Viet Nam, Myanmar mark 1st Anniversary of Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership

A CEREMONY to commemorate the 73rd Anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and 1st Anniversary of Viet Nam-Myanmar Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II (MICC-II) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

The ceremony was attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Union Ministers Dr. Pe Myint, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Dr Win Myat Aye, Nai Thet Lwin and their wives, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung and wife, members and spouses of Constitutional Tribunal and Union Election Commission, Deputy Ministers, Vietnamese Ambassador, Laotian Ambassador and wife, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General, Deputy Permanent Secretaries, Viet Nam-Myanmar Friendship Association Chairman, invited guests and officials.

The ceremony was opened by playing the national anthems of Myanmar and Viet Nam.

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Viet Nam, Myanmar mark 1st Anniversary of Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership

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Next, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko delivered an opening speech and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Ambassador to Myanmar Dr. Luan Thyu Duong delivered a welcome message.

Afterwards Myanmar-Viet Nam cultural dances performed in commemoration of the 1st Anniversary of Viet Nam-Myanmar Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership.

Following this, the Vietnamese Ambassador Dr. Luan Thyu Duong sang a Myanmar song and Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko presented her a flower bouquet.

Next the Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung and the Viet Nam Ambassador Dr. Luan Thyu Duong presented flower bouquets to the Myanmar-Viet Nam cultural dance troupes and posed for commemorative group photos together with the cultural dance troupes and other guests. — MNA

NSSA presents national level skill certificates to over 660 trainees

Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association holds International Literacy Day 2018 ceremony

Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association held its annual conference and 2018 International Literacy Day ceremony yesterday in Yangon University Arts Hall.

U Myo Thant, chairman of Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association explained about the association’s works. Sayagyi Dr Than Oo, patron of the association and author Saya Aung Than Oo (Pathein) delivered speeches, and vice chairman U Aung Kyi Nyunt read the letterug of honor.

Afterwards, Sayagyi Dr Than Oo, Pakokku U Ohn Pe Life-long Literary Award winner and patron of the association was presented with gift.

Officials then presented awards to the winners of essay competition under the title “The Light of Literature” and article competition under the title “Why everyone needs to read”. An award winner of the competition delivered words of thanks in return.

In the books donation session, books and cash were donated to the flood-stricken regions. The ceremony was then concluded with a speech of thanks by Dr Khin May Su, secretary of the association.

Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association was established in 2014 by student volunteers from universities, colleges and schools who participated in the Myanmar literacy movement (3Rs) that was started in 1964.

Since its establishment in 2014 to August 2018, Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association conducted subject wise trainings to raise education level and increase passing rates in more than 60 wards and villages in 42 townships of 10 states and regions. The association members also provide free healthcare, donate medicines and medical equipment to clinics, books and stationary to libraries and schools and clothes to the poor.

They also conduct literary talk and talks on general knowledge, ethnic and drug prevention as well as provide vocational trainings for the poor. — MNA

Skilled workers and technicians conduct training at the Construction Ministry’s Central Training School (Thuwunna), Yangon. PHOTO: MNA
Ministry of Education observes International Literacy Day

UNION MINISTER for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi attended and addressed a ceremony commemorating 2018 International Literacy Day held in Ministry of Education yesterday morning.

The ceremony was opened with a song title “our strength” sung by children from Pymmana Basic Education High School. Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi addressed the event saying Myanmar has conducted people-based 3R movement and for successfully conducting this, was awarded UNESCO’s Mohammad Reza Pahlavni Prize for Literacy in 1971.

As per Sustainable Development Goal-4 of ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, efforts were made toward implementing the aim of all who came of age (boys and girls) by 2030 to learn basic reading, writing and arithmetic, he said.

The theme of UNESCO 2018 International Literacy Day is “Literacy and Skills Development” and it is consistent with connecting Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to informal education indicated in the National Education Strategic Plan (NESP) 2016-2017. When it is actually implemented, it is to be coordinated and connected among relevant departments.

In the world, there are more than 260 million children who had never attended school and of the 617 million children six out of ten does not have the 3R skills. 750 million youths and people who have come of age did not have the 3R skills and out of these two-thirds are women. For illiterate persons the rapid development of technology is becoming a huge new challenge. Having only 3R skills are not enough to overcoming the challenges of surviving in a society, obtain work opportunity, create and achieve a good socio-economic situation.

“It is necessary to know and use the information, communication and new technologies to have innovative capability,” said the Union Minister.

According to 2014 census, 10.5 percent of the population in Myanmar, about 5 million, had never attended or dropped out of school for various reasons and are illiterate. Due to this, Ministry of Education established Department of Alternative Education for out-of-school and lifelong education. Basic literacy course to increasing reading rate course, income increasing course, TVET course and lifelong education courses in out-of-school primary education program for age group 10-14 years and out-of-school secondary education program for age group 15 years and above were planned to be conducted and expanded in cooperation with state/region governments. Through this, 42,176 were given 3R skills. 3R skills are essential and must have in order to attend TVET courses and acquire technical and vocational skills. Quality education only can create lifelong education opportunities to acquire skills appropriate to the changing and developing technologies. The theme of this year International Literacy Day “Literacy and Skills Development” is to re-designate the literacy policy and for the government and private sector to cooperate toward establishing an education that is practical and innovative said the Union Minister.

Following his speech, a video clip on 2018 International Literacy Day was shown and Myanmar National Commission for UNESCO secretary general read the 2018 International Literacy Day message of UNESCO Director General.

The ceremony came to a close with a song titled “help toward literacy” by the school children.

Afterwards, the Union Minister and guests visited the displays in the International Literacy Day. — MNA
One stop business registration system planned

By Nyein Nyein

DICA (Directorate of Investment and Company Administration) is planning to implement international level one stop business registration system, according to U Than Aung Kyaw, deputy director general of DICA.

“Currently, we are discussing to implement a business registration (system) that can be conducted at a single place. For example, we are going with online system. We are considering of how to coordinate this,” he added.

Although companies are registering daily on Myanmar Companies Online (MyCo) electronic registry system, the companies still need to apply license at other departments (in a different way). For example, Ministry of Commerce for work license and Yangon City Development Committee for sign boards license and then paying of related fees.

“Our directorate (DICA) is providing registration service (for company registration). But the company still needs to apply for business and other licenses in Ministry of Commerce where they have to pay license fees. In municipal (development committee), the company have to pay signboard tax. In these matters, I want the (applying) company to understand that they need to apply to registrars of related department to carry out those processes. It does not mean that the companies can start doing business after registering only in DICA,” said U Myo Min, director of DICA.

DICA plan to implement an international level one stop registration system in Myanmar to save time, said U Than Aung Kyaw, deputy director general of DICA.

“One stop services are being provided in many countries. We are considering implementation of this sort of service in Myanmar. Anyone can apply for everything in one place. Applying doesn’t mean to imply that permission is granted at once. For example, instead of applying for registration and permits in three different places – DICA, Ministry of Commerce and Yangon City Development Committee – all can be done in one place saving the applicant time and money; they can then back at an appointed day and get all three. We are planning for this,” said U Than Aung Kyaw.

At the moment, over a hundred new companies are registered daily through MyCo electronic registry system.

A total of 11,428 companies that include both new and old companies had registered or re-registered through MyCo system between 1 August and 7 September, according to DICA.

Moreover there are over 60,000 registered companies according to DICA and all these companies are required to re-register electronically online through MyCo system not later than 31 January 2019. If any company fail to re-register within time frame, their registrations will be cancelled.

Over 400,000 visitors enter Myanmar through Tachilek checkpoint during the past five months

A TOTAL of 401,285 visitors entered Myanmar through Tachilek checkpoint from 1 April to 6 September including day-trippers, according to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Tachilek branch).

Between 31 August and 6 September this year, 17,737 holiday-makers visited Myanmar through Tachilek border point, including 17,558 day-trippers, 62 tourists who joined Monghay-Kengtung trip and 117 visa holders visiting other destinations in the country.

Those travelers visited the town’s most popular destinations, including Talaw market, Bayintnaung statue, Mahamuni monastery, Myoma market in Wunnaung Ward, Koeyosin spirit house, the replica of Shwedagon Pagoda, township religious building near mile post No. 113/0 on the highway near Bukha Village in Ngakkha Village-tract, where a 12-wheel truck carrying 25 buffaloes being driven by Sai Louk Hsiping together with Hahsam were shot by unknown armed men hidden inside a corn plantation that is located 20 feet from the left side of the road.

During the shooting, the two men in the vehicle died on the spot due to serious wounds. Moreover, three buffaloes on-board were also killed in the incident.

According to investigations, Driver Sai Louk Hsing is a resident of Area-1 in Lashiro Township and Hahsam resides in Area-7 in the same town. The case is under investigation.—Thein Tun Aung (Kyaukme District IPRD)

Two men killed in shooting in Kyaukme Township

TWO men have been killed during a shooting happened on Saturday early morning on Mandalay-Muse Union Highway in Kyaukme Township, northern Shan State.

The incident occurred at around 7.30 a.m. on 8 September near mile post No. 113/0 on the highway near Bukha Village in Ngakkha Village-tract, where a 12-wheel truck carrying 25 buffaloes being driven by Sai Louk Hsiping together with Hahsam were shot by unknown armed men hidden inside a corn plantation that is located 20 feet from the left side of the road.

During the shooting, the two men in the vehicle died on the spot due to serious wounds. Moreover, three buffaloes on-board were also killed in the incident.

According to investigations, Driver Sai Louk Hsing is a resident of Area-1 in Lashiro Township and Hahsam resides in Area-7 in the same town. The case is under investigation.—Thein Tun Aung (Kyaukme District IPRD)
The export of agricultural products has been declining within the past five months this year, according to the latest report of the commerce ministry.

The agro export of Myanmar reached US$1.1 billion, decreasing by US$186 million in comparison with that of the same period in the last year, when Myanmar fetched $1.295 billion.

The country saw no exports of agro products from the public sector between 1 April and 31 August this year. During the period, only private companies could export the same to international countries.

As an agriculture commodity-producing country, Myanmar internationally sells a wide variety of agro products, covering rice, beans and pulses, onion, garlic, ginger and other kitchen crops, melons, mangoes, avocados, cucumbers and other marketable fruits, rubber and other raw materials. During the five-month period, the country also exported $142 million worth of animal products, $241 million worth of marine products, $79 million worth of forest products and $808 million worth of minerals, $3.8 billion worth of manufactured goods and $875 million worth of miscellaneous products.

