President U Win Myint meets administrative, legislative, judiciary sector officials in Kayin State

President U Win Myint accompanied by Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu, Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo and officials met and gave guidance to officials from Kayin State government; (Pyithu, Amyotha, State) Hluttaw representatives; State High Court; and state, districts, townships departmental officials at the Zwegenbin Hall, Hpa-An, Kayin State yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting the President said the main reason for meeting Kayin State government, Hluttaw representatives, judicial and departmental officials was to increase the momentum of the transition to democracy. All those with responsibilities have pledged to establish a democratic federal union in this country. The reason we are establishing a democratic country is for every citizen and everyone to be free, safe, happy and equal. In addition to this, our martyred leader, father of the Tatmadaw and independence architect Bogyoke Aung San had provided us guidance to practice democracy once independence has been gained. A democratic system strengthens the federal union and a federal union also strengthens the democratic processes. In doing this, it would be successful only when all cooperate and participate. The three pillars and departmental organizations should not worry in conducting a transition. There will be difficulties in some places when transitioning from an old era and system to a new one. When such difficulties are encountered, should be seen as an opportunity to show our abilities. Some may worry, become weary, deny and resist transition. But for development of a country transition is not something to be worried, denied or resisted.
Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends 71st Anniversary of Myanmar Air Force

The Myanmar Tatmadaw (Air Force) was formed on 15 December 1947 and yesterday was the 71st anniversary of the Myanmar Air Force.

A ceremony to commemorate the day and inaugurate a total of 7 aircrafts was held yesterday morning at the flight training base Meiktila.


Afterwards Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing was presented with new aircraft inauguration commemorative gifts by Commander-in-Chief (Air Force) General Maung Maung Kyaw.

The aircrafts and helicopters then conducted a demonstration fly-by and aerobatic display. The Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief and party released 70 birds as merit making and then inspected the inaugurated aircrafts, according to the news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. —MNA

MECA holds thanksgiving ceremony, dinner for Christmas

THE Myanmar Evangelical Christian Alliance-MECA organized a thanksgiving event and pre-dinner to celebrate the Christmas at a church in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region, yesterday.

Also at the dinner, officials from MECA read from the bible, sang, prayed and extended greeting at the ceremony. Afterwards, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko delivered greetings and General Secretary of Myanmar Council of Churches Mahn Parmar Stan presented a sermon. Additionally, the congregation sang hymns and Bishop Dr. Rai Buai delivered a sermon.

Rev. Dr Aung Min offered special prayers, and Chairman of MECA Rev. Dr. Aye Min delivered a Christmas sermon, while Rev. Dr Nyunt Hla sang hymns. —MNA

Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win, CBM Deputy Governor U Soe Thein attend AFCDM+3

DEPUTY Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win and Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) Deputy Governor U Soe Thein attended the ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Deputies’ Meeting (AFCDM+3) held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 13 to 14 December.

Prior to the meeting, the ASEAN+3 Financial Forum was held under the theme “Voyage In Growing Uncertainties” on 12 December. The forum included two parts, with the first part discussing “Asia Sustaining Growth and Stability in the face of Uncertainties” and the second part focused on “Managing Financial Globalization: Policy Responses and Strengthening of Regional Financial Safety Nets.”

At the AFCDM+3 held on 13 and 14 December, Myanmar discussed its economic development status, challenges faced, and participation in ASEAN+3 work processes. AFCDM+3 meetings are held once every six months and are hosted alternatively by member countries. —MNA

The Ministry of Health and Sports organized a 42nd ceremony honoring outstanding blood donors at University of Nursing, Yangon, yesterday. At the ceremony, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Sports, Dr. Tha Tun Kyaw, delivered an opening speech, accepted cash donated to blood donors by well-wishers, presented certificates of honour, and presented gifts to those who had donated more than 100 times.

U Aung Min, a top donor who had donated 152 times said, “I donated three times a month for 50 years. I intend to continue donating as long as I live.”

Blood donors play an important role in the blood transfusion treatment process, so 14 December was chosen beginning in 2014 as a day to honor blood donors. The government also allocated some K 650 million annually for the costs of blood testing, drawing blood, distribution, and more. The percentage of blood transfusion patients receiving blood at the National Blood Center from donors was 35 per cent in 2013. It had reached 96.9 per cent by 2017. Some 519 attendees were present at the ceremony, including the top blood donors for this year, with 152 donations, and blood donors with over 40 donations. —Myat Sandi

42nd ceremony to honour outstanding blood donors held in Yangon

The Ministry of Health and Sports organized a 42nd ceremony honoring outstanding blood donors at University of Nursing, Yangon, yesterday. At the ceremony, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Sports, Dr. Tha Tun Kyaw, delivered an opening speech, accepted cash donated to blood donors by well-wishers, presented certificates of honour, and presented gifts to those who had donated more than 100 times.

U Aung Min, a top donor who had donated 152 times said, “I donated three times a month for 50 years. I intend to continue donating as long as I live.”

Blood donors play an important role in the blood transfusion treatment process, so 14 December was chosen beginning in 2014 as a day to honor blood donors. The government also allocated some K 650 million annually for the costs of blood testing, drawing blood, distribution, and more. The percentage of blood transfusion patients receiving blood at the National Blood Center from donors was 35 per cent in 2013. It had reached 96.9 per cent by 2017. Some 519 attendees were present at the ceremony, including the top blood donors for this year, with 152 donations, and blood donors with over 40 donations. —Myat Sandi

42nd ceremony being convened to honour outstanding blood donors at University of Nursing, Yangon, yesterday. —PHOTO: MYAT SANDI

42nd ceremony being convened to honour outstanding blood donors at University of Nursing, Yangon, yesterday. —PHOTO: MYAT SANDI
Myanmar now on path to democracy: President U Win Myint

Myanmar is now on the path to democracy. The nascent democracy may be compared to a toddler learning to walk; we have to be very careful not to falter at this stage and we need to be vigilant and mindful not to lose balance. If we wish democracy to survive, we have to respect the rule of law and at the same time abide by the existing rules and regulations.

(Excerpt from the message sent by President U Win Myint on the occasion of the International Day of Democracy on 15 September 2015.)

President U Win Myint meets administrative, legislative, judiciary ...

FROM PAGE 1

Success will be achieved only when we do things the way it is done by going down the path that is in line with the time and era. We could not avoid change and transition if we want our country to develop. Those in attendance today need to reform and straighten the mindsets and morals of those who are working under them. All need to be managed and administered so that all participate in the reform and transition process. In administration, we would like to change and establish political, economic and social fairness. At the same time arrangements must be made so that there is equal opportunity, equality and equality in the face of the law. The administration must be one that supports rule of law. It must be an administration and machinery that provide safe, secure and peaceful life to the people. It should serve the people and do what the people asked them to do instead of being a machine that oppresses the people.

As per the norm of democracy we accept the fact that the people are like our parents, father and mother. It should be noted that history had shown many examples of democracy failing because the governments of the states and regions are bad in management and wrong in administration. Without changing the laws to be in accord with democratic norms, a government can change the administration as much as they want but the administrative machinery will not be a democratic machinery but a bureaucratic machinery. Laws that are in accord with our country, our regions and our situation are required to be enacted.

Our aim in the judiciary sector is to have an un-biased judiciary. Efforts must be made towards having justice. Everything must be in accordance with the law. All are equal in the face of the law. Law officers also need to stand on the side of the people according to the law so that courts can judge and decide correctly.

When I was sworn in as President, I delivered a speech. The essence of the speech was the requirement to change the rigid mindset and habits of the people, government servants and public servants to have a successful and smooth changing process during the democratic transition period. Departmental organizations slow in reforming were to be given tighter management. The Judicial sector needed to be true and correct. More needed to be done to eradicate corruption. Human rights violations were to be prevented. Drugs were to be eliminated.

More needed to be done to eradicate corruption. Human rights violations were to be prevented. Drugs were to be eliminated. Wastage and loss of public funds were to be managed. Farmlands confiscated unlawfully needed to be returned or compensation paid according to the law. The state government is to implement and follow the Union Government’s policies and instructions. It must not implement in any other way. It is the duty and responsibility of the state government to implement the policies of the Union Government. Departments and organizations in the state are to be effectively managed. Departments and organizations are to be checked and monitored so that they are doing what they are assigned to do. Only when this is done can there be an increase in the momentum of the administrative machinery reform.

A department was formed in the President Office to fight against drugs more forcefully. Drugs are a huge menace to the future generation of the country. Severe action will be taken against public servants regardless of their position if they are connected in any way with drug production and trade. All need to partake in drug eradication work. Anti-corruption works were being conducted effectively. Corruption is becoming established as a practice and habit in our country. If it could not be handled, the country would not develop. Works are organized and conducted down to some states and regions level and depending upon availability of funds, it will be expanded and continued to remaining states and regions. Arrangements are made to form ministry wise Corruption Prevention Units (CPU’s). The country will develop and investments will come only when corruption is eradicated. All need to participate in this. We understand the livelihood problems faced by the public servants. But do not do things for your temporary relief and instead work towards the benefit of the people and the country.

Wastage and loss of public funds were to be managed. Projects are to be correctly calculated and presented. Works are to be conducted following tender rules, regulations and transparently. Unfinished projects are to be correctly reported. Project surplus are to be returned. The State Advocate and the State Auditor need to advise properly to relevant authorities.

