deploy a rescue mission at the site of the landslide. I would like to thank everyone who donated through KBZPay as well as the representatives of KBZPay for supporting us,” said U Tun Tun Oo, Chairman of the Yangon Rescue Organization.

Presiding Abbot Ashin Thiha Nyana Thiri from Arseainna Thiri Voluntary Dhamma Yeik Thar in

States studying and living with us. KBZPay has created the opportunity for people across the country to make donations to support us in delivering education, daily meals, and to cover living costs for these children. I would like to share my appreciation to all donors, the KBZ Bank family and KBZPay team members.”

KBZ Bank has launched its three social purpose pillars of Climate Change Mitigation through Education, Talent Development for Future Economy and Inclusive Society & Workplace. Under



Representatives from five philanthropic organizations and the KBZPay team during the KBZPay Donation Handover ceremony held on 8 January 2020. PHOTO: KBZ

people and businesses across the country, it is also supporting the spirit of generosity as it allows customers to donate funds to those in need.

The ceremony was held in the KBZ Bank i3 Penthouse located at New University Avenue Road with representatives from Arseainna Thiri Voluntary Dhamma Yeik Thar, Yangon Rescue Organization, NURTURE AIDS Centre (NAC), Shwe Than Lwin Home for the Aged and Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation. During the ceremony, U Soe Ko Ko, Head of Agent Banking, KBZPay, shared the opening remarks and Mr. Chong Ho Yoon, Head of KBZPay, handed over the donations and certificates of appreciation to the five partner organizations.

“Over the past year, we have seen how KBZPay has enabled millions in Myanmar



U Soe Ko Ko, Head of Agent Banking, KBZPay, sharing the opening remarks during the KBZPay Donation Handover ceremony held on 8 January 2020. PHOTO: KBZ

tomers who have donated funds last year and I encourage everyone to make contributions to our partner organizations for 2020,” said U Soe Ko Ko, Head of Agent Banking, KBZPay.

“In mid-August last year, there was a major landslide at Mount Malat in Mon State following torrential monsoon rains.

Chaug Kyoe Village, Taiké Kyi Township, Yangon Region, said, “When we opened our school, it was built using bamboo and the roof was covered with thatch. We encountered many difficulties and at present, there are more than 200 orphans and underprivileged children from Karen, Mon, Kayah, Ayarwaddy and Shan

the Inclusive Society & Workplace pillar, KBZ Bank selected organizations of different backgrounds without any religious and races discrimination to be partners of KBZPay to receive donations contributed by customers in a secure, easy and convenient way.

This year, the first donation period has been set from 1 January to 30 June 2020 and the selected organizations to receive donations include Shan State Buddhist University, Mary Chapman School for the Deaf, Muslim Free Hospital & Medical Relief Society, Daycare Centre for Offspring to Children of Yangon City Development Committee, Kemar Rama Nunnery and Nunnery School Education (Thanlyin) and Save The Aged.

Any KBZPay customer can select their preferred organization to make a donation of at least MMK 500 using the in-app Donation function.—GNLM



ban development characteristics of world-class bridge, roads and structures near future.
Translated by Htut Htut (Twan-tay)



MNL Derby: Yadanarbon FC ties Sagaing United

YADANARBON FC played to a 1-1 draw against Sagaing United in a derby match of the Myanmar National League, played at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay yesterday.

As the match was a derby match, fans supported both teams.

Both teams played tough football from the start. The young local players, comprising the Yadanarbon FC, showed their best form against the foreign players and local players in the mixed Sagaing United team.

Yadanarbon FC scored the first and leading goal at 18 minutes by Myanmar football star Aung Thu, with an assist from teammate and youth football star

Win Naing Tun.

The goal motivated Sagaing United to act quickly and created frequent opportunities to score, as Sagaing United equalized the goal at the 38 minute mark.

Taking advantage of Yadanarbon's ragged defence line, the equalizer for Sagaing United was scored by Zaw Lin Htet at 38 minutes.

The score was 1-1 after the first half.

Sagaing United forced continuing play with neat and tidy tackling in the second half, but Yadanarbon became the aggressor with a potent, sustained attack. The derby match saw no more goals, ending with a 1-1 draw.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Yadanarbon striker Aung Thu (blue jersey) torches the ball during the Myanmar National League match against Sagaing United at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay yesterday. **PHOTO: MNL**

MFF holds press conference for 2020 football election

A press conference regarding the 2020 football election and football congress was held at the Myanmar Football Federation headquarters in Yangon on 17 January.

The conference was attended by Counselor of Myanmar Football Federation and Chairman of the MFF Football Election U Zaw Min Sein, members of the football election committee U Bunny Tin Aung, U Khin Maung Myint, and U Than Tun, former Myanmar goalkeeper U Tin Aung, General Secretary of the Myanmar Football Federation U Ko Ko Thein and officials.