Apart from agro products and forest-based products, this year saw an increase in export of the rest groups of products by nearly $1.4 billion. The government is making sustained efforts to boost the country’s agro exports, finding the best solutions for farming-related problems, including high costs of input and production.—Shwe Khine

Import shows increase of $513 million in past five months

Import of capital goods amounted to $8 billion from 1 April to 31 August in the six-month interim period prior to next fiscal year 2018-2019, which is an increase of $513 million compared to that in similar period of last FY 2017-2018, according to data of the Ministry of Commerce.

In the similar period during last FY, $7.6 billion worth of import was seen. Import values were registered at $2.16 billion for consumer goods, $3.16 billion for intermediate goods and $2.78 million for capital goods respectively.

Consumer products such as pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and palm oil are imported. The private sector showed an income increase of $347 million against last FY, whereas the public sector saw a decrease of $56 million. Intermediate goods make up most of the imports, with petroleum products and plastic raw materials being the main import items. Both private and public sectors increased import against last FY. The import value of raw materials is up by $195 million against last FY.

Additionally, capital goods such as auto parts, vehicles, machines, steel and airplane parts are also flowing into the market, showing an increase of $28 million against last FY. In capital goods import, private sector shows increase of $134 million while public sector is registered at decrease of $106 million.—Ko Htet

Consumer goods import rises by $195 million

Myanmar’s import of consumer goods exceeded US$2 billion in the past five months this year, increasing by $290 million from this time in the last year, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

From 1 April through 31 August this year, the private importers bought consumer goods valued at $2.151 billion, increasing by $347 million compared with the same period in the last year. However, the public sector’s imports of the same during the period was $17 billion, which showed a decrease by $56.7 million against the last year.

At this time last fiscal year, the country’s imports of consumer products were almost $1.9 billion, consisting of $74 million by public sector and $1.8 billion by the private sector. In the past five months of this FY, the country also imported capital goods worth $2.8 billion and semi-finished goods worth $3.2 billion.

Myanmar predominately imports luxury products, personal goods, construction materials, chemicals, clothing and accessories, agricultural machinery, raw materials, household goods, food items and electronic devices from neighbouring countries.

The imports of consumer goods were registered at $1.245 billion in the 2011-12 FY, $1.4 billion in the 2012-13 FY, $2.3 billion in the 2013-14 FY, $2.9 billion in the 2014-15 FY, $3.5 billion in the 2015-16 FY, over $4 billion in the 2016-17 FY and $4.403 billion in the 2017-2018 FY.—Swe Nyein
U PIKE HTWAY, Secretary of Central Executive Committee of Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) and the party also promotes democratic rights and civil rights with seriousness and in a systematic manner. We are the ones who preserve human rights, maintain equality, uphold justice, work for the rule of law and uphold national prestige and integrity. We will compete in the 2018 by-election with the aim of serving more the interests of the nation and its people, and we, with clean hearts, are ready to accept the decisions made by voters.

Esteemed voters,

National interest is at the top of the agenda of our Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) and the party also promotes democratic rights and civil rights with seriousness and in a systematic manner. We are the ones who preserve human rights, maintain equality, uphold justice, work for the rule of law and uphold national prestige and integrity. We will compete in the 2018 by-election with the aim of serving more the interests of the nation and its people, and we, with clean hearts, are ready to accept the decisions made by voters.

Esteemed voters,

Base on experience gained in the past, we are serving the people's interest by implementing nation building tasks through right policies that are relevant with the objective conditions. We uphold perpetuation of the nation, consolidation of sovereignty and national unity as our national duty. We are ready to fulfill the wishes of our people to ensure that our nation is standing tall as a peaceful, prosperous State fully enjoying democracy. All the people have witnessed that when we were in office, we have put all our utmost energies to achieve political, economic and social objectives and our focus was on peace, the rule of law, perpetuation of sovereignty and people enjoying a democracy.

Esteemed voters,

Now is the time to promote and consolidate the transition to democracy, make more progresses in building peace and to double the efforts to boost the socio-economic life of people without losing sight on it. These who could serve their interests, and who could uphold national interest as people representatives. In doing so, it is important to keep in mind that placing the right man at the right place and choosing the people with virtues and great dignity for fulfilling the desire of the people and people can take pride in choosing such persons. It is also important for the voters to make sure that their chosen representatives are of the persons with good characters who can serve the interests of their constituencies.

Therefore, it is needed to make assessment the qualifications of the candidates and the policy of the party. It is needed to compare the activities at present and in the past for better future of the nation. All have witnessed who from which organization have really served the interests of own regions. Comparing the changes and transitions made by one organization and the others, and without sticking to own desire, anger, anxiety and ignorance, voters are to chose the right men who can serve at the best for interests of our citizens. They are demanding to revoke the unfair economic sanctions for the sake of people's economic life. They are trying to root out the terrorist acts for the sake of people's security. At the same time, our party points out the facts which are aiming to serve at the best for interests of the people by issuing statements on the stance of the party.

Now, people come to understand our performances and in this way, new members with absolute trust in the party have been joining the party in the respective regions and the states. We do believe we can convey this trust into the coming elections. We are ready to cooperate with any political parties, organizations or individuals for the sake of the interests of the nation and its citizens. We are keeping in our minds that there is no enemy but friends in serving the interests of the nation. In a systematic way, we are carrying out our daily routines with the competitive spirits in labouring, patriotism, and loyalty to the people.

Esteemed voters,

We will make sure that all the people to enjoy the rights of race, religion and cultural traditions in accord with the provisions enshrined in the Constitution.

• We will continue peace making process which is born when we were at the office
• We will put our energies into building a union with a federal system
• We will take responsibilities to make sure that not to let for any square inch of our territory be moved for any reasons
• We will promote socio-economic life of people with their economic, health and education status to be better than the current situation

• We will review the current tax policies
• We will uplift Myanmar's national integrity which all the national people born of the Union possess
• We will ensure all the citizens to enjoy basic rights of the citizens enshrined in the Constitution
• We will put all our efforts into ensuring security of the people, the rule of law and regional stability.

Thank you.

Translated by Wallace
Fingerlings distributed to flood-hit farmers

AUTHORITIES distributed fingerlings to fish farmers who faced floods in Ngupalot Ward, Dimawhso Township, Kayah State, yesterday.

The Kayah State Fishery Department of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation recently conducted the aid in the presence of State Minister for Agricultural, Livestock and Irrigation U Boss Ko, State Hluttaw MP U Cer- al Thein Aung, State Fishery Department head Dr. Nyunt Wai and staff, Township Administrators U Nyan Haing, departmental officials and local fish breeders. — Yiral (Dimawhso)

Vocational training benefits people in Chaungzon Township

MON State authorities has conducted vocational trainings for residents on producing natural bathroom products as part of efforts to help them earn daily income under the government’s import substitution strategy.

The trainees will receive skills for producing cosmetics on a manageable scale.

As part of its plan to boost production of consumer goods, Mon State Small-Scale Industries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation recently conducted the consumer goods production training in Chaungzon Township and 24 residents completed the course.

During the training course, the two trainers from the department shared production techniques of cosmetics, including kitchen soaps, laundry soaps, cleaning soaps, beauty soaps and shampoos based on natural fruits and leaves.

The Mon State government has funded the vocational trainings in the state.

“The training programme is aimed at improving socio-economy of local people by assisting their production business operating on a manageable scale and it would boost their income,” said Daw Hnin Hnin Yu, assistant director of the Small-Scale Industries Department. — Maung Shwe Win (Pyay)

Stimulant tablets, weapons, bullets seized in Nay Pyi Taw

POLICE discovered stimulant tablets, weapons, cartridges and bullets in a car parked in front of the Phyo Thiri teashop, Yone Thaw Village, Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw on 7 September.

Acting on a tip off, authorities inspected the Corolla car and found seven WY brand stimulant tablets, two 0.22 calibre cartridges, three empty cartridge cases, three bullets, four short knives, one long knife, appliances to use stimulant drugs, driver license under the name of Thet Naing and a gold color label with the letter KNU/KNLA PC.

Police had opened a file under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Police tried to arrest Thet Naing who was found with an air gun and a long sword when he took a motorcycle taxi driven by Chit Thu @ Aung San Oo at Phyo Thiri teashop.

While the taxi driver was talking on the phone, the suspect drove the motorcycle away. He dumped the air gun in a bush beside the V-4 Street and the motorcycle near Thawuti Satyonesu Ward on the old Yangon-Mandalay road. The suspect then hired a taxi and left for Mandalay, said the police.

Myanmar Police Force distributed information about Thet Naing and continued the investigation and apprehended Thet Naing near the entrance of Arampa Pagoda, Nyaung U Town with 21 stimulant tablets, Ks 335,000 and a 5 Singapore Dollar note.

Police Force had filed charges against the suspect under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA

Over one ton of illegal timber seized in Pinlebu Township

POLICE seized over one ton of hardwood timber in Pinlebu Township, Katha District, Sagaing Region, on 8 September, according to a police report.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team comprising those from the township forest department, village administrative body and members of the police force inspected the suspected forest area one mile from the north of Kwan-taung Village in Taikmong Village-tract.

During the search, the police found 87 pieces of various sizes of Tanmalan hardwood timbers weighing 1.2 tons.

However, no man was found near the area.

The confiscated timbers are temporarily being kept in Kwantaung Village, with the authorities planning to move those timbers to the compound of the township forest department very soon.

Ongoing investigation has been made by the local police in an attempt to arrest those in connection with the case. — Myo Lwin (Pinlebu)
Technical assistance from WHO needed to intensify efforts to control dengue, eliminate malaria

THE WHO countries in South-East Asia resolved to accelerate efforts to control dengue which threatens nearly 1.3 billion people with frequent and large scale outbreaks, and control malaria, that continues to be endemic in the Region.

The 11-Member countries of the Region which accounts for one-fourth of the global population, 58% of the global burden of Plasmodium vivax malaria, and is at increasing risk of dengue and other vector borne diseases in view of the increasing urbanization and climate change, adopted a resolution to prioritize dengue control and malaria elimination.