The momentum to protect human rights needed to be increased. Human rights is a birth right. Myanmar was one of the earliest signatories of the human rights declaration. At the future generation will assess whether we have done our duties properly let us perform our historical duties well, said the President.

Next, Kayin State Chief Minister Daw Nang Khin Hwe Myint, Kayin State Hlutaw Speaker U Saw Chit Khin and State Chief Justice U Saw San Lin explained about state government’s regional development works, legislative works and judiciary works respectively. Afterwards President U Win Myint explained about the strengths and weaknesses of the administrative, legislative and judicial sectors, conducting trials correctly and speedily, providing to the people the rights accorded by the laws, requirement to correctly handle evidences in cases, requirement of legislating Hlutaw representatives to conduct according to the laws and rules, the Union Government’s policy being balanced development of states and regions and the country’s development being directly linked to the correct and speedy decision and conduct of the state government.

The state government is to follow exactly the policies set by the Union Government in returning confiscated farm lands. State government must not interpret the policies set by the Union Government in the way they wanted. Released lands are to be returned to the original owners quickly and officially. It was very important for judgment in farmland matters to be true and correct. Departmental organizations providing reports to the state need to ensure that the data and information are correct. The Union Government was striving towards becoming a clean government with good administration. For this to happen, we need to assess in advance whether public servants would take responsibility and accept accountability. We need to work with transparency and cooperation.

After the meeting the President cordially greeted the meeting attendees and then inspected along the Strain Road of Hpa-An town. — MNA
UCSB Chairman inspects preliminary examination of entry level gazetted officers

PRELIMINARY examinations for 188 entry level gazetted officer positions at six ministries under the Union Civil Service Board (UCSB) announcement 3/2018 were being held at five examination centers in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Magway and Mawlamyine, starting yesterday morning.

UCSB Chairman Dr. Win Thein visited the two examination centers in Yangon at Basic Education High School No. 4 Ahlon and Basic Education High School No. 7 Ahlon yesterday morning, where he inspected and encouraged candidates sitting for the English and general knowledge subject examinations.

UCSB is upgrading the selection process to fill positions in the ministries. A preliminary examination is first conducted and those who pass the first test will have to sit for Intermediate Level to Upper Intermediate Level written tests, as a second step. A psychological test and an interview are then conducted on those who passed the second step. Today’s examinations are a preliminary examination, this being the third time it has been held. To date, 4,020 candidates have sat for the preliminary examination. — MNA / (Translated by Zaw Min)

‘All Who Can Read Should Read’ campaign to be held in Nay Pyi Taw on 20-21 Dec

Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun inspects machines to be displayed at ‘All Who Can Read Should Read’ campaign. PHOTO: MNA

THE ‘All Who Can Read Should Read’ campaign will be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-2 (MICC-2), Nay Pyi Taw, from 20 to 21 December.

A press conference to provide updates on the preparation work for organizing it was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday. Speaking at the press conference, Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun said the ministry is holding children’s literature festivals, all round youth development festivals and book sale festivals throughout the country, in cooperation with other ministries and state/region governments, for the people to acquire and expand the habit of reading.

“The main aims of the ‘All Who Can Read Should Read’ campaign is to encourage and stimulate the development of reading among all people in Myanmar who can read, and to continue and extend the campaign to cover the entire country”, he pointed out.

“During this campaign, prizes will be awarded to the 20 libraries among the libraries throughout the country that are the most innovative. Five talk shows will be held and three papers will be read on the school library works and on increasing the reading rate of the people, and there will also be 26 exhibitions. In addition, a book sales festival will be held. Furthermore, the media is requested to cooperate in successfully holding the campaign”, said the Deputy Minister.

At the press conference, Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) Director-General U Ye Naing, Printing and Publishing Department Director-General U Aung Myo Myint, National Archives Department Director General U San Myint, Department of Historical Research and National Library Director Daw Mya Oo and Basic Education Department Deputy Director Daw Thit Thit Khang explained about departmental exhibitions taking part in the campaign.

For the campaign activities, Ministry of Information exhibits will display public information programs broadcast by Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV), public information educational works conducted by IPRD, the bicycle library program conducted by the governmental entity namely the Information and Broadcasting Division before renaming as MRTV and IPRD, records of documentary films, machinery and equipment used, photographs of famous writers, published books and magazines, and a list of books published by Sarpy Beikman since 1947, as well as rare books.

The Department of Historical Research and National Library exhibit will display old historical collections, such as Maha Bandoola palm leaf writing agreements and treaties, the 1826 Treaty of Yandabo, which ended the first Anglo-Myanmar war, the 1883 Treaty between France and Myanmar, Aung San-Attlee Agreement, Nu-Attlee Agreement, Pinlon Agreement, Nationwide Ceasfire Agreement (NCA) signed in 2015, annexes to the NCA signed in 2017, NCA signed in 2018, original hand writings of Kinwunmingyi, a British era 1886 Myanmar Gazette, 1947 Constitution, Independence Declaration 1948, Pyidawtha Project (1954), five Shan white paraibaikals, among other things. — MNA / (Translated by Zaw Min)

10 vehicles donated to JMC

THE Embassy of India in Yangon donated 10 vehicles to the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) yesterday, to be used in monitoring ceasefire operations in Myanmar.

At the ceremony, held at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Yangon yesterday, Ambassador of India to Myanmar Mr. Vikram Misri handed over 10 cars to JMC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyai and Vice Chairman-2 Thura U Bo Ni.

India is one of the countries that witnessed the signing of the ceasefire agreement between the Tatmadaw and eight ethnic armed organizations on 15 October, 2015.

Lt-Gen Yar Pyai and Thura U Bo Ni expressed thanks to the government of India for its support of JMC. — Ye Khawng Nyunt

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)
MR to invite tender for upgrading of Yangon-Pyay railway

MYANMA Railway (MR) will issue a tender for upgrading the Yangon-Pyay railway section early next year, said an official from MR.

The tender will be sought from international companies, for the work to begin in 2020. MR will also receive loans from the Asia Development Bank and European Investment Bank to be used for upgrading the railway line.

The Yangon-Pyay railway is one of the five most important railway sections in Myanmar, and carries some 75 per cent of all rail passengers.

Currently, we are conducting feasibility studies. We are planning to use US$200 million to upgrade the railway, and the project will be implemented within three years,” said the official from MR.

“Myanmar’s expenditure on railway systems is less, compared to other countries. There is a need to invest more in the rail sector to assist the economic development in the country,” he added.

The MR is giving priority to upgrading the Yangon-Mandalay railway, Mandalay-Myeik railway, Yangon-Pyay railway, Yangon-Mawlamyine railway and Yangon circular railway stations.

The upgrading of the Yangon circular railway section will be completed by 2030.

Upon completion of the project, there will be improved transportation for cargo transport, as well as an increase in the number of passengers.—GNLM (Translated by Hay Mar)

Myanmar, Thailand border trade reaches $702 mln

THE value of border trade between Myanmar and Thailand has reached US$702 million, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Trade coming across the Myanmar-Thailand border totalled $702.328 million, between 1 October and 7 December 2018, which included $531.758 million in exports and $180.57 million in imports.

Bilateral border trade between Myanmar and Thailand during the same period of last year was worth $237.813 million.

Myanmar-Thailand border trade comes across at the Tachilek border trade camp in Shan state, Myawaddy border trade camp in Kayin state, Mawtaung border trade camp, Myeik border trade camp, Htee Khee border trade camp, Mawtaung border trade camp in Taninthayi region and the Maeso border camp in Kayah state.


Magway Region minister urges growers to plant cotton instead of pigeon peas

As the market for pigeon peas has shown little potential for growth, it will be better for growers to plant quick-growing cotton, which can be harvested every three months, said the Magway Region’s Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation, U Win Maw Hu.

“Pigeon peas are prioritized as tropical crops. But their market has sunk. Therefore, growers must replace peas with more marketable crops. An acre of cottonseed can yield 1,000 viss. Growers can reap a minimum profit of K300,000 per acre by switching to cotton,” he said.

The regional minister made the remarks during a capacity building course on 13-14 December. With the market situation changing, the Agriculture Department is planning to distribute 5,000 viss of cottonseeds.

The number of cotton growers has increased. They are no longer choosing pigeon peas as their market has not recovered for so long. This being so, growers are turning to cotton plants, which yield a minimum of 500 viss per acre.” said Daw Pyone Yee, a cotton grower.

The prevailing price of cotton is K1,400 per viss. “As an acre yields over 500 viss, income from cotton can be placed at par with paddy. This year, cotton has been cultivated on 187,419 acres in Magway Region. The region’s agriculture department is planning to expand the acreage up to 300,000 acres in the upcoming early, mid, and late monsoon periods,” said the head of the Agriculture Department.—Zay Yatu (Magway) (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Myanmar’s external trade up 5.9% since October

MYANMAR’S overseas trade between October and early December this year exceeded US$8 billion, up $342 million, or 5.9 per cent, from the same period last year, reported the Commerce Ministry on Friday.

The ministry’s latest data showed that the country exported goods worth $2.67 billion and imported goods valued at $3.43 billion during the period. The trade deficit this fiscal year stood at $755 million, down $180 million, or 19 per cent, from $936 million in the same period last year.

