

NATIONAL

People's Party of Myanmar Farmers and Workers (PPMFW) and Daingnet National Development Party present their policies, stances and work programmes

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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 27 September 2020

## 174 Myanmar citizens fly home from Jordan

THE 6<sup>th</sup> relief flight of Myanmar Airways International flew 174 citizens home from Jordan yesterday under the arrangement of Myanmar embassy in Tel Aviv. Those returnees were one from Sidney Apparel company, 11 from Rich Pine company, 14 from Century Miracle and 148 from Camel and Vega company.

On arrival at Yangon International Airport, officials from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Health and Sports and the Yangon Region government helped the returnees for the 14-day quarantine at specific places or designated hotels after immigration processes and medical tests, followed by the 7-day home quarantine.

In accordance with the directives of the National-Level Central Committee on Preven-



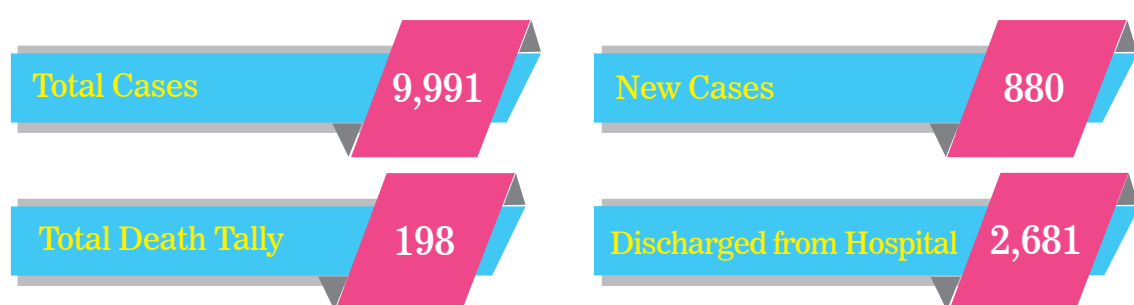
Myanmar returnees from Jordan line up for immigration service at the Yangon International Airport on 26 September 2020. PHOTO: MNA

tion, Control and Treatment of COVID-19, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is working with the relevant ministries and its embassies in respective countries for the repatriation of Myanmar citizens facing difficulties in those countries. —MNA

## 880 more new cases of COVID-19 reported on 26 September, total figure rises to 9,991

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rise to 9,991 after 880 new cases were reported on 26 September according to Ministry of Health and Sports. Among these 9,991 confirmed cases, 198 died, 2,681 have been discharged from hospitals and 13,773 were held under investigation.—MNA

Updated at 8 pm, 26 September 2020



Total Persons under Investigation until 26 September 2020

13,773

Ministry of Health and Sports

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## Over 1,000 billion kyats

The government has both short term and long term views in relation to COVID-19. We could face difficulties in our economy in the post-pandemic period. People might have noticed the spread of pandemic across the world. Even the countries with most economic progress and the nations with the most developed economies have suffered the impacts of COVID-19. However, we have made preparations so that our people will suffer the least impact. For example, in the general surplus fund, the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry has set over 1,000 billion kyats for aid in disaster management. The fund is related to the COVID-19. However, the fund was planned just for measures against COVID-19, not for other natural disasters. There is a separate fund for natural disasters.

*(Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's update on government measures against COVID-19 pandemic, on 22 September 2020)*



## MoHS holds meeting with Yangon medical officials on COVID-19 control measures

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe held a virtual coordination meeting with superintendents, professors and officials in Yangon Region on treatments of COVID-19 patients and quarantine measures yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union Minister said that the purpose of the meeting is to know the resources required for COVID-19 treatment centres, hospitals and quarantine facilities and to share experiences.

The Union Minister urged the attendees to report about the matters needed to be fulfilled by the ministry, and to imitate the good works of other departments and hospitals and also said that the ministry is working with various plans to respond to the COVID-19 in real-time.

Medical specialists are making efforts to reduce COVID-19 death rate, and the role of medical superintendents is also very important, he added.

He further said that the rate of mortality will decline if the works on fulfilling and distributing COVID-19 medicines and medical supplies at hospitals, delegation, management and treatment of hospital staff and connections among relevant officials are improved.

He also urged the medical superintendents and medical specialists to openly discuss experiencing challenges and difficulties in making efforts for reducing death rate.

The rate of infection and death toll of COVID-19 are increasing even in developed countries.

He appreciated the health-care workers, relevant departments and organizations and volunteers for making efforts by effectively using resources.

He also urged the medical



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe and medical officials in Yangon Region discuss treatment of COVID-19 patients and quarantine measures via videoconference on 26 September 2020. PHOTO: MNA

officials to immediately decide and implement the difficult tasks on policies and strategies for hospitals in cooperation with Yangon Region Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of COVID-19.

Medicines and medical supplies that are required at the hospitals in Yangon Region are fulfilled by reviewing the medical supplies management dashboard, therefore, medical superintendents need to update the medical supplies data of their hospitals at the dashboard.

He added that the ministry has discussed establishment of a better hospital logistics system with Myanmar Medical Association and hospital administration group.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein reported on distribution and storage of medicines and medical supplies, and the ordering of 200,000 sets of rapid antigen test kits for COVID-19.

Permanent Secretary Dr Thet Khaing Win detailed about referral pathway and treatment measures.

Director-General of Union Minister Office Dr Tha Tun Kyaw presented arrangements for accommodation of suspected COVID-19 patients in Yangon Region and regular virtual meetings of healthcare workers and medical professionals.

Director-General of Public Health and Medical Service Department Dr Soe Oo reported on fulfillment of requirement, human resources management, assigning of new nurses at the hospitals in Yangon, and coordinating efforts between central and region level officials and on-ground team members.

Rector of the University of Medicine (1) Professor Doctor Zaw Wai Soe presented the challenges and the matters of urgent need in quarantine centres, hospitals, COVID-19 treatment centres; and to use the wards in Yangon University of Nursing for the medical staff as they would risk to go back home after providing medical care to the COVID-19 patients.

The officials from relevant medical departments discussed

the preparation of the wards in Yangon General Hospital to accommodate the COVID-19 patients, the lab testing conditions and the preparation of the guidance to use global health certification test kits, to designate a hospital for medical staff who are infected the COVID-19 disease, the discussion with Myanmar Medical Association to assign private general practitioners who want to involve in the treatment of COVID-19, the condition of providing medical care to those who are not COVID-19 patients and long term plans, the assignments to the management teams in quarantine centres, the conditions of the patient transfer from the quarantine centres, the condition of medical treatment and the sending lab tests from the Yangon General Hospital, the conditions in the North Okkalapa General Hospital and the assignment to the special nurses at the needed hospitals since the surgery cases are suspended.

The officials also gave suggestions at the meeting to set up the oxygen pipe line at the hospi-

tals including the Yangon General Hospital which will be needed in the long run, to install beds at the extended special medical treatment centres and to assign the special nurses.

The hospital superintendents for Waibargi hospital, South Okkalapa hospital and COVID-19 treatment centre (Phaunggyi) presented the need to install portable X-ray system, portable ultrasound system and liquid oxygen.

The Union Minister decided to install portable X-ray system, portable ultrasound system and liquid oxygen pipe line immediately and urged all the officials from respective medical departments and hospital superintendents to continue the coordination meeting regularly; to present the necessary things from the meeting to the Ministry immediately and said that the Ministry also will fulfill the needs as fast as possible.

The Union Minister continued that the officials discuss to manage the suspected patients in the early morning every day through video conferencing; the Yangon COVID-19 committee discusses at 5 pm every day; at 10 pm every day, the officials discuss the management of the hospitals for COVID-19 patients and the central field team (3) is also trying to contain the spread of the virus.

The Union Minister concluded that it was very important to make decision in a timely manner in containing the COVID-19 disease; the fatal disease could be controlled soon by coordinating between the COVID-19 teams and deciding in a timely manner and to present only the policy issues and subsequent occurrences to the Central level.—MNA

*(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun, Ei Phyu Phyu Aung)*

# 2020 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION



## Who is eligible to vote?

- irrespective of sex or religion
- those who are 18 years of age on the date of the election
- citizens, associate citizens, and those who have permission to become naturalized citizens, who do not contravene the provisions of the Hluttaw Election Law
- a person whose name has been included in the voting list of the respective constituency

## Who is ineligible to vote?

- a member of a religious order
- person serving a prison sentence
- person adjudged to be of unsound mind as provided for in the relevant law
- person who has not yet been discharged as an insolvent
- person prohibited by the Election Law
- foreigner or person who has assumed foreign citizenship

# 2020

General Election  
Sunday, 8 November 2020

DAYS

# 42

## Officials collaborate on containment of COVID-19 in Ywar Ma Parirati Monastery



Officials discuss containment of COVID-19 at Ywar Ma Monastery in Insein Township, Yangon Region.

PHOTO: MNA

Three-hundred fifty members of Sangha and four laymen of Ywar Ma Pariyatti monastery in Insein Township, Northern District of Yangon Region have tested positive for COVID-19.

The lab results have shown 12 confirmed cases on 21 September, 63 cases on 23 September and 279 cases on 25 September respectively.

The military medical corps provided treatment to the monks with fever at the monastery before they tested positive.

Yangon Region Social Affairs Minister U Naing Ngan Lin, Pyithu Hluttaw MP U Maung Maung Oo, Region Hluttaw MP U Wai Phyoo Han, Region Head for Religious Affairs U Sein Maw, administrator of Northern District of Yangon Region, Head of Religious Affairs for Northern District of Yangon Region U Lin Lin Aung and Assistant Director for region Health Department Dr Kaung Htike and Insein Township Administrator U Win Aung visited Insein Ywar Ma Pariyatti Monastery and paid homage to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gandhasara Linka-

ra and Bhaddanta Pannyavamsa yesterday morning.

The government personnel donated 8,000 surgical masks, 400 cloth masks, 700 face shields, 4 gallons of hand sanitizer, 200 small-size bottles of hand gel and a total of K10million in cash -- K5million by the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs and K5million by Yangon Region government.

They discussed with officials from township development committee, administrative officers, members of fire brigade department and civil society organizations about disinfection in the monastery compound, instalment of 20 hand washing basins at the dormitories of the monks, and proper disposal of waste materials from the monastery.—MNA

(Translated by Khine Thazin Han)

## Police charges 525 COVID rule breakers

A total of 26 people, eight men and 18 women, from two brothels and one KTV in regions and states were charged between 19 and 25 September for violating COVID-19 rules, according to Myanmar Police Force.

During the week, police also filed a total of 73 cases against 149 persons, 141 males and eight females, for break-

ing curfew and took actions against 350 people, 272 males and 78 females, for not wearing masks in public under Section 15 of the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Law.

Police has been conducting law enforcement activities to take actions against illegal opening of KTV lounges, bars and illegal massage parlours

without abiding by COVID-19 rules and to catch COVID rule breakers.

Therefore, they urged the public to cooperate with them in the law enforcement process to curb the spread of COVID-19.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာ သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများနေ့

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

“သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုကားကွယ်မို့ သက်ရွယ်မရွေးပေးပေါင်းလို့ ကပ်ရောဂါကို တိုက်ထုတ်မို့”

“Pandemics: Do They Change How We Address Age and Ageing?”

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နေပြည်တော်

To shape the future with your vote, let's check the voters list.

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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.

## KBZ keeps opening 91 branches despite suspending 51 in YGN region

KBZ will suspend its 51 branches' banking service starting from 29 September 2020, stated a KBZ bank announcement.

These 51 banks in Yangon region will temporarily stop their operation for providing banking service due to highly rising coronavirus transmission.

Although 51 banks will be stopped, the remaining 91 KBZ branches will be operating

their banking service as usual in Yangon region. The remaining banks will run from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm as regular banking hours for the convenience of the daily banking processes for customers.

These 91 operating branches are located near the temporarily suspended banks. The KBZ banks give the first priority to the healthcare services

of the banking staff, partners and customers. Therefore, the staff from KBZ banks are assigned alternately so that the customers can get their banking services safely. The KBZ banks from other states and regions are operating their services as usual.

The banks urge the customers to use other banking services such as ATM, KBZPay mo-

bile wallet, KBZ iBanking and mBanking to be able to avoid interacting with one another.

The location of the suspended banks and that of the operating KBZ bank branches can be checked in the following website: <https://www.kbzbank.com/en/ways-to-bank/branch/>.

— GNLM

(Translated by Hay Mar)

## Nay Pyi Taw plans to extend tomato plantations

THE local growers from Nay Pyi Taw are planning to extend tomato plantations because tomato cultivation can make a handsome profit, according to the local tomato growers.

"The tomato retailers come to buy the tomatoes, which were irrigated in August on the tomato farmland. The tomato growing has brought 60 per cent profit to the local growers. The local growers will extend the tomato plantations instead of growing other crops, said a local grower from Nay Pyi Taw tomato plantations.

One acre of tomato plantation can produce six truckloads of tomatoes. This year, the tomatoes are irrigated with the result that there is a high yield. The tomatoes are grown every season, and the products are sent to Mandalay, Kyaukse, Myingyan, Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Monywa and Aungban markets.



Farmers in Nay Pyi Taw will grow more tomatoes after earning handsome profit. PHOTO: KYAW KYAW

One box of tomatoes weighing 20 visses is sold for K30,000-K38,000 depending upon the tomato size. Of the several varieties of tomatoes, Myanmar-Shan tomato and Myanmar tomato are cultivat-

ed. But Myanmar tomatoes are more likely to be consumed in the country.

The price of tomato slightly dropped in April and May because of the pandemic. Then, the tomato price is rising again

in the market. Myanmar tomato gets a higher price.

One acre of plantation can cultivate around 5,000-7,000 plants of tomato. —Aye Maung

(Translated by Hay Mar)

## Permitted businesses can register online during stay home period: UMFCCI

By Nyein Nyein

PERMISSIBLE companies need to register during stay home period via online for operation, according to the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

During the stay home period for prevention and control of the coronavirus pandemic, the businesses such as factories, mills, work establishments and

companies permitted by the Ministry of Health and Sports need to register themselves via online if they want to do their businesses.

The staff and vehicles from the registered businesses are allowed to move from one township to another. Upon completion of the registration process, the individual team and vehicles will receive IDs, which will contain the QR code. If they pass through from one township to

another, they need to show IDs for crossing the township, according to the UMFCCI.

The registration can be made through <https://QRpass.SawSawShar.gov.mm>. If there are inconveniences in the registration process, they can make a call to the following numbers: 09-694820244 and 09-402790744 within office hours.

To be able to reduce the crowd, which causes rapid-spreading of coronavirus, the

sale of food, fish & meat, vegetables via the delivery system will be continuously permitted, according to UMFCCI.