To intensify efforts to control dengue and to eliminate malaria, Myanmar, as a member of the WHO, would like to urge the world body to carry out internal review and to upgrade the works of the technical assessment teams and to provide more technical assistance to its members.

Myanmar has included the processes for providing the people with access to essential medical products in the country’s national health strategy.

More than 70 per cent of medicines required by the hospitals are provided free of charge by the Union Government.

Besides, efforts are underway to establish the Supply Change Management System as part of efforts for minimizing wastages for medicines in storage and distribution processes.

Myanmar has hoped that it would buy quality medicines from its neighboring countries at a reasonable price with the technical assistance of the World Health Organization.

We believe that private sector participation will accelerate our efforts to control dengue and eliminate malaria. Myanmar showed a significant improvement in malaria control and elimination programme in the past decade. Outbreak of malaria has been remarkably declining and Myanmar is expected to end malaria outbreak within five or ten years.

In 2017, malaria outbreak in Myanmar dropped by 92 per cent compared to that in 2012, and the malaria mortality rate declined by 92 per cent.

Of the over 31,000 patients with dengue fever, 192 died, including 27 adolescents and adults, last year. During this year, a total of 11,750 cases of dengue fever were recorded from 1 January to 4 April across the country, killing 59 people, according to a survey by the Public Health Department, under the Ministry of Health and Sports.

Reviewing the progress, challenges, capacities and opportunities for strengthening health workforce at the recent meeting of WHO South-East Asia, the countries including Myanmar agreed to continue to focus on frontline workers, improve rural retention and transformative education, and increase coordination between health and other ministries.

We welcome Regional Director WHO South-East Asia Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh’s proposal to intensify multi-sectoral approach at the national as well as the grassroots level to reach the most vulnerable and marginalized communities, strengthen surveillance, operationalize cross-border collaboration and most importantly promote vector control.

At the same time, we would like to urge the WHO to carry out reforms decisively in some areas as part of efforts for effectively helping the management and works of the body.

Myanmar Traditional the month of

Myanmar's geography and history are the two main factors in the shaping of its culture both tangible and intangible. A land of medium size favoured by bountiful nature, Myanmar is blessed with a good strategic location and natural resources above ground, underground and under water. With natural accesses to land, sea and sparse population, Myanmar, like other South East Asia countries has always been an attractive "new" green pasture for the population overflows of the two immediate neighbours _ India and China, since time immemorial.

While receiving all the benefits of contact and relations with two giant neighbours, Myanmar has to meet with the challenges of them. Hence Myanmar's defense is always dual _ terrestrial and aquatic or land and water. Thanks to the terrestrial land, aquatic life of all Myanmar ethnic races, Myanmar has no difficulty in the building of its defense system.

The rulers of Myanmar in the days of Monarchy had two forces _ land forces (Kyi Tat Monarchy ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး and water forces (Yey Tat or ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး) whether for ceremonial royal program or march to battle to fight, land and water forces always accompanied. Hence there is always an expression ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး "His Majesty marches with water and land forces."

So for the upkeep of the above two forces water and land constant recruitment maintenance and training are necessary. The Regatta festival with boat races traditionally held in the month of Tawthalin (September) is the proof of Myanmar water forces for defense or flotillas of war ships and boats of different sizes well recruited, trained and maintained by the State.

In Myanmar language Regatta Festival is called "Yey Kin Taw" ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး literally translated “Display of Royal Navy”. It is not Yey Kin Taw ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး Khin ကျင်း means ‘to display’. Kin ကျင်း means 'to petroil' Myanmar Palace City ဗျီ အောင် is defended not only by city brick walls on four sides but also by moats surrounded around it. Bridges over the moat lead to Palace city gates ဗျီ အောင် on each side, totaling 12 gates.

In the moat, day and night water patrol on boat keeps watch so that any one crossing the moat illegally is caught. Special music is being played to keep the patrols alert and awake.

Yey Kin Taw is the display of Royal Regatta on the River or any large aquatic bodies in land or on the sea coast. Their Majesties in State made public appearance and displayed the strength and grandeur of Royal Flotillas Yey Ar ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး Forces or Navy.

A replica of Sihasana hall was built on 2 large barge on two big boats, with 7 tier gold gilt roof on top. The barge is called Pyi Kyi Mon Phaung Taw. On this Barge their Majesties were seated on the throne attended by all ministers, civil and military dignitaries. Performers gave all kinds of entertainments. Court poets and writers presented to the King’s "Un" and "Luta" ပေရံု ပေရံု Verse extolling the occasion. Two big and long boats on either side of the Royal Barge pulled the Barge, majestically in tune with the Yey Kin Taw music and song. On either side of the Barge rowers in uniform row their ears, displaying 37 different styles of rowing in tune with 37 different musical compositions.

The rowers wore uniformly nether garment ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး silvery coat, head gear, sparkling ornaments on the body, looking smart, handsome but manly performed their duties. They were well trained for their duty.

It was a fantastic royal pageant on water. Boats, rafts, barges and ships preceding, accompanying and following were specially made and decorated accordingly to the old records of literature and illustrations.

For such a hand display, good weather and large space are absolutely necessary. Therefore the month Tawthalin (September) is chosen for this Regatta Festival. ဗျီ အောင် ကျင်သုးနိုင်ငံး. In the month Tawthalin, water surface in the river is like a mat spread out. Because the monsoon has receded leaving all aquatic bodies brimful fitting for water activities. Myanmar culture is deeply impacted by Hindu-Brahman-
Myanmar Traditional Aquatic Festival in the month of Tawthalin

Ma Day Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

British who annexed it to their British Indian Empire when they won victory in the first Anglo-Myanmar War 1824-5. The British were alarmed at the size of land and water forces King Thayawdawt brought with, more so, when the king built a new town named “Aung Myey Yan Hnin and a new palace in it and fortresses around the Shwedagon Pagoda Hill. “Lokabyuha” or Inyone Sadan by the minister Thiri Uzana of Inwa Period faithfully recorded the regatta and boat races of his time proving that Myanmar Kings were always a wake for the upkeep of water and land forces for national defense. The chronicle [history] of Late Kongbaung Period (Konbaung set Maha Yazawun taw Kyi) has the detailed description of regatta Boat race and recruitment of new blood for Myanmar war flotillas (Navy).

Not necessarily rivers, large in land aquatic bodies in Myanmar such as Inlay Lake, Indaw Gyi Lake, Taung Tha Man, Melktila Lake etc… were and still are the venues of regatta and boat races. Bird envys who arrived at the Capital Amarapura in 18th and early 19th centuries noted down in their reports or books their eye witness account of regatta, boat races and naval exercises in the Lake Taung Tha Man with drawings.

In the pre-war days one of the song composers of national fame Myo Ma Nynie wrote a hit song on regatta Festival “Yey Khin Taw” song by Pyi Ba Shin and recorded by A1 Film Co. The composer not only based his song on tradition, history and culture of Myanmar but also gives chorus of patriotism as:

“ဗိုလ်မုံးမ်ား ဖုံးများ အောင် နောက်ခံ ရေခေါ် လာတောင် ။
ယုံကြည်ရောက်လာတောင် ။

The glory of His Majesty Shines like thousand Suns. His might and greatness brighten far and wide Happily he rules and reigns He is like Sakka Deva of Travatimsa. Ye manly muscular rowsers! Ye manly muscular rowsers!

Row on Row on Row on together!!!

Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 4:00 pm Saturday 8th September, 2018)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is weak to moderate over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 9th September, 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Naypyitaw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kayah State, scattered in Bago, Yangon and Ayeawady Regions, Northern and Southern Shan State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Eastern Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3 - 7) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9th September, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9th September, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Flood Bulletin (Issued at 11:00 hrs M.S.T on 8-9-2018)

Flood conditions of Sittoung River

According to the (13:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Sittoung River has exceeded by about (1) foot at Taungoo above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level during the next (2) days.

According to the (13:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Sittoung River has exceeded by about (3½) feet at Madauk above its danger level. It may fall about (½) foot from the present water level during the next (1) day and may remain above its danger level.
Iraq vows crackdown after protesters torch Iran consulate

BASRA (Iraq) — Iraqi protesters on Friday torched the Iranian consulate in the southern city of Basra in fresh demonstrations over poor public services after parliament called for an emergency session on the unrest.

Unidentified attackers also fired shells into Baghdad’s fortified Green Zone in a rare attack on an area that houses parliament, government offices and the US embassy. There were no casualties.

Basra has seen a surge in protests since Tuesday, with demonstrators torching government buildings as well as political party and militia offices, as anger boils over after the hospitalisation of 30,000 people who had drunk polluted water.

At least nine demonstrators have been killed since then in clashes with security forces, Mehdi al-Tamimi, head of Basra’s human rights council, has said.

In a bid to quell the violence, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said late Friday that he had instructed security forces to “act decisively against the acts of vandalism that accompanied the demonstrations”.

Iraq’s Joint Operations Command, which includes the army and police, said in a statement there would be a “severe” response with “exceptional security measures”, including banning protests and group travel.

“Sick and abandoned”

The wave of protests first broke out in July in oil-rich Basra province before spreading to other parts of the country, with demonstrators also denouncing corruption among Iraqi officials and demanding jobs.

“We’re thirsty, we’re hungry, we are sick and abandoned,” protestor Ali Hussein told AFP on Friday after another night of violence.

“Demonstrating is a sacred duty and all honest people ought to join.”

Thousands of demonstrators rallied outside the Iranian consulate on Friday while hundreds stormed the building and set it on fire, an AFP photographer said. A spokesman for the consulate said that all diplomats and employees were evacuated from the building before the protesters attacked, and that none of them were hurt.

Iraq’s foreign ministry called the attack against the consulate “an unacceptable act undermining the interests of Iraq and its international relations”.

Iran’s foreign ministry spokesman Bahram Ghassemi denounced the incident as a “savage attack”, according to Iranian news agency Fars.

Iran is a key power broker in Iraq and many of the militias and political parties whose offices were torched Thursday are known to be close to the Islamic republic.