The press conference began with an explanation of the preparations for the upcoming MFF congress by General Secretary of the Myanmar Football Federation U Ko Ko Thein.

Next, Chairman of the MFF Football Election U Zaw Min Sein reviewed the preparations



The press conference for the upcoming MFF Congress 2020 held in Yangon. **PHOTO: MFF**

for the upcoming MFF football election.

Afterwards, questions were answered by Chairman of the MFF Football Election U Zaw Min Sein and election member U Bunny Tin Aung.

The election and congress of the MFF will be held on 30 January at Novotel Yangon Max

Hotel.

There will be 261 votes cast by representatives, of which 241 votes will be given by Township Football Associations, 12 votes by Myanmar National League I clubs and eight votes by Myanmar National League II Clubs, according to the MFF.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Yangon United to play Zwegapin United today

YANGON United will play against Zwegapin United today at 3:30 pm in a Week-2 match in the Myanmar National League at Yangon United Sports Complex.

Discussing the upcoming match, Yangon United defender Hitke Htike Aung said, "All teams are being prepared to give their best performances. And our team

had prepared, too, to grab a win for three points. I think our opponents will rely on their massive defensive play.

"Zwegapin United has some experienced foreign players, as well."

In their last meet in the previous season of the Myanmar National League, Yangon United

was victorious.

Yangon United is now standing in third place after defeating Chin United in their first match, while Zwegapin United is in last place.

The match will be broadcast live on MRTV and MRTV Sports Channel starting at 3:15 pm.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Deeney penalty saved but Watford dent Spurs Euro hopes

WATFORD (United Kingdom) — Troy Deeney saw his penalty saved as Watford drew 0-0 with Tottenham on Saturday, extending Nigel Pearson's unbeaten Premier League run to six games and further damaging Spurs' Champions League ambitions.

The key moment at Vicarage Road came with 20 minutes to go when Spurs goalkeeper Paulo Gazzaniga dived low to his left to keep out the Watford captain's spot kick.

Spurs came agonisingly close to snatching the win in stoppage time only for Watford substitute Ignacio Pussetto, making his debut for the club, to clear an Erik Lamela effort off the line.

But it was another point claimed during Watford's resurgence under Pearson, who

has now overseen a run of four wins and two draws in his past six league games.

The result is frustrating for Jose Mourinho, whose team, without the injured Harry Kane and with uncertainty over the future of Christian Eriksen, could be 11 points off fourth spot by the end of the day.

Mourinho was pleased with Tottenham's performance but admitted they missed the physical presence of the injured Moussa Sissoko and Harry Kane, and Kane's eye for goal.

The Spurs boss said he would like to boost his forward options in the January transfer window but only if the right options became available.

"This is not the last match in Tottenham's history," he said.—AFP ■



Tottenham goalkeeper Paulo Gazzaniga saves a penalty from Watford striker Troy Deeney in their Premier League match. **PHOTO: AFP**

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

19 JANUARY 2020
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

CLIMATE CHANGE and YOUTH ACTIVISM

Greta Thunberg, a young environmentalist, was named the TIME's Person of the year 2019. A vulnerable 16-year-old Swedish teenager with Asperger's syndrome; how did she go viral- garner such global attention, get nominated Nobel Prize, and reign at the top of the globe even beating out the President of the United States as a fellow nominee?

No she does not do Youtube vlogs, makeup tutorials or create music like Billie Eilish, but she has a huge follower count of 9 million on Instagram. She courageously started out as a solitary protester outside the Swedish Parliament under the name of "School Strike for Climate" in 2018 and now she has inspired millions of youths around the globe, from Australia, Southeast Asia to the UK and the US., in her course for climate change. From calling out world leaders online for not doing enough to combat climate change and making speeches at the United Nations conference to leading massive rallies of youths and adults in different countries, she surely has drawn public attention to the climate change issue globally. The 2019 September global climate strikes were considered to be likely the largest climate protests in history with an approximate 4-6 million participation, mainly involving youths. Also in Myanmar, there has been news that: about 200 protesters gathered in front of Bogyoke Market, marching to Sule Pagoda, while carrying placards that call for a concrete effort by businesses to deal with a global crisis. Certainly, as a nation that was once deeply torn down by Cyclone Nargis, we more than most other peoples must be mindful of how severe and fatal to humans the natural climate can be.