Furthermore, Yangon City Development Committee will supervise to ensure that the raw food and fish depots are distributing the products directly to market in the stay home townships and the retail sellers are also not allowed to take the products beyond the township.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

**Elections are the root for development of democracy.**

## Black sesame price rises as China mid-autumn festival approaching



Women harvest sesame at a farm in Myingyan Township on 12 June 2020. Typically, Myanmar exports about 80 per cent of sesame production to foreign markets. **PHOTO: KYAW SWAR (MYIN GYAN)**

THE price of black sesame seeds rose a bit in the third week of September as it is highly demanded in the approaching China mid-autumn festival, as per Mandalay market data.

The prevailing prices of sesame move in the range of K140,000 to K190,000 per three-basket bag depending on the quality and varieties of sesame. The market sees a slight

increase in K5,000-8,000 per bag compared with the previous week.

The prices of sesame dropped by K10,000 per bag owing to the closure of Shweli

(Ruili) checkpoint on 15 September, said a trader from Mandalay market.

This year, the sesame prices drop by over 20 per cent compared with the prices in the previous years due to the COVID-19 negative impacts, he pointed out.

Typically, Myanmar exports about 80 per cent of sesame production to foreign markets. China is the primary buyer of Myanmar sesame, which is also shipped to markets in Japan, South Korea, China (Taipei), UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Greece, and Poland among the EU countries.

The EU markets prefer organic-farming sesame seeds from Myanmar, said an official from the Trade Promotion Department. Japan prefers Myanmar black sesame seeds, cultivated under good agricultural practices (GAP), and purchases them after a quality assessment. Black sesame seeds from Myanmar are also exported to South Korea and Japan. Meanwhile,

China buys various coloured sesame seeds from the country.

Sesame is cultivated in the country throughout the year. Magway Region, which has gained a reputation as the oil pot of Myanmar, is the leading producer of sesame seeds. The seeds are also grown in Mandalay and Sagaing regions.

Of the cooking oil crops grown in Myanmar, the acreage under sesame is the highest, accounting for 51.3 per cent of the overall oil crop plantation.

The volume of sesame exports was registered at over 96,000 metric tons, worth \$130 million, in the financial year 2015-2016; \$100,000 tonnes, worth \$145 million, in the 2016-2017FY; 120,000 tonnes, worth \$147 million, in the 2017-2018FY; 33,900 tonnes valued \$43.8 million in the 2018 mini-budget period, and 125,800 tonnes, worth \$212.5 million in the 2018-2019FY, the trade data of Central Statistical Organization indicated. — Ko Htet  
(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Total border trade value hits \$10.28 bln this year

THE total border trade value hit US\$ 10.28 billion as of 18 September of the current financial year, an increase of over \$583 million compared with the same period last year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The total border trade value as of 18 September this FY included \$6.9 billion in export and \$3.37 billion in import. Compared with the last FY, the export earnings increased by \$146 million while the import value increased by \$436 million. This time last year, the total border trade was valued at \$9.7 billion.

Myanmar has opened 18 border trade camps. The country conducts border trade with China through Muse, Lwejel, Kampaiti, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung border checkpoints. The country carries out border

trade with Thailand through the Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese borders.

The cross-border trade camps between Myanmar and Bangladesh are Sittway and Maungtau whereas the country trades directly with India via Tamu and Reed borders.

Muse topped the list of border crossings with the highest trade value of \$4.76 billion, followed by Hteekhee with \$1.89 billion and Myawady with \$1.17 billion. Myanmar's major export items are agro, animal, marine, forest and industrial finished products and other products. Myanmar mainly imports the capital goods, raw materials, personal goods and CMP products. —Zwe

(Translated by Hay Mar)

## MRF to sell rice to retailers with delivery system

By Nyein Nyein

MYANMAR Rice Federation (MRF) will sell rice to rice retail shops with the use of the delivery system, according to MRF.

Under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce and the Myanmar Rice & Paddy Traders Association (MRPTA) under MRF, the Consumer Affairs Department will send the rice to the rice retailers in the stay-at-home townships in Yangon in cooperation with the rice depots if they wish to buy the rice during

the pandemic period.

Nevertheless, the retail shops need to buy from at least ten bags of rice up to 50 bags of rice for one order so that the federation can send the rice with the delivery system.

To enable selling the 25-mark broken rice at the price of K1,000 per bushel in the retail market, MRF will sell the broken rice at K23,200 per bag through the delivery system.

Besides the variety of rice called Shwebo Pawsan, Ayeyawady Pawsan will also be sold

at a much competitive market price, according to MRF.

Those interested retailers can contact through mobile numbers 09694386994-5 of MRF, 09696969149, 095007307, 095123414 of MRPTA, 095139390, 09796838309 of Wahdan rice depot and 095102577 of Bayint Naung rice depot.

At present, the rice depots in Wahdan and Bayint Naung are open three days per week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Myanmar Rice Federation is delivering rice to the doors of customers from the stay-at-home townships in Yangon Region amid COVID-19 resurgence. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR



Call  
Thin Thin May,

● 09251022355

● 09974424848

## WHO warns 2 million virus deaths possible, Australia urges vaccine-sharing

CORONAVIRUS deaths could more than double to two million without collective action against the pandemic, the World Health Organization has warned, as Australia's prime minister urged any nation that develops a vaccine to share it with the world.

The number of cases worldwide has soared past 32 million, with deaths approaching one million, the global economy devastated, and major cultural and sports events disrupted.

But despite the pandemic showing no signs of slowing, Japan's new prime minister Yoshihide Suga struck a defiant

note Friday, saying his country was determined to hold the postponed Tokyo Olympics in 2021.

"One million is a terrible number and we need to reflect on that before we start considering a second million," the WHO's emergencies director Michael Ryan told reporters on Friday when asked how high the death toll could go.

"Are we prepared collectively to do what it takes to avoid that number?"

"If we don't take those actions... yes, we will be looking at that number and sadly much higher."

The pandemic has spurred worldwide efforts to develop a vaccine to help defeat Covid-19, as well as efforts to try to ensure fair and widespread distribution.

"Whoever finds the vaccine must share it... This is a global responsibility and it's a moral responsibility," Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said Friday in a message to the virtual UN General Assembly.

"Some might see short-term advantage or even profit, but I assure you... humanity will have a very long memory and be a very, very severe judge."

SOURCE: AFP

## Novavax enters late-stage clinical trials

US BIOTECH firm Novavax said Thursday it was initiating its final Phase 3 clinical trial for its experimental Covid-19 vaccine.

The trial will be carried out in the United Kingdom and aims to enroll 10,000 volunteers, aged 18-84, with and without underlying conditions, over the next four to six weeks.

"With a high level of SARS-CoV-2 transmission observed and expected to continue in the UK, we are optimistic that this pivotal Phase 3 clinical

trial will enroll quickly and provide a near-term view of NVX-CoV2373's efficacy," said Gregory Glenn, the company's president of research and development, using the technical name for the formulation.

It is the eleventh Covid-19 vaccine candidate to reach the Phase 3 stage globally.

The company has been awarded \$1.6 billion by the US government to develop and fund the drug, which is administered by two intramuscular injections.

SOURCE: AFP

## Florida drops Covid restrictions with 14,000 dead

FLORIDA Governor Ron DeSantis Friday scrapped Covid-19 restrictions on bars and restaurants the same day the US state saw 122 deaths topping 14,000 dead.

The executive order signed by DeSantis, a close Republican ally of President Donald Trump, "removes state-level restrictions on businesses, such as restaurants".

Floridians and business owners need "certainty and the ability to provide for themselves and their families", the order reads in part.

It says that restaurants may not be limited by any local government COVID-19 emergency order "to less than 50

percent of their indoor capacity".

The order also ends the collection of all outstanding fines and penalties relating to Covid-19 restrictions.

"In the state of Florida everybody has a right to work, DeSantis told reporters in St. Petersburg, where he announced the measure.

Florida is one of the epicentres of the novel coronavirus pandemic in the United States. There have been nearly 700,000 cases of Covid-19 and more than 14,000 have died from the virus, according to the state Department of Health.

SOURCE: AFP



Spain expanded a lockdown in and around the capital Madrid to cover one million people from Monday. PHOTO: AFP

## Japan to make COVID-19 travel questionnaire available online

JAPAN will make available an online version of a health questionnaire that travellers are required to fill out before entering the country to streamline the immigration control process, sources familiar with the matter said Saturday.

The online questionnaire meant to flag travellers who are possibly at higher risk of arriving while infected with the coronavirus will be available soon on a trial basis for some international flights arriving at Narita airport near Tokyo, they said.

The questionnaire is currently handed out to travellers aboard inbound flights.

With the new system to be introduced more widely later this

year, arriving passengers can complete the questionnaire by accessing a dedicated website of the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry before their departure and are given a QR code that confirms they have completed the process to use upon arrival, according to the sources.

Japanese authorities said Friday the country will reopen its borders to foreigners with permits to stay for three months or longer for purposes including engaging in medical, cultural and sports-related activities. Business trips for less than three months will also be allowed.

Travellers must be accepted by entities or organizations capable of ensuring they have tested

negative for the virus before entering Japan. After arrival, they have to stay in self-isolation for 14 days and avoid using public transportation during the period.

The government is considering limiting the number of entries to about 1,000 each day. At the same time, it will increase virus testing capacity at airports, government sources said earlier.

The number of infections in the country has been on a downward trend since late July, although the pace of decline has been slowing recently and has bottomed out in Tokyo, according to an advisory group for the health ministry.

More than 630 new cases were reported nationwide Sat-

urday, up from 575 Friday, bringing the cumulative total to over 82,400, including about 700 cases from the Diamond Princess, a

cruise ship that was quarantined in Yokohama in February.

SOURCE: Kyodo



Passengers arrive at the second terminal of Tokyo's Haneda airport on July 11, 2020, amid a recent surge in coronavirus infections in Japan, especially Tokyo. PHOTO: KYODO

WORLD TOURISM DAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2020

## Secretary-General's message on World Tourism Day

*In this most challenging year, let us focus on tourism's importance for people living in rural areas, so we can deliver on the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals to leave nobody behind: António Guterres, UN Secretary-General*

**I**n the 40 years since the very first World Tourism Day, much has changed. Demand for travel has soared. The world has opened up, allowing more people than ever to explore the globe and its different cultures.

Today, tourism is firmly established in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an engine for advancing prosperity, protecting our planet and laying the foundations for peace and understanding among peoples.

Many millions of people around the world rely on tourism for income, especially women and young people. People who might otherwise have been left behind have found decent work and the chance of a better life thanks to tourism's unique potential.

Tourism has suffered enormously during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some 120 million jobs are at risk. The impacts



Italian Local Police officer patrols and checks with people wear protective facemasks at the Spanish Steps square in Rome. **PHOTO: AFP**

could lead to the loss of between 1.5 and 2.8 per cent of the global GDP. This will particularly affect the most vulnerable countries, including Small Island Developing States, the Least Developed

Countries and many African nations, where tourism can represent between 30 and 80 per cent of exports.

As we look to recover from this profound crisis, the safe restart of

tourism is essential, not least for rural development – the focus of this year's World Tourism Day. We have an unprecedented opportunity to transform the relationship of the tourism sector with people, nature, the climate and the economy. We must ensure a fair distribution of its benefits and advance the transition to a carbon-neutral and resilient tourism economy,

As well as providing opportunities for people, tourism can play an important role in preserving our unique and shared cultures and protecting the biodiversity and the ecosystems that sustain us.

In this most challenging year, let us focus on tourism's importance for people living in rural areas, so we can deliver on the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals to leave nobody behind.

*SOURCE: United Nations*

ITALY AVOIDS EUROPE'S DRAMATIC VIRUS UPTICK

## WHO praises Italy's strategy for coping with Covid

**T**HE first Western country to be struck by the devastating coronavirus pandemic, Italy is today an outlier in Europe with limited new cases compared with neighbours.

The question is why, and will it last.

While France reported a record 16,096 new Covid-19 infections on Thursday and Spain over 10,000, Italy's number has for weeks remained below 2,000.

It has carried out fewer tests – some 120,000 per day, versus France's 180,000 – but

not enough to explain the sharp difference in new infections.

Experts largely point to the success of a severe and lengthy lockdown, combined with a collective trauma.

Horrific memories of coffins stacked up as cemeteries in the north overflowed and intensive-care beds ran out appear to have ensured Italians stick diligently to the rules, many even wearing masks in situations where it is not obligatory.

"The epidemic hit Italy earlier... and it immediately put in place a very tough containment

plan," Professor Massimo Andreoni, an infectious disease expert at Rome's Tor Vergata hospital, told AFP.

The lockdown enforced in early March was not lifted until May, and that much more gradually than elsewhere, he said.

Massimo Galli, infectious diseases chief at Milan's Sacco hospital, agreed, telling Saturday's *Corriere della Sera* daily "that radical intervention, a longer and stricter lockdown, produced a sort of protection effect".

*SOURCE: AFP*



Experts largely point to the success of a severe and lengthy lockdown, combined with a collective trauma. **PHOTO: AFP**

"A SYMBOL OF HOPE" IN THE INDUSTRY

## Crowds in face masks pack out China auto show after virus delay

**C**ROWDS packed a mega motor show in Beijing on Saturday – the only major international auto event this year – as manufacturers hope to boost the world's biggest car market despite the coronavirus battering demand.

Delayed for five months because of the pandemic, the 10-day event opened as China has largely brought the virus outbreak

under control, although travel restrictions mean most overseas executives appeared virtually to introduce their new motors.

But this did not stop a packed audience in mandatory face masks from cheering as new cars were driven on stage to be shown off. The fact the glitzy gathering was going ahead marked "a symbol of hope" in the industry, BMW

China CEO Jochen Goller told the crowds Saturday morning.

Tickets were limited this year in a bid to reduce crowds, although crowds surged through the exhibition centre shoulder-to-shoulder.

China's auto industry is showing signs of recovery after passenger car sales collapsed by around 80 per cent in Feb-

ruary, when consumers stayed home and the economy came to a near-standstill to curb the virus outbreak.

Sales have picked up after a painful first quarter, up 8.8 per cent on-year last month according to the China Passenger Car Association. Saturday's sprawling displays of almost 800 vehicles includes 82 world premieres, with

automakers jostling to gain market share and revive consumer interest after a long slump pre-dating the pandemic.

In a year where global auto sales are expected to fall by 20 per cent, rating agency S&P expects China may be the only market to catch up with 2019 volumes in the next two years.

*SOURCE: AFP*

# Lesser stress and anxiety essential for preventing COVID-19 spread among grassroots

INDIVIDUALS and society at all levels have suffered the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic at present. From the places with high-security measures to the grassroots communities, the pandemic is imposing challenges to the health of our people.

In this circumstance, the psychological impact among societies should not be overlooked. The COVID-19 crisis has caused stress in all forms to all of us in considering possible infection, medical care, financial losses, distress and uncertainty of the duration of the pandemic.

Such worries should not be kept in mind to prevent long-lasting mental health impacts. Experts have reminded that anxiety, panic and stress are linked to the infectious pandemics. Some reports said patients infected with COVID-19 might suffer from mood dysregulation, anxiety, anger, and worsening of any preexisting mental illness.