Parliament said that lawmakers and ministers, including Abadi, will meet on Saturday to discuss the water contamination crisis, the latest breakdown in public services to infuriate residents. The meeting was demanded by populist Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr, whose political bloc won the largest number of seats in May elections although a new government has yet to be formed. — AFP

Jewish restaurant attacked amid German protests

BERLIN (Germany) — Masked assailants hurled rocks and bottles at a Jewish restaurant, injuring the owner, in an apparently anti-semitic attack on the sidelines of a wave of neo-Nazi protest in an east German city, authorities and reports said on Saturday.

A spokesman for the regional interior ministry said “a politically-motivated act with an anti-semitic background was the most plausible” explanation for the attack in Chemnitz, late last month.

The city has been convulsed by violent far-right, anti-immigration demonstrations since the killing of a German man, allegedly by asylum-seekers, on the last weekend of August.

Police in Saxony confirmed to the newspaper Die Welt that they had received a complaint of the attack on the “Schalom” restaurant on the sidelines of the demonstrations.

A mob of around a dozen people, wearing black with their faces covered hurled rocks, bottles and a metal pipe at the restaurant on 27 August, according to reports in Die Welt and the Freie Presse newspaper.

Owner Uwe Dziuballa suffered an injury to the shoulder during the attack, the reports said.

The restaurant, which was opened in 2000, has been attacked several times before.

The Chemnitz knife attack is the latest in a series of violent crimes by refugees that have garnered massive media attention and stoked anger at German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s decision to allow in more than one million migrants and refugees since 2015.

Far-right groups and thousands of local citizens have taken to the streets since the stabbing, with some seen flashing the illegal Nazi salute. — AFP

Yemen govt delegation to leave Geneva as talks falter

GENEVA (Switzerland) — Yemeni government representatives who had flown to Geneva to take part in long-awaited UN-sponsored peace talks will return home on Saturday after rebels failed to show up, a delegate said.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the government representative said the delegation had decided to return home after the talks were put on hold for three days.

The Huthi rebel delegation had declined to attend until the United Nations met several demands including providing guarantees it would be able to return to the Yemeni capital Sanaa afterwards. — AFP

Rouhani evokes Iran-Iraq war in call to defy US pressure

TEHRAN (Iran) — Iran’s President Hassan Rouhani evoked memories of the devastating Iran-Iraq war on Saturday to call for unity in the face of economic hardships and US pressure.

“Today, the government is on the frontlines. This is an economic, psychological and propaganda war,” Rouhani said on state television.

“We had sweet days and we had hard days during the sacred defence,” he said, using the official name for the war with Iraq which claimed up to two million lives between 1980 and 1988.

“But our nation never backed down. Now, too, our nation will not bow before the pressure of a new group in the White House.”

Iran’s economy has been battered in recent months, in part due to Washington’s withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear deal, which had lifted sanctions in return for curbs to its atomic programme.

Prices are rising and shortages are widespread, while Iran’s currency has lost around 70 percent of its value against the dollar and has declined to its lowest level ever.

Rouhani said that the United States is pressuring Iran and at the same time calling for negotiations “every day”.

“Which one should we believe? Your messages, or your brutal acts? If you want the best for the Iranian people why are you pressuring them?”

Rouhani called for unity after weeks of pressure from both reformist and hardline factions over his handling of the economic crisis.

“We cannot fight America, the left and the right at the same time. We cannot fight on three fronts,” he said. The president also acknowledged the mounting economic pressure. “(Yet) we cannot back down from our goals because of temporary difficulties. Remember those (war) days, our heartsaches brought us to eventual victories.” — AFP
Ex-Trump campaign aide jailed in Russia probe

WASHINGTON (United States) — A former advisor to US President Donald Trump whose contacts with Russians set off the investigation into possible collusion with Moscow was jailed Friday for lying to the FBI.

US District Judge Randolph Moss sentenced foreign policy aide George Papadopoulos to 14 days, noting that he “lied in an investigation that was important to national security.”

“In January 2017, I made a terrible mistake for which I paid dearly. I am ashamed,” Papadopoulos had told the court in Washington. “I was young and ambitious.”

The federal judge said he took into consideration Papadopoulos’s “guilty remorse” in issuing the light sentence, which included a $9,500 fine, a year on parole and community service.

By lying to investigators, Papadopoulos had made “a calculated exercise of interest over the national interest,” said Moss.

Papadopoulos has cooperated for more than a year with Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s probe into Russian interference in the US presidential election and possible collusion with the Trump campaign.

He has testified that senior campaign members encouraged him during 2016 to build ties with Russia, including after he told them that Moscow possessed — and could be willing to share — dirt on Trump’s election rival Hillary Clinton.

Those issues are now at the heart of Mueller’s sprawling investigation, which increasingly threatens Trump’s inner circle and the president himself.

Out of the 35 people and entities so far charged, Papadopoulos is one of five who have pleaded guilty and the second to be sentenced.

Trump hindering probe

Trump has regularly lashed out against the sprawling probe he dubbed a “witch hunt” driven by his Democratic foes.

Papadopoulos’s lawyer Tom Breen said “the president of the United States hindered this investigation more than George Papadopoulos ever did.”

The 31-year-old Chicago native was a little-experienced petroleum analyst based in London when he joined the Trump campaign in March 2016 as one of a handful of members of the Republican candidate’s national security and foreign policy advisory board.

Within weeks, he made contact with a mysterious professor, Joseph Mifsud, who touted links to the Kremlin and introduced him to others who ostensibly had connections to Russian President Vladimir Putin — including a woman who claimed to be Putin’s niece. At the end of March 2016, Papadopoulos told Trump, then-senator and now Attorney General Jeff Sessions, and members of the national security team at their first meeting in Washington that he had connections in London that could set up a Trump-Putin meeting ahead of the November election.

“While some in the room rebuffed George’s offer, Mr Trump nodded with approval and deferred to Mr Sessions, who appeared to like the idea and stated that the campaign should look into it,” Papadopoulos claimed in a pre-sentencing statement last week. Sessions has claimed he opposed the idea.

In subsequent campaign communications, Papadopoulos was encouraged to pursue a Trump-Putin meeting. In late April, he told them that Mifsud said the Russians had information that could harm Clinton, in the form of thousands of emails.

Weeks later, stolen Clinton emails were leaked over the internet by what US intelligence chiefs now say were Russian intelligence actors. Papadopoulos says he had nothing to do with the leak.

‘Misguided loyalty’ to Trump

US investigators were only alerted to Papadopoulos’s activities in mid-2016 after he told Australia’s ambassador to London, Alexander Downer, about his talks with Mifsud during a late-night drinking session in a London pub.

After the Clinton emails were leaked, the Australians told US intelligence counterparts what Downer had heard, spurring the FBI to begin investigating possible collusion between the Trump campaign and Moscow.

In his pre-sentencing statement, Papadopoulos admitted lying to FBI investigators in January 2017 but said it had been out of a desire to protect his career and a naive loyalty to the Trump administration. The lies did not impede the investigation, he argued. —AFP

Put in Chemical Weapons

TEHRAN — Russia has conclusive proof that militants are preparing provocations involving chemical weapons in Syria, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a press conference after a trilateral summit between Russia, Turkey and Iran.

“We consider as unacceptable the wish to move terrorists away from the blow at the pretext of protecting civilian population, as well as to inflict damage to the Syrian government forces,” he said.

“Apparently, attempts to stage the use of poisonous agents by the Syrian authorities have this goal.”

“We have conclusive evidence that militants are preparing such operations and provocations,” the Russian leader noted.

Putin reported that in light of this he informed his colleagues about the work carried out by Russia in the UN Security Council and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

“I’d like to note here that Syrian armed opposition groups are also joining the anti-terror efforts, which I consider to be extremely important,” he noted, specifying that this fact helps improve confidence between the Syrian sides.

The Russian state leader noted that during the summit the state leaders also studied the implementation of the decisions made by the Congress of the Syrian National Dialogue in Sochi. “Special attention was paid to the tasks of launching the constitutional committee, and agreement was reached to support the UN work to form its composition out of representatives for the Syrian government, the opposition and civil society,” he concluded, noting it will be necessary to coordinate such aspects of Syria’s future organization that will provide peaceful life for its citizens. —Tass

Wounded Brazil presidential hopeful moved to Sao Paulo hospital

Brazilian right-wing presidential candidate Jair Bolsonaro gestures after he was stabbed in the stomach during a campaign rally in southern Brazil. PHOTO: AFP

JUZ DE FORA (Brazil) — Brazil’s right-wing presidential frontrunner Jair Bolsonaro was transferred Friday to a hospital in Sao Paulo, a day after being stabbed while campaigning, a hospital official said.

“Patient Jair Messias Bolsonaro recently left... and went to the Albert Einstein hospital,” a spokesman for the Santa Casa de Juiz de Fora hospital said.

Bolsonaro underwent surgery on Thursday for multiple wounds to his mid-section and was listed in stable condition after the attack in the southeastern city of Juiz de Fora.

The attack was the latest bizarre twist in a presidential race in which the most popular candidate, former president and leftist hero Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, is trying to run from prison.

The Supreme Court disqualified Lula on Thursday. First round voting is scheduled for 7 October.

Images shared on social media and Brazilian television showed Bolsonaro being carried on the shoulders of a throng of supporters, before a man lunges at his stomach.

A witness told police the attacker held a knife wrapped up in a shirt and attacked Bolsonaro as the group hoisting him walked by.

The attacker was arrested immediately and identified as Adelio Bispo de Oliveira, 40 — said to have been a member of the left-leaning PSOL party.

After his arrest, Bispo de Oliveira said he was “carrying out a divine mission, a mission from God,” said Luis Boundens, head of a union of federal police officers.

Authorities are investigating the suspect’s mental health, he added. —AFP

Putin: Russia has proof that militants prepare provocations with chemical weapons in Syria

Russian President Vladimir Putin. PHOTO: TASS
Alibaba co-founder Jack Ma announces retirement

SAN FRANCISCO (United States)—Alibaba co-founder and chief Jack Ma announced he will leave the Chinese e-commerce giant on Monday to devote his time to philanthropy focused on education.

Ma was an English teacher before starting Alibaba in 1999 and built it into a multibillion-dollar Alibaba in 1999 and built e-commerce

He left the company, which was announced he will leave from Monday, the Chinese e-commerce giant on Monday to devote his time to philanthropy focused on education.