Greta Thunberg calls her Asperger's syndrome a gift or her superpower, for how it makes her unique and different from the norms and openly expresses how she does not care much about her lack of conformation to social codes. While urging governments and corporations to be more environmentally conscious, she herself acted out on what she preaches by going on a 2-week sailboat trip across the Atlantic to New York for a United Nations conference, as flying with a plane would emit greenhouse gases, which contributes to global warming day by day. For me, that is sheer dedication and passion in action. Not everyone agrees with or supports her activism though, as of course, even scientists are still debating on the climate change issue and some critics are skeptical that she is, unfortunately, being used as a political tool, is pushing through a separate agenda, and should be going to school instead. With huge publicity comes constant scrutiny, rumors and backlash, from the medias as well as with haters targeting her peculiar looks or gestures, and threatened politicians mocking her ideas on social media platforms. But no amount of ferocious ad-hominem attacks and name-calling trolls have stopped her; she in fact points out how criticism is a validation that their collective actions are

SEE PAGE- S-8



By Aung Kaung Sett Hein
4th year, RCSI Medicine,
Dublin.

Design: BT





VIRTUES ATTRACT GOOD NEIGHBOURS

By Mg Sali

Chinese President Xi Jinping landed in Nay Pyi Taw, the capital of Myanmar, on Friday for the first state visit by a Chinese president in nearly 20 years, a trip that I came into thinking about the importance of a good neighbour.

Regarding the neighbours, there is a quote I liked best which was told by a famous Chinese philosopher Confucius (551 BC-474 BC).

"Virtue is not solitary; it is bound to have neighbours" or "Virtue is not left to stand alone. He who practices it will have neighbours."

The quote was now proofed by my country that though facing challenges, good neighbours were ready to help. I believe that this is because of the virtues.

In 2008, while I was waiting for attending university, I had many conversations with my grandma.

According to her, in the middle of 19 century, a couple by the names of U Chan Tha and Daw Kywel Wa moved to the house that is next to us. Though their names in the Burmese language mean "very rich and wealthy", their condition was actually opposite at that time. Their house is bigger and the numbers of their family members are also larger than ours.

As they have many children, U Chan Tha and Daw Kywel Wa hardly tried to feed and clothe them. However, they have a dream of being very rich, so they regularly saved parts of their incomes and wisely invested in new businesses so that they could create more businesses for their children and the coming generation.

For our

grandparents, they were rich as they owned many farms and plantations and could send their children to the best schools, had no worry about economic problems and were mostly developing their wholesome spirit by performing charity, taking precepts and so on.

Because of our forebears, the degree of keeping virtues and performing charity in our minds gradually increased, while the wealth of our neighbor was steadily larger.

Some neighbours in our community criticized the families of U Chan Tha and Daw Kywel Wa that they have only money-perspective and would do any cause of developing their wealth.

But, my grandparents and parents always teach us not to criticize others, and to develop wholesome spirits by rejoicing others' wealth and success. My mother also says neighbouring with a wealthy family is very good for us so we could create the wealth like them. We don't need to learn from the people very far from us, but could learn from our neighbours and could even get their proper assistances. My father also teaches us to rejoice the wealth of others and sympathizes the poverty of others.

Last month, one of my brothers was accused of committing a crime, and my mom had to go before the court. At the time, our neighbours including the wealthy one stood with us, while the others criticized us.

My mom says "having good neighbours are a great boon" and also teaches us to be a good neighbor by developing virtues.

She says those who are virtuous have always good neighbours. The best way to be a good neighbor is to be virtuous. Virtues forever repel hostile neighbours. Virtues always attract good neighbours.

Pieces of thoughts that are on the silvery film screen of my memory



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

I see two people are making their private chat on the film screen. One is a woman and the other is a man who seems to be the same age as that woman. However, I do not hear their voices. Only their movements are seen. There are no other images of the people except the woman and the man in the silvery film screen. The woman seems to explain something to the other. I see the scene in which the man makes a heavy sigh.

I have read about the shots made by an Italian director named Sergio Leone.

The image in which a man was sitting in a chair was shot. Then, the image of a coffin was shot. The two scenes were, then, merged and the result was that the man sitting seemed to be very sad. Another scene started. The image in which a man was sitting in a chair was shot.

Then, the image of a feast was shot. The two scenes were, then, merged and the result was that the man sitting seemed to be very hungry. In my childhood days, I had been interested in film-shooting. I have also read a book about scriptwriting. In a certain shot in which a train was running on the railroad, if it is wrong to mention 'In' and 'Out', the train will turn and go back in the scene, it was explained in the book. I was interested in that a lot.

There was another fact I was interested again. It was the scene in which the villain blew the camera with his fists. However, it could be an excellent shot when it was merged with the scene in which a man fell down on the ground. I think the fans of the film have already known that very well I mentioned above. My favorite scenes are the slow motions. It is the taste that can be felt only in the art of film in which the scene of a running man is shot with a slow-motion process.

I remember about a scene explained by a Myanmar director very well. In the scene, he said that the shot in which the actress was beaten by a bamboo stick, the cameraman exactly caught the countenance of the actress and the budge movement of a snake was merged and it became a very nice and alive shot.