Although there are no specific guidelines to address COVID-19 related distress until now, individuals need to develop their confidence to liberate from the pandemic by practising healthcare guidelines of wearing facemask, hand-washing and social distancing.

Strategic management is also required for preventing the infection in the workplaces. The Union Government has already issued a series of orders on preventive measures for the employers from both the public and private sectors. The government is also trying to

lessen the stress and worries of these workforces who are valuable resources for the country. The Coronavirus pandemic is actually an acid test of every organization or every community how they could successfully take control measures and could relieve the worries suffered by the people.

In providing possible relief assistance, the Union Government is flexible about the term vulnerability. The term vulnerability has gone beyond its previous definition. In addition to older adults, those who have suffered a sudden loss of income or access to social support have been included in the vulnerable groups as they have to struggle to cope financially, mentally and physically with the crisis.

While common people are the majority population of this country, they also play a key role as they are on the frontlines facing the challenge of this deadly pandemic.



# COVID-19 CRISIS: We will recover and build back better!

By U Thaug Tun, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Chairman, Working Committee to address impact of COVID-19 on the economy.

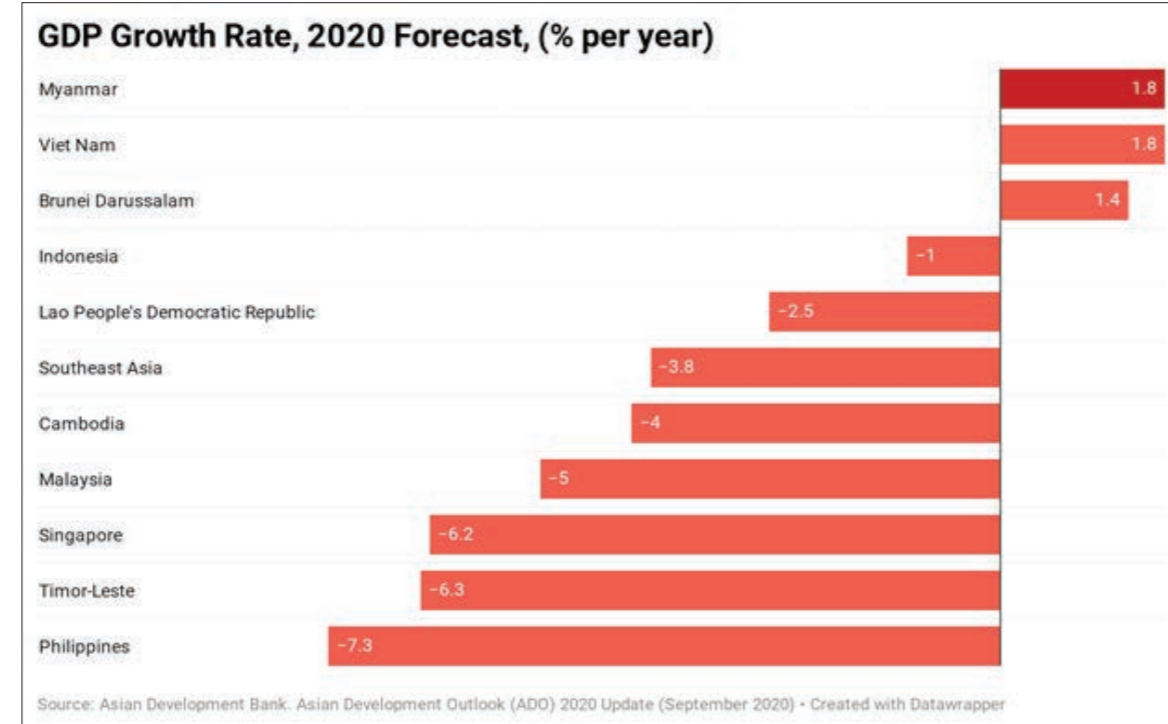
WE are in the midst of a crisis. That is now, I hope, well understood by all. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a severe impact on us – individually and collectively. Millions around the world have been infected by the disease. Some have lost loved ones; many more have lost jobs.

As countries around the world went into various stages of lockdown, the virus waged war upon our economies, wiping away years of growth in just a few short months. For those already faced with disadvantage, COVID-19 magnified existing challenges, shedding light on geographic inequality and economic disparities.

Downward demand pressure has crippled manufacturing — a major job creator. Region-wide border closures have dealt a blow to tourism, hitherto a major growth driver. Indeed, developing Asia's GDP for 2020 is forecast to contract by 0.7%, ushering in our region's first recession in close to six decades.

In Myanmar – our economy, our lives, and our communities have not been spared. Our fast-growing tourism and hospitality industry, the thriving garment manufacturing sector and the millions who depend on micro, small and medium-scale enterprises (MSMEs) for their livelihoods have been hard hit. Our nation's youth face disruption to their education and our mobile migrant workers have returned home, for now.

Our GDP growth rate has fallen to 1.8%. While we may still retain our position this year as one of the region's fastest-growing economies, this figure falls short of the 6.8% growth we achieved the previous year. It is clear that we have challenges to meet but in light of our COVID-19 Economic Relief and Recovery Plan, we can expect to weather the storm and build back better. Indeed, the Asian Development Bank has forecast our return to a growth rate of 6% in 2021 — a recovery equally as dramatic as the initial shock.



In a different time, our isolated economy afforded us a degree of protection from the ravages of such pandemics. Yet in a new Myanmar — greater connectivity and economic integration have left us exposed to black swan events such as this.

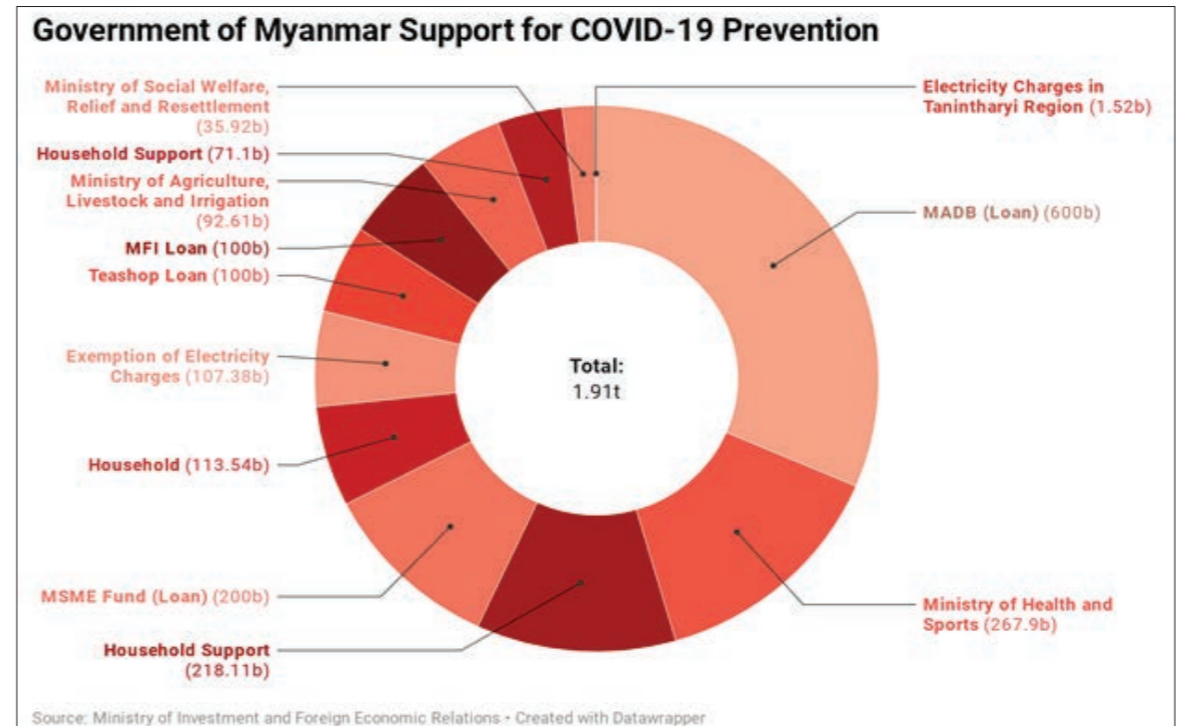
Our nation will be forever grateful to the men and women who have so bravely staffed our hospitals, clinics and quarantine centres, and who continue to provide our nation's first and last line of defence. As Chair of a committee dedicated to fast-tracking the procurement of vital medical supplies, I had the honour to join the Union Minister of Finance, Planning and Industry in handing over new ambulances to the Ministry of Health and Sports earlier this month. More ambulances are slated to be deployed to hotspots in the coming weeks and months.

The committee remains focused on ensuring fast-tracked delivery of intensive care and personal protective equipment to urban and rural health centres, and on working with our equally dedicated partners, such as UNOPS, to identify and procure medical supplies and drugs openly, transparently and efficiently via international and local markets. In doing so, we seek to relieve at least some of the pressure faced by our colleagues at the Ministry of Health and Sports, ensuring they have every possible resource at their disposal at this critical time.

In coordination with the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry, and the Development Assistance Coordination Unit, the Working Committee to Address COVID-19's Impact on Myanmar's Economy, which I am proud to chair, has also been hard at work. In April this year, within weeks of Myanmar's first confirmed case, we launched our COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan (CERP) – paving the way for a raft of measures intended to mitigate the COVID-19's economic impact while setting in place the foundations for a rapid economic recovery.

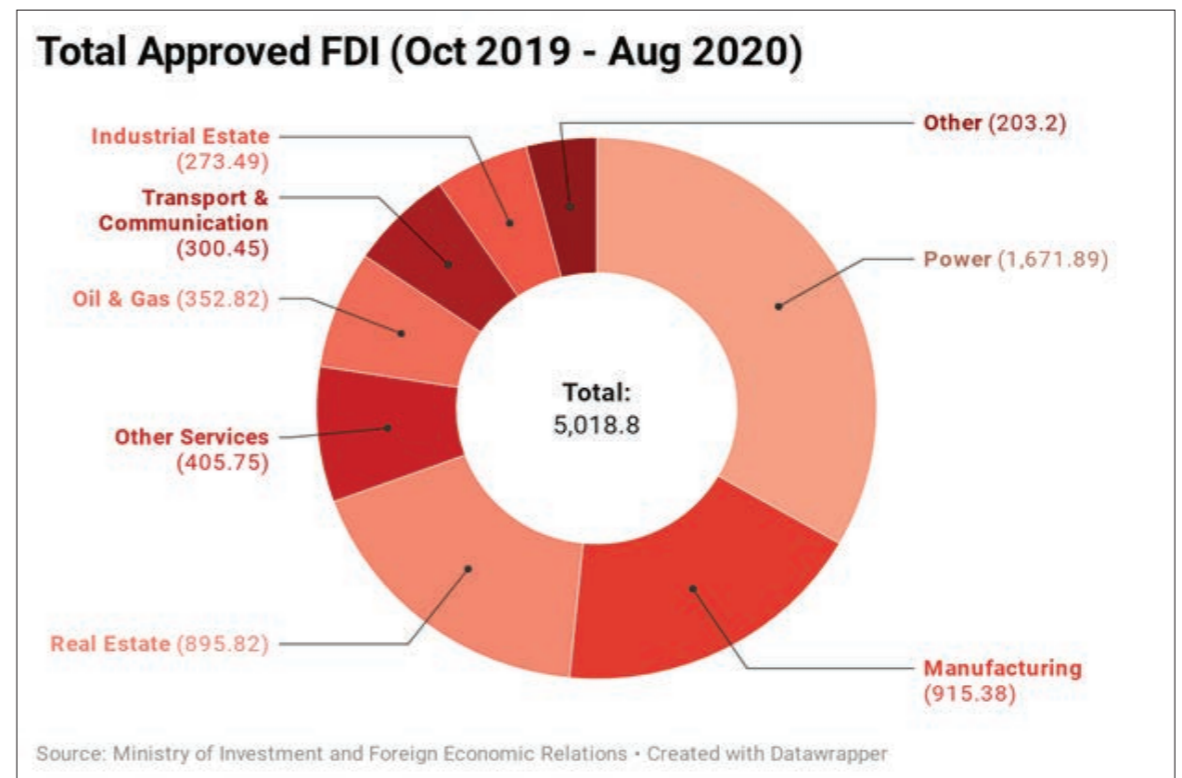
In line with our CERP, to date, we have disbursed close to MMK 2 trillion aimed at addressing the social, health and economic impacts of COVID-19. This figure includes the disbursement of MMK 200 billion to assist our nation's manufacturing, hospitality, tourism, and services sectors. A further MMK

600 billion has been provided to farmers at MMK 50,000 per acre of farmland. MMK 100 billion was provided to our microfinance sector and MMK 200 billion to our MSMEs. A further MMK 100 billion has been disbursed to small tea shops and street-stalls to ensure their survival.



Working with the Development Assistance Coordination Unit, we have mobilized hundreds of millions of dollars more in grants and concessional loans to finance our immediate relief and longer-term recovery efforts.

Importantly, I am pleased to note that foreign investor interest in Myanmar has remained resilient. Indeed, for the first time in years, Foreign Direct Investment for a single budget year has passed the USD 5 billion mark. With several new proposals for major projects in the power, manufacturing and the real estate sector now under active consideration by the Myanmar Investment Commission, the prospects look bright. This has been no easy feat. Yet, ensuring the continued flow of appropriate and responsible investment into Myanmar will play an essential role in supporting a more resilient and sustainable economic recovery.



In recent months, we have taken important steps to ensure sustainable development as planned.

First, in July we issued Japan's Marubeni, Sumitomo Corp. and Mitsui & Co. with a notice to proceed with the much anticipated Thilawa LNG-to-Power project — a low-emission alternative to coal. The project involves the construction of a 1250 MW gas-fired thermal power plant – among Myanmar's largest and equal to one-fifth of our country's current power generation capacity. In line with this government's commitment to electrify the nation by 2030, a stable power supply will unlock further investment in power and other sectors, generating new jobs for a young population eager for opportunities.

Second, in keeping with this government's intention to scale-up investment in renewable energy, we successfully launched a fast-track international competitive bidding process for no less than 30 solar power projects.

Despite challenges posed by COVID-19, we received a total of 155 bids with an average winning price of US\$0.0422 per unit – highly competitive, far below industry expectations, and representing an excellent deal for Myanmar's consumers.

These solar projects send a clear message that Myanmar is brimming with opportunities and those with teams present in-country place themselves in an advantageous position to secure these opportunities.

Myanmar today has one of Asia's lowest rates of electrification while demand grows at 10-20% per annum. Nationally significant energy projects such as these enable our nation's young people to study in the comfort and safety of their homes, facilitates the mechanization of our agriculture sector, and provides access to information and technology to even our most remote communities via the internet – delivering rapid economic dividends while building further confidence in our investment environment.