Compared with the same period last year, the export value has risen by 10.8 per cent, while imports have increased by 22 per cent. Over the first 68 days of the 2018-2019 fiscal year, Myanmar’s maritime exports hit $1.58 billion, while imports through the normal trade routes exceeded $2.931 billion, with trade totalling nearly $4.52 billion. The country exported domestic goods worth $1.088 billion via land border points and imported products worth over $500 million from neighbouring countries during the period.—Swe Nyein (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)
OVER 2.84 million tourists visited Myanmar during the first 10 months of 2018, according to official statistics from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Over one million tourists visited Myanmar through airports and over 7,000 tourists came on cruise liners, while over 35,000 tourists entered Myanmar through the nation’s border gates.

Although most tourists came from Europe and North America in recent years, increasing numbers of tourists from China, Thailand and some Asian countries are visiting Myanmar.

About 58,820 tourists came from North America, 138,545 visitors from Western Europe, 13,160 visitors from Eastern Europe, 3,309 visitors from Africa, 4,317 visitors from Middle-East countries, 82,712 tourists from Asia and 24,259 visitors from Oceania areas.

Of Asian travellers, over 236,441 visitors came from Thailand, 227,048 tourists from China, 82,327 tourists from Japan, and 53,993 tourists from South Korea. France topped the list of western European travellers with 32,597, followed by travelers from the United Kingdom, Germany, and Italy.

With the increase in the number of tourist, authorities are conducting promotions, marketing and awareness campaigns in the tourism market. —GNLM

A tourist guide explaining the history of the Shwedagon Pagoda to tourists.

PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

*(Translated by Hay Mar)*

**44th Rakhine State Day celebrated in Sittway, Mrauk U**

The ceremony was opened with a song, “Ngayoe Rakhine Thar” (Our Rakhine People), performed by students from Basic Education Post-primary School in Pyitwathar Ward, Sittway Town.

Also, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu read a message sent by President U Win Myint to mark the 44th Rakhine State Day, and town elder U Maung Thein Pyu (writer Gwayar Myaw Say Win) delivered a message about how Rakhine State came into existence and its current state of development.

Afterwards, following a performance of a song by students from Shwepin private school, the Chief Minister, State Hluttaw Speaker, State Chief Justice, State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and state ministers presented awards to public servants and winners of Rakhine State Day competitions.

Earlier in the morning, Rakhine State Government offered breakfast and offerings on the platform at Atula Marezn Pyilone Chantha Pagoda to the Members of Sangha in Sittway and listened to a sermon. — Tjin Tun (IPRD) / (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

**CUSTOMS DEPT TO LAUNCH TWO SCHEMES TO DEVELOP PRIVATE SECTOR**

Myanmar Customs Department will implement two schemes to drive private sector development, said U Soe Win, the Union Minister for Planning and Finance, during a meeting with Vice President U Myint Swe and businesspersons in Yangon on Friday.

The schemes will involve bringing customs warehousing procedures in line with international standards, and reducing import duty on raw materials and raising duty on finished products.

“Practicing customs warehousing procedures will help free Myanmar’s exports from international import restrictions. The move will also ensure self-sufficiency. It will allow for goods to be stored without payment of Value Added Tax. It will reduce the advanced income tax burden, without time delay. It will also simplify processes in manufacturing, trading, and transportation sectors, creating more jobs,” said U Soe Win.

“Customs warehousing can help simplify export/import processes. Warehouses can provide a steady supply of material when it is needed, which can help control high commodity prices. Additionally, it will support legitimate trading and minimize illegal trade,” he said.

“Under the second scheme, import duties on raw materials will be reduced and duties on finished products will be increased. This will save manufacturing costs for local production. The scheme will help improve market competitiveness, attract more investors, and increase more jobs. It will also bridge the gap between import and export businesses,” he added.

“The Ministry of Planning and Finance is also working to provide better financial access to businesses to boost the private sector,” the minister said. “The Myanma Economic Bank (MEB) is providing loans to entrepreneurs engaged in manufacturing, services, transport, trading, and construction,” he added.

“The bank has set an 11-per cent interest rate on overdraft loans, while the interest rate for term loans not exceeding three years is 12.5 per cent. Medium-term loans (three to five years) attract a 12.5-per cent interest rate, while the interest on long-term loans (five to ten years) is 12.25 per cent. The MEB offers other types of loans, too. The MEB grants loans of up to Ks300 million upon approval of the Board of Directors. Loans exceeding Ks300 million need approval from the ministry,” said the Union Minister. MEB manages JICA’s two-step loans and ODA loans for SME sector development. To improve small and medium enterprises’ access to markets, Myanmar Citizens Bank, Kanbauza Bank, CB, Ayeayawady Bank, First Private Bank, and United Amara Bank are also offering two-step loans. —(Translated by Yi Myat Mon)
German railway reaches pay deal with main union

BERLIN (Germany) — German railway operator Deutsche Bahn and its main union said Saturday they had reached a pay deal after strikes disrupted services earlier this week.

The EVG union, which represents most of the 160,000 DB workers, agreed a 6.1 per cent pay rise in all — 3.5 per cent payable from July 2019 and 2.6 per cent from July 2020.

EVA originally demanded a 7.5 per cent pay hike while DB offered 4.1 per cent. Employees will also get a one-off payment of 1,000 euros ($1,130) just before the first phase salary increase, EVA and DB said.

EVA negotiator Regina Rusch-Ziemba said the union had won comprehensively after strike action had "sent a clear sign" to the company of workers’ determination.

The agreement “is an important sign of (DB’s) esteem for its workers,” DB human resources head Martin Seiler said in a statement.

DB will now be able to focus on improving its services, especially on punctuality, he said.

The much smaller GDL train drivers union remains in dispute with DB, announcing Friday that talks with management had failed. — AFP

Upcoming changes in marine fuel sulfur limits to affect global oil markets: EIA

HOUSTON — International regulations limiting sulfur in fuels for ocean-going vessels will increase uncertainty for crude oil and petroleum product price formation in both the short and long term, the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) said Friday.

These rules, set to take effect in January 2020, apply across multiple countries’ jurisdictions to fuels used in the open ocean.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), the 171-member state United Nations agency that sets standards for shipping, decided to reduce the maximum amount of sulfur content in marine fuels used on the open seas from 3.5 per cent to 0.5 per cent by 2020. These regulations are intended to reduce sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and other pollutants from global ship exhaust.

EIA said that the upcoming IMO regulations pose a significant challenge for global petroleum refineries, which will have to figure out how to increase the supply of low sulfur products for use in marine applications and minimize the output of high sulfur oils.

EIA said that one approach refineries could pursue is to divert more low sulfur distillate fuel into the bunker fuel market. This means that ocean-going ships would be competing with trucks, heavy equipment, trains and planes for supplies of distillate fuels at a time when global demand for distillate is already high. To respond to extra demand for distillate fuels, refineries can increase the rate they process crude oil or invest and build more refinery capacity to produce distillate fuels.

Refineries could also process crude oils that are lower in sulfur and yield a greater amount of distillates and lower amounts of residual oils, which currently make up the largest component of marine fuels used by large ocean-going vessels.

Vessel operators also have several choices to comply with the new sulfur limits. One option is to switch to a lower-sulfur fuel or install scrubbers to remove pollutants from ships’ exhaust, allowing them to continue to use higher-sulfur fuels. Ships have the option to switch to nonpetroleum-based fuels as well.

The decisions refiners and shippers make in response to the IMO regulations heavily influence one another, adding to uncertainty and complexity, according to EIA.

When burned, the sulfur in marine fuel produces sulfur dioxide, a precursor to acid rain. The sulfur content of transportation fuels has been declining for many years because of increasingly strict regulations implemented by individual countries or groups of countries. Another option is to utilize scrubbers to remove pollutants from ships’ exhaust, allowing them to continue to use higher-sulfur fuels.
Everyone should cultivate a mindset that encourages working for the benefit of other people, as it will have a reciprocal effect on your own development, too.
US stocks close sharply lower as global growth fears spur sell-off

NEW YORK (United States)—US stocks sold off to close the week down sharply on Friday, with fears of slowing global growth pushing all three major Wall Street indices down about two per cent.

Sparked by weaker-than-expected Chinese economic data, the slump left the indices more than 10 per cent below their most recent peaks.

The benchmark Dow Jones Industrial Average fell two percent to close the session 24,100.51, its lowest level since May and down 1.2 per cent for the week.

The broader S&P 500 fell 1.9 per cent to end at 2,599.95, down 1.3 per cent for the week, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq sank the furthest, losing 2.3 per cent to finish at 6,910.68.

That left the Nasdaq up only a hair’s breadth for the year while the Dow and the S&P 500 had already wiped out their gains for 2018.

Chinese authorities on Friday reported weaker-than-expected retail sales and industrial output, renewing long-standing fears that the global economy is slowing, leaving the current bull market little room to continue.

“The fears around slower growth globally have been confirmed by the fact that the Chinese data were weak,” Nate Thoof of Manulife Asset Management told AFP.

But, he said, “I still think the market is reading way too much in it.” Shares of US drug maker Johnson & Johnson also weighed on the Dow, closing down more than 10 per cent following a Reuters report that the company knowingly sold talc-based powder containing the carcinogen asbestos. Johnson & Johnson forcefully denied the report—which drew from thousands of pages of documents from the company dating back decades. Discount retailer Costco sank 8.6 per cent on disappointing first-quarter revenue.

Meanwhile, US retail sales slowed to 0.2 per cent in November, but excluding gasoline and auto sales, underlying consumer spending was more robust, the Commerce Department reported on Friday.—AFP

China says to suspend extra tariffs on US cars, parts

BEIJING (China)—China pressed on with its trade war truce with the United States on Friday, announcing it will suspend extra tariffs added to US-made cars and auto parts for three months from 1 January.

