

SUNDAY
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NATIONAL

Myittha Bridge (Gangaw) over
Myittha River inaugurated

PAGE-6



THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 6 January 2019

I have high regard and great expectations for the power of straightforwardness and bravery of Kayin nationals in the peace building and national reconciliation process.

Message of Greetings sent by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the occasion of the Kayin New Year day (6 January 2019)

1. Today, the 6th of January 2019 is the first waxing day of Pyatho of 2758 Kayin Era, day held in great esteem and pride by Kayin nationals. It is the Kayin New Year day full of significance and auspiciousness. Thus let me first of all extend these greetings and good wishes for a successful transition from

the old year to the new with mingalar and good fortune.

2. Since olden times, Kayin nationals have had a tradition to celebrate new crop festivals at harvest time happily with all their family members present. In accordance with this tradition, on this

auspicious Kayin New Year day also, I send these good wishes so that all Kayin nationals would be blessed with consolidation, happiness, unity, and positive aspirations for the future.

SEE PAGE-3

Hotel & Tourism Ministry holds talks with Hong Kong Macau and Myanmar Chamber officials

AMID close cooperation between the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and international organizations and experts so as to develop the hotel and travel sector, Union Minister U Ohn Maung received Hong Kong Macau and Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry Chairman Dr. Lin Khin Wan and party at the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Myanmar's hotel & tourism sector needs digitization

At the meeting, the Union Minister said the government and private sector had formed groups to implement market-wise digital marketing to develop Myanmar's hotel and travel sector.

SEE PAGE-6



Union Minister U Ohn Maung receives Hong Kong Macau and Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry Chairman Dr. Lin Khin Wan and party at the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to President U Win Myint

The following are messages of felicitations from Foreign Heads of State / Government sent to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Win Myint, on the occasion of the 71st Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

From Mr. Sauli Niinisto
President of the Republic of Finland

On the occasion of the Independence Day of Myanmar, I wish to extend my sincere congratulations and best wishes to You, Mr. President and to the people of Myanmar.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Mr. Aleksandar Vucic
President of the Republic of Serbia

On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, I extend to you, on behalf of the people of the Republic of Serbia and on my own behalf, cordial congratulations and best wishes for the further prosperity of your country and the well-being of its people.

The decades – long friendly relations between Serbia and Myanmar based on the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement, are marked by a high level of mutual respect and understanding.

I am confident that our two countries will continue to promote their bilateral relations and enrich the quality of cooperation in all areas of common interest.

In the belief that our two countries are firmly committed to further deepening their political dialogue and cooperation in all areas of mutual interest, I stand ready to personally contribute as President of Serbia to the benefit of the people of our two countries.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Union Minister for SWRR inspects river erosion in Minbu Township

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye arrived yesterday in Nabe Ban Village and Mon Kyo Village in Minbu Township, Magway Region, to inspect the status of moving the villages to new locations, as the original sites were harmed by erosion along the Ayeyawady River bank. While in Minbu, During his tour, the Union Minister inspected preventive works to maintain and strengthen the river bank.

Afterwards, the Union Minister met and discussed the

developments with Hluttaw representatives from Minbu Township, along with village elders, villagers and officials. Due to erosion caused by Ayeyawady River, 912 persons from 211 households were relocated in 2013. Currently, the Ayeyawady River is only some 300 ft. from Nabe Ban Village, and preventive works are needed.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-2017, FY 2017-2018, and from April to September 2018, river bank erosion in 12 states and regions required the relocation of some 13,000 households, with

most of these being in Ayeyawady, Bago and Magway regions.

Under the guidance and management of National Disaster Management Committee Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is conducting natural disaster management work and providing assistance to families that need to relocate due to river bank erosion. It is also coordinating and working with state and regional governments to perform river bank erosion preventive works.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye inspects the river bank erosion in Minbu Township, Magway Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

Heroin, stimulant tablets seized in Nawngkhio Tsp

A local anti-drug squad seized heroin and stimulant tablets in Nawngkhio Township in Shan State on 4 January, according to local police.