A third important milestone was achieved last month with the government's decision to engage Roland Berger, a leading global consulting firm, to oversee a competitive Swiss Challenge tender process for a new and unbundled industrial park with low-cost housing estates, water supply, sanitation, and waste management systems, and other essential infrastructure, to be situated on the western bank of the Yangon River. I am convinced that this course of action will result in a fairer, more competitive and better-quality project overall, providing a model for future such projects.

Environmental sustainability will be a key feature of this multi-billion-dollar initiative. In keeping with the project's master plan, construction will involve flood resilient design, the use of natural and man-made parks, canals, and other waterways, while at the same time conserving important wetland and biodiversity areas.

Landmark announcements such as these have often drawn the spotlight from other transformative yet less high-profile initiatives aimed at strengthening our investment enabling environment. One such initiative can be seen in the recent launch of a new online Yangon Building Permit System, streamlining procedures and reducing paperwork when seeking construction permits. I am pleased to announce that in just five months since its launch, there have been more than 1,000 applications made.

The Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations looks forward to pioneering future digital government initiatives in the months and years ahead. In doing so, we seek to further propel Myanmar up the World Bank's Doing Business Index when next published, and to create greater opportunities for government services to reach those most in need, overcoming gender, governance and geographic divides.

Our efforts to date have been guided by our COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan. With six months having passed since its launch, we are now conducting a stocktaking exercise to account for what we have achieved, what is left to be done, and what must come next. We are also well underway drafting a new, comprehensive and inclusive medium- to longer-term Myanmar Economic Recovery and Reform Programme (MERRP) with which to sustain an economic reform journey begun just four years ago. The MERRP enshrines the notion of environmental sustainability as part of a truly sustainable economic recovery. As such, we seek to capitalize upon Myanmar's potential for green investment in sectors such as energy and infrastructure, taking full advantage of this opportunity to build back better.

Myanmar was spared the worst of what the first wave had to offer, yet today, the spectre of a second wave looms large upon us. As we face down this new threat, we will draw strength from one another. We shall shoulder this burden because we know that our fellow citizen shall do the same for us. There can be no doubt that we have a long journey ahead of us. There are no quick fixes. Yet, while we isolate ourselves for a time, we must resist the instinct to once again turn inward.

Just as the hottest fires forge the strongest steel, the challenges posed by COVID-19 will mould our national character. We shall come closer together as a nation – stronger, kinder and more resilient.





**People's Party of Myanmar Farmers and Workers (PPMFW) presents its policy, stance and work programmes**

People's Party of Myanmar Farmers and Workers (PPMFW) General-Secretary Daw San San Kyawt presented party's policy, stance and work programmes through radio and TV on 26 September.



**Greetings esteemed citizens**

We pray for the physical and mental wellbeing of all citizens of the Union.

I am General-Secretary Daw San San Kyawt of the People's Party of Myanmar Farmers and Workers (PPMFW). We represent the central workforce of the nation, including the farmers, workers and labourers and are formed in harmonious collaboration with experts and professionals.

We are formed with different regional ethnic groups, and we do not work solely for one region. We aim for equal all-rounded development of the entire Union and to improve the socio-economic livelihoods of all citizens. We will establish a new Democratic Federal Union that can stand proudly with the rest of the world in terms of economy, education and defence services.

**We will explain the political policies of PPMFW:**

- To strengthen the civilian government administration system with democratic values and free from corruption;
- To amend the Constitution to be better suited for the nation in line with democratic standards and to strengthen the legislative branch;
- To strengthen the rule of law to be fair, free, transparent and free of corruption;
- To establish a federal union that corresponds with internal peace.

To establish a good and clean people-centred government administration, everyone from the President to the villages and wards-level must be representatives of the people elected by the people. There must be action against corruption, implementing transparency, and decentralization in the executive branch.

We will enact or amend laws that protect the interest of the people in the legislative branch. We will ensure the judicial branch is free from corruption, has transparency and is not influenced by the executive authority.

Together with independence, we also inherited armed conflicts which are raging on until today. The unbending stance of political leaders and armed groups are slowing national development. We need to escape from the clutches of our bad heritage and influence from history and plan for a brighter future.

We need to build compassion and understanding, and equality is necessary for us to have trust and unity.

We must cast away narrow-minded nationalism and cultivate a broader national spirit. To establish a democratic federal union with mutual trust, opinions and equality through political dialogues is an essential objective of PPMFW.

For foreign policy, our party bases on an unbiased approach that actively and freely puts the national interest first. We will promote international relations and respect the sovereignty of other nations while practising peaceful coexistence.

**We will now explain our party's economic policies:**

- To strengthen the industrial agriculture system and move forward as a formidable industrial nation and a major manufacturer of food through a 20-year plan;
- To reduce government's hold on the economy and promote the role of private businesses;
- We must support a free market-based economy and invite foreign investments with long-term benefits. We must protect the stability of domestic ethnic businesses as well;
- Our policy on natural resources will focus on maintaining natural resources into the future and for the coming generations. We will form public resource financial commissions and implement transparency.

We will overcome our dependence on the exploitation of natural resources for national revenue and lay the economic foundation for promoting the natural geography and human resources of the nation.

We will develop the water routes, land routes, communications, hospitals, universities, special economic zones, industrial zones and other infrastructure. We will provide legal security for SMEs and ensure they receive assistance in technology, loans and other matters.

We will firmly implement the promotion of technology and value-added quality for agro-based produces and products as well as the exploration of the international market, which is essential for the farmers.

We will attempt to stabilize commodity prices to ensure the stability of banks and financial aspects.

Our education policy will aim for effective learning and critical thinking through free higher education. We will increase spending on education, offer a sufficiently better educational scholarship or stipend programme, grow the skillsets of teachers, send more scholars overseas, and create jobs for citizens within the country.

Our health policy involves drawing a national-level plan to ensure sufficient health expenditures and provide free medical services to people of low income, children and the elderly. We will organize medical trips to remote regions and nurture more medical professionals.

We will acknowledge and guarantee the full rights

of all ethnic groups. We will preserve ethnic culture, customs and literature.

We will eliminate poverty as the nation can only become wealthy when the farmers and labourers are wealthy as well. We need to enact laws that protect the rights of farmers and labourers. We will guarantee the land ownership of farmers and eliminate the existing monopoly of farmlands, and resolve land ownership disputes swiftly and rightfully.

Our party will ensure farmers have access to a stable regular market, receive reasonable prices, and penetrate the international market. We will prioritize the necessary technology, capital, and farm machinery. We will implement organic farming and form agricultural co-operative associations.

The minimum wage of our nation needs to correspond with other ASEAN countries. Our citizens working abroad need to be offered protection according to international labour laws. National-level plans must be drawn to create more job opportunities in the nation.

We must implement future action plans to offer support in social livelihoods, education and healthcare for the soldiers serving to protect our nation and their families. The Defence Service must be loved by the citizens and have loyalty to the country. It must become the people's army and be united with the people.

Civil servants must receive sufficient pay and support while fiercely combatting corruption on the other hand.

We support freedom of faith within the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, but we must be vigilant towards religious extremists and prevent hatred between the different religions. It is a historical duty for our party and all citizens to defend, protect, and preserve our races, faiths, and national noble spirits.

In conclusion, our country is still rich in natural resources. It is the people who are still in poverty. To allow all ethnic people and citizens to attain wealth, genuine democracy and good governance are needed.

We respectfully request the people to cast their votes for the People's Party of Myanmar Farmers and Workers as we pledge to work for the benefit of all citizens and develop the nation through our representatives in the Hluttaw.

Our party's motto is:  
"To fulfil necessities,  
To protect from injustice,  
To ensure prosperity in people's lives,  
Vote for People's Party of Myanmar Farmers and Workers!"

May all citizens of Myanmar attain peace of mind and progress for the future on behalf of the People's Party of Myanmar Farmers and Workers.

\* \* \* \*



**Section 59 (g) in Hluttaw Election Law**

IN accordance with section 59 (g) of the Hluttaw Election Law, no one is allowed to vote more than once in any election for a Hluttaw constituency in which he or she has the right to vote. Anyone who is found guilty of or abetting this act shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or with fine not exceeding K100,000 (one hundred thousand Kyats), or with both.



## Daingnet National Development Party presents its policy, stance and work programmes

Daingnet National Development Party Chairperson U Aung Kyaw Zaw presented party's policy, stance and work programmes as follows:

### Esteemed Nationalities and People

Mingalaba!

I am Daingnet National Development Party Chairperson U Aung Kyaw Zaw from Buthidaung in Maungtaw District, Rakhine State.

Daingnet National Development Party applied to form the party on 20-3-2015. The Union Election Commission, on 27-8-2015, allowed us to start the party with political party registration number 100. Now, I would like to talk a little bit about ethnic Daingnet people.

Daingnet people was formerly known as Thet, Thetkama, Sak, and Sakkama. Daingnet people still call themselves Sakkama, which means capable person. Sakka means capable and Ma means person, so Sakkama means competent person. During the British colonial era, Daingnet was called as ethnic Sak. English presumed Daingnet as an honest, hard-working and trustable racial group. Bamar and Rakhine call the racial group Daingnet. Sak is another name of the racial group Sakkama (Chakma).

### Esteemed Nationalities and People

After talking about the ethnic group, I would like to have a brief talk about why the party was formed. In the past, Daingnet people did not understand what politic is. They were not interested in politics. So, you may want to ask why a Daingnet political party was formed. The majority of Daingnet people are not educated. They are poor. They are unassuming. They collectively live in rural villages, and they rely on farming for their living, so they are not interested in politics, and they do not understand politics. Some people brought Daingnet people to towns and persuaded them. Daingnet people dared not complain and did what their benefactors asked, whether it was fair or not. They suffered from deep troubles.

In this era, a few Daingnet people move to cities and receive education, and work at government offices. Then, they noticed how big was the gap separating their standard of living from other racial groups' benchmark. They realized why there was a gap and why they were poor. They learned why other racial groups gained opportunities and why Daingnet people lost opportunities. Some Daingnet people became to feel that they should provide leadership to achieve equality and fairness. Young Daingnet people started working hard to improve their education. Many Daingnet people began trying to get jobs at government offices. Even when they did at government offices, they got only low-rank jobs, and there

was no top official who is Daingnet. They became to be interested in how to ask for justice and equality and with whom they should cooperate.

They observed Myanmar's politics and the situations of Rakhine State, and they came to realize that they should have a political party that can demand rights for Daingnet people.

### Esteemed Nationalities and People

In this multiparty democracy era, we the Sakka-ma or Daingnet people, after a round of negotiations among us, have founded the Daingnet National Development Party as similarly as the other national races within Myanmar.

I will briefly present the Daingnet National Development Party's policy and action plans.

### Policy

1. To work cooperatively with all national, ethnic people so that the Republic of the Union of Myanmar can stand on its dignity among other countries;
2. To work cooperatively with all national, ethnic people to achieve disciplined multiparty democratic system;
3. To take greater efforts to improve education, healthcare, socio-economic aspects, and transportation for ethnic Daingnet people while promoting the standard of living of other national, ethnic minorities;
4. To promote friendship, mutual trust, mutual respect, mutual support, and tolerance between different ethnic groups to foster family spirit between them;
5. To preserve tradition, culture and national character of Daingnet people, and innovatively adapt them to modern needs.

### Action plans

1. All national, ethnic groups have sovereignty over the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, so all national, ethnic groups will unitedly work so that Myanmar can stand on its dignity;
2. To ensure national equality, mutual respect, individual rights and freedom in implementing a multiparty democratic system;
3. To work hard for the development of ethnic Daingnet people and other national, ethnic minorities who were not well developed and lost opportunities because of lack of knowledge;
4. With "Union Spirit", to cooperate with all stakeholders in working for national interests;
5. If necessary, to collaborate with other na-

tional, ethnic groups, political parties and organizations for the development of Daingnet ethnicity.

### Esteemed Nationalities and People

The headquarters of the Daingnet National Development Party is located at number 593, Min Saw Mon Road, Thapyaygone Quarter in Buthidaung in Maungtaw District in the Rakhine State.

### Party's flag and emblem

1. It is a flag of red and yellow horizontal bands. The upper band is red, and the lower band is yellow;
2. On the left corner of the red band, there is a big white star;
3. Red represents bravery; yellow represents the protection of race and religion and peace. The big white star represents "the Union";
4. The party's flag can be used in various sizes with a ratio of 5:3;
5. Daingnet National Development Party's emblem consists of a black shield and a Sakkya circle on the yellow background circle. The upper part of the symbol mentions the caption "Daingnet National Development Party". Under the black shield, there is a caption "D.N.D.P". Yellow represents the protection of the race and peace; the black shield represents Daingnet people. The Sakkya circle represents a powerful and brave ethnic group.

### Esteemed Nationalities and Ethnic People in Rakhine State

We are an ethnic group of the Rakhine State. Since a long time, various ethnic groups such as Khami, Mro, Thet, Rakhine, and Daingnet live in the Rakhine State through thick and thin. Under the Constitution, our Daingnet National Development Party, in cooperation with our alliance parties, will take more significant efforts for unity, development, equality, creation of a federal system and the benefits of the Rakhine State and ethnic groups.

So, in conclusion, I would like to request all Daingnet people and all residents of the Rakhine State to vote for our Daingnet National Development Party, which emblem features "Shield and Sakkya Circle".

May all of you have excellent health and wealth.



## Campaign speeches of political parties for 2020 General Election on 27-28 September

CAMPAIGN speech of New Society Party for 2020 General Election will be broadcast on MRTV, Hluttaw Channel, Myanma Radio and MRTV Facebook page at 7 pm on 27 September, and will be published in the state-owned newspapers—the Myanma Alinn, the Mirror and the Global New Light of Myanmar—on 28 September. — MNA

# Elections are the main pillar for supporting democracy.

# Deal on paid sick leave for all Canadians should avert snap elections

OTTAWA—Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Friday reached a deal with the opposition leftist New Democrats on paid sick leave for all Canadian workers during the pandemic, avoiding possible snap elections.

The minority Liberal government earlier this week had in a so-called throne speech proposed sweeping new measures to help Canadians weather a second Covid-19 wave.

But its agenda and a bill to enact key parts of it faced possible defeat in parliament, as the Tories and Bloc Quebecois withheld their support and the New Democratic Party (NDP) made demands for increased social spending to prop up the



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, pictured June 25, 2020, struck a deal on new benefits to help Canadians through a second Covid-19 wave. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

government.

With the defeat of the bill -- and its agenda -- the government would have fallen.

In a last-ditch effort to gain NDP support, the Liberals boosted a weekly benefit for those unable to work during the

Covid-19 outbreak, including to care for children or relatives.

And it agreed to NDP demands for the two week paid sick leave for workers who must isolate after being exposed to the new coronavirus.

In exchange, the NDP said it would back the bill as well as support the government's agenda in a confidence vote that is expected to follow in the coming weeks.

"If this agreement is reflected in the bill," NDP leader Jagmeet Singh told a news conference, "we will support the bill, and we will also support the throne speech."