The move is another sign that the ceasefire has not been derailed by the recent arrest in Canada of a top Chinese telecom executive at the behest of the United States.

Beijing raised tariffs on American-made cars and auto parts this summer by 25 per cent in retaliation for US tariffs on $50 billion of Chinese goods. “Suspension of the tariffs is a concrete measure to implement the consensus reached by the two heads of state,” said the announcement by the State Council’s Tariff Commission Office, noting it applied to 211 product codes.

US President Donald Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping agreed on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Buenos Aires on December 1 to a 90-day truce while they tried to find a solution to the escalating trade dispute.

While China and the US initially provided differing accounts of the scope of their agreement, Beijing has recently begun to act on claims put forth by White House officials as to what steps China would take.

“We hope that both sides will, in accordance with the consensus reached by the two heads of state, on the premise of mutual respect, mutual equality, faithfulness, words and actions, and intensify consultations in the direction of cancelling all of the extra tariff increases,” the State Council’s statement said.

Confusion and unease over what agreement the two sides reached in Argentina has roiled stock markets.—AFP

China’s central bank injects funds into market via MLF

BEIJING—China’s central bank on Friday injected 286 billion yuan (about 41.5 billion US dollars) into the market via the medium-term lending facility (MLF) to maintain liquidity.

The funds will mature in one year with an interest rate of 3.3 per cent, unchanged from previous operations, the People’s Bank of China (PBOC) said on its website.

The operation effectively rolled over an equal amount of such loans, which matured on Friday.

The MLF tool was introduced in 2014 to help commercial and policy banks maintain liquidity by allowing them to borrow from the central bank using securities as collateral.

The PBOC suspended reverse repo operations for the 36th consecutive trading day.

Friday’s interbank market showed the overnight Shanghai Interbank Offered Rate (Shibor) which measures the cost at which banks lend to one another, jumped 13.6 basis points to 2.655 per cent, the highest level over the past two weeks. The Shibor rate for one-month loans also climbed 6.6 basis points to 2.966 per cent.

The country vowed to maintain control over the floodgates of monetary supply and keep liquidity at a reasonable and ample level, according to a statement issued after a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee in July.—Xinhua
UK’s May returns to face EU leaders after Brexit deal rebuff

BRUSSELS—British Prime Minister Theresa May returned to face EU leaders on Friday after they rebuffed her pleas for help to sell her Brexit plan back home and warned of the growing threat of a “no deal.” May had sought to persuade her 27 colleagues she could overcome huge opposition to the divorce deal among British MPs if they gave her some assurances over the thorny problem of the Irish border.

But they were not convinced, and European diplomats said May had been unable to explain what she wanted or how she could deliver a British parliamentary majority to endorse the deal.

“The signals we heard yesterday were not particularly reassuring on Britain’s capacity to honour the commitments that were made,” Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel said.

“So we will make sure to prepare for all scenarios and prepare also for no deal scenario,” he added, as he prepared for the second and final day of the EU summit. On Thursday, European Commission president Jean-Claude Juncker repeated the EU’s red lines for the Brexit deal to avoid a crunch in the House of Commons this week on the second and final day of the EU summit. On Thursday, European Commission president Jean-Claude Juncker repeated assurances to help her steer the deal through a sceptical British parliament.

But European sources said the room was tense, with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and other leaders repeatedly interrupting May to ask her what she wanted and how she could deliver it.

Another source who had been in the room told AFP on Friday that May had contradicted herself and failed to say how any assurances on the backstop might work, to the consternation of fellow leaders.

On Friday, however, Luxembourg Prime Minister Xavier Bettel on defended May, saying she “did a good job, she got the best possible deal” despite being able to deliver her own party’s lawmakers.

“The problem is the MPs in London,” he said.

“The fact is for internal political reasons in the UK some people try to gamble the relation between the EU and the UK for the future. And it’s bad,”

May has faced constant criticism to her Brexit strategy from hardline anti-Europeans in her party, while the Northern Irish party which props up her government also opposes her deal.—AFP

Frankfurt am Main (Germany)—Germany’s IT watchdog has expressed scepticism about calls for a boycott of Chinese telecom giant Huawei, saying it has seen no evidence the firm could use its equipment to spy for Beijing, news weekly Spiegel reported on Friday.

“For such serious decisions like a ban, you need proof,” the head of Germany’s Federal Office for Information Security (BSI), Arne Schoenbohm, told Spiegel, adding that his agency had no such evidence.

Huawei has faced increasing scrutiny over its alleged links to Chinese intelligence services, prompting countries like the United States, Australia and Japan to block it from building their next-generation, super-fast 5G internet networks.

The US has put pressure on Germany to follow suit, Spiegel wrote.

Schoenbohm said BSI experts had examined Huawei products and components from around the world.

They had also visited Huawei’s newly opened lab in Bonn, where German clients can inspect the firm’s cyber security measures and the software behind its products.

But some observers raised eyebrows at the BSI’s apparent dismissal of cyber security risks concerning Huawei.

“I believe it’s wrong to suggest that the concerns about Chinese espionage are unfounded and easy to detect,” telecom security expert Ronja Kniep told AFP.

“No evidence” of Huawei spying, says German IT watchdog

“Even if Huawei has no official relationship with the Chinese government, that doesn’t mean Chinese services aren’t using the company and its technology as vehicles for espionage.”

All three of Germany’s main mobile network operators use infrastructure provided by Huawei, Spiegel pointed out.

The Chinese firm is also the brand behind some of Germany’s most popular mobile phones.—AFP
Viet Nam probes former top policemen on fugitive spy links

HANOI (Viet Nam)—Two former senior police officials in Viet Nam were placed under investigation on Friday for their alleged role in aiding a spy, the latest development as the communist state’s anti-corruption drive extends to the powerful security sector.

The duo were once part of Viet Nam’s Ministry of Public Security, one of the state’s most protected institutions which oversees the country’s vast police force, and cybersecurity and intelligence units.

But it is now the target of a crackdown that has mostly engulfed the oil and banking sectors, as analystas say the conservative leadership aims to stamp out corruption and sideline political foes.

An announcement issued by the ministry on Friday said two former MPS deputy ministers—Bui Van Thanh and Tran Viet Tan—were “put under investigation and not allowed to leave their residences.”

The order was linked to Phan Van Anh Vu, an intelligence officer whose high-profile arrest at a Singapore border crossing last December gave a hint at fissures within Viet Nam’s highly secretive Communist party and state apparatus.

Vu, an ex-property developer who authorities say was sought for leaking state secrets, was extradited and is now serving eight years in jail. The details of his crimes have never been made public because of national security reasons, officials say.

Thanh, one of the two officers under investigation, was sacked from his deputy minister position in August after the state accused him of aiding Vu to travel overseas.

He had also allegedly illegally signed documents approving the sale of state properties. As for Tan, the deputy police minister chief had served five years in office until 2016, when a probe found that he had allegedly violated regulations on protecting state secrets.

Viet Nam’s anti-graft campaign echoes Beijing’s massive corruption crackdown and is believed to be led by Nguyen Phu Trong, the head of Viet Nam’s Communist Party and the country’s president. The white-haired conservative leader has repeatedly vowed to stamp out mismanagement at every level. —AFP

China holds gala for 40th anniversary of reform, opening up

“Out 40 Years,” a grand gala in celebration of the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening up, is held in Beijing, capital of China on 14 December, 2018. PHOTO: XINHUA

BEIJING—A grand gala was held in Beijing on Friday evening in celebration of the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening up.

Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Han Zheng and Wang Qishan were among the Communist Party of China (CPC) and state leaders who joined more than 3,000 people to watch the gala at the Great Hall of the People.

On the balcony of the 2nd floor of the hall hung a banner, which read “rally closely around the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core, hold high the banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics, follow the guidance of Deng Xiaoping Theory, the Theory of Three Represents, the Scientific Outlook on Development and Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and unceasingly advance reform and opening up.”

At 7:55 pm, Xi and other senior leaders walked into the hall, shook hands with representatives of people awarded for their outstanding contributions to reform and opening up, amid warm applause throughout the venue.

Named “Our 40 Years,” the gala was divided into Overture, Part One, Part Two and Epilogue. Part One replayed the grand changes that have taken place in China since the beginning of reform and opening up. The part culminated with a poetry recital titled “The Great Awakening,” which expressed Chinese people’s gratitude and admiration for reform and opening up. Part Two comprehensively showed how socialism with Chinese characteristics entered the new era under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

The gala ended with a song expressing the promising future for reform and opening up. —Xinhua

Australia formally recognizes West Jerusalem as capital of Israel

SYDNEY—In a major policy shift, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced on Saturday that his government recognizes West Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, while accusing the United Nations of furthering an anti-Semitic agenda.

Speaking at an event in Sydney, Morrison said Australia remained committed to a two-state solution and longstanding respect to the state of Israel.

“A rancid stalemate has emerged,” he said, referring to decades-long negotiations which have failed to come to fruition.

“Slavish adherence to the conventional wisdom over decades appears only to be further entrenching the stalemate, providing a leave pass for continued action.”

“Australia now recognizes West Jerusalem, being the seat of the Knesset and many of the institutions of government, is the capital of Israel.” At the same time, Morrison acknowledged the aspirations of the Palestinian people to establish a future state with its capital in East Jerusalem.