Acting on a tip-off, the police stopped and searched a Hyundai dump truck driven by Than Zin

Oo, with Aung Nyein Thu and Nyein Chan Aung (a) Ko Nyein on board, near Oriental Toll Gate at the entrance of Nawngkhio.

The police seized 41.8 kg of heroin and 158,000 stimulant tablets hidden in 4,180 soap cups, worth approximately K 1110.2

million, along with the suspects' three mobile phones.

The police filed charges against the three suspects under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. —GNLM ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Sagaing Region Chief Minister and officials presents the award to the Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita. **PHOTO: AUNG SAN MAUNG**

Bhaddanta Sobhita honored for winning Stockholm World Peace Prize

IBEC Sayadaw (Stockholm World Peace Prize winner) Bhaddanta Sobhita was honored by Sagaing Region Government with an international honorary award, during a ceremony held at IBEC International Buddhist Education Centre, Thawtapan Ward, Sagaing Town, Sagaing Hill, on 4 January.

The ceremony was attended by Sagaing Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing and officials, rectors from universities, town elders, teachers, students and invited guests.

The award was presented to IBEC Sayadaw for its outstanding humanitarian efforts, both locally and internationally, covering peace, education and religion.

In his speech, Sagaing Region Chief Minister said that while the country is facing international pressure and

State leaders are establishing a peaceful federal democratic State, Sayadaw has sought unity and peace at multi-religion congresses, in accordance with Buddha's dhamma. Sayadaw has also conducted humanitarian works, not only in Sagaing Region, but also locally in other areas and internationally, as well, and that is why the Sagaing Region Government is presenting the Sagaing Region's international peace, education, social, religion, honorary person award.

Sagaing Region Chief Minister presented the award to the Sayadaw. Then, the IBEC Sayadaw spoke about his appreciation and honor in receiving the award.

After commemorative photographs were taken, the event came to a close.—Aung San Maung ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

“Myanmar is now on the path to democracy. A nascent democracy can be compared to a toddler learning to walk; we have to be careful not to falter at this stage and need to maintain a proper balance. If we wish democracy to survive, we have to respect the rule of law and existing rules and regulations.”

(Excerpt from the message extended by President U Win Myint on the occasion of the International Day of Democracy which falls on 15th September, 2018.)



Ancient Heritage Yoke Soun Kyaung and Nuns.
PHOTO: ZAW ZAW WEI (SINBYUKYUN)

Message of Greetings sent by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the occasion of the Kayin New Year day (6 January 2019)

FROM PAGE-1

3. The good traits such as honesty, diligence, loyalty, and ability to act with firm determination which has been inherited from great grandparents of Kayin ethnic nationals have been preserved and maintained up to the present. This year marks the 2758th year.
4. Such good traditions and customs are very valuable resources for the establishment of a democratic union. At such an important time like this when we are facing internal and external challenges, the abilities and

- spirit of each and every ethnic national is indeed very important. The united consolidated strength of all of us constitutes a very powerful weapon for the defence and security of our country.
5. Kayin nationals who have suffered heavily the scourges of internal conflicts for many decades understand and believe deeply the need to achieve peace without fail. That is why I have high regard and great expectations for the power of straightforwardness and bravery of Kayin nationals in the peace building and national reconciliation process.

6. I pray that for many years to come, as long as this world endures, countless generations would be able to preserve the noble traditions laid down by the grandparents, in happiness and personal security; may they be able to implement with great momentum in 2758 Kayin Era; may the Kayin State continue to develop and enjoy bounteous harvests and prosperity; may you all have peace of mind and share the blessings of good fortune and auspiciousness. I thus send these warm good wishes with Metta.

Aung San Suu Kyi

Union Minister U Ohn Win inspects storage of raw jade

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win inspected the storage of raw jade in the jade storage area in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

There, the Union Minister inspected the storage of raw jade and the arrangement of jade lots to be auctioned in the 56th Myanmar Gems Emporium, which will be held from 11 to 20 March 2019.