The bill is to be presented to parliament on Monday.—AFP ■

## WORLD IN BRIEFS

### Paris cleaver attack suspect says acted over Charlie Hebdo cartoons

PARIS—A man suspected of wounding two people with a meat cleaver near the former Paris offices of Charlie Hebdo magazine has admitted staging the attack, linking it to the republication of cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed by the satirical weekly, sources said Saturday. The man, who said he was born in Pakistan and is 18, "takes responsibility for his action," which came three weeks into the trial of suspected accomplices in the 2015 massacre of the newspaper's staff, a source close to the investigation said.

The man said during questioning he places his actions "in the context of the republication of cartoons" of the Prophet Mohammed in Charlie Hebdo, the source said. A man armed with a meat cleaver critically wounded two people on Friday near Charlie Hebdo's former offices in the French capital's 11th district.—AFP ■

## Trump to name Amy Coney Barrett to US Supreme Court: reports

WASHINGTON—President Donald Trump intends to name Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court, US media reported Friday, who if confirmed would cement a solid conservative majority on the high court.

US President Donald Trump is set to unveil his Supreme Court nominee on Saturday, barely five weeks out from the November 3 presidential election, with US media reporting that he has chosen conservative judge Amy Coney Barrett for the job.

If the 48-year-old law professor is indeed nominated and confirmed, her appointment would consolidate a conservative majority in the country's

top court.

Citing sources close to the process, various media outlets, including The New York Times and CNN, said Trump would put forward the 48-year-old judge.

"We are going to be announcing somebody great," the US president said in Virginia on a whirlwind three-state campaign tour Friday.

"Tomorrow [Saturday] I think is going to be a big day!" he added, as the crowd roared with approval.

The president did not name his nominee but earlier said his decision was made. Barrett was "outstanding" he said.

Media reports noted the mercurial Trump could still



Amy Coney Barrett, 48, is considered hostile to abortion rights -- a key issue for many Republicans. **PHOTO: UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME/AFP**

change his mind before the official announcement, expected at 5 pm (2100 GMT) Saturday.

Democratic opponents, led by presidential candidate Joe

Biden, have demanded that Republicans back off on replacing Ruth Bader Ginsburg -- a liberal icon -- until after the November 3 election.—AFP ■



## Lebanon PM designate recuses himself from forming new cabinet

BEIRUT—Lebanon's premier-designate recused himself from forming a new cabinet Saturday as international pressure mounts for a reform-minded administration to replace the government that resigned after a deadly August port blast. "I excuse myself from continuing the task of forming the government," Mustapha Adib said in a televised speech, apologizing to the Lebanese people for his "inability to realize its aspirations for a reformist team" to save the country. Lebanon's last government resigned in the aftermath of the colossal blast in Beirut port on August 4 that killed more than 190 people, wounded thousands and ravaged swathes of the capital.—AFP ■

Since his nomination late last month, Lebanon's premier-designate Mustapha Adib has been under immense pressure to quickly form a new government to carry out the necessary reforms to unlock billions of dollars in foreign aid. **PHOTO: AFP**

### UK billionaire Ratcliffe's Monaco tax residence confirmed

LONDON—Brexit-supporting British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe, head of the Ineos group, has officially relocated to the tax haven Monaco, according to UK company records disclosed this week.

Ratcliffe's residency there, which had been previously reported by British newspapers but not confirmed, was documented in filings for Hampshire Aviation, a private aviation company he is a director of, at Companies House.

The 67-year-old boss of petrochemicals firm Ineos and one of Britain's richest men has often been labelled a recluse but has raised his global profile with recent forays into the world of sport with Formula One team Mercedes.—AFP ■

## IMF raises Colombia's credit line to \$17.2 bn

WASHINGTON—The International Monetary Fund on Friday announced it had raised by \$6.5 billion a credit line offered to Colombia to about \$17.2 billion, aiming to help the country cope with the economic effects of Covid-19.

“The augmentation was approved in light of Colombia’s continued qualification with very strong institutional policy frameworks, track record of economic performance and policy implementation, and against a backdrop of higher external risks and a larger than expected adverse impact from Covid-19 pandemic,” the Washington-based crisis lender said in a statement.

Colombia has had a Flexible Credit Line (FCL) since May 2009, and the IMF board has renewed it every two years, providing the country with money

that could be deployed to head off a crisis.

The latest renewal in May was for \$10.8 billion, but deputy IMF managing director Antoinette Sayeh said in a statement that Colombia’s downturn was deeper than expected and the country is set for its worst recession on record.

“The augmentation of access under the current FCL arrangement will help Colombia manage heightened external risks, protect ongoing efforts to effectively respond to the pandemic, continue to integrate migrants from Venezuela, foster inclusive growth and reduce external vulnerabilities,” she said.

IMF mission chief for Colombia Hamid Faruqee said the country’s economy is expected to shrink 8.2 per cent this year, worse than the 2.5 per cent drop originally forecast.—AFP ■

## American Airlines to get \$5.5 bn loan from US Treasury



American Airlines CEO Doug Parker joined fellow airline executives earlier this week to call for additional federal aid to the industry. PHOTO: AFP

WASHINGTON—American Airlines has agreed to a \$5.5 billion loan from the US Treasury as it aims to ride out the downturn caused by the coronavirus, the carrier announced Friday.

The airline, which has said it could lay off as many

as 19,000 employees next month without another relief package from Congress, said the financing will “help us shore up our longer-term liquidity until demand returns,” according to a message to employees. The loan, authorized as

part of the massive CARES Act federal relief package passed this spring, adds to American’s mounting debt level, which is higher than that of other leading US carriers. The Treasury Department told the carrier that the loan could

be boosted to as much as \$7.5 billion, “although such amount is subject to final approval by the Treasury,” American said in a securities filing. The CARES Act also provided \$25 billion in Payroll Support Programme (PSP) funds for US carriers, including \$5.8 billion to American. US airlines that took PSP funds committed to not undertaking any involuntary job cuts through the end of September. American has said it could lay off 19,000 workers starting in October if there is not a new relief package.

Airline CEOs visited the White House on September 17 to lobby for such legislation, but talks in Congress have stalled amid intensifying partisanship ahead of the November presidential election.—

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY. NO. (035W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY. NO. (035W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-9-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SAN PEDRO VOY. NO. (038S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SAN PEDRO VOY. NO. (038S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-9-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/TMT** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE) PTE., LTD**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (1126S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (1126S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-9-2020** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY. NO. (692N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY. NO. (692N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-9-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (102N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (102N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-9-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** 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.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

TUG: ANGGUN SARI & BARGE: EWIN 31

Consignees of cargo carried on **TUG: ANGGUN SARI & BARGE: EWIN 31** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-9-2020** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **ADANI SITE** 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.

Phone No: **2301191/2301178**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S CEA PROJECT LOGISTICS (MALAYSIA)**

# Outstanding beautiful artistic works in Hline Tsp

By Swe Oo Wai

TRANSLATED BY HTUT HTUT (TWANTAY)



**T**HE first person who came to tell the author was a niece who had been to No 4 ward of Hline Township, Yangon Region as a guest. The second person was a taxi driver and both of them brought the information and told the author about that. The next thing was the post uploaded to the social media by Daw May Thandar from the Department of Information and Public Relations Department in Hline Township. These conditions pushed the author into visiting there.



U Kyaw Kyaw Tun is Yangon Region Hluttaw Representative representing Hline Township Constituency 1.

For that reason, the author contacted U Kyaw Kyaw Tun, the region Hluttaw representative representing Hline Township Constituency 1. U Kyaw Kyaw Tun came to wait for the author at Butaryone bus stop on Bayintnaung road on the day when an appointment was made. Meanwhile U Kyaw Kyaw Tun took the author by his car to a private school at

Aye Yeik Mon Street in No 4 ward. Flower pots made with auto tyre in the shape of a coffee bowl were seen there. At that time, a man was painting the flower pots white and a group of broadcasting media arriving there earlier than the author was shooting there with the use of a video camera.



The children are taking swings.

## Stretch of hybrid toddy-palm and coconut tree

There is a big magnificent brick house in the other street

of the private school. A stretch of hybrid toddy-palm and coconut trees can be seen on the green lawn on the platform in front of the big brick house. Impressive artistic works are on display by decorating on the hybrid toddy-palm tree and coconut trees. The artistic works are full of different bright colours. Every tree's artistic work includes pictures of human, flower, bird, puppet and peacock and they look like a lively painting and they show the imagination and will of the artist.

## With a desire to grow small flower plants

Regional Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Kyaw Tun said, "There are many separate brick houses on the road

of Aye Yeik Mon Housing. We organized those living there to repair the platforms in the front of the brick houses of their own plan and negotiations were conducted. We want to see concrete, lawn and soil areas all on the platform. Small flower plants and benches are wanted to be grown as well for ensuring that the people can feel a pleasant sight sense. The flower plants called Nyo Pyar San have been grown. If they are in full bloom, they look pretty with violet colour. Our aim is that we would like the passers-by to get pleasant feelings. At the top of the street, two big flower pots are placed and star flowers are grown. The reason for growing the star flowers is that it can give us shade. Its blossoms are fra-



The tree stem seats are prepared to sit having a good rest.



The photo shows a row of hybrid toddy-palm and coconut trees at Aye Yeik Mon Street in No 4 Ward in Hline Tsp.

grant and they can be adorned. Anyone can earn an income of K2,000 or K3,000 a day if star flower blossoms picked up are bought. For that reason, our attention is focused on the growing of the star flowers. There is no risk of traffic in this street and there are also those who walk in the winter mornings. Street lamps are hung on the lamp-posts in the street for enabling the passers-by to see clearly in the daybreak.

#### With concerted efforts made

“The next thing I would like to tell is about hybrid toddy-palm and coconut trees. There is a total of 18 hybrid toddy-palm and coconut tree and their stems are black. It is an advice coming from the trishaw drivers and they suggested the bottom part of the trees should be painted. The six or seven feet high of the bottom part of the hybrid toddy-palm and coconut trees were painted white and then yellow. All of these are assisted by artist Ko Aung Lay who is working for ILBC as an instructor. We bought Ko Aung Lay necessary things as to the painting. Now the No 4 ward of Aye Yeik Mon Housing Street gives pleasures to the passers-by. All the residents feel satisfied with the artistic work created by Ko Aung Lay. It is the glad news that the move is meant for the people.”

“We proceeded to Baho

Street from there. It is the platform between Ywama Kyaung Street and Bayintnaung Street. Big flower pots decorated by colourfully are placed in a row. They are in the shape of two and half feet high coffee bowl with a handle and 16 inches opening. Paper flowers are planted in every flower pots. Well-wet leaves of every plant look verdant.”

Regarding the paper flowers, U Kyaw Kyaw Tun said, “Paper flowers are not expensive. The passers-by don’t recklessly pick the flowers and the plants are watered once every two days.”

The strange thing is the

artistic work seen on every flower pot which is illustrated with children-like pictures including elephants, horses, owls, fish, monkey and flowers. Verdant plants and big colourful flower pots attract the attentions from the passers-by and the autos crossing Baho Street. It is a very good idea!

#### It’s likely to be costly

As regards, Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Kyaw Tun said, “We got this idea from Republic of Korea and Thailand. While we were in ROK, the pots are made of fibre. These are likely to be more costly and unsuitable for our

country. These flower pots can be easily broken or damaged. While we were in Thailand, the flower pots are made of old tyres. The forms are different and we took photographs of them. Once we made a few inquiries about it by showing the photos, the tyre-related shop from Baho Street in Sangyoung Township, Yangon assured us that they could do. One old tyre cost K10,000 and it cannot be easily broken or damaged. The two tyres were placed separately 24 feet apart and a total of 15 old tyres are going to be stood. We expect 45 old tyres will be enough for the whole township.”

Duties must be assigned to Ko Aung Lay regarding the artworks. The painting charge for one old tyre is worth about K25,000 to K30,000. He is a Hline resident and he is giving us a hand with his outstanding artwork.

#### Decoration with colourful paints

Pointing to the brick wall beside the platform, U Kyaw Kyaw Tun added, “That brick wall will be decorated with colourful paints. Small short chairs will be arranged and 50 watt LED lamps will be electrified. Therefore the passers-by at night can see clearly and it may prevent risk of crimes. The flower pots will be placed up to 1,150 feet long platform and the platform is wide. If the walkers have a walk there and back, it will be good for health.

#### More beneficial to the public

He continued to say, “Bushes, roots of the trees,

a row of shops, beer station, heaps of old things seem like a complicated sight. Actually these places are public area and so it should be beneficial to the public. For that reason, parks are created and flower pots are placed. See-saws, slopes and swings have been arranged. Sports gears have been installed for the elders to do exercises for health in cooperation with Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC). In the past, such public area was very rare to see. Such moves will be beneficial to the public in the future.”

#### Fulfilling to the places in need

“When our government started taking office, Yangon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein said Yangon would be created to be a clean, pleasant and beautiful city. As part of measures to help succeed this ambition, we are engaging in the implementation of Yangon to be a pleasant city by doing our bit,” said U Kyaw Kyaw Tun.

#### Doing our bit

After the author had a chat with Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Kyaw Tun and took the photograph of necessary records, he remembered the words U Kyaw Kyaw Tun mentioned along the street. The author remarked that Yangon would certainly be a clean, pleasant and beautiful city as Yangon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein mentioned if township authorities, township development affairs committees, donors and artists make collaborative effort.



Flower pots are decorated with colourful paints.



Hantharwady's Aung Hlaing Win (red) struggles for the ball with Magway FC's Zin Maung Maung (blue) during their MNL Week-19 match played at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 26 September 2020. **PHOTO: MNL**

## Hantharwady faces shock loss to Magway in MNL Week-19

HANTHARWADY United faced a 2-4 shock loss to Magway FC in their Week-19 match of Myanmar National League which was played yesterday at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

The win for Magway FC was mostly brought about by the collective play of all team's local youth players. They relied on their power play till the final whistle to create their incredible victory over a big team like Hantharwady. Head coach, U Myo Min Tun's Hantharwady United, lined up with key players including Donald Bissa, Emeka, Kekere, captain and keeper Ko Ko Naing, Hein Htet Aung, Shwe Hlaing Win and Aung Moe Htwe.

In the meantime, local players based Magway FC showed their best style with youth players keeper Pyae Phyo Thu, captain Naing Naing Kyaw, Kyaw Thet Oo, Win Moe Kyaw, Pyae Moe, Aung Tun Tun and Zin Maung Maung under the guidance of their head coach U Aung Zaw Myo. Hantharwady United start-

ed the game with a fast and furious attack, but Magway relied on clever tackling plus responsive aggression, showcasing brave play of a middle-class team of MNL. Hantharwady United earned their first goal at 21 minutes, and the goal was scored by Aung Hlaing Win by passing over opponents with his smart dribbling.

After 1-0, Hantharwady controlled the game with stable play, and the team carried their good result until the break time.