“Australia believes this respects our commitment to a two-state solution and longstanding respect to Security Council resolutions,” he said, calling the move a “balanced view.”

Morrison said he looked forward to moving the Australian Embassy to West Jerusalem after a final solution is reached between Israel and Palestine.

In the interim, the government will establish a trade and defence office in West Jerusalem. Morrison also used his speech to accuse the United Nations General Assembly of furthering an anti-Semitic agenda “masquerading as the defense of human rights.”

The prime minister cited 17 UN General Assembly resolutions from last year critical of Israel compared to 68 resolutions from last year critical of Israel.

We thank Canon., Japan for their cooperation and understanding.

U Thein Soe

Daw Lwin Lwin Mar

We, U Thein Soe, NRC No. 6/MA Ah Ya (Naing) 024807 (The Owner/Director of Perfect Image Trading Co., Ltd), Son of Mr. Mud Ju, residing at No. 190/194, 4(A), Pansodan Street, Kyauktadar Township, Yangon, Myanmar hereby apologize Canon Inc., Japan for selling and distributing counterfeit/fake Canon Cartridges at our shops as we are sincerely did not know that the Canon Cartridges we bought from Unauthorized Distributor for reselling are Counterfeits and which is definitely affecting Canon Inc., Japan’s Intellectual Property Rights.

Being first time offenders, we make this public apology and agree to stop sales of all imitation Canon Products and remove all fake Canon products/Canon Cartridges from our shop and we promise to buy the genuine Canon Products from your Authorized Distributor for reselling at our shops.

We thank Canon., Japan for their cooperation and understanding.

U Thein Soe

Daw Lwin Lwin Mar

We, U Thein Soe, NRC No. 024807 (The Owner/Director of Perfect Image Trading Co., Ltd), Son of Mr. Mud Ju, residing at No. 190/194, 4(A), Pansodan Street, Kyauktadar Township, Yangon, Myanmar hereby apologize to Canon Inc., Japan for selling and distributing counterfeit/fake Canon Cartridges at our shops as we are sincerely did not know that the Canon Cartridges we bought from Unauthorized Distributor for reselling are Counterfeits and which is definitely affecting Canon Inc., Japan’s Intellectual Property Rights.

Being first time offenders, we make this public apology and agree to stop sales of all imitation Canon Products and remove all fake Canon products/Canon Cartridges from our shop and we promise to buy the genuine Canon Products from your Authorized Distributor for reselling at our shops.

We thank Canon., Japan for their cooperation and understanding.

U Thein Soe

Daw Lwin Lwin Mar

M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (040 N/S) Consignees of cargo carried on M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (040 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-12-2018 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
MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES Phone No: 2301185
Oceans of garbage prompt war on plastics

PARIS (France)—Faced with images of turtles smothered by plastic bags, beaches carpeted with garbage and islands of trash floating in the oceans, environmentalists say the world is waking up to the need to tackle plastic pollution at the source. Stories on social media of giant seas of floating waste or a beached whale found in Indonesia with six kilos (13 pounds) of plastic in its stomach are bringing plastic pollution into the spotlight.

“There is no question who confuses plastic bags with the jellyfish they eat,” said George Leonard, chief scientist at Ocean Conservancy. “We are in a moment in time where we are starting to stare the problem in the face, and we’re quite optimistic and hopeful that we can solve it.” Leonard and other environmental experts are optimistic the exposure will make the problem of plastics hard to ignore and focus attention on how best to deal with such waste.

Eight million tonnes of plastic is dumped into the oceans each year, according to a study in the Science journal. PHOTO: AFP

Eight million tonnes of plastic is spilled into the oceans each year, according to a study in the

Environment agency has already declared war on plastics in the oceans and made it the environmental theme of 2018.

“We need stop treating plastic as something that we can just throw away after we have used it, and start treating it as a material that has real value,” said Petter Malvik, campaign manager for the Clean Seas campaign launched by UN-Environment in 2017. Already around 60 countries have joined in the campaign started in 2017 to ban non-reusable plastics.

“Although bans alone won’t solve the problem, they are definitely more effective than just a drop in the bucket,” Malvik said. Another problem is so-called “ghost nets”—fishing nets lost at sea or left intentionally and which continue to catch fish for months after.

When it comes to cleaning the oceans, though, experts say the task may be far more complex. Scientists, for example, have doubts for over a giant floating clean-up device proposed by Ocean Cleanup foundation, which aims to clear half of a huge waste deposit floating in the Pacific in the next five years. Dubbed the “Great Pacific garbage patch”, the abnormal mass of floating debris caused by marine turbulence has now reached 80,000 tonnes spread over an area three times the size of France, according to a study in Scientific Reports. — AFP ■

Seeing penguins’ poop from space reveals changes in Antarctic ecosystem

WASHINGTON—A NASA-funded study used satellite to search for penguin poop in Antarctica: funny at first sight through, but it resulted in unique insights on the Adelie penguin’s diet and its future as the climate changes.

The findings published recently at the American Geophysical Union’s annual meeting unlocked the secrets about the species that can provide an early-warning of threats to Antarctica’s delicate ecosystem.

Researchers from Stony Brook University tapped into Landsat satellite imagery to see if the Adelie’s diet has been changing in response to Antarctica’s changing climate. Adelie penguin populations have declined significantly in some areas even as the global population increases.—Xinhua ■

SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE
PROCUREMENT OF WORKS

REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS UNDER THE MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION
FLERP – FLOODING AND LANDSLIDE EMERGENCY RECOVERY PROJECT
Credit No.: 5889-MM

Contract Title: THANDWE-GWA ROAD WORKS – RAHKHINE STATE
Referene No.: NCB C1-MOC-W01 (LOT 5)

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of the Flooding and Landslide Emergency Recovery Project (FLERP). The Department of Highways (DOH) under the Ministry of Construction, in its role as Implementing Agency of Component 1 of the FLERP, intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the procurement of Road Works and DOH now invites sealed bid from eligible bidders for the following road work along the Thandwe-Gwa Road in the Rakhine State:

LOT 5: SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SAFETY STEEL GUARD RAILS

The works are scheduled to start on 1 February 2019 with an estimated maximum duration of 150 days.

Bids will be evaluated, taking into account discounts offered. The contract will be awarded to the lowest evaluated Bidder meeting the required qualification criteria for lot. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in “the World Bank’s Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers dated January 2011 and revised in July 2014” (the Procurement Guidelines), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information within office hour and a complete set of electronic bidding documents in English Language may be obtained free of charge by interested eligible bidders by simple e-mail request to the address below, starting from 21 December 2018. Alternatively, a complete set of printed bidding documents in English Language may be obtained by interested eligible bidders upon submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of 30,000.00 MMK. The method of payment will be cash payment or cashier’s check directly at the address mentioned below where the set of bidding documents can be collected. No printed documents will be sent.

Interested Bidders that obtained the bidding documents will be invited to attend a Pre-Bid Conference on Tuesday 8 January 2018 at address mentioned below. Bid must be delivered to the address below on or before Friday 18 January 2019, 12:00 noon local time. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bid will be rejected. Bid will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders’ designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below on Friday 18 January 2019, 1:00 pm local time.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security or a Cash Deposit with a reputable Bank in Myanmar, licensed by and under the supervision of the Central Bank of Myanmar for this activity.

The address referred to above is:
Department of Highways
Attn: U Khan Zaw, Project Director, FERP; Dwu Ei Ei Myo, Procurement Director, FERP
Office No. (11), Nay Pyi Taw, Republic Union of the Republic of Myanmar
Tel: +95(67)407658, +95(9)2450600, +95(9)5070469
e-mail: flerp.moc@gmail.com
Apple to roll out new Snoopy, Peanuts cartoon series

NEW YORK (United States)—Apple will produce a new animated series starring Snoopy and the Peanuts gang, created by the late American cartoonist Charles Schulz, for its video platform, a source close to the deal said on Friday, confirming press reports.

The agreement between Apple and Canadian group DHX Media, which holds 80% of the rights of Snoopy and Peanuts, said the source, was reached with Schulz, for its video platform, a bunch of kids with the dog Snoopy. The Canadian group will also create educational programmes including the Peanuts gang, exclusively for Apple, around space and the conquest of space.

The agreement between Apple and DHX Media is another example of the Apple brand’s ambition, given the launch, announced by several media in 2019, of its own video-on-demand service. Until now, the video content available on the iTunes platform was produced by third parties and accessible one by one, not as a subscription.


Statue of suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst unveiled in Manchester

LONDON (United Kingdom)—A statue of suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst was inaugurated on Friday in the northern English city Manchester, to mark the centenary of the first election in which women—aged over 30—were allowed to vote.

Pankhurst (1858-1928), who was from Manchester, founded the Women’s Social and Political Union (WSPU) in 1903 and became the most prominent activist for female suffrage of the era.

She campaigned alongside her three daughters—Christabel, Adela and Sylvia—and was imprisoned and released eleven times. The statue, created by sculptor Hazel Reeves, depicts the activist standing on a chair making a speech, her right arm outstretched.

Pankhurst, whose great-granddaughter Helen Pankhurst, 34, called it “a wonderful tribute” to her life, work, and the cause.

She said it rightly honoured “the role of Manchester women who campaigned for the right to vote”. The 1918 Representation of the People Act was one of the first in Europe to allow women to vote in a national election.