Ma was an English teacher before starting Alibaba in 1999 and built it into a multibillion-dollar Alibaba in 1999 and built e-commerce

His own worth has soared along with that of the company, which was valued at $420.3 billion based on its share price at the close of trading on Friday.

Ma told The New York Times that he plans to step down from the company, referring to his retirement as "the beginning of an era" rather than an end.

After being knocked back by US venture capitalists in 1999, cash-strapped Chinese entrepreneur Ma persuaded friends to give him $60,000 to start an e-commerce firm called Alibaba.

As he prepares to leave the company, Ma is among China’s super rich. His net worth was estimated at $36.6 billion by Forbes.

Ma will turn 54 years old on Monday, the day he is retiring.—AFP

Indian trains to go all vegetarian on Gandhi Jayanti

NEW DELHI—The state-owned Indian Railways will for the first time go all vegetarian on 2 October to mark the 150th birth anniversary of pre-independence icon Mahatma Gandhi.

"Instructions have been given in all zonal railways to serve vegetarian meals on the trains. The vegetarian meals will be served on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti," spokesperson for Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Siddharth Singh told the media.

A senior official said on Saturday that this is for the first the Indian Railways has decided to serve vegetarian meals on all its outstation trains on 2 October. "The one-day gesture will be a kind of tribute to the Father of the Nation," he said.

The Indian Railways is one of the world’s largest train networks, criss-crossing the country from north to south. It operates some 9,000 passenger trains and carries nearly 23 million passengers every day.—Xinhua

Aero India will not be shifted out of Bengaluru: Govt

NEW DELHI—Ending speculations, the defence ministry Saturday said the next edition of Aero India —considered Asia’s largest aerospace exhibition—will be held in its traditional venue of Bengaluru from February 20 to 24 next year.

Last month, Uttarak Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had made a request to Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to select Lucknow as the venue for Aero India, triggering angry reactions from various political parties in Karnataka.

There were speculations that the venue for the mega event may be shifted after the defence ministry indicated that it was examining requests from a number of states including Gujarat, Rajasthan, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh to host the 12th edition of Aero India.

"The government has decided to hold Aero India 2019 in Bengaluru from 20-24 February, 2019," the ministry said.

Since its inception in 1996, Bengaluru has been hosting the event.

The ministry said a number of global defence majors and big investors in the aerospace industry will participate in the five-day event besides leading think-tanks from across the world.—PTI

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ENTERPRISE
Invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI) – Consulting Services

Date: 7th September 2018
Project No.: 50020-002
Title of Assignment: Myanmar Power Network Development Project
Title of Assignment: Project Implementation Consultant (PIC)/Distribution Component
Deadline for Submission of EOI: (27th September 2018, 14:00 hr)

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has applied for financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of Power Network Development Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments for the Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) – Distribution Component ("the Assignment").

2. Electricity Supply Enterprise (ESE) of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar ("the Client") invites firms from eligible source countries of ADB to submit EOI s through ADB’s Consultant Management System (CMS) (https://cms.adb.org).

3. The PIC for distribution component of the project is required to assist ESE and MOEE throughout the implementation of the Power Network Development Project. The main tasks are: (i) conduct procurement of project packages from contract packaging, bidding, evaluation and award of contract; (ii) update and implement resettlement and ethnic group development plan (REGDP); (iii) construction supervision and supervision and construction contracts; (iv) preparation of environmental management plan (EMP) and environmental supervision and monitoring; (v) overall project administration; (vi) reporting; (vii) financial management, and (vii) public communication and consultation. The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found on CMS. The location of the Assignment is in Myanmar, and the duration is six years.

4. All firms interested in submitting an EOI should review these documents and submit an EOI through CMS (https://cms.adb.org) on or before [27th September 2018, 14:00 hr]. Firms that are not yet registered with CMS are required to register.

5. EOI s must be submitted through CMS (https://cms.adb.org) on or before [27th September 2018, 14:00 hr]. Firms that are not yet registered with CMS are required to register.

6. EOI s will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by firms in connection with the preparation or submission of EOI s.

Name and Designation of Client’s Representative:
Mr. Thuya Aung Bo
Deputy Chief Engineer
Electricity Supply Enterprise
Office address, email and telephone no.: Office No.27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Naypyitaw, Myanmar
thu yaungbo.es@gmail.com
+95 9 5089858

CLM’S DAY NOTICE

MV IAL 001 VOY. NO. (008 N/S)

Consignee of cargo carried on MV IAL 001 VOY. NO. (008 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV IAL 001 VOY. NO. (008 N/S)

Consignee of cargo carried on MV IAL 001 VOY. NO. (008 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-9-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTER ASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

Yunnan quake injures 4, damages homes

KUNMING—Four people suffered minor injuries in an earthquake that hit Mojiang Hani Autonomous County, southwest China’s Yunnan Province on Saturday, local authorities said. According to the county government, the 5.9-magnitude quake had damaged 21 homes as of Saturday afternoon. Traffic, telecommunications, and power supply are normal in most parts of Tongguan, a town nearest to the epicenter.—Xinhua

6.3-magnitude earthquake strikes southern Philippines

MANILA—A 6.3-magnitude earthquake shook Davao Oriental province in the southern Philippines on Saturday, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said. Phivolcs said the quake, which struck at 3:16 pm local time, hit a depth of 29 kilometers, about 14 km northeast of Manay, a town. Phivolcs said the tremor, which was tectonic in origin, is not expected to cause damage. However, it said that aftershocks could rattle the province.—Xinhua

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“The government has decided to hold Aero India 2019 in Bengaluru from 20-24 February, 2019,” the ministry said.

Since its inception in 1996, Bengaluru has been hosting the event.

The ministry said a number of global defence majors and big investors in the aerospace industry will participate in the five-day event besides leading think-tanks from across the world.—PTI
Global protests as key UN climate talks stumble

The tall ship Southern Swan sails in Sydney Harbour in front of the Opera House with environmentalists on board on September 8, 2018. PHOTO: AFP

BANGKOK (Thailand) — Thai fishermen and labourers whose livelihoods are threatened by rising sea levels kicked off an international day of protests in Bangkok on Saturday, where key UN talks are attempting to breathe life into the Paris Agreement on climate change.

As global warming races ahead of efforts to contain it, the discussions are deadlocked over how to present the effects of climate change.

Beginning in Australia, a tall ship moved through Sydney Harbour in front of the Opera House as activists on board held up protest signs.

The “Rise for Climate” protest movement — which has organised events in dozens of countries on Saturday — wants governments to end their reliance on fossil fuels and transition fully to renewable energy.

In the Thai capital, dozens of labourers and fishermen from the Gulf of Thailand, whose livelihoods are threatened by the bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef this summer.

Hundreds more protesters gathered outside the electorate office of Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, calling on him to “kick coal out of politics.”

In the Thai capital, some 200 protesters assembled in front of the UN regional headquarters, where delegates were discussing how to implement measures agreed by world powers under the 2015 Paris Accord on climate change.

The talks aim to create a draft legal framework for limiting global temperature rises that can be presented to ministers and heads of state at a final round of discussions in Poland in December.

The delegates have been meeting since Tuesday, but have made little progress, according to multiple sources close to the negotiations.

“The negotiators are not taking any action,” Ruchi Tripathi, head of climate justice at charity ActionAid, told AFP.

In particular, the issue of how the fight against climate change will be funded — and how that funding is made available to developing nations — remains a key sticking point.

Dozens of labourers and fishermen from the Gulf of Thailand, whose livelihoods are threatened by rising sea levels and coastal erosion caused by climate change, joined Saturday’s protest.

Many brought examples of their produce, including crabs and shrimp, and held banners demanding that negotiations go faster.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Department of Power Transmission and System Control
Invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI) - Consulting Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>27th September 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project No.</td>
<td>500020-002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Title</td>
<td>Myanmar Power Network Development Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title of Assignment</td>
<td>Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) - Transmission Component</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for Submission</td>
<td>27th September 2018, 14:00 hr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has applied for financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Power Network Development Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments for the Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) - Transmission Component (“the Assignment”).

2. The Department of Power Transmission and System Control (DPTSC) of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE) (“the Client”) invites firms from eligible source countries of ADB to submit EOI through ADB’s Consultant Management System (CMS) (https://cms.adb.org).

3. The PIC for the transmission component of the project is required to assist DPTSC through implementation of the Power Network Development Project. The main tasks are: (i) conduct procurement of project packages from contract packaging, bidding, evaluation and award of contract; (ii) implement resettlement and ethnic group development plan (REGDP); (iii) supervision of EPC/turnkey contracts; (iv) preparation of environmental management plan (EMP) and environmental supervision and monitoring; (v) overall project administration; (vi) reporting; (vii) financial management, and (viii) public communication and consultation. The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found on CMS. The place of assignment is Nay Pyi Taw and project sites, Myanmar, and the duration of the assignment is six years.

4. Quality-Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) process will be used in accordance with the Guidelines on the Use of Consultants for Asian Development Bank and Its Borrowers. Shortlisted firms will be required to submit a Full Technical Proposal (FTP). For further information, please visit https://cms.adb.org.

5. EOIs must be submitted through ADB’s CMS (https://cms.adb.org) on or before, 27th September 2018, 14:00 hr. Firms that are not yet registered with CMS are required to register.

6. DPTSC will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by firms in connection with the preparation or submission of EOIs.

Director General
Department of Power Transmission and System Control (DPTSC),
Building No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Telephone: 95 67 8104286
Email: wdesigntpt.moe@gmail.com,
Website: http://www.moe.gov.mn

The tail of Assignment
Place of Assignment
Department of Power Transmission and System Control
The PIC will be responsible for:
(i) Preparation of the Legal Framework,
(ii) Project Implementation and Management,
(iii) Facilitating and taking lead in the implementation of the Project,
(iv) Preparation of the Project Implementation Plan,
(v) Disbursement of Project Funds,
(vi) Reviewing and Approving Progress Reports,
(vii) Monitoring and Supervising the implementation of the Project,
(viii) Reviewing and Approving the Final Report.