Whenever I think of the up and down trip to the Kyaik-htee-yoe Pagoda, I remember how nice the scene it will be if it is shot with drone or crane to be a panoramic view. It will also be a nice scene if it is shot in the transportation of the cable cars.

Well.

I see two people are making their private chat on the film screen. One is a woman and the other is a man who seems to be the same age as that woman. However, I do not hear their voices. Only their movements are seen. There are no other images of the people except the woman and the man in the silvery film screen. The woman seems to explain something to the other. I see the scene in which the man makes a heavy sigh. It is the above text that will be a satisfactory lesson for the ones who own several sleepless nights like me.





PHOTOS: PHOE KHWAR



Yangon's back alleyways and art galleries attract young people

Some Yangon alleyways have been transformed from littered pathways to gardens with wall paintings that attract youths, mostly on weekends, for recreation and taking photos to be posted on social media.

Among them, the alleyway between 33rd and 34th streets, which is located in the community of the Myanmar film industry, has brought back popular films from the past, along with posters and portraits of famous late film stars, returning them to the public's view.

Also, paintings of popular cartoon characters, which can only be found in books, have brought back past memories of those people of the 1940s.

To see a clean alleyway with 3D paintings, playgrounds and small gardens in the back alley has changed the mindset of people, noting that throwing trash into an alleyway is simply bad manners.

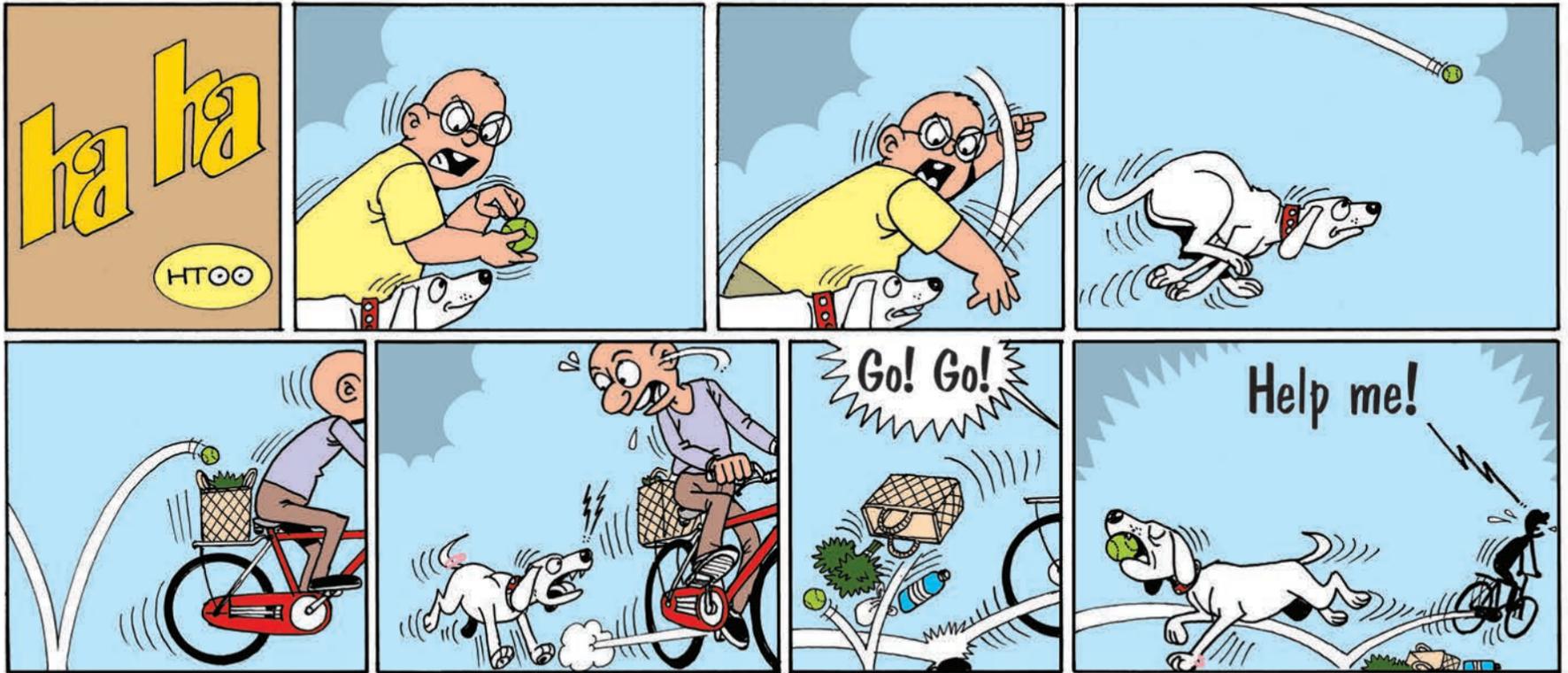
So far, seven back alleyways have been turned into recreational sites.