However it was another decade—and a few weeks after Pankhurst’s death—for women to be able to vote at the age of 21, like men. In April, a statue of the suffragist Millicent Fawcett was unveiled in front of the British parliament in London—the first statue of a female in this highly symbolic location.

Suffragettes like Pankhurst advocated direct action, smashing shop windows or setting fire to buildings, while suffragists such as Fawcett were non-violent devotees to the cause.

Book Proust gave to his lover sells for world record 1.5 million euros

PARIS (France)—A copy of Marcel Proust’s “Swann’s Way”, which he dedicated to his “little darling”, sold for 1.51 million euros ($1.7 million) in Paris on Friday—a world record for a French book, auction house Sotheby’s said.

The rare copy of the first volume of the French writer’s masterpieces, “Remembrance of Things Past”, had been expected to go for between 600,000 and 800,000 euros. It smashed the previous record for a piece of French literature held by the poet Charles Baudelaire’s “Les Fleurs du mal” (“The Flowers of Evil”), a copy of which sold for 775,000 euros nine years ago.

The copy of “Swann’s Way” is the very first from a numbered luxuriously bound edition of the novel that Proust paid for himself and gave as a gift to his beloved Lucien Daudet. It came with a touching dedication from Proust to his “little darling”. “You are not in this book. You are too much in my heart that I could you never portray you objectively. You will never be (a mere) ‘character’, because you are the better half of its author,” he wrote. The novel includes the famous “madeleine moment”, when the taste of a little almond cake dipped in tea sets off a flood of nostalgic memories for the book’s narrator. It was the star lot in the fourth part of the mammoth sale of the library of the late French fashion mogul Pierre Berges. The co-founder of the Yves Saint Laurent fashion empire put together one of the world’s greatest private collections of rare and antiquarian books.

Proust’s private passion

They are being sold off in a series of high-profile auctions which began last year and are set to continue in 2019.

Friday’s sale, which included a treasury of classic works from the Renaissance, hit a final tally of more than 8.1 million euros, double the estimate.

“I am very happy. The market has completely endorsed Pierre Berge’s taste,” antiquarian books expert Benoit Forgeot, who helped organise the sale, told AFP.—AFP

Taylor Swift’s ‘Reputation’ concert film to premiere on Netflix

LOS ANGELES—Pop star Taylor Swift’s ‘Reputation’ tour is coming to Netflix this New Year’s Eve. The singer, who turned 29 on Thursday, made the announcement on Twitter and thanked her fans for the birthday wishes. She also shared a teaser for the forthcoming concert film which will be released on Netflix on 31 December.

“Thanks so much for all the birthday wishes! Today I finally get to show you something we’ve been working on for a while… The trailer for the Reputation stadium tour! The entire concert film will premiere on Netflix at 12.01AM PT on 31 December,” Swift wrote.

The teaser features footage of her shows around the world, including plenty of images of the pop star on stage as well as zooms on her fans’ excited faces.

Swift’s seven-month long tour kicked off in Arizona in May and saw her take to the stage around the world, including cities like London, Manchester and Dublin.

Her tour came to an end in Tokyo in November.—PTI

16 DECEMBER 2018 THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
**Scientists create bee vaccine to fight off ‘insect apocalypse’**

HELSINKI (Finland)—Scientists in Finland have developed what they believe is the world’s first vaccine to protect bees against disease, raising hopes for tackling the drastic decline in insect numbers which could cause a global food crisis. Bees are vital for growing the world’s food as they help fertilise three out of four crops around the globe, by transferring pollen from male to female flowers. But in recent years bee populations around the world have been dying off from “colony collapse disorder”, a mysterious scourge blamed on pesticides, virus, fungus, or some combination of these factors.

UN-led research in 2016 found that more than 40 per cent of invertebrate pollinators, particularly bees and butterflies, are facing extinction. The study also found that 16.5 per cent of vertebrate pollinators, such as birds and bats, are under threat. Scientists warn that the die-off will result in higher food prices and the risk of shortages.

The protein should be in a combination of these factors. 

**Anti-radiation food developed for Russia’s crewed lunar expedition**

**PHOTO: TASS**

In addition, as they carry out their lunar mission, the cosmonauts will need more protein than on the International Space Station, the head of the ISS Crew Nutrition Department Andrei Shtemberg told TASS on Friday.

“The cosmonauts’ food ration for the lunar programme has already been developed. These are foodstuffs with the enhanced biological activity and radio-protective properties,” the researcher said.

As Doctor of Biological Sciences, Head of the Experimental Biology and Medicine Department at the Institute of Medical and Biological Problems Andrei Shtemberg told TASS on Wednesday, as soon as a spacecraft leaves the boundaries of the Earth’s magnetosphere, it starts to be exposed to solar cosmic rays and galactic cosmic rays.

According to scientists’ data, acute disorders of the central nervous system are observed from the impact of galactic cosmic rays, even if at very small doses: the spatial memory and orientation are impaired. As a result, the cosmonaut’s operational activity may be disrupted.

Considering that the flight will proceed when the cosmonauts’ organism is in the process of its acute adaptation to the zero gravity (this period lasts from two to ten days, depending on the conditions and individual specifics), all the foods will be homogenized and have a bland taste. As they carry out their lunar mission, the cosmonauts will need more protein than on the International Space Station, he said.

The pair started to collaborate and created a vaccine against American foulbrood, the most globally widespread and destructive bee bacterial disease.

Anti-radiation food developed for Russia’s crewed lunar expedition

WASHINGTON—American scientists have developed an experimental HIV vaccine strategy that works in non-human primates, which lends clues to identifying target and dosage for potential HIV vaccine for humans.

The vaccine is far from human implementation, as their control group. The research also carried out their lunar mission, the cosmonauts will need more protein than on the International Space Station, he said.

The primates were then exposed to a form of the virus called SHIV, an engineered simian version of HIV that contains the same envelope trimer as the human virus. —Xinhua

**American scientists develop HIV vaccine for non-human primates**

**PHOTO: TASS**

The team tested the vaccine in two groups of rhesus macaques. A previous study using the same vaccine had shown that some immunized monkeys naturally developed low neutralizing antibody titers or antibody levels in their bodies, while others developed high titers following vaccination. From this study, the researchers selected and re-vaccinated six low titer monkeys and six high titer monkeys. They also used 12 immunized primates as their control group.

The primates were then exposed to a form of the virus called SHIV, an engineered simian version of HIV that contains the same envelope trimer as the human virus. —Xinhua

An effective vaccine strategy has to expose the immune system to the virus’s outer envelope protein trimer, before producing the right antibodies against it. But the protein trimers tend to be unstable and fall apart when isolated, according to the study.

The researchers genetically engineered a more stable trimer, or SOSIP, and designed an experimental HIV vaccine that contained this stable SOSIP trimer.

The team tested the vaccine in two groups of rhesus macaques. A previous study using the same vaccine had shown that some immunized monkeys naturally developed low neutralizing antibodies against viruses that look a lot like real-world HIV,” said Dennis Burton, chair of Scripps Research’s Department of Immunology and Microbiology. Although the vaccine is far from human clinical trials, the study provided proof-of-concept for the HIV vaccine strategy Burton and his colleagues have been developing since the 1990s. The research also provided the first-ever estimate of vaccine-induced neutralizing antibody levels needed to protect against HIV.
Thai club Ratchaburi F.C. sign Myanmar defender Thein Than Win

THAILAND’S premier football club, Ratchaburi Mitth Phol F.C., has signed Myanmar national football team and Yadanarbon F.C. defender, Thein Than Win, for one year, according to the Yadanarbon F.C.

The Ratchaburi F.C. and Thein Than Win have signed an agreement for his transfer from the Yadanarbon F.C. to the Thai League-1 club for a period of one year. “I will try my best with this opportunity. I want to showcase the talent of Myanmar footballers in foreign clubs. I want thank my home club, Yadanarbon F.C., for giving me a chance to transfer to the Thai team,” said Thein Than Win.

Thein Than Win will undergo medical check-ups with the new team in January, said a source with the Yadanarbon F.C.

The Ratchaburi Mitth Phol Football Club, also known as the Dragon, is a professional football club based in Thailand’s Ratchaburi Province and is currently playing in Thai League 1. The team has been placed 12th in the league.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Greatest match of Lethwei: Tun Tun Min vs Dave to be fought today

ONE of the greatest matches in Lethwei history, former openweight Lethwei World Champion Tun Tun Min and current Lethwei World Champion Dave Leduc, will fight at Thein Phyu Lethwei Stadium in Yangon today at 2pm.

After winning the Lethwei World Championship title in August this year, openweight Lethwei champion Dave Leduc made his decisions to open the competition to any lethwei fighter in Myanmar, and Tun Tun Min chose to challenge him.

Current Lethwei World Champion Dave Leduc said he must accept all challenges.

This will be their third and biggest fight in Myanmar Lethwei history. Dave Leduc said he respects Tun Tun Min. Tun Tun Min is a legend of Lethwei, and a great fighter, saying he accepted the challenge, Dave said.

Former openweight Lethwei World Champion Tun Tun Min also said he will try his best to regain the lethwei world championship title. The champion of the lethwei should be a Myanmar fighter, he added. He loves lethwei and has been involved in lethwei since he was eight years old. All his experience will be on display during the fight.

Current openweight Lethwei World Champion Dave Leduc, nicknamed “The Nomad”, is a Canadian fighter. He became the first non-Burmese fighter to win the Lethwei world title by defeating Tun Tun Min at the previous Lethwei World Championship in Yangon.