With a renovated tactic, Magway showed their best style of play in the second half by scoring multi-goals. At 48-minute mark, Magway found their equalizer and youth star Aung Myint Tun netted it. Again, Aung Myint Tun also scored his second goal for the team at 61 minutes to bring super motivation for his team.

After a goal led by Magway FC, Hantharwady tried to break the result and created some more goal opportunities in the last minutes. Magway played roughly in

the penalty area of opponents, and thus Hantharwady gained penalty kick at 78 minutes.

The penalty was successfully kicked by Donald Bissa to score their equalizer at 78 minutes.

After 2-2, Hantharwady launched an open attack, but Magway relied on a counter play, and Soe Lwin Lwin scored the third goal for Magway at 80 minutes. Magway's players were eager for more goals, and Naing Naing Kyaw ended the game with a goal at 89 minutes, and which was a final and fourth goal for his team. The loss of MNL's favourite team, Hantharwady leads their team to blur their championship dream for this year.

Now, defending champion Shan United is also running in the champion's path with two matches left to play. Hantharwady will next play against another championship dreamer Ayeayawady United on 1 October at Thuwunna Stadium, and the match will be a very decisive one to decide who is a champion. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)

## Japan PM Suga 'determined' to hold Olympics despite pandemic

UNITED NATIONS—Japan is “determined” to host the postponed Olympic Games in 2021 despite the coronavirus pandemic, the country's newly elected prime minister told the United Nations General Assembly on Friday (Sep 25).

“In the summer of next year, Japan is determined to host the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games as proof that humanity has defeated the pandemic,” Yoshihide Suga said in his first international address since taking office last week.

“I will continue to spare no effort in order to welcome you to Games that are safe and secure,” added Suga in the video message.

The march of the coronavirus around the globe forced the historic decision to delay the Games earlier this year.

But with continued spikes in infection worldwide, there are ongoing questions about whether the event will be possible next year. Organizers and Olympic officials have insisted the Games will go on, with International Olympic Committee vice president John Coates saying Friday “this has to happen,” citing athletes who would be devastated by a cancellation.

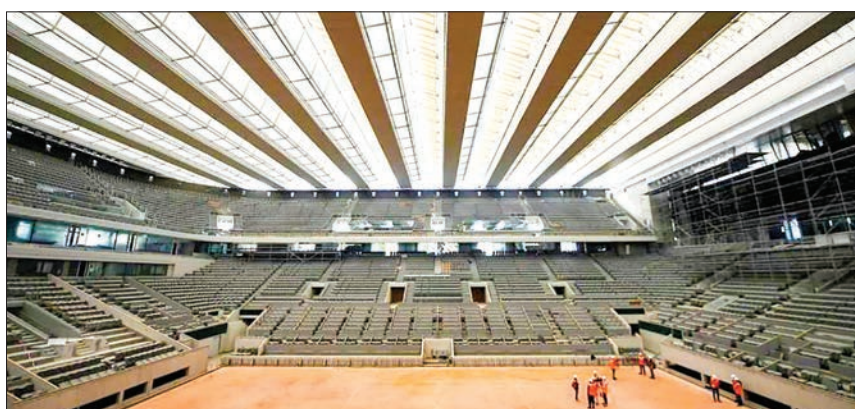
But medical experts have warned that the massive international event could be difficult to hold if the pandemic is not under control by next summer. And enthusiasm for the Games appears to have waned in Japan, with polls over the summer finding just one in four Japanese want to see them happen, and most backing either a further postponement or outright cancellation.

Organizers and officials are discussing a long and complex list of possible coronavirus countermeasures that they hope will make it possible to hold the Games, even if a vaccine is not available.—AFP ■



Japan is “determined” to host the postponed Olympic Games in 2021 despite the coronavirus pandemic, the country's newly elected prime minister told the United Nations General Assembly on Friday (Sep 25). **PHOTO: AFP**

## Tennis: Roland Garros braced for fewer fans, plenty of rain and 'dangerous' balls



The new roof over the Philippe Chatrier court is likely to see plenty of action over the next two weeks. **PHOTO: AFP/FRANCK FIFE**

PARIS—French Open chiefs admitted on Friday (Sep 25) that the decision to radically slash the number of fans allowed at the tournament to just 1,000 a day will mean “millions of euros up in smoke”. However, that's just one of a number of headaches facing the organizers, two days out from the start of the season's final Grand Slam event.

**“WE REGRET THESE RESTRICTIONS”**

The French Open should have been staged between May and June but was pushed back four months to avoid the worst of the coronavirus pandemic.

However, with cases on the rise again, the

French government has insisted a maximum of 1,000 fans a day be allowed into the Roland Garros grounds. Initially, the French Tennis Federation (FFT) had hoped for 20,000, which then became 11,500 before suffering another downsize to 5,000. “We deeply regret these new restrictions,” the FFT said in a statement.

For FFT president Bernard Giudicelli, “5,000 spectators daily in the stadium was already in our eyes a minimum”. There will be huge financial implications. “We are in the process of quantifying but tens of millions of euros have gone up in smoke,” admitted FFT marketing boss Stephane Morel.—AFP ■

# SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

27 SEPTEMBER 2020  
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

## A Passion For Books



**By Hu Wo** (Cuckoo's Song) B.Ed. (Final Year), Specialization in English, Yangon University

**W**HEN a person's hobby becomes much stronger than average, it has absolutely been his passion for ages. There is the only passion that I can't help doing the whole day. I'd like to say that it has become a serious heart disease for me, and I spend most of my spare time for it quite often. Even if I do not have this passion a day, I will have literary talks with my close friends and do teaching my pupils at least one. That is nothing but having a passion for books. As for me, books are friends indeed in my need.

I have cultivated a hobby of reading all by myself since my Grade 3 student's life. However, we did not then have a lot of books at home but some books written by the Ven. Ashin Cendadika. Anyhow, I read all these books as much as I could understand them. Fortunately, it was very easy to read and understand almost all of his books. The reason is why his writing style is obviously simple and clear though the subject matter of those books touches upon the profound Buddhist teachings. Thus, the scholar monk became the very first writer whom I had ever met throughout my reading life.

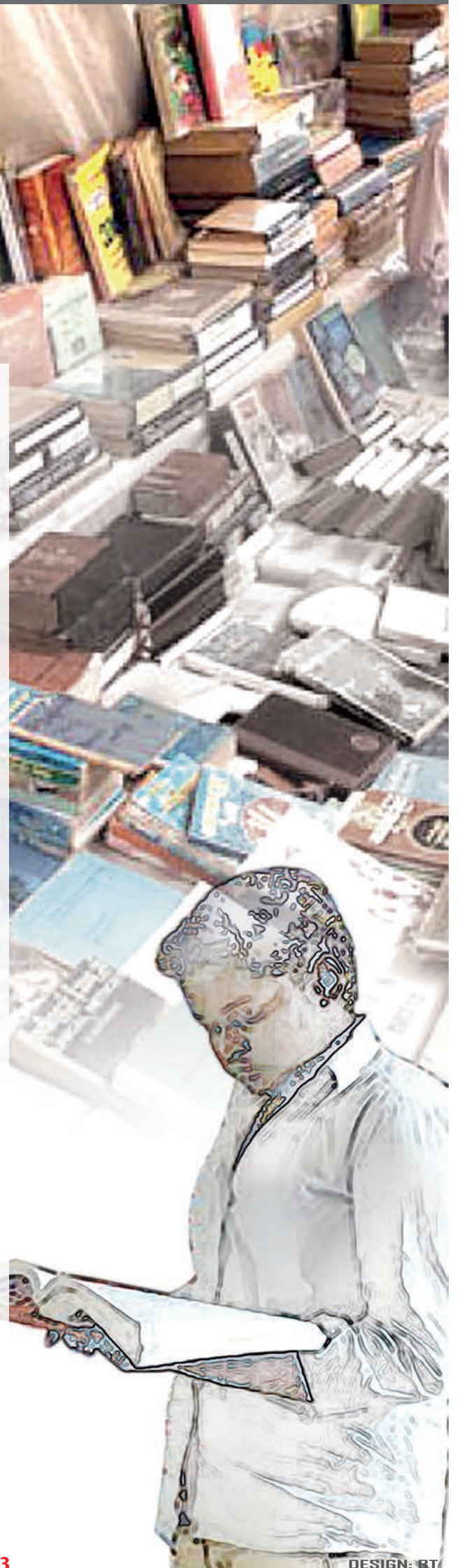
After having read Ashin Cendadika's, I had a chance to read several books which were written by Thutaythi Bhone Myint Thway, one of my favourite authors. His non-fiction is about enhancing the better attitude towards a big success in life. I had noticeably felt that my thoughts and manners became mature, especially speaking in public and among peers. Moreover, I wanted to read all kinds of books of different authors more than before because of this writer's prestige. I went on reading well-known books of other writers then.

I guess that I have read over 300 books of about 60 writers until now. Of these writers, the poets whom I have well known include Zaw Gyi, Min Thu Wun and Ngwe Ta Yi. Zaw Gyi's poems give me peace of mind while telling many truths about life. By the time I read most of Min Thu Wun's poems, I get a strong feeling in my heart because they had been composed about his love and country. I have always got the backbone to face my life from reading Ngwe Ta Yi's. Besides, Shin Maha Rahtathara, Seindakyawthu U Aw, U Kyee, U Saung, Thakhin Ko Taw Hmaing, A-Choke-tan Saya Phay and Dagon Taya are in the list of my favourite poets. I love reading poems as they are usually short in length to be memorized easily.

There are still other writers that I admire most. All of them had widely written short stories, novels, articles, essays and other types of literature. The writers of short stories who I like best are U Pho Kyar, Mg Htin, Thawda Swe, Minn Shin and Nay Winn Myint. Nu Nu Yi (Innwa), Khin Khin Htoo, Juu, Seint (Education), Naing Winn Swe, Tsinphyukyun Aung Thein and Chit Oo Nyo are my favourite novelists. Among the writers of articles, Aung Thinn, Mg Swum Yi, Ludu Sein Winn, Pi Moe Hnin, Shwe-U Daung, U Nu and Thein Pe Myint have done marvels for me. The persons who I must have a great respect for about their articles are U Pe Maung Tin, Dr Hla Pe, Dr Than Htun, Mg Khin Min (Danuphyu), Mg Tha Noe and Saya Thet Zaw (Myeikhtila). Tin Moe's and Pyinmana Mg Ni Thinn's essays are modelled on my study of essay writing. I have, personally speaking, preferred the books of Thakhin Ba Thaug, Mya Than Tint and Tin Maung Myint in translation.

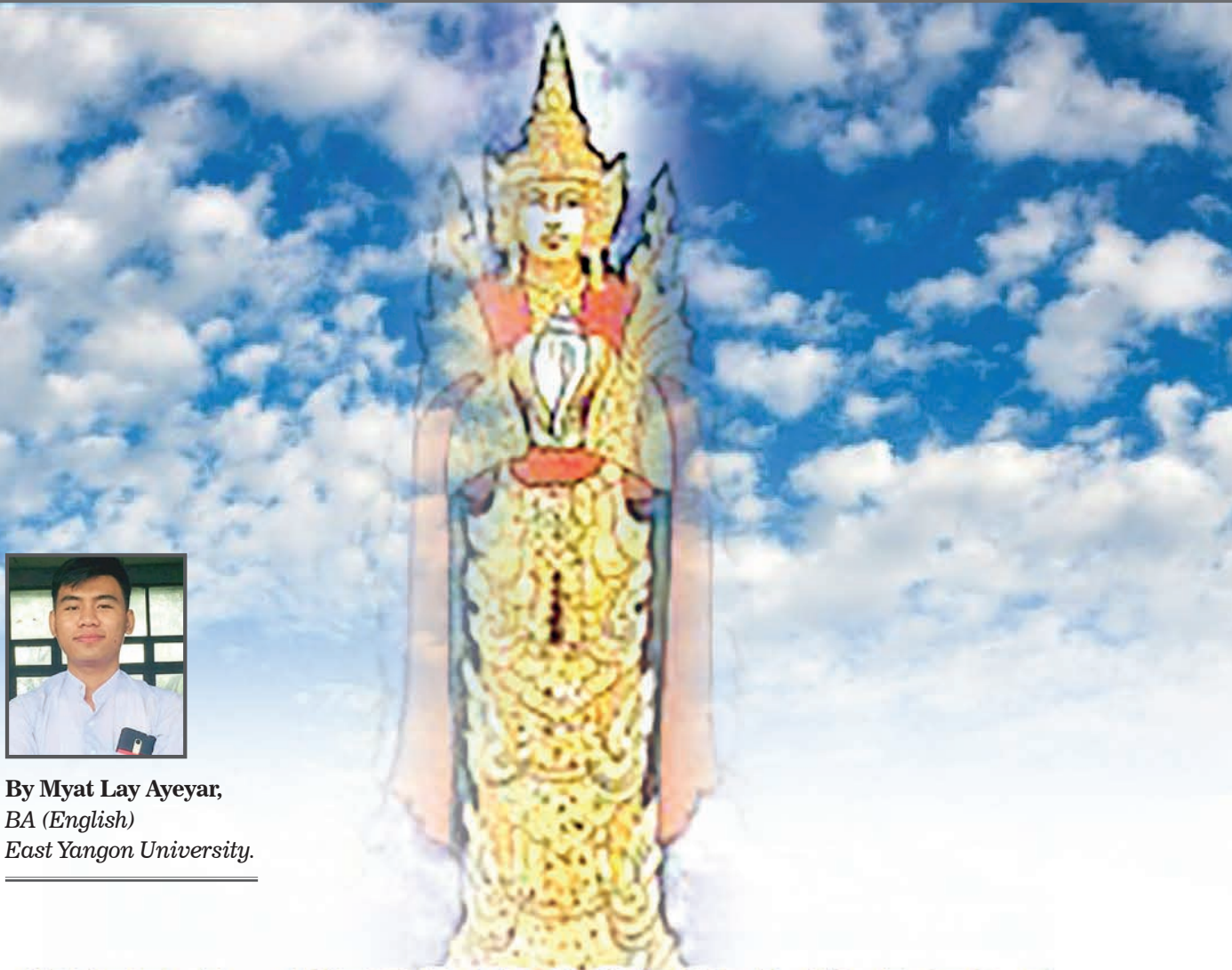
We all know that today is not the age of plays although these were really popular between writers and readers at one time. This time would be said to have become ``the Golden Age of Plays``. Hence, I have never studied lots of plays widely, except only a few. A recognized authority on plays was U Pon Nya and he was, figuratively speaking, called the Shakespeare of Myanmar by modern writers. Zaw Gyi and Thakhin Ba Thaug were famous for some of their plays, too. To my eye, any play should be learnt as ancient classic by every lover of literature.

SEE PAGE-S-3



DESIGN: RT





By Myat Lay Ayeyar,  
BA (English)  
East Yangon University.