In accordance with Section 4.1.1 of the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment, the PIC will be responsible for:
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(iii) Facilitating and taking lead in the implementation of the Project,
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Website: http://www.moe.gov.mn
Eminem claims UK album chart record in ‘Kamikaze’ strike

Michael Moore’s new film a call to action for democracy

Rapper Mac Miller dead at 26 after long substance struggle
Roscosmos, NASA to enter into talks on future of ISS

MOSCOW—The future of the International Space Station (ISS) will begin to be discussed by the joint commission of the consultative expert council of Roscosmos and NASA’s Advisory Council next week, the press-service of TsNIIMash said on Friday.

According to current plans, the ISS is to stay in use till 2024, but the possibility is being explored of prolonging its lifecycle till 2028.

“Within the framework of the joint commission’s activities concerning the ISS the experts of national space agencies will conduct a number of meetings to assess the technical condition of the Russian and US segments, analyze the operations being carried out on board and in outer space, discuss crew safety matters and the outlook for using the unique international space laboratory for outer space exploration further on,” the statement says.

Among other things the commission will consider various life support aspects, such as the ISS readiness to accommodate more expeditions, the availability of food, water and fuel, as well as the results of scientific experiments to be staged in the near future, and the schedule of launches of manned and cargo spacecraft.

The commission’s meetings will begin at TsNIIMash starting from 10 September. —TASS

First known “vegetarian” shark discovered

NEW YORK—Scientists have identified the world’s first known omnivorous shark species, which can make seagrass as much as 60 percent of their diet.

Experts from the University of California in Irvine and Florida International University in Miami decided to investigate the bonnethead sharks’ dietary habits after reading reports of them munching on seagrass.

“It has been assumed by most that this consumption was incidental and that it provided no nutritional value,” said Samantha Leigh, the study’s lead author.

“I wanted to see how much of this seagrass diet the sharks could digest, because what an animal consumes is not necessarily the same as what it digests and retains nutrients from,” she said.

The bonnetheads, one of the smallest member of the hammerhead family, are abundant in the shallow waters of the Americas, where they usually feed on crab, shrimp, snails and bony fish.

In the study, five bonnethead sharks were fed on a three-week diet of seagrass and squid. A series of tests indicated that the fish successfully digested the seagrass with enzymes that broke down components of the plants, such as starch and cellulose.

All of the sharks put on weight over the course of the study.—Xinhua

Big wind, solar farms could boost rain in Sahara: study

ANNAPOLIS, (Maryland)—Installing massive wind and solar farms in the Saharan desert could slow global warming, and also give a small but beneficial boost to rain in the dry African region, researchers said on Thursday.

The study in the journal Science used computer modeling to simulate the effect of covering 20 percent of the largest desert on the planet in solar panels and installing three million wind turbines there.

A solar and wind farm of that size—more than 3.5 million square miles (nine million square kilometers)—would be “at a scale large enough to power the entire world,” said the report.

Overall, researchers found that any changes in the African desert climate resulting from wind and solar power installations would be positive, because more plants would grow near where the farms are placed.

Together, according to model simulations, the wind and solar farm effect boosted average rain across the entire Sahara from 0.24 millimeters per day to 0.59 mm per day.

The effect was not uniform across the vast desert, with the most substantial rain increase occurring in the Sahel, a semi-arid region extending from Senegal to Sudan, where residents could see 200 to 500 mm more rain per year, or about 1.12 mm per day near the wind farms. —AFP

Israel develops robot navigating as bats

JERUSALEM—Israeli researchers have developed an autonomous robot, the first of its kind in the world, that navigates as bats, only by hearing, as published on Friday by the Hebrew-language scientific website “Hayadan.” Bats navigate their way by producing sounds and listening to the different echoes that return to them. This easily solves one of the most complex problems in robotics.

Researchers at Tel Aviv University, in the center of the state, with the support of the Israeli Ministry of Science and Technology, have developed a robot called “Robat,” that uses the biology of bats to navigate its way and map the environment by locating only echo. This technology, which mimics the biology of the bat, has great potential in robotics.

The robot, whose construction lasted about two years, is equipped with an ultrasonic speaker that mimics the bat’s mouth and produces sounds in the frequencies typical of bat broadcasts.

The robot also has two “ears,” which are actually two microphones that receive ultrasonic frequencies. It can move in unfamiliar environments in the open air, navigating its way in real time only through the sounds.

The robot draws the boundaries of objects in space, classifies them using a computer and thus produces an accurate map of its surroundings while avoiding obstacles. —AFP
Djokovic aims to cut ‘gentle giant’ Del Potro down to size

NEW YORK—Novak Djokovic hailed Juan Martin del Potro as a “gentle giant” but he’ll have no hesitation in attempting to cut his close friend down to size in Sunday’s US Open final.

Djokovic, the 2011 and 2015 champion, will be looking to complete the Wimbledon-US Open double for a third time when he faces the 2009 winner in New York with a 14th major within touching distance.

And he will start the heavy favourite, boasting a 14-4 record over the Argentine who will be playing in just his second final at the Slams.

Djokovic will be in his 23rd championship match at the majors and eighth in New York.

But whatever the outcome on Sunday, Djokovic insists their personal bond will remain strong.

“He’s a gentle giant,” the 31-year-old Serb said of the 6ft 6in (1.98m) Del Potro affectionately dubbed the “Tower of Tandil” after his home town.

“He really is. He’s very tall, has a big game, but at the same time he nurtures the right values in life. He cares about his family. He cares about his friends. He respects everyone.

“He fights every match from the first to the last point. I think people can relate to that and appreciate what he brings to the tennis. He treats others the way he wants others to treat him. I think that’s why people love him.”

While Djokovic can pull level with Pete Sampras on 14 majors—and move to within three of Rafael Nadal and six back from Roger Federer—Del Potro’s career at the Slams has been torpedoed by a series of wrist injuries.

A number of surgeries pushed him to the brink of retirement in 2015 when his world ranking slumped to 581 in the world. Now he goes into Sunday’s final at a career-high three.

“We all felt for his struggles with injuries that kept him away from the tour for two, three years. But he was always a top five player in the eyes I think of everyone.” — AFP

Jorginho grabs point for Italy in Nations League opener

BOLOGNA (Italy)—Roberto Mancini’s first competitive game as Italy coach ended in a 1-1 Nations League draw with Poland, midfielder Jorginho saving Azzurri blushes with a second-half penalty to level Piotr Zielenzki’s first-half opener in Bologna on Friday.

Mancini, 58, was appointed after the four-time winner’s shock failure to qualify for the 2018 World Cup for the first time since 1958. And the former Manchester City boss admitted there was work to do. “It’s the first important game, so a few errors can happen, but overall the boys did well,” said Mancini. “I knew it was going to be difficult. They are a team that, at this moment, have more assurance than us.

“But in the second half we made less technical mistakes and I’m happy with those 45 minutes. Before we made many mistakes, too many.”

Italy struggled in all areas, Zielenzki opening for Poland five minutes before the break to angry whistles from the crowd at the Stadio Renato Dall’Ara. Federico Chiesa came off the bench in the 71st minute to replace Lorenzo Insigne, and when he was brought down in the box minutes later Brazilian-born Jorginho stepped up to beat Lukasz Fabianski. Striker Mario Balotelli played for an hour before being substituted by Mancini along with Insigne who spearheaded the early Azzurri attack along with Federico Bernardeschi.

Zielnski and Robert Lewandowski were in the front line for the Poles. Mancini handed 26-year-old Fiorentina left-back Cristiano Biraghi his first cap. But Poland piled on the pressure with two early scoring opportunities. Gianluigi Donnarumma—between the posts after the retirement of Italy icon Gianluigi Buffon—blocked a point blank Zielinski shot on six minutes.

And the 19-year-old AC Milan goalkeeper dived to clear off Bayern Munich’s Lewandowski after seven minutes. — AFP

Husband Ohanian celebrates Serena’s run to US Open final

NEW YORK—Serena Williams’s husband Alexis Ohanian celebrated her return to the US Open final with a touching Twitter tribute interspersing video of her on-court exploits and the first days of their daughter Olympia a year ago.

Williams suffered life-threatening complications after the birth on 1 September of last year, requiring four surgeries to deal with blood clots. “She fought for her life, for our child, for recognition, for equal pay, for women’s rights. She never gives up,” Ohanian tweeted, urging fans to share the accompanying video.

“I had this made for @serenawilliams last night after her match with some home videos from 1 year ago this week,” he said. “Help me make sure she sees it #loveyouserena”

The video contrasts shots of Williams taking the court at Flushing Meadows this week with those of her in a hospital bed, cuddling her baby daughter.

The audio is Serena’s emotional on-court interview after her semi-final win over Anastasija Sevastova, when Williams called her run to a second Grand Slam final of the year “incredible”.

“A year ago I was fighting for my life in the hospital after I had the baby,” Williams said. “Every time I step out on this court I’m so grateful that I have the opportunity to play this sport.” — AFP

Myanmar face Iran in AFC U-19 Women’s Championship qualifiers

Myanmar Women’s national football team is placed in the Group F of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) U-19 Women’s Championship 2019 Qualifiers together with a world-class football team Iran, Palestine and Laos.

All the qualification matches will be held at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon, Myanmar. Myanmar will play against Laos on 24 October, Palestine on 26 October and Iran on 28 October.

Myanmar will likely struggle in the group to qualify for the 2019 AFC U-19 Women’s Championship that will host in Thailand on 28 October.

The 2019 AFC U-19 Women’s Championship is the first time since 1958. And the former Manchester City boss admitted there was work to do. “It’s the first important game, so a few errors can happen, but overall the boys did well,” said Mancini. “I knew it was going to be difficult. They are a team that, at this moment, have more assurance than us.

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Myanmar will likely struggle in the group to qualify for the 2019 AFC U-19 Women’s Championship that will host in Thailand on 28 October.
In the Myanmar calendar months of Waso and Wagaung, there are an abundance of water everywhere in the country. It is a time when low-lying areas cannot help but associate with water. It is also a time during which we can see waters wherever we look. Rain rarely stops. In such times, it is natural that rural folks seek happiness as soon as the rain stops and the weather is fine again. As they do not possess as many enjoyable things as the ones who live in urban areas, it is also natural that they will create their happiness themselves by various means. At those moments, it will be a happy time for rural children to go out and collect ripe rose-apples.