Today, both great fighters face each other again, and will make Myanmar Lethwei history.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Myanmar wins gold in 19th ASEAN University Games’ sepak takraw

MYANMAR won the gold medal at the men’s double sepak takraw competition during the 19th ASEAN University Games in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The speak takraw competition was held within a round robin system.

The Myanmar team was awarded the gold medal after winning all matches during the group competition.

Myanmar met the Thailand and Laos teams as part of the decisive matches.

Myanmar defeated Malaysia by 21-10 and 21-13 points, Thailand by 23-21 and 12-21 points, and Laos by scores of 21-12 and 25-23.

Following Myanmar, the Laos team was awarded the silver medal after three wins and one loss, while Thailand received the bronze medal, with two wins and two losses.

Myanmar has earned one gold and one silver medal during sepak takraw competitions.

The men’s triple sepak takraw competition will also be held on 16 December (today).—Shine Htet Zaw (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)
The piano, it has white keys and black keys. White keys make the major sounds. The black ones make the minor sounds. Some says that the white keys play the best role. But still there are songs which cannot be played without the minor keys. White keys indicate happiness in a way. Somehow, the black keys represent a kind of sadness. But we have to remember that like the white ones, the black keys as well make sounds. Sounds which become to support a beautiful song. Without them the songs won't be as pleasant as now, isn't it?

People whoever come into this mighty world full of smiles, tears and fears may have to face them each and every day though nobody wants to face them. It’s like walking on the piano tiles. As everyone is walking on it, we can’t always walk on the white tiles which are the symbol of love and peacefulness. We may have times when we have to walk on those black ones too as the whole piano is covered with crowds walking on it endlessly. Those who wear bright smiles on their face while walking on the white ones may somehow have to walk on the black ones one day too. Time comes itself. Nobody can avoid or stop it.

Life isn’t just a game. It is like an exam which is given to test ourselves. Just like the quote says-

"Life is the most difficult examination. Some fail because they try to copy others Not realizing that everyone has the different question paper." Isn’t it so meaningful?

So, everyone has to try hard with their own ideas, not doing the carbon copy of others and stand strong to the winds of difficulty in case, if not they will be blown away. Just like this, while playing a piano we must not look up or down. If we do so, we will have errors and mistakes and mess up with the keys and notes. Similarly, while going on a life journey, we should just mind on our own. We have to work hard for our own good. If we look up to those flying high in the sky or look down onto those who are in the lower position than us, we will trip over the stones of difficulties and will fall down on the road to our destination; our goal.

A piano can be made out of plastic or wood, any kind of material. A life story can differ from one and another as well. The music sheet has notes to play a song. As it gets longer; the notes become more complicated. And as we keep on going to our goal, our life becomes tougher.

The bass notes and the high notes play different parts. We can assume the bass notes as our past. Like they support a flawless song, our past can teach us lots of life lessons as well. As the bass echoes, the things in our past can echo in our shadows too. Our past will follow us wherever we go. The spaces in between each bar can be supposed as empathy and sympathy. During the first time playing a piano, those spaces can be a bit disturbing but as the times get on, they no longer matter.

The bass notes and the high notes play different parts. We can assume the bass notes as our past. Like they support a flawless song, our past can teach us lots of life lessons as well. As the bass echoes, the things in our past can echo in our shadows too. Our past will follow us wherever we go. The spaces in between each bar can be supposed as empathy and sympathy. During the first time playing a piano, those spaces can be a bit disturbing but as the times get on, they no longer matter.

There are rules in playing the notes but after playing and playing for several months and years we may find ourselves playing from our heart instead of following the notes’ guide. As each of the 88 keys have their own sound or note, each of us has our own backgrounds and roots. We have our own beauty of talent. All we
1. This is the restaurant at which Ko Ko dines every evening in which the garden everyday. The house to which the lady came belongs to Ko Ko. The lady came into the house on which Ma Ma went into. This is the house that Ma Ma went into. That is the house into which Ma Ma went. This is the house which Ma Ma went into. The lady who came into the house was stolen yesterday. She kept her jewellery was stolen yesterday. She kept her jewellery over 120 years old. My children are playing under the tree. The tree under which my children are playing is still single. The actress about whom you are talking is in the next room. You are talking by the teacher. The teacher by whom we are taught Myanmar is still single. The teacher by whom we are taught Myanmar is a primary assistant teacher. My wife is a primary assistant teacher.

Non-defining clauses

1. Yangon is the old capital of Myanmar.
2. Yangon lies on the mouth of the Hlaing River.
3. Yangon lies on the mouth of the Hlaing River, which lies on the mouth of the Irrawaddy.

Non-defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.

Non-defining clause defining clause (Defining clauses) My wife is a primary assistant teacher. My wife lives in South Okkalapa who lives in South Okkalapa, by whom we are taught Myanmar.
CHILDREN are future stars for the world. They think, they act and they speak freely and innocently. They are like the stars twinkling in the sky brightly. Therefore, parents need to bring up them to grow up well. Children’s behaviors, the act of saying, the way of thinking depends upon their parents. According to children’s nature, they like to imitate whatever or whoever they see. By the time they see their parents’ doings, they can imitate their parents’ behaviors. When they see their neighbor’s doing, they can imitate as if their neighbor’s. Likewise, when they see TV stars’ doings, they can imitate their actions. It is children’s nature. So, parents need to act well in front of their children.

Parents need to give their children the chance to think freely. If so, children can think what they want without parents’ help. It is one of the best ways of bringing up children. However, what parents should not neglect is children’s think. Parents should listen carefully to what their children would like to say. Some parents do not want to listen carefully by just giving the reason that they are very busy. And they just seek money without giving enough time for their children. Everybody knows that “Easier said than done”. It is very difficult to do work and give time for children at the same time. However, parents should listen carefully to what their children want to say when they come back home. Some parents are not patient to listen and answer what children want to know. It is a way of denying children’s thinks. Some parents would like to be authoritative. Because they are parents, children have to do what they ask. Children do not have a chance to speak out what they think. It is not a suitable way.

Like the saying “Parents are the very first educator”, parents reveal their children what is right and what is wrong. As children are very pure and innocent, they cannot decide the right things and wrong things exactly. So, parents need to admonish their children. At that time, one of the suitable ways is revealing the right things and wrong things giving examples using stories, true stories children can remember well. Some parents like to mend their children’s wrongdoings by beating and using rough and rude words. It is not a good way to teach a child. If they use that way, children will hurt in their heart.

Parents are the idol for their children. Thus, the ways of bringing up their children are very important. Moreover, the ways of acting, saying of parents are also important. Parents should speak like honey avoiding the words which are bitter like neem. Besides, their actions need to be cool for their children avoiding actions that can be hot for children. So, what I would like to make parents assure is to bring children by being the cool sky for the little stars.

By Khin Moh Moh Aung
Yadanabon University

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

AWSONBON Village is home to the Kayan tribes, whose members wear neck, leg and ankle rings, located two miles from Loikaw, Kayah State, which has become a popular destination for local and foreign visitors.

Every person who visits here tries on our traditional dress. We are very happy to see it,” said New Pho Hse, an ethnic Kayan woman of the village, while she and her colleagues were performing traditional weaving.

Traditional huts built along a line in the village offer hand-woven clothing, handicrafts and bamboo ware, attracting local and foreign visitors. Also, visitors can listen to folk music at night.

“This village is home to the Kayan ethnic tribe. They turned this village into a cultural site, and this program is being held so villagers can earn income,” said U Lin Zaw Htut, who is in charge of Loikaw Township Hotel and Tourism Office.

In fact, the number of local and foreign visitors arriving in Loikaw has spirally upward from 15,000 local visitors and about 2,600 tourists in 2014, to over 30,000 local visitors and about 10,000 tourists in this season.

“We have seen increasing visitors to Loikaw because of peace,” he said.

Most of the older women still proudly wear their neck rings, a symbol of beauty, preserving their traditions from past generations. Therefore, Loikaw is one of the most interesting destinations for visitors to tour.

Hydropower Dam

Htee Se Khar Waterfall

Myonarm Pagoda, Kandarawadi Palace, Ngwe Taung Dam

Kyat Gu, The Ghost Cave

Htisekha waterfall

Lawpita

The most accessible and popular waterfalls are located 15 miles away, in the north of Loikaw, near the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita, its umbrella-shaped volcanic structure, the seven-tiered lake, the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita now-extinct volcano.

In fact, the number of local and foreign visitors arriving in Loikaw has spirally upward from 15,000 local visitors and about 2,600 tourists in 2014, to over 30,000 local visitors and about 10,000 tourists in this season.

“We have seen increasing visitors to Loikaw because of peace,” he said.

Most of the older women still proudly wear their neck rings, a symbol of beauty, preserving their traditions from past generations. Therefore, Loikaw is one of the most interesting destinations for visitors to tour.

Hydropower Dam

Htee Se Khar Waterfall

Myonarm Pagoda, Kandarawadi Palace, Ngwe Taung Dam

Kyat Gu, The Ghost Cave

Htisekha waterfall

Lawpita

The most accessible and popular waterfalls are located 15 miles away, in the north of Loikaw, near the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita, its umbrella-shaped volcanic structure, the seven-tiered lake, the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita now-extinct volcano.

In fact, the number of local and foreign visitors arriving in Loikaw has spirally upward from 15,000 local visitors and about 2,600 tourists in 2014, to over 30,000 local visitors and about 10,000 tourists in this season.