## THA-GYAR'S SASANA: The Portentous Song?

AS I am a Myanmar classical songs lover, I always like to listen to most of these songs since I was young. I was familiar with them because of my father who used to be a guitarist in the orchestra of our township and he could play the tunes of Myanmar classical songs on the guitar very well. One day, he made me listen to a song. After listening to it from beginning to end, it gave me some food for thought. The original singer of that song was Khin Maung Yin. He was not only a singer but a famous actor. The title of that song is "Tha-Gyar's Sasana". The word 'Tha-Gyar' refers to 'Tha-Gyar-Min', King of the celestials, who are very close to us in our Myanmar culture. Here, this article will deal with my thoughts related to that song.

There has been an argument between Buddha's Sasana and Tha-Gyar's Sasana. In fact, there is only one Sasana under Lord Buddha. If so, you may ask a question "what is Tha-Gyar's Sasana?" I will give you the answer by extracting the event from the page number 12 and 13, Volume 6 of Damapada Pali. In 1995, Prime Minister U Nu addressed to the Ven. Mahasi Sayadaw, requesting an answer to the question "What does Tha-Gyar's Sasana mean?" The revered Sayadaw answered, "My layman, actually it should not be called 'Tha-Gyar's Sasana, but it means

the interim period between 2500 and 3000 years of Buddha's Sasana. These 500 interim years will be the best time of the future. After that, U Nu said, "Your Reverend, what strange things would happen in that time?" "My layman," said the revered Sayadaw, "there would one day appear on this earth a great king who must carry out missionary works in our country. The Buddha's Sasana will be as bright as the moon or the sun in his time and his great glory and power will also be unmatched. He will build many pagodas and do many good deeds and send many missionary groups to different countries. During the time before the rule of the King, people will severely suffer the great effects of the three catastrophes, namely Famine, War and Epidemic Disease. Tha-Gyar-Min will watch and help that noble King and his people. Like the line of King Maung Yin's song, Tha-Gyar-Min will save those who always do good deeds and remove those who have the impurities of mind. I think that time will come around 2600 years of Buddha's Sasana. Therefore, I want you to do good deeds and Vipasana Meditation more and more, my respected layman."

Surprisingly, now is 2564 years of Buddha's Sasana. So, I think we are passing through the interim period that I mentioned above. We, Myan-

mar people, believe in Na-mate(portent),Ta-baung(random utterances) and so on. Na-mate means a sign of warning that something good or bad is going to happen soon and Ta-baung also means random utterances of children, actors and madmen that are said as a prophecy. If you are the one who do not believe in such kinds of things, I will not persuade you to believe, but I just want you to know their functions are in Buddhism. As you know, we are currently facing the great effects of Covid-19 since the last week of March and then the numbers of patient and death rate are increasing day by day. This is the catastrophe of Epidemic diseases if we look at it from the religious point of view. It is sure that we may not know such things are intentionally or coincidentally happening now and ever.

Whatever religions you believe, the basic principles are to do good things, to avoid doing bad things and to train your mind to be pure and clean. But we, Myanmar people put faith in the secular affairs. Since we were young, we heard our elders tell us that Tha-Gyar-Min has two parchments. Now, he may put the names of good people on the gold, and those of the bad on the other. Let's hope we have our names on the gold one.

## CORONAVIRUS

A deadly virus was born from a dirty place of the healthy world.

The evil virus is going around the world accelerating its speed.

The virus infects all people around us, and attacks our health.

Those who get infected get the common symptoms of fever and dry cough.

The wicked virus also infected the people showing no symptoms.

The virus confines us like prisoners in jails with "Stay home" rules.

It makes the poor hungry and unhappy suspending the jobs.

It makes the children unable to join schools, or play together.

Our scientists are racing for a vaccine to beat the virus.

One thing for sure is the virus will disappear soon from our world.

Kyaw King



# Are you living in the dream world or the real world?

EVERY young person has a dream to be successful in life like their heroes. The fact of the matter is that we live in the real world, dealing with real people, real problems and challenges every day. Thus, it matters so much to connect these two different worlds. There is nothing wrong with you to dream about something to become true; however, if you live in the dream world for a long time, you will surely get fear and insecurity, disappointment and depression, and most likely you might get confusion what to do with your life. So you've got to bring your dream into reality and start living in the real world wherein you may do something practically about your dream. You may have many dreams but you can only focus on a dream to make it happen. Why? Because you can't do many things in life and you get only twenty-four hours a day to accomplish your to-do list.

Many young people today live in the dream world without connecting their dream to the real world. They enjoy dreaming and living in it because there is no requirement of responsibility and no one can give critique to them. As a result of living longer in the dream world, they may lose courage, confidence and even their identity, and they may start blaming others for their problems and try to avoid responsibility. In other words, it may be called living in the comfort zone, a situation where one feels safe or at ease. Hence, there is no growth, no test and no failure in the comfort zone.

The story of successful people like Mark Zuckerberg, founder of Facebook, and Cristiano Ronaldo, current soccer phenomenon, reminds us to get out of our comfort zone and take risks and challenges outside which could make us stronger and our dreams come true.

Many a time have we heard the famous motto, 'No pain, No gain'. The story of these successful young men has proved it true. As a big fan of soccer, I have been watching the ups and downs of Cristiano Ronaldo. He is a great example for those who want to make their dreams come true. Since childhood, he had a dream to become the best soccer player in the world. At the start of his career, he had to leave his family at the early age, and moved to different well-known football clubs which could help him become the best soccer player. After playing soccer more than a decade, he has won five times of the FIFA World Player of the Year award and the Ballon d'Or award, presented by French news magazine. He is truly a man of 'dedication, hard work all the time, and belief'. This is what he said, "I'm living a dream I never want to wake up from." Today, he is a champion and a hero to millions of young people around the globe.

On the other hand, I had ever lived in the dream world for some time as a teenager and I enjoyed staying in my comfort zone. I had admired some successful people, but never had I wanted to go far from my safe zone and take risks like them. Slowly I began to feel

small, incapable of doing things, and disappointed in myself. This is why I had to wake up from my dream and force myself to figure out what I am really passionate about. It took me for a couple of months to discover my passion which I want to bring to life into the real world and live for it my entire life. Since then, my life becomes alive, exciting and meaningful. The way I see myself and the way I spend my free time, my energy and resources are totally changed. I learn to focus on one thing, make sure objectives, and plan for my personal development, and best of all, I learn to take action and responsibility for my life.

Therefore, I would like the young readers to ponder on this question: Are you living in the dream world or the real world? If you are still in the dream world, wake up and start doing something for your life. Dreams without goals are just dreams. Follow your heart. Take chances. Do not be afraid to fail. Nothing in life is worthwhile unless you take risks. When you have a clear dream with certain goals and you connect it to the real world, your life will become like what A.P. J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India said, "Dream is not that which you see while sleeping, it is something that does not let you sleep."



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Quite frankly, I had no chance to borrow or buy English books in the past. I can now take this opportunity to read a number of such books only when I join the university. However, I have studied only a few books written in the intermediate level of English by some writers. Those writers I have ever known were Edith Nesbit, John Scott, James Fenimore Cooper, Edgar Allan Poe, the Brothers Grimm, Charles Dickens, Anna Sewell, Jane Austin, Michael Duckworth, T.C. Jupp, and Ira Levin. Two out of the writers Edgar Allan Poe and Anna Sewell are my favourites for the former's short stories were detective and mysterious, but the latter's novel, descriptive and sorrowful.

Reading various kinds of books day after day, I believe that I still have more things to explore, and therefore, I will keep on self-study until my death. Also, a person who has studied a lot in advance will be prepared for

whatever he says or does, such as making a presentation, discussing and writing. In my experience, many listeners find the good orators having a good reading experience. Almost all readers are ready to enter an argument with others about any topic. I think that anyone needs to read, read and read if he wishes to be a writer. In addition to these ideas, he will be reading all sorts of literature he could lay his hands on.

If I sometimes arrive at a bookshop, it usually takes me about an hour and a half there looking for books with a rapid heartbeat. I love books so much that I do not even lend them to my best friends at all. Despite knowing how bad this habit of grudge is, I find it very difficult to get rid of this habit. I always see the cover of a book that I am going to buy at first. Unfortunately for me, if there are few flaws on its cover, perhaps I will not buy that book even though it is worth buying on account of my must. Nevertheless, I like to buy just rare books at any price. On

my part, it costs at least 10000 kyats to buy books once at a bookstore.

Of course, the cover of any book may not play the most important role in reading in order to obtain a target purpose. Next, a clever reader should not look for a happy ending against a writer's will when reading effectively and efficiently. Life is changing everywhere with the passage of time. It can be found in descriptive short stories of authorities on literature. One of my unforgettable mottoes is: 'Books for All'. This motto says that everybody is supposed to read books of all types. Sharing is also a kind of care. As man is a social animal, so we must take good care of people around us by sharing our experience, lending a wide range of books and holding a yearly ceremony of literary talks. Above all, reading is my life and I hope that I will have made a collection of my experience for everyone in the world as a budding orator and writer.



# Surbung Airport to develop tourism in Chin State

**T**HE Surbung Airport in Falam would play an important role in developing the domestic and international tourism by connecting the hilly Chin State with the other parts of the country. Chin State possess natural attractions for local and foreign travellers,

### Surbung Airport

The Surbung Airport in Chin State's Falam will solve the transport difficulty of the mountainous state, apart from helping improve social health, administrative, economic, trade and tourism sectors and emergency relief measure.

The Surbung Airport has been implemented on a 1289.5-acre land in Falam Township at a cost of K 32.36 billion and USD 1.19 million. As the project is almost completed, the airport will be put into service soon.

After completion of the Surbung Airport with 6,000-foot-long asphalt runway, it will be the major entry point by air to Chin State. Domestic and foreign visitors can tour the state in a shorter period of time. Local products and national ethnic races will have an easier and faster access to other places across the country.

The Surbung Airport is located in the middle of Chin State and from there travellers can instantly reach Falam, Haka, Thantlang, and Tiddim towns, Lonpee Mountain

and Reed Lake. It will also provide easy and quick access to other airports in states/regions throughout the countries.

### Reed Lake

The Chin State cabinet is promoting tourism based on Lake Reed, and have found that most of the tourists are from the neighbouring country of India, said the State Hluttaw representative from Haka town.

The lake is located in the north of Reh Khaw Da, a small town that lies near Myanmar's

northwestern border with India, making it a convenient trip for those coming from the South Asian country.

Moreover, the authorities are promoting community based tourism (CBT) in Lake Reed so that the cultural mores of ethnic Chins can be exposed to tourists from India and beyond.

Lake Reed is unique in that it is shaped like a heart. The natural lake is 2,966 feet high above the sea level. The famous heart-shaped lake is 832 acres wide and has a 3-mile circumference and is

over 50 feet deep.

What makes Lake Reed unique is that the lake is never short of water.

More travellers have come to Reed Lake, which is one of the famous tourist sites in Chin State, during the December holiday period.

The lake attracts domestic and foreign travellers mostly from bordering India.

### Silkworm Farm in Tongzang

Tonzang silkworm farm has



Silkworm Farm in Tongzang. PHOTO: KYAW ZEYA



Reed Lake. PHOTO: KYAW ZEYA



Surbung Airport in Falam. PHOTO: THURA ZAW



Silkworm Farm in Tongzang. PHOTO: KYAW ZEYA

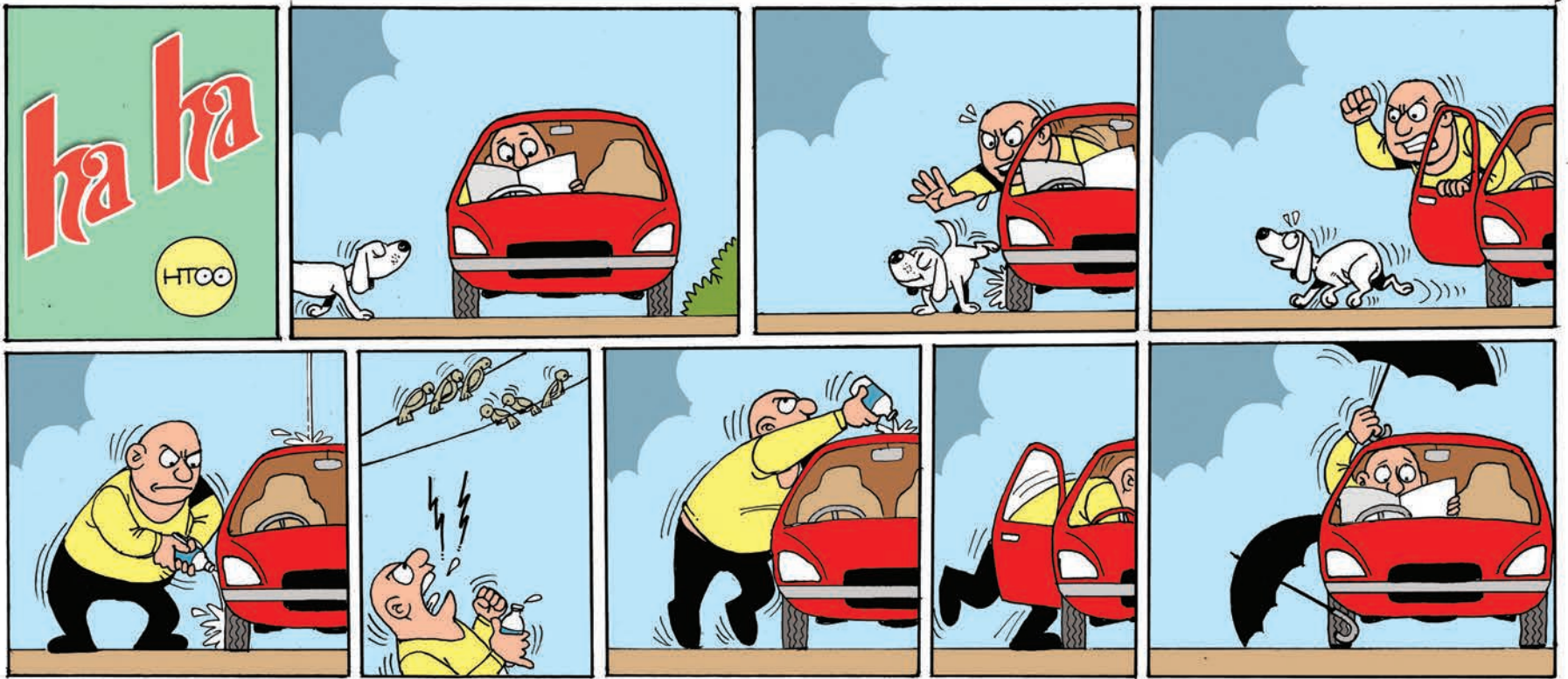
Morus or mulberry plants.

Planting mulberry plants has increased the income of local families and help replace the slash-and-burn farming system.

Demand for silk is growing in the international market and support from the respective departments is required to gain a firm share in the market.