The thinking behind the project was that throwing trash into an already littered alleyway was easy. But maybe littering a pristine area would be more difficult, organizers reasoned.

What was once a dark, fetid alley is now an eye-catching walkway, with paintings and murals replacing trash and vermin, thanks to a project aimed at transforming alleyways into urban art galleries.—GNLM

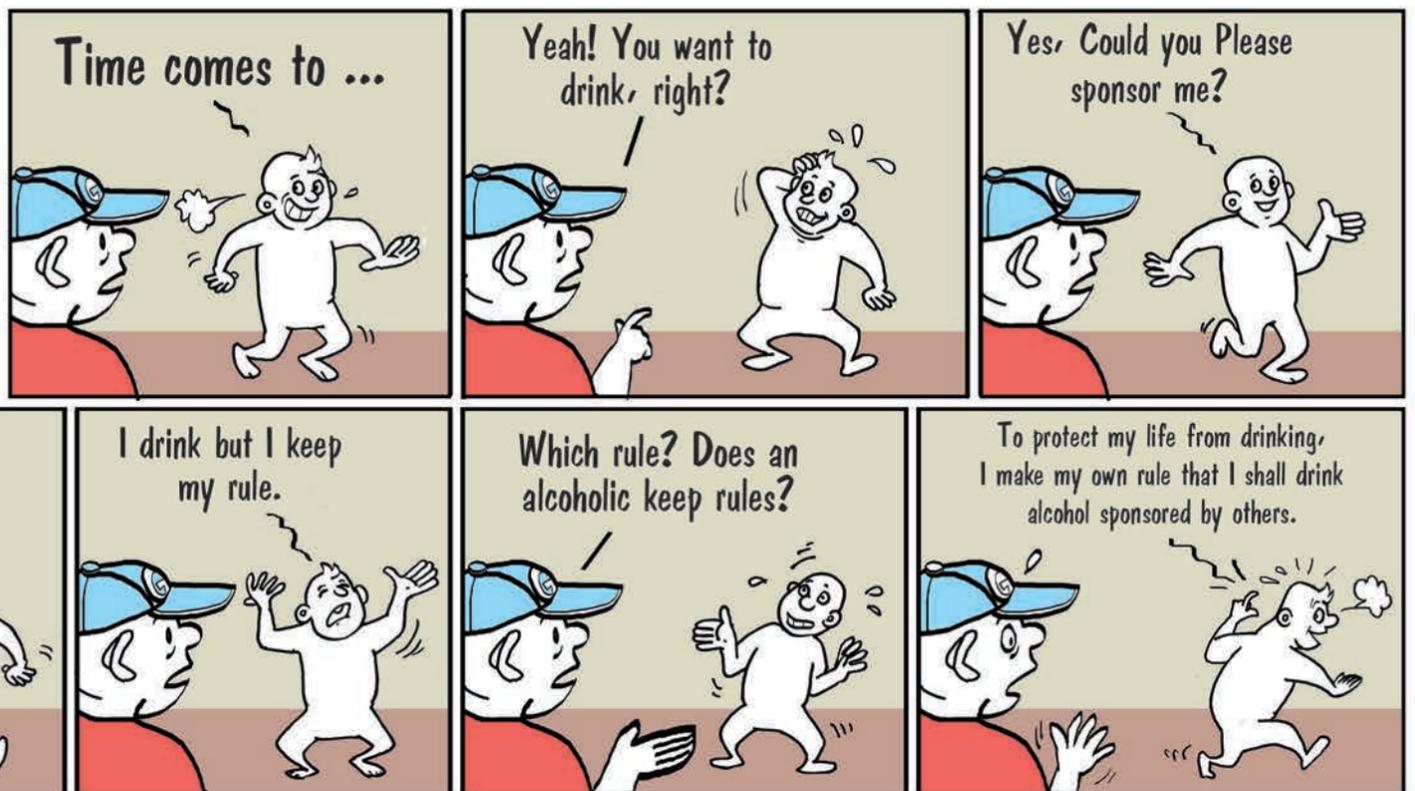


SUNDAY COMICS



PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

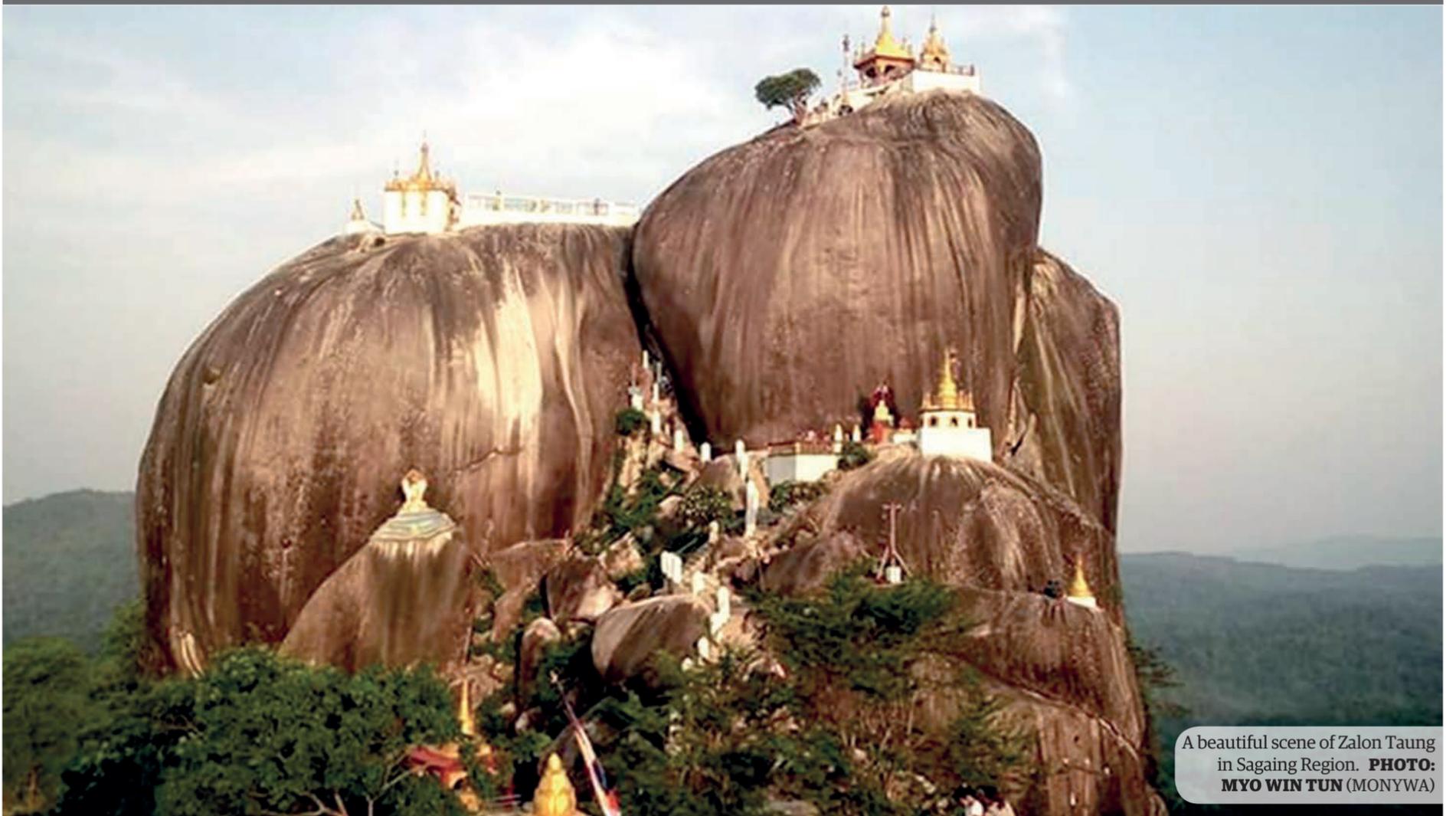
Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2020





A beautiful scene of Zalon Taung in Sagaing Region. **PHOTO: MYO WIN TUN (MONYWA)**

Once falling in love with **Travelling**

By **Khin Moh Moh Aung**
Yadanabon University



“Mee Mee,” a loud voice appeared in front of the door. I automatically knew that that is my aunt’s voice. “Will you come along with me?”, she asked me. “I will come along with you if I know where it is”, I said to her. I will go to Zalone mountain which is situated in Bamauk. “Really! I have been always dreaming about going there”, I said. “When will you leave home?” I asked. “Tonight,” she

answered without hesitating. “I don’t have enough time to prepare for the trip”, I said to her worriedly. “Don’t worry, just take two clothes to change. I will cost you”. When I heard about it, I was on cloud nine. Then, my unexpected trip appeared.

We started our trip at about 8 p.m. When we arrived at Zalone Mountain, it was about 6 a.m. As we are in winter, we were really suffering coolness. I, however, could not care about coolness. I just wanted to get top of the mountain. We had to hire a car which was arranged to go to the top of the mountain. As soon as the car was started the engine, I was really excited about seeing the beauty of the mountain. Along the way to the top of the mountain, I could visualize lots of beauty of nature including ravines, streams and greeny greens. When the car stopped, I thought we were at the top of the mountain. However, it was not the top

of the mountain, it was just the bottom of the mountain. We had to climb to reach the top of the mountain. There, I could know something special about the mountain: we had to pass a small hole to reach out to the top of the mountain. The one who is evil-minded cannot pass the hole. Fortunately, I could reach over the top. At the top of the mountain, I could feel the stunning beauty of the town. We might call the breathtaking view of nature.