Rose-apple is a tiny fruit of reddish brown colour and has a slightly sour taste. It is enjoyable to collect those which are ripe and have already fallen to the ground from the tree. They would also be seen floating about on the surface of the water. Not only children but also the young and even the adults enjoy to do so. Some happen to eat those fruits while collecting them. After they have collected a lot of rose-apples, they happily come back to the village. Some rose-apples are distributed to neighbours and some are cooked for the family. Rose-apples together with salt-fish is a distinctive dish, a traditional meal. A dish of squeezed or a bit pounded rose-apples mixed with salt-fish is a tasteful and palatable meal for a family that loves Myanmar tradition. For rural folks, a mixture of salt-fish and rose-apples is consumed as their main dish.

We can see the steadfast association of Myanmar rural folks and rose-apples in a classic poem composed by Sayargyi Min Thu Wun. The pleasurable breath of Myanmar rural scene can be felt in this poem. We can also vividly visualize the natural and seasonal beauty. Although rose-apples can be obtained free of charge, we can hear a word of threat that is gently and beautifully composed in the poem, lest others come along and collect the fruits. It is such a classic poem that it is prescribed in the curriculum of primary level students. Therefore, everyone who has already gone through the curriculum will surely remember this poem very well. In order to feel an alternative predilection, the poem is translated into English as follows.

May everyone have a pleasant sense of taste by reading it.

These days of Waso and Wagaung
Floods come about
Water surges into low-lying areas,
Let’s collect the ripe rose-apples.
From the nearby prickly bush,
a huge black leech
would likely suck on you!
Is that black leech with horns?
Even if it’s a dragon,
You’re not afraid of it
neither are we,
Let’s come along with you
and I’d leave my palm-cow toy.
Let’s go...let’s go..

By Laura Htet
UDE English
**LESSON 7**

By C. T. O

**Answers to the Verb Forms**

1. He seldom drinks tea in the evening.
   These fields are covered with water in the rainy season.

2. They are making preparations for the festival now.
   Listen! The results are being announced over the radio.

3. She has not spoken to me since October.
   This film has been shown in Yangon 11 times.

4. He has been looking for a job since 1980.
   They have been doing business with us for over 15 years.

5. Ko Ko will visit Ngapali next month.
   A new hospital will be built in our town next year.

6. I received your letter yesterday.
   I would drink it if you were my wife.

7. She tore the letter after she had read it twice.
   She would not pay you if you were not good.

8. We were having dinner when the lights went out.
   They are making preparations for the festival now.

9. The tea was still being made when I went into the road.
   He waited while her car was being repaired.

10. He saw the man fall off the bus.
    He was knocked down by a car while he was crossing the road.

11. If he looks, he will see.
    He would have been punished if he had come late.

12. If she failed, she would leave school.
    They would not have spoken to you if she had been angry.

13. She will come to me when she hears the news.
    If he had fallen in love with her, I would have married her.

14. He comes to me whenever he needs money.
    If Cleopatra’s nose had been a little shorter or longer, world history would have been different.

15. She will leave school if she fails.
    If he had joined the university then, he would have got a degree by now.

16. If she listened, she will hear.
    If she had taken the examination, he would have passed.

17. If she tells the truth, she will not be punished.
    If she had failed, she would have left school.

18. If he is careless, she (fail) the examination.
    If he had fallen, he would have died.

19. If they work hard, they will pass.
    If he had sold the car, I (buy) it.

20. If he listens, she will hear.
    If she had wanted it, she would have bought it.

21. If she hears, she will understand.
    If she listens, she will hear.

22. If she failed, she (not help) him.
    If she leaves school, she (not be) punished.

23. If she tells the truth, she (not be) punished.
    If they play well, they will be selected.

24. If I were you, I would marry her.
    If I were a bird, I would fly over the walls.

25. If I were you, I would marry her.
    If I were a bird, I would fly over the walls.

26. If I were you, I would marry her.
    If I were a bird, I would fly over the walls.

**Conditionals and Unreal Past Tense**

1. If I were you, I would marry her.

2. If I had fallen in love with her, I would have married her.

3. If I had joined the university then, he would have got a degree by now.

4. He would have sold the car if he had needed money.

5. If he had fallen, he would have died.

6. If she had wanted it, she would have bought it.

7. If he had gone, he would have come late.

8. If Cleopatra’s nose had been a little shorter or longer, world history would have been different.

9. If he had joined the university then, he would have got a degree by now.

10. If she had failed, she would have left school.

11. If he had fallen in love with her, she would have married him.

12. If you had played well, you would have been selected.

13. If I were you, I would marry her.

14. If I had taken the examination, he would have passed.

15. If you play well, you will be selected.

16. If I were a bird, I would fly over the walls.

17. If you had played well, you would have been selected.

18. If I were a bird, I would fly over the walls.

19. If she had heard the news, she would have told me.

20. If I had fallen in love with her, I would have married her.

**Exercises:**

(a) If (C) (A) (B) (B) (C) (A) (B) (A)

1. If you were a bird, I would fly over the walls.

2. If Cleopatra’s nose had been a little shorter or longer, world history would have been different.

3. If he had joined the university then, he would have got a degree by now.

4. If she tells the truth, she will not be punished.

5. If he had taken the examination, he would have passed.

6. If she had told the truth, she would not have been punished.

7. If you had played well, you would have been selected.

8. If Cleopatra’s nose had been a little shorter or longer, world history would have been different.

9. If she had heard the news, she (tell) me.

10. If I had fallen in love with her, I (marry) her.

**Answers:**

1. If he does not help me, I will not help him.

2. If I were a bird, I would fly over the walls.

3. If they won the game, they would hold a dinner for us.

4. If you were a man, she (join) the army.

5. If he went out, he (kill) it.

6. If I (be) a bird, I would fly over the walls.

7. If he had sold the car, I (buy) it.

8. If she had heard the news, she (tell) me.

9. If I had fallen in love with her, I (marry) her.
We are aware that our world seems unsafe for us to live and travel around, due to uncompassionate acts, terrorism, reckless shootings, armed and racial conflicts, communal violence, transnational crimes, etc. In fact, these acts are caused by negative human minds, animosity, poverty and injustice. No matter whether it’s a rich country or a poor country, people around the world frequently encounter such miserable and horrified incidents. Even though resolute actions are being taken against those perpetrators or criminals, miserable incidents keep occurring in the world. Each and every country has its laws, law enforcement, army and security guards to prevent and protect its citizens, visitors, legal immigrants, international tourists and diplomats as well.

A question that can be raised is whether or not people or citizens are well protected in a certain country. No country can prevent from sudden attacks on innocent people or destruction of private or public properties made by unidentified suicide bombers or terrorists. Therefore, almost all over the world, people are very cautious about acts of terror wherever they travel, at home and abroad. Extreme religious believers as well as extreme practitioners of ideologies are the ones who disrupt world peace and tranquility.

Indeed, lack of compassion and justice can lead to these evil consequences in human societies. The anger and animosity are the consequences of injustice. In order to eradicate such miserable situations in the world, we humans ought not to bully, discriminate or dominate each other.

If we really want our world to be safer, we must all spread compassion among nations, regardless of diverse races, religions, culture or political ideologies. Furthermore, we are obliged to respect different cultural values and religions, so that there will be no misunderstanding or conflict among different societies. According to Lord Buddha’s teaching, if we radiate or show compassion towards all fellow human beings, we can all be safe enough to live, to stay or to travel in the world. This is the very basic practice for humanity. However, nowadays, it seems like this practice is being ignored by humans, due to the domination of pride, narcissism, extreme ego and delusion. Instead, the practice of tit-for-tat is prevalent among humans in the world. As a result, conflicts, violence, civil wars, massacres and acts of terror occur sporadically in various parts of the world.

Despite the existence of the United Nations, some member countries or non-member countries do not comply with the UN charter, the main purpose of which is to maintain peace and security in the world and to prevent a global war. Bomb blast, riots, bloodshed, killings and suicide attacks are heard from all forms of media every day. People around the world feel insecure about the unsafe situations in different countries, regardless of being rich or poor. People desire perfect happiness, security and safety the most in any place in the world. Some big nations which manufacture weapons neglect world peace and security because illegal armed groups buy weapons from them secretly. In addition to this, weapon-manufacturing nations support rebels with firearms from some other countries. Due to these malpractices or instigations in the internal affairs of small countries, civil wars as well as armed conflicts are still going on. Therefore, those who live around conflict zones feel insecure about their lives and their livelihoods. Tourists and domestic travelers do not have access to conflict zones as security cannot be guaranteed by authorities concerned.

The worst situation hap-

By Tommy Pauk
The traditions and honesty of the Salon tribe represent an invaluable symbol for Myeik Archipelago. Salons are nomadic and roam the sea in small hand-crafted boats called kabang for their livelihoods. They swim like a fish, dive underwater and go across the river; they are known as sea gypsies or men of the sea.

Historically, they were believed to have inhabited Malay Peninsula and were attacked by marauders, forcing them to flee the Peninsula and migrate to Myeik Archipelago, a collection of more than 800 islands. They are usually found near Myeik, Kawthoung, Kyunsu, Pulaw and Taninthayi townships are included.

In the book 'Siamese White' by Maurice Collis and Travelogue by Vongray in 1675, these facts were mentioned: their appearances were somewhat like those of Myanmar or Malay. In the essay 'Tribes in Myanmar' by author Louis, the Salons are not included in the three big groups of Tibet-Myanmar, Mon-Khmer and Thai-Chinese, but are related to Malays. The Salon and Mon-Khmer were believed to have dealt with each other in ancient times. That opinion led us to believe the Salon were once connected with Jargon tribes who were thought to be primitive Malays. Jargon tribes were branched into Orang Bukit (highlanders) and Orang Laut (sea gypsies), in which the Salon tribe were included. Their dialect is closely connected with Malay one. The Salon have used four kinds of dialects; the main one is Dun, according to the book 'Sea Gypsies of Malaya', written by Walter White.

No literature of their own
In 1846, Dr. Braken compiled the Salon primer referring to Mr. Steven’s notes, which were published at the ABM press. But Salons were not interested in learning the primer. Again in 1900, Christian missionaries Dr. Daisy, Naw Sebe and Naw Pho Hla coined the Salon language with English and Poh Karen alphabets, and an American missionary invented ‘A Primer of the Salon Language’ by using Roman alphabets. But they still don’t have a language of their own.