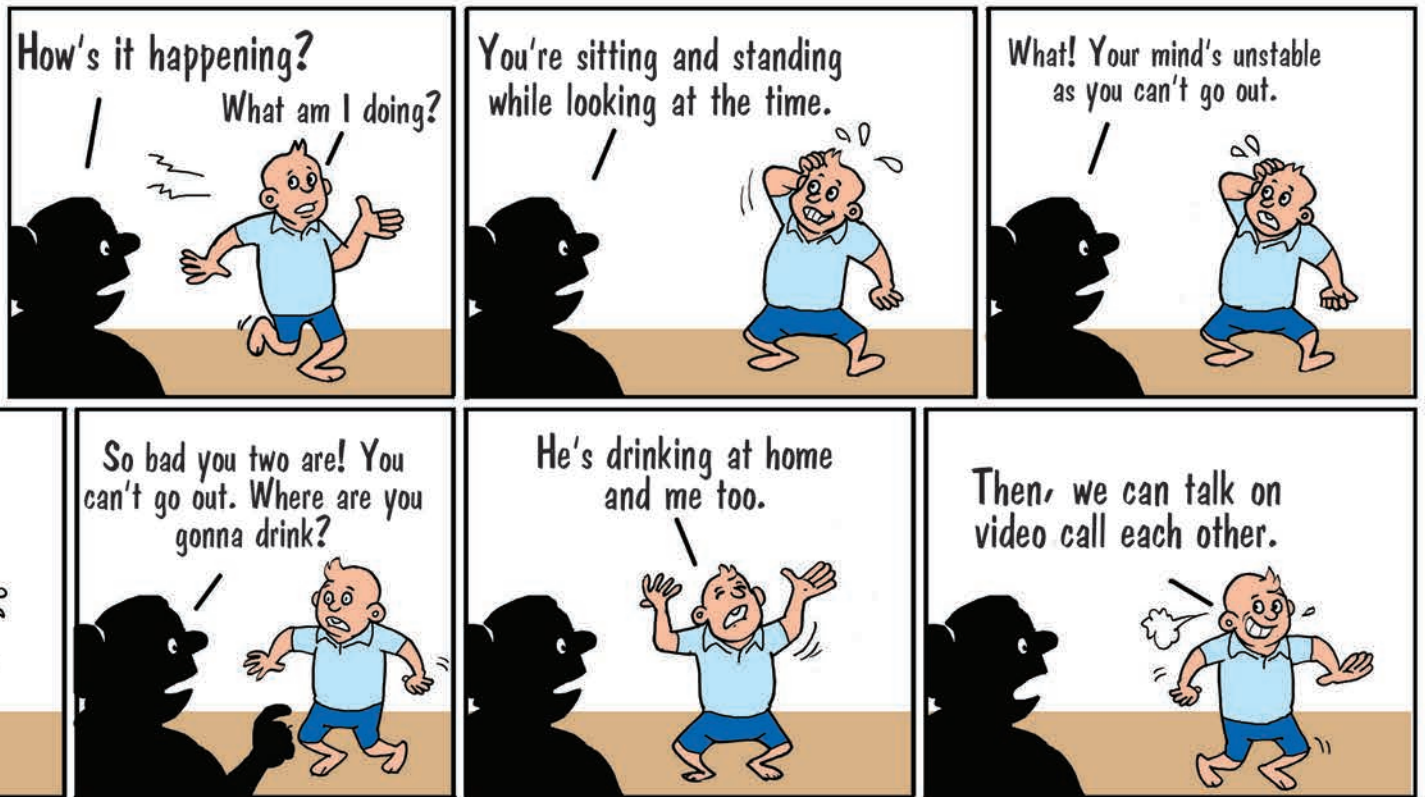
Myanmar has mulberry plantations in Kachin, Kayah, Chin and Shan states, and Mandalay Region, covering an area of 6,437.98 acres. In 2017-2018, there were 231 silkworm egg cards in silkworm plant research farms, while silkworm farms produced 11,868 pounds of cocoons.—GNLM

# SUNDAY COMICS



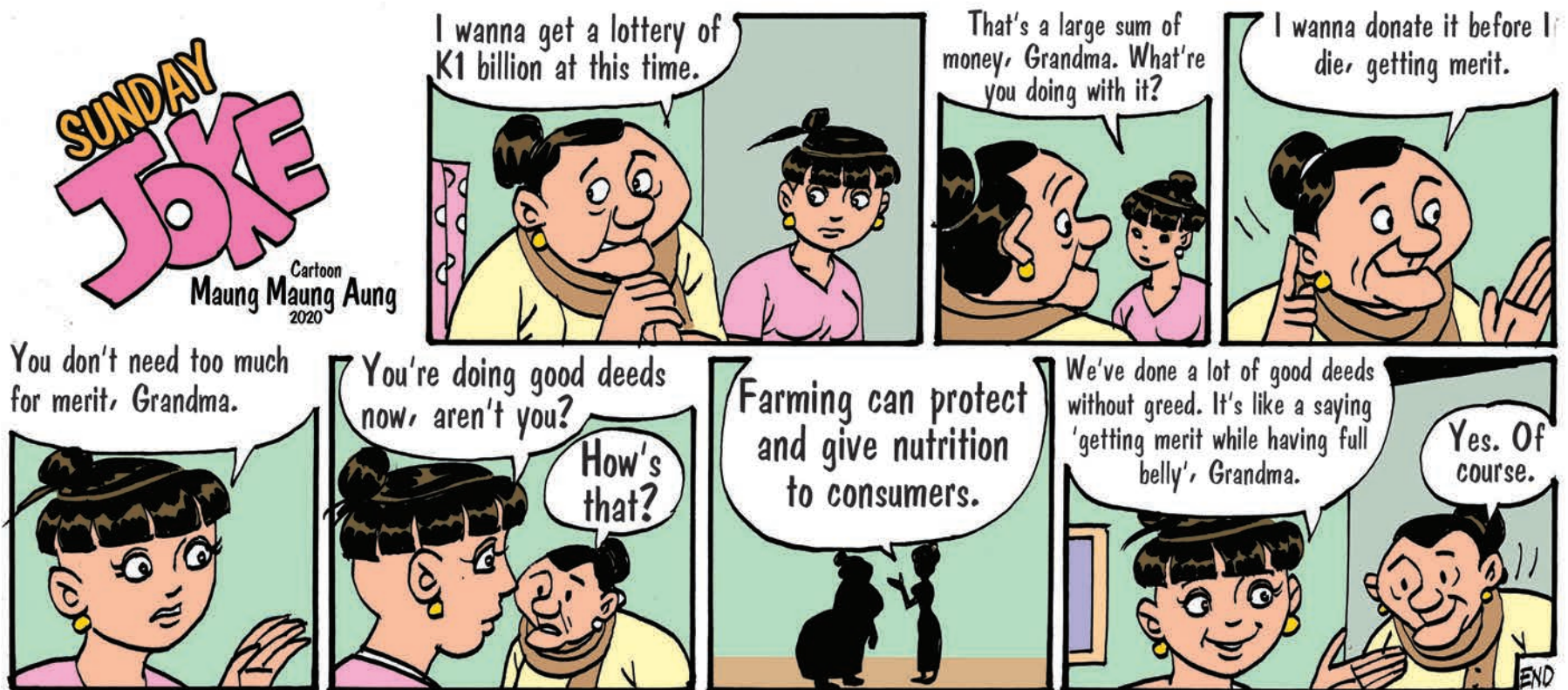
## PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon  
Maung Shwe Win



## SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon  
Maung Maung Aung  
2020



# BE YOUR OWN REASON TO SMILE!!!

## F.L.Y; First Love Yourself

"Self-care is never a selfish act--it is simply good stewardship of the only gift I have, the gift I was put on earth to offer to others." --- Parker Palmer.

## Self-esteem

We all know that self-esteem, often referred to as self-care or self-respect, can be an important part of success. It follows that many factors influence self-esteem; your inner thinking, age, a competitive atmosphere, any potential illness, disabilities or physical limitations and of course your job can also affect your self-esteem.

Healthy self-esteem can help you achieve your confidence because you are navigating life with a positive, assertive attitude and believe that you can accomplish your goals. On the other hand, if you have very low self-esteem,



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"I'm learning to love myself.  
It's the hardest thing I've  
ever done"



it means you're keeping yourself back from the belief that you're capable of great success. For instance, those who consistently receive overly critical or negative assessments from family, relatives and friends are more likely to experience low self-esteem. Low self-esteem is one of the reasons why suicide becomes very common. A research done by Can Tho University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Vietnam found out that 19.4% of high school students are suffering from a mental disorder characterized by an excessive need for admiration and lack of empathy towards other people. The research says that high educational stress, and physical and emotional abused by parents or other adults in the household were majorly correlated to low self-esteem. The conclusion was that self-esteem is associated with anxiety, depression, and academic stress which significantly affect students' quality of life and links to suicidal ideation.

Too little self-esteem can leave people feeling defeated or depressed. It can also lead people to make bad choices, fall into destructive relationships, or fail to live up to their full potential...I must admit that I did have a period of low self-esteem in my childhood. I prioritized other people's yearnings, I only focused on my weaknesses and I had trouble in saying "No". As a result, I frequently experienced negative feelings such as shame and anxiety. Nevertheless, when the time came to choose my profession-a career to which I wish to be bound in the long run, the thought came into my mind, "It's OK to say 'NO'"



# Beyond the fixed identities



**By Han Thu Ya**  
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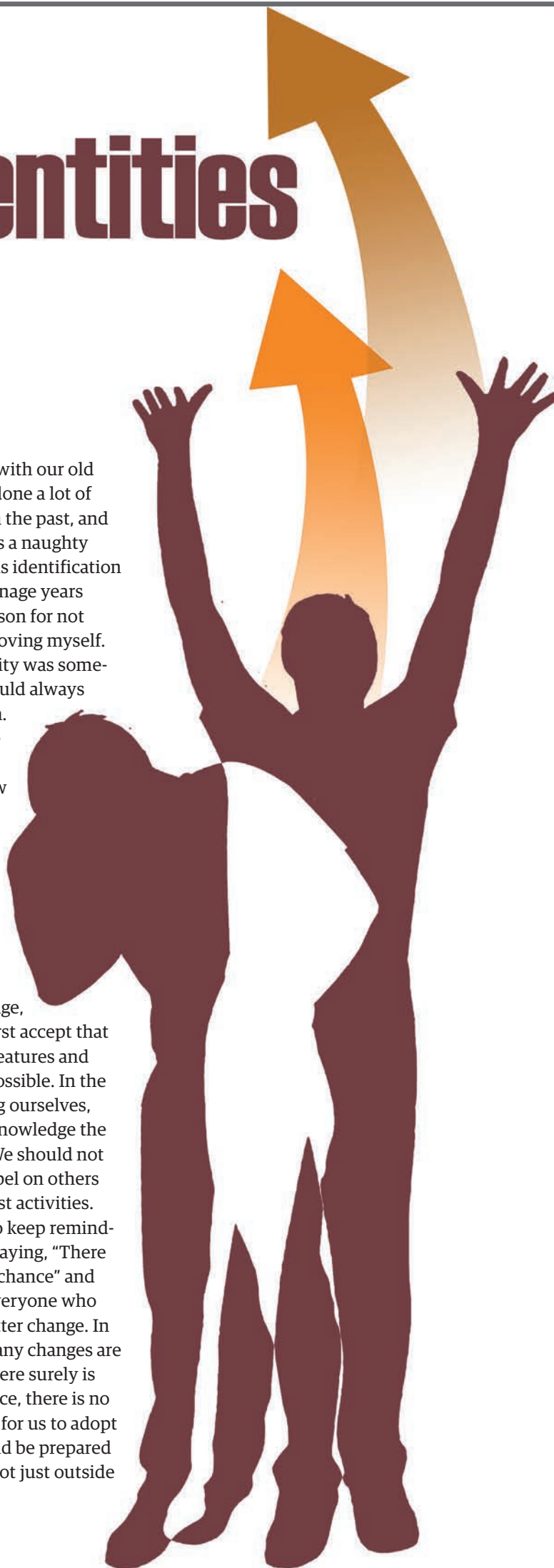
A month ago, we got to discuss a famous thought experiment called the ship of Theseus in class. In short, the king Theseus' ship was conserved as a memorial and after a few decades, the planks started to decay so they were replaced with new ones. The question here is if we replaced 50% of the ship's planks, could we still call it the original ship? What about 75%? The better one is if we put the old planks in a warehouse in the process of replacement and let's say the ship was 100% replaced at one point, and we built the new ship with the replaced planks from the warehouse. In this case, which ship do you think would be the original one?

This experiment is meant to question the identity and the essence in every object. Based on this, we could also think further about how we define our identities. According to modern science, our body cells are ever changing and in 7-10 years, most of the cells will be replaced by the new ones. Our thoughts are no exception as well. What a person thinks is right today might be wrong for the same person tomorrow. However, what I want to focus on in this essay is our personal traits. If we change our personality or set of behaviours for 75%, would people still see us as the same persons as we were? Or how about us? How would we see others if we see them change?

What even more important than above questions is how we see ourselves. Oftentimes, we

identify ourselves with our old self. For me, I had done a lot of terrible mistakes in the past, and identified myself as a naughty boy. I carried on this identification throughout my teenage years and used it as a reason for not changing and improving myself. I thought my identity was somehow fixed and I would always be the same person. Also, failures in the past discouraged me from trying new things and making necessary changes until I understand the past is meant to take lessons from, not to identify oneself with.

In conclusion, to make a real change, it is necessary to first accept that we are changing creatures and change is always possible. In the process of changing ourselves, we should also acknowledge the change in others. We should not put the life-long label on others judging by their past activities. Instead, we need to keep reminding ourselves this saying, "There is always a second chance" and be supportive to everyone who is in the path of better change. In this Covid time, many changes are taking place and there surely is more to come. Hence, there is no better opportunity for us to adopt growth-mindset and be prepared for every change, not just outside but also within us.



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when you want to" ,and then I started working on how I perceive myself. I tried to express my needs and started to see overall strengths and weaknesses I accepted them and tried to avoid dwelling on the past, negative experiences. Of course, it was really difficult for me in the beginning but later on, I became used to it. As a result, I feel more confident; life becomes simpler and more comfortable on the whole.

If you happen to face with a similar problem, what you probably need is to try and raise your self-esteem. Then, I would like to provide some useful tips;

- Take a self-appreciation break (2 or 3 minutes).
- Say "Stop" to your inner critic.
- Handle mistakes and failure in a more positive way.
- Replace the perfectionism.
- Stop falling into the comparison trap.
- Spend more time with supportive people.
- Try something new (in this way you can challenge yourself and go outside of your comfort zone then the way you see yourself will go up somehow).

As a youth, I want to give advice to value yourself, love yourself and cherish your life. In return, life will bring you great opportunities and happiness. I must say that I am really content with my current life because I believe that I have made the right choice when I decided to choose the university I wish to attend.

Remember, "Be your own reason to smile!!!"

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