“We have seen increasing visitors to Loikaw because of peace,” he said.

Most of the older women still proudly wear their neck rings, a symbol of beauty, preserving their traditions from past generations. Therefore, Loikaw is one of the most interesting destinations for visitors to tour.

Hydropower Dam

Htee Se Khar Waterfall

Myonarm Pagoda, Kandarawadi Palace, Ngwe Taung Dam

Kyat Gu, The Ghost Cave

Htisekha waterfall

Lawpita

The most accessible and popular waterfalls are located 15 miles away, in the north of Loikaw, near the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita, its umbrella-shaped volcanic structure, the seven-tiered lake, the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita now-extinct volcano.

In fact, the number of local and foreign visitors arriving in Loikaw has spirally upward from 15,000 local visitors and about 2,600 tourists in 2014, to over 30,000 local visitors and about 10,000 tourists in this season.

“We have seen increasing visitors to Loikaw because of peace,” he said.

Most of the older women still proudly wear their neck rings, a symbol of beauty, preserving their traditions from past generations. Therefore, Loikaw is one of the most interesting destinations for visitors to tour.

Hydropower Dam

Htee Se Khar Waterfall

Myonarm Pagoda, Kandarawadi Palace, Ngwe Taung Dam

Kyat Gu, The Ghost Cave

Htisekha waterfall

Lawpita

The most accessible and popular waterfalls are located 15 miles away, in the north of Loikaw, near the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita, its umbrella-shaped volcanic structure, the seven-tiered lake, the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita now-extinct volcano.

In fact, the number of local and foreign visitors arriving in Loikaw has spirally upward from 15,000 local visitors and about 2,600 tourists in 2014, to over 30,000 local visitors and about 10,000 tourists in this season.

“We have seen increasing visitors to Loikaw because of peace,” he said.

Most of the older women still proudly wear their neck rings, a symbol of beauty, preserving their traditions from past generations. Therefore, Loikaw is one of the most interesting destinations for visitors to tour.

Hydropower Dam

Htee Se Khar Waterfall

Myonarm Pagoda, Kandarawadi Palace, Ngwe Taung Dam

Kyat Gu, The Ghost Cave

Htisekha waterfall

Lawpita

The most accessible and popular waterfalls are located 15 miles away, in the north of Loikaw, near the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita, its umbrella-shaped volcanic structure, the seven-tiered lake, the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita now-extinct volcano.

In fact, the number of local and foreign visitors arriving in Loikaw has spirally upward from 15,000 local visitors and about 2,600 tourists in 2014, to over 30,000 local visitors and about 10,000 tourists in this season.

“We have seen increasing visitors to Loikaw because of peace,” he said.

Most of the older women still proudly wear their neck rings, a symbol of beauty, preserving their traditions from past generations. Therefore, Loikaw is one of the most interesting destinations for visitors to tour.

Hydropower Dam

Htee Se Khar Waterfall

Myonarm Pagoda, Kandarawadi Palace, Ngwe Taung Dam

Kyat Gu, The Ghost Cave

Htisekha waterfall

Lawpita

The most accessible and popular waterfalls are located 15 miles away, in the north of Loikaw, near the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita, its umbrella-shaped volcanic structure, the seven-tiered lake, the Htisekha waterfall and the Lawpita now-extinct volcano.

In fact, the number of local and foreign visitors arriving in Loikaw has spirally upward from 15,000 local visitors and about 2,600 tourists in 2014, to over 30,000 local visitors and about 10,000 tourists in this season.

“We have seen increasing visitors to Loikaw because of peace,” he said.

Most of the older women still proudly wear their neck rings, a symbol of beauty, preserving their traditions from past generations. Therefore, Loikaw is one of the most interesting destinations for visitors to tour.
I heard you got married.
Right you are.

Have you got a job yet?
Still looking.

What does your wife do?
Nothing.

What? Then what do the two of you eat with?

My parents have rented a place for us to live.

When it’s time for a meal, she goes back to her parents and I to mine.

Ah, I guess that’s why they say the child’s burden is on the parents’ heads.

A human being needs to be literate and knowledgeable.

It lets you differentiate right from wrong.

I read a lot of stuff.

But I get depressed the more I read.

Huh, how come?

Like you said, I see the good and the bad clearer and clearer.

That’s good!

But that means I see my shortcomings and failures as clear as crystal.

Ahh!
DEBT is the situation of owing money especially when one cannot pay. Debt is one of the many things that I fear most in the world. I am very afraid of debt. I do not want to become both debit and credit. Therefore, I avoid both owing money and lending money. In the situation which I could not avoid debt, I owed some money from someone but I immediately paid it back as soon as I was in convenience. There are many friends from whom I did not get my money back as I have got my mentioned habit. That is why I stay away from debt.

However, I cannot be in the position of debtless condition. My parents have been making me somebody. I owed much debt of gratitude from them. It is impossible for me to be afraid of it. During four years of my studies in the University, my dad passed away unexpectedly. It was the situation of breaking oar while rowing boat. However, the journey of my life in the world did not stop in the midst of the waters. My mom continued to substitute the broken oar with her own hands. She could convey me to get to a jetty that was my destination in education.

At present, mom is still vying with the law of mundane world supporting my younger sister’s education as I am away with some duties as a government staff. I am also a young woman. What’s more, as the one who is able to feel the taste of literature and art, I would like to feel the taste and excitement of love. I would like to enjoy the happiness with my sweetheart joining hands. However, what is called ‘debt’ can drive it away from me very well whenever I happen to imagine about it.

I have to pay the debt of the gratitude of my mom. In spite of knowing that I cannot pay such debt back in full, I am going to pay it back as much as I can. My mom will never ask me for it to pay back. However, I cannot help paying back the debt of gratitude of goodwill and love of my mom. I do not have anything definite to pay it back yet. Just my heart that wants to be agitated with love is the very thing to pay such debt back. Therefore, I am steadfastly determined that I am going to pay mom’s debt back with my heart. If mom knows it… … …

FROM PAGE - S-4
For those who enjoy excitement, this is the one place they need to visit!

**Boat trip from Moebyae Dam in Kayah State to Inle Lake**

To promote tourism, boat trips from Moebyae Dam in Kayah State to Inle Lake will begin next year.

Myanmar expects to attract seven million tourists in 2020.

Myanmar has seen its tourism sector improve each year, receiving 4.6 million visitors in 2015, with arrivals expected to reach 7 million in 2020.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is carrying out community-based tourism development projects as an initiative of bringing tourism to designated areas throughout the country.

The ministry is also making arrangements for travelers to observe the traditions and customs of local people, and to enjoy the way of life of ethnic people.

(Translated by AMS)
Train of the season

By Laura Htet
UDE English

November...

Northward wind comes into the worldly station of us driving the winter train. When did the people who are waiting for the arrival of winter train gets to the station?

That winter train will be going to present the winter party. The pleasant and cool fragrance from its body leaves drifted around the worldly station. Sometimes, we are able to feel the fragrance of orchids. Sometimes, we are able to taste the fragrance of clematis.

The Princess of winter...

After a while, the crowd who have been unconscious in her beauty, her smile and her fragrance go running to the luggage vans. In the luggage vans, there are in abundance of goods loaded over full extent.

Oh! There are many kinds of fruits such as oranges, apples, pears etc., and various kinds of flowers such as orchids, tiger-lady, clematis, chrysanthemum, roses, aster etc. There are varieties of colours and scents. I think, the Princess of winter conveyed them to give us as the gifts out of the way.

Profuse thanks! Dear princess of winter.

Winter is lovely. It will be highly pleased feeling walking in the early morning in which the silvery snow is dripping gently. I often think walking alone. Sometimes I think that winter is lovely and beautiful. If so, are not summer and rainy season lovely?

Each of the seasons is lovely in their own means. Winter has got its own beauty. Summer and rainy season have also got the beauties of their own means.

Let us look for the beauty in summer.

Some great ancient authors said that all kinds of flowers in the jungle bloomed in Myanmar month ‘Tabaung’ which is the last month of a year in Myanmar calendar. Do not blame that it is the summer that cruelly makes the leaves fall and the world ugly. Instead, you change your mind remembering the poems that were composed about the beauty of summer. This will surely change your mind. It is the summer time in which tiny buds and other emergences appear in a certain environment. Such scenes often make our mind active and encouraging.

Rainy season is also lovely in another way. It will be highly pleased if we think our childhood days running and playing under the drops of rain. It will not be possible to forget the days on which we were walking along with our sweethearts in the drizzle of rains under the same umbrella. The world smeared with dust during summer days become clean, fresh and beautiful after having a good bath with rain water. Whatever we see, all are green and lush. This will be the concept of beauty of the rainy season.

When the beauty of season is penned, it will be impossible to neglect the nature and environment. Seasons and nature are closely associated with each other. If the weather of the season is fine, the nature and environment is also fine or vice versa. Reading the pleasure of the seasons penned by the great ancient authors, we are able to feel and love the nature and environment.

Oh, my dear reader...

Are you able to love the seasons: winter, summer and rainy season? Are you able to love and feel the nature and environment? Please make a query to your heart! If you are able to love and feel both of them, love them double and feel them double heartily. If so, you will understand the value of what you love and feel more. The more you will understand them, the more dreadful you will have to lose them. Thus, you will come to know that you have to protect them not to ruin and lose.

Please do not mind me!
Make a query to your heart again to be indisputable!