He also viewed the arrangement of jade lots from Sankatan 1 block, operated in a joint venture between the State and U Ya Gem Company in the jade storage compound, the storage of 28 raw jade pieces cut from a 308 ton jade boulder found at Maklinchaung 2 block, operated by Yadana Taung Tan Company, and the installation of new CCTV cameras for security.

The 55th Myanmar Gems Emporium concluded on 30th June last year at Mani Yandana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Emporium lasted for 10 days, during which 5,259 jade lots worth 423.118 million euros, were sold to merchants.

Most of the jade lots were bought by Chinese gem mer-



Union Minister U Ohn Win inspects the storage of jade lots in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw.
PHOTO: MNA

chants, and they were better represented than gem merchants from Thailand, Canada, Australia and the US, who were attending the emporium.

Myanmar Gem Enterprise Managing Director and company officials provided explanations, and the Union Minister reviewed the neces-

sary arrangements. Later, the Union Minister inspected trees planted during the 2018 monsoon tree planting festival in Pho Zaung Taung reserve block 17 near Nay Pyi Taw-Tatkon No. 1 Road mile post.

He also viewed a mixture of 12 bamboo species planted during the 2018 rain season in

a 1.18 acre bamboo plantation near Orthopaedic Hospital near Ottarathiri Township, Ottara District, Nay Pyi Taw. Further, the Union Minister remarked on making preparations to conduct similar plantings of trees during the upcoming rain season. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin visiting Maungtaw

A group led by Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin from the Office of the State Counsellor will visit Maungtaw region on 6 January, following recent attacks on four border police outposts.

The group will include Permanent Secretary U Zaw Than Thin, U Myo Myint Maung, Myanmar Police Force, Chief of Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo and Relief and Resettlement Department Director General U Ko Ko Naing.

The group will inspect the sites where the attacks occurred and will provide support and assistance. They will be accompanied by a representative from the Rakhine State government and 15 news media personnel. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

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

Kayin New Year festival in Einme attracts visitors

The Kayin New Year culture and art exhibit, along with a celebration for consumption of new crop, will be held in Ywathit Village Tract, Einme Township, Myaungmya District, Ayeyawady Region today (6 January), which is raising interest and attracting visitors.

People came to view the traditional Kayin dresses that are more than one hundred years old, along with farm tools, Kayin frog drums used in marriage ceremonies, Kayin flutes and literature, on display in the traditional culture exhibit. Visitors were also flocking to the peace exhibit and an exhibit in which biographies of Kayin leaders were on display.

"We are exhibiting the Kayin frog drum cherished by the Kayin people; flutes, buffalo horns (called Pado) and Kayin harps used in marriage ceremonies, as well as traditional utensils, such as pipes," said Township Kayin Literature and Culture Committee Chairman, Mahn Nyet Pane.

An early visitor to the ex-



The culture and art exhibit, along with a New Crop and Kayin New Year festival in Ywathit Village Tract, Einme Township, Myaungmya District, Ayeyawady Region attracts the local people. **PHOTO: MNA**

hibits, Sa Aung Kyaw from Kyon Pauk Village, Htantabin Village Tract, Einme Township said, "The entire Kayin people should value and cherish the traditional utensils, tools and culture. This year is unique, with the inclusion of the New Crop Ceremony that is almost on the verge of vanishing. On behalf of the Kayin

people, I'm honored and happy."

The traditional Kayin New Year and New Crop ceremony will include traditional boxing challenges, sports competitions, men's football competitions and a Kayin Done Dance competition.

There will also be more than 200 shops selling Kayin tradi-

tional goods and foods. On the morning of the Kayin New Year Day, a flag raising ceremony will take place at 6 a.m. and Kayin New Year Day events and the Kayin traditional new crop ceremony will be held, according to the organizing committee.—Aung Min (Myaungmya) ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Fires in Mandalay Region cause K 430 mln loss last year

TOTAL losses, as a result of damage to property caused by fire-related accidents across Mandalay Region during 2018, were worth more than K430 million, according to a report by the region Fire Services Department.