I could not help taking photos and so my aunt did. After climbing down the mountain, “We will continue our trip by going to Myit Sone”, my aunt said. I was surprised because I didn’t know about that. “It is situated in Kachin State, right?” I asked. “Yes”, my aunt answered. “I don’t want to go there because it is not peaceful there”, I just uttered as I thought. “Come on! Girl. It is not what you think”, my aunt said. I, slightly hesitant, accepted to go there. “Kachin State, the northmost part of Myanmar, is where I have never dreamt to go because

some people say that it’s not peaceful. But I’m on my way”, I spoke to myself murmuring. When I arrived there, I could not take my eyes from the attractiveness of Kachin State. Not only could we enjoy the loveliness of nature but we also could enjoy those of the sub-ethnics of Kachin including their traditional attires and their language. It was really different from what I thought. It was peaceful with their culture and traditions.

Actually, I did not want to go back home. I did love to immensely enjoy the beauty of Kachin by spending more days there. Honestly, I am not a person who is passionate about travelling. I, however, fall in love with travelling after coming back from Kachin State because I would like to explore more beauties, attractiveness and loveliness of Myanmar. What I would like to convey from this article is that travelling can open our eyes wide, travelling can create our mind’s tranquility and sheer pleasure.



FROM PAGE-S-1

being effective and she keeps challenging and calling on leaders to put out constructive action towards climate change, since it keeps our future at risk.

Let us briefly focus on climate change- some people will keep denying it is not real but there is scientific evidence on how average global temperatures have been vastly rising in the past 20 years and oceans warming at an alarming rate. In fact, the climate has been changing anyway like anything else in the world, but when it is changing in the wrong direction or in at an inappropriate rate, we all have the responsibility as global citizens. With advancing technology, the number of vehicles and factories proliferates, leading to more carbon blocks and other greenhouse gases into atmosphere. More frequent extreme seasons and storms and long periods of drought lead to wildfires (recently Australia has been facing disastrous wildfires). Meanwhile forests are being cleared for various reasons, contributing further to greenhouse effect. Glaciers and polar ice caps melt at a record-breaking rate, sea levels go up, and coastal populations are affected by flooding. This climate change is happening so swiftly that plants and animals do not have the ability or time to adapt, which again triggers mass extinctions and endanger-

ments of species every year.

As a youngster myself, I am very much inspired by what Greta Thunberg is doing, something not a lot of youths can do or think it is 'cool' to do. Because of her, this highly unpopular topic gets headlines everywhere this year, besides Taylor Swift's new album or Ariana Grande's new songs. She gets an

one thing is quite clear; global warming is before our eyes and climate change is a crisis. Of course it may not be a plausible idea to completely go vegan or give up flying, but people are becoming better aware of how simple life choices like unplugging devices when unnecessary or reducing the use of plastics can somehow positively impact the



PHOTO: AFP

enormous amount of hate and mockery for what she does, disproportionately to her age, but she does not back down; she keeps being in the forefront and passionately amplifying her voice for what she believes in. And whether we agree with her stance or not,

planet. Saying something about it is better than saying nothing, and now the youths of our generation have been more involved than ever in climate-related debates thanks to her, so good job, Greta!



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INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT SCHEDULE



YANGON TO BANGKOK				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG706	5:50	8:10	Daily	
8M335	7:30	9:15	Daily	
UB-019	7:25	9:20	Daily	
TG2304	9:35	11:30	Daily	
PG702	10:30	12:30	1,2,3,4,6,7	
TG2302	11:20	13:15	Daily	
PG708	15:35	17:35	Daily	
8M331	16:30	18:15	Daily	
UB-017	17:35	19:30	Daily	
PG704	18:35	20:35	Daily	
TG306	19:50	21:45	Daily	

BANGKOK TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
TG2303	7:50	8:45	Daily	
PG701	8:45	9:40	1,2,3,4,6,7	
TG2301	9:35	10:30	Daily	
8M336	10:40	11:25	Daily	
UB020	10:20	11:15	Daily	
PG707	13:45	14:40	Daily	
PG703	16:50	17:45	Daily	
TG305	18:05	18:50	Daily	
8M332	19:15	20:00	Daily	
PG705	20:30	21:55	Daily	
UB018	20:30	21:25	Daily	

YANGON TO KUALA LUMPUR				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
AK505	8:25	12:40	Daily	
MH741	11:15	15:45	Daily	
OD551	12:25	16:45	1,4,7	
MH743	16:10	20:30	1,4,6,7	
AK503	19:10	23:30	Daily	
OD553	23:55	4:20+1	2,3,5,6	