A study on their birth
According to findings in 1964, the Salon people cut the umbilical cord of a...
baby at the moment of its birth and bathe the baby in the waters for three times. The idea is to let the baby become adept at swimming and not to get frightened. These mistaken beliefs sometimes cause their babies to die at birth. They no longer practice that false habit now. Normally, Salon midwives are responsible for their births and send pregnant women to a nurse in a nearby clinic, if they find difficulties during birth.

In studying their livelihoods, one finds that they roam the waters by kabang, a hand-crafted boat with dhani thatch roof. They bring along their family aboard a kabang during the fine weather. During the rainy season, they take shelter in a hut built on stilts at the edge of an island. The Salons are adept at swimming and diving. They now wear swimming goggles when they work underwater for fishing, pearl-cutting and looking for ambergris. In the past, they rarely used fishing nets; pearlcutting and looking for ambergris. diving. They now wear swimming goggles

Articles of clothing
In the past, school-age children, including infants, did not put on clothes; now they have begun to wear clothes of different colours and sizes. Women get dressed fully covered from head to toe, but some still tend to bare their upper parts of the body, once they get married. But nowadays, girls and women are fully covered. Salon men put on longs or shorts, and used to leaving their upper bodies bare. In fact, they are sturdily built and do not easily fall into illness. Now, they have begun to wear shirts or jackets. Their skin is brownish in colour as they roam about on the waters of the sea. As they try to keep up with times, they are now seen wearing shirts, shorts, pants and jackets of various colours.

Salons not only consume seafood but also eat land animals. They are in the habit of using less cooking oil for vegetables, such as radish, mustard and water convolvulus (from the bindweed family). They do not mingle with other races as they keep their way of living strictly private.

Their religious faith is nat (spirit) worshipping. Dutar-nat is a noble one to them and the spirits of the islands are regarded as bringing bad luck. Participants in nat- pwes have to sit in a row, one after another, and shout a rallying cry. When they reach the edge of the sea, they shout at the top of their voice to expel the evil spirits. In the Salon festival honoring nats, the nat-mentor trembles and shakes when possessed by a nat. He would drink alcohol and eat meat and fish avariciously. Then he and his attendants would worship the nats. When the nat that possessed him leaves, he would become tired and unconscious. This is how the Salon people worship the nats.

An old custom of the Salons
They usually practice monogamy. The young Salon boy and girl would be courting for several years before they get married. When they are in love, they let their parents know about their love affair. Accepting betel leaf from the bridgroom’s side by the parents of the bride means they agree to the love affair. Here again, a nat-mentor is present at the wedding ceremony to legalize the marriage, according to the belief of the Salon people. Then the bride will follow the bridgroom to where he lives. The bridgroom builds a hand-crafted boat for his new household to live.

If a male baby is born, the family tends to live apart from others. Adultery is unacceptable in the Salon community. If a person commits adultery, they will be expelled from their community for good. As they love to live in groups, they are very much afraid of expulsion from their community.

The Salons rely on a nat-mentor for all issues. If a person falls ill, they are believed to have been possessed by nats. They consult with nat-mentors and usually worship the nats. But now some Salons visit a clinic for medical treatment. Some keep worshipping nats after consulting with nat-mentors. Most Salons suffer from malaria and malnutrition.

Salon people traditionally dock their carved boats and motor boats once a year for regular repairs. Old resins are taken off from the outer part of the boats and replaced with new ones. It takes five days to get a boat repaired by the collective efforts of a community.

In the past, they never buried the corpses in the ground, but abandoned them on a watch-tower on a faraway island. Then they would stay away from the island for some time. If a boat owner dies, his boat would be cut into halves to cover his dead body before being abandoned. That old custom has gradually disappeared, and now they are burying their dead in the ground.

A place for study tours
As the Salon tribe has been struggling for their survival, they are also being threatened of extinction. The ministry concerned and the regional government have been taking action in preserving their traditions, clothing and lifestyles. Educational talks need to be held to preserve their traditions and natural resources. Study tours should be conducted to meet their needs of preserving their culture, customs and traditions. As the Salon tribe struggles for its survival, areas where these people live should be turned into places of attraction and study tours for both domestic and foreign visitors.  

Translated by Arakan Sein
As soon as the Ma Mya Khin rang the bell, all students rushed as it was raining. Then, she sat into the armchair and sighed all her might and started to make a question form for the monthly test for the students. Ma Mya Khin, she was graduated from The Yangon University Of Education and she was transferred to a Primary school in Hlaw Gar village for it had no enough of teachers. As it was a poor village, people in the village had no appetite of learning and they intended to be only earners, not learners because they thought, it was just wasting of time to send their children to school while others are earning money by doing all businesses they could do. And it was a big challenge for Ma Mya Khin when she had first arrived at the village.

Actually, she just wanted to be transferred to good high school where she could go easily from her home. But unfortunately, that was not going as she wish and she had no choice for it. As it was too far from where she lived, she had to live in the village all weekdays and could only go to home when it was Saturday and Sunday, and sometimes, she could not especially when there had to hold the monthly tests because she was the only teacher who was the youngest one and the one who could take responsibilities of all businesses related to the school. There was only two teachers in the school, Daw Tin Hla and she, Ma Mya Khin. But after two months when she was transferred to, Daw Tin Hla retired from teaching and now, she was the one who taught the children, the one who made questions for monthly test, the one who had responsibility for the students. It was very hard for her because there were fifty students. What that made her depressed was that parents were not willing to send children to school because of their living standard. At once, she went to Phoe Kwar’s house due to his absence to school.

“Is there anyone? Phoe Kwar is here?” she shouted. And a woman came out and said, “He is not here. He is in the field, and doing his own business. And who are you?”

Then, “I’m the teacher of Phoe Kwar, I came here because he is absent today.”

“Oh! I see, Miss Teacher. But I have to say that we can not send him to school anymore because we have to for our survival first. And no one wants to give us free foods for no reason. You may understand Miss Teacher.”

Those are some of conversations she had about her pupils. And sometimes, when she saw Daw Aye Kyin who was selling fish going round the village and the mother of Thidar who was her pupil, “Oh! Daw Aye Kyin, Why didn’t Thidar come to school yesterday? Is she sick?” “No, Miss Teacher; she is also selling fish in another village.

And by the way, she’s not going to school anymore because she have to work instead of wasting her time.” But then, Daw Aye Kyin went hawking around the village saying, “There’s Fish. It’s cheap and very fresh.” Ma Mya Khin was sick and tired of them but what made her alive was her pupils because she loved her pupils who were willing to play as all children did. Their innocent faces, smiles and words are so flawless. And it gave her new strength to live.

She had hoped that one day, she could raise more children to be educated people from this school. She wanted to make her pupils great people who could contribute to the country. And she felt that her dream was about to come true hearing what they said, “Mingalar Par Sayarma.”
HEN we were young, we all loved watching cartoons. And when we become older, still we are loving them. So, why is this? Why do we all love watching them? Truly simple. Because they can give us a cool pleasure as they contain wholesome entertainment, they all are clean and suitable for all ages. Kids and adults. Every cartoon film has something special for its viewers. Especially a lesson or a message. That’s one of the inclusions that both parents and children enjoy watching them.

To consider all about cartoon files, we shouldn’t forget Mr. Walt Disney, one of the greatest pioneers of cartoon films. He was a cartoonist who opened the door to a new world, full of everyone’s favourite characters such as Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Goofy, Pluto, Dumbo and little girls’ princesses; Snow White, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty and many else. Each of these films makes a childhood life complete for every kid on this planet. Besides these long-ago cartoons, this company is now making astonishingly wonderful live-action films, fantasies and as well new cartoon films these days. Similarly, they again gain million loves from film lovers around this globe.

Zootopia, Sing, Despicable Me, The Incredibles, The Minions, Hotel Transylvania are at the top of the list of the favourites that today people are fond of. Since they provide us messages like goodness, truthfulness and honesty always prevail, parents are keen to take their youngs to the cinemas where these great cartoons are showing and let them enjoy happily. For example, in “The Incredibles” and “Despicable Me”, there is one good single message and it is that “The good always win the bad” and teach the viewers to emulate good characters and habits and to abhor the bad ones. It is a nice scenery to see people applauding the hero and booing the bad guys and villains.

Next, in the cartoon, “Up”, the message given is not to sit down drying. We have to wake up, stand up and chase our dreams in real life just like the old man did in the film. His house flying in the endless blue sky with countless numbers of colourful balloons is the scene which makes us see that only our rainbow-coloured dreams can make us feel young, free and get precious experiences by facing new challenges in our life. The saying, “You only fail when you stop trying”, is highlighted in the cartoon, “Sing”, which was one of the box office hits of 2016. If we really do, our dreams will come true and what we only have to do is try, try, try.

My all-time favourite cartoon film is Pixar and Disney’s “CoCo”. It gets me always even if I hear a word of it. As soon as my ears hear the two words, “CoCo”, the shadows of this cartoon film fills my eyes and the colours in it develop like dramatic clouds in my black eyes then it’s masterpiece songs start whispering in both of ears at the same time. At the first time I saw it, I fell so much in love with it. I have never fallen too deeply for a cartoon but “CoCo” is completely my zing. A father’s courage and love, love of a daughter for her father, spirit of music and the traditions of Mexicans are introduced in this film and make the viewers vividly see that even after death, a parent’s love his loves to child never dies away. I believe that the others who have seen this as well enjoy it like I do. If you haven’t, I want to recommend to watch it and feel the taste of its song, “Remember Me”. The story is a very touching one. The animation has nothing to talk about.

On the other hand, there are also educational cartoons like, “Sesame Street” and “Cookie Monster Show” for under six-year-olds. “Pink Panther” and “Tom and Jerry” never leave cartoon lovers’ hearts. Nowadays, the majority of films produced are sometimes unsuitable for youngsters as they are too violent, and contain killings, eerie horrors, rated scenes and some annoying emotional contents. To keep our little ones away from these is to make them live cartoon films before they become extremely addicted to other genre which can wreck their irreplaceable childhood happiness.

Well, all in all, there are also pointless cartoons but they only a percent in one hundred. To sum up, cartoons are the most suitable things to watch on TV during free time that all family members can enjoy together. As all children love cartoon characters, who else would be in better position in teaching them their important life lessons?