Between 1 January and 31 December 2018, the region saw a total of 215 fire incidents, killing

eight people and 4,950 animals, injuring nine others, damaging 258 homes and leaving 287 people homeless. Kitchen-related fires were the most common cause for fires in the region last year, officials say.

An official from the department added, "The common causes of fire-related accidents in the region include overuse

of appliances and unattended cooking. The department continues its efforts to raise fire safety awareness, especially about risks among the general public, in an attempt to reduce the region's fire accidents and protect people and their properties."

The year 2018 saw an increase in the number of fire accidents by 13, in comparison

with 2017, according to the department's data.

Thousands of firefighters from the department are currently offering life-saving services to residents following fire accidents, along with other emergency cases caused by natural disasters.—Thurain Linn ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Two men caught, charged with drug smuggling in Tachilek

TWO men have been charged with selling drugs, after they were found in possession of a cache of 8,000 yaba pills and a pistol on Friday, 4 January, in Tachilek, a border town in Shan State of eastern Myanmar, according to a police report.

Acting on a tip-off in Tachilek Township, a combined team,

including members of police, stopped the suspected motorbike being driven by Lawkaw, while heading to Tachilek from Kengtung between Panin Village and Taungthonelon Village on Tachilek-Kengtung road. Police reported finding 8,000 yaba tablets in his possession.

Thanks to a follow-up investigation, police arrested Aikna, also known as Arna, who sold thousands of yaba pills to Lawkaw at a rubber plantation near Sanlu Village on the same day. Police also seized the pistol, which held seven bullets, which were hidden in the motorbike.

Police have filed charges

against the two suspects under the existing Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. They are carrying out further investigations to apprehend others connected with the drug trafficking case.—Sai Aung Zaw Lynn ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Police confiscate illegally transported snakes in Hsenwi

HSENWI Township police confiscated snakes that were illegally transported across the Yebu checkpoint in Hsenwi Township, northern Shan State, on Friday, 4 January, police reported.

Acting on a tip-off, a coor-

dinated team searched for a suspected vehicle at the Yebu checkpoint around 3.30 p.m. Law enforcement officials found 96 plastic boxes packed with snakes in the car.

The car's two occupants were also arrested and charged

with the illegal transport of prohibited wildlife.

The Forest Department has since filed a case against both suspects, in accordance with the Protection of Wildlife and Wild Plants and Conservation of Natural Areas Law.

Authorities are continuously working to uncover networks that are illegally buying, selling, transporting and possessing wild animals from the region.—Kyaw Kyaw (Mahlaing) ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Individual trade at borders tops K14.9 bln in FY 2018-2019

MYANMAR'S border trade using Individual Trading Cards (ITCs) in the current 2018-2019 fiscal year topped K14.9 billion (roughly US\$9.67 million), according to the Ministry of Commerce.

From 1 October through 21 December, the export value with ITCs totalled K2.8 billion (\$1.82 million), whereas the import value with ITCs reached K12.1 billion (\$7.85 million) in imports.

Over the first 82 days of this FY, Myanmar exported domestic goods at only four border gates, including Tamu, Tachilek, Mawtaung and Kengtung. However, it imported foreign products through ten border points—Tamu, Muse, Myawady, Tachilek, Lwejel, Kanpaiktee, Kawthoung, Reed, Mawtaung and Kengtung.

During this period, the Myawady border trade camp

topped the list with trade valued at over K7.33 billion (nearly \$4.76 million).

Border trade values through ITCs were K4.44 billion (\$2.87 million) at Mawtaung, K1.55 billion (\$1.004 million) at Tamu, K690 million (\$447,830) at Kawthoung, K504 million (\$326,869) at Kanpaiktee, K276 million (\$179,255) at Kengtung, K53 million (\$34,972) at Reed, K40 million (\$26,529) at Tachilek, K18 million (\$11,823) at Muse and K3 million (\$2,204) at Lwejel.

The ministry has issued 1,585 Individual Trading Cards since FY2012-2013. During this FY, 61 applicants have been granted ITCs. Trade authorities granted 92 ITCs to merchants in the 2018 mini-budget period between April and September.—Khine Khant ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)



105 mile Border Trade Zone Inspection Gate in Muse. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Bilateral trade with Philippines up more than 7% in October

TRADE between Myanmar and the Philippines in October, the first month of the 2018-2019 Financial Year, totalled US\$7.95 million, which saw a slight increase of \$0.515 million, or 7.36 per cent, from the corresponding period last year, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

In the first month of this fiscal year, exports stood at \$2.764 million, while imports were \$5.187 million. In October last year, bilateral trade between the two countries reached \$7.405 million, with exports worth \$4.36 million and imports of \$3.045 million.

Myanmar's imports from the Philippines, one of Myanmar's regional trade partners,

usually exceed exports. Compared with last year, this year's imports increased slightly, by over \$2 million, however, the value of imports decreased by \$1.6 million.

Myanmar imports capital goods, consumer products, and intermediate goods from other ASEAN member countries, Asian and African states, some European countries and Western nations. The country chiefly exports agricultural, animal, marine, forest products, minerals, and manufactured goods.

According to statistics released by the Commerce Ministry, Myanmar-Philippines trade touched \$52.432 million in FY2017-2018, falling \$4 million

from FY2016-2017. During the 2018 mini-budget period, bilateral trade was \$28.633 million, up by \$7.447 million against the same time in 2017.

The value of bilateral trade between the countries stood at \$28.998 million in the 2015-2016 FY, \$28.2 billion in the 2014-2015 FY, \$33.353 million in the 2013-2014 FY, \$44.012 million in the 2012-2013 FY, and \$48.959 million in the 2011-2012 FY.

According to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, there has been no new investment in Myanmar from the Philippines since FY2014-2015.—Shwe Khine ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Feasibility study for Mandalay-Muse railroad project to be launched

A feasibility study for construction of the Muse-Mandalay railroad will be launched today, according to the Muse authorities.

The study will be carried out in two sections by the Myanmar Railways and China Railway Ervuan Engineering Co Ltd.

The team will carry out the feasibility study for the first sec-

tion from Nawnghkio to Lashio from 6 January to 13 April, while the second section study, which is the distance between Lashio to Muse, will be performed from 15 January to 2 April, according to Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transport and Communications Thura U Aung Myo Myint.

The total distance of the

railroad will be 431 km, with some 77 tunnels being dug.

There will be some seven stations, and the express train is expected to run at 160km per hour.

Upon completion of the feasibility study, the ministry will invite tenders for construction of the railroad.—002 ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

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Myittha Bridge (Gangaw) over Myittha River inaugurated

TO honor the 71st Anniversary Independence Day, an opening ceremony for the Myittha Bridge (Gangaw), which crosses the Myittha River, was held on the Gangaw side of the Myittha Bridge on the morning of 5 January.

Magway Region Chief Minister Dr. Aung Moe Nyo, minister for natural resources, environment, electric power and energy U Myint Zaw, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Pyu Lwin, Magway Region Hluttaw representative U Aung San Win, Chief Engineer U Thein Aung and local elder U Myint Oo cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the bridge, followed by the Chief Minister and party sprinkling scented waters onto the commemorative plaque, and then inspecting the bridge.

The opening ceremony was continued when Chief Minister

Dr. Aung Moe Nyo and minister for natural resources, environment, electric power and energy U Myint Zaw delivered speeches, followed by Bridge Special Group 3 Deputy Director U Kyaw Zin Htwe explaining about the construction and operation of the bridge.

The bridge opening ceremony was attended by Gangaw District administrator U Kyaw Min Nyo, Township administrator U Aung Ko Oo, departmental heads, members of social organisations and invited guests.

The bridge is 800 ft. long with a 24 ft. wide path for vehicles and 3 ft. wide pedestrian walkways on two sides. It was built by Bridge Special Group 3.

Due to the opening of the bridge, the ease of travel to nearby areas was greatly increased.

Furthermore, as the bridge is connected to a road that con-



The Myittha Bridge (Gangaw), over the