KUALA LUMPUR TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
AK504	6:45	7:55	Daily	
MH740	9:10	10:25	Daily	
OD550	10:15	11:30	1,4,7	
MH742	13:55	15:05	1,4,6,7	
AK502	17:20	18:30	Daily	
OD552	21:45	22:55	2,3,5,6	

YANGON TO KUNMING				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
MU2580	10:55	14:35	2,4,6	
MU2011	8:20	12:40	3	
MU2012	13:40	20:50	3	
MU9750	15:55	19:35	2,4,6	
MU9758	15:55	19:35	1,3,5,7	

KUNMING TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
MU2011	8:20	12:40	3	
MU2579	9:10	9:55	2,4,6	
MU9749	13:45	14:45	2,4,6	
MU9757	14:10	14:55	1,3,5,7	

YANGON TO DON MUEANG				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
DD4231	8:05	9:50	Daily	
FD252	8:45	10:30	Daily	
SL201	8:30	10:20	1,3,4,5,7	
FD254	17:40	19:25	Daily	
FD258	21:40	23:30	Daily	
SL207	19:35	21:25	1,2,4,6,7	
DD4239	21:00	22:45	Daily	

DON MUEANG TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
DD4230	6:20	7:05	Daily	
FD251	7:30	8:15	Daily	
SL200	6:45	7:35	1,3,4,5,7	
FD253	16:25	17:05	Daily	
FD257	20:30	21:10	Daily	
SL206	18:55	19:45	1,2,4,6,7	
DD4238	19:30	20:15	Daily	

YANGON TO HONG KONG				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
KA251	1:25	6:00	1,2,3,4,6,7	
UB8027	7:05	11:45	3,5,7	
KA275	17:05	21:50	1,3,5,7	

HONG KONG TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
UB8028	12:45	14:30	3,5,7	
KA250	21:50	23:35	1,2,3,5,6,7	
KA254	14:20	16:10	1,3,5,7	

MANDALAY TO BANGKOK				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG710	14:30	16:55	Daily	
PG714	19:15	21:40	Daily	

BANGKOK TO MANDALAY				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG709	12:15	13:40	Daily	
PG713	17:00	18:25	Daily	

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

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

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

DHAKA TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
BG060	10:45	13:30	1,3,6	

MANDALAY TO DON MUEANG				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
FD245	12:55	15:20	Daily	

DON MUEANG TO MANDALAY				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
FD244	11:10	12:25	Daily	

YANGON TO SINGAPORE				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
UB001	7:15	23:45	Daily	
8M231	8:20	12:40	Daily	
SQ997	10:25	15:10	Daily	
3K582	11:30	16:05	1,4,5,7	
UB003	16:00	20:30	Daily	
MI519	17:35	22:10	1,2,4,6,7	
MI521	18:30	22:55	3,4,5,6	
3K584	19:40	00:10	1,2,3,5,6,7	

SINGAPORE TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
SQ998	7:55	09:20	Daily	
3K581	9:10	10:35	1,2,3,5,6,7	
UB002	13:00	14:30	Daily	
8M232	13:45	15:15	Daily	
MI518	15:15	16:40	1,2,4,6,7	
MI520	14:10	17:35	3,4,5,6	
3K583	17:30	18:45	1,4,5,7	
UB004	21:15	22:45	Daily	

YANGON TO DUBAI				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
EK389	2:00	5:45	1,2,4,6	

DUBAI TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
EK388	10:30	16:15	1,3,5,7	

MANDALAY TO KUNMING				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
MU2568	9:25	12:25	Daily	
MU2040	15:20	18:25	1,3,7	
MU9742	15:20	18:25	2,4,6	
MU9748	21:20	00:25	2,4	

KUNMING TO MANDALAY				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
MU2567	8:05	8:25	Daily	
MU2029	13:50	14:20	1,3,7	
MU9741	13:50	14:20	2,4,6	
MU9747	20:05	20:20	2,4	

YANGON TO SEOUL INCHEON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
KE472	23:30	7:25	Daily	

SEOUL INCHEON TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
KE471	18:15	22:10	Daily	

YANGON TO BEIJING				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CA906	23:50	5:50+1	1,3,4,5,7	

BEIJING TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CA905	19:00	22:55	1,3,4,5,7	

NAY PYI TAW TO BANGKOK				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG722	20:00	22:50	1,2,3,4,5,7	

BANGKOK TO NAY PYI TAW				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG721	17:25	19:20	1,2,3,4,5,7	

YANGON TO TAIPEI				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CI7916	10:45	16:20	Daily	

TAIPEI TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CI7915	7:00	9:50	Daily	

YANGON TO HANIO				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
VN956	19:00	21:30	Daily	
VJ918	18:55	21:20	Daily	

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

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

YANGON TO HO CHI MINH				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
VN942	12:10	15:05	1,3,4,6,7	

HO CHI MINH TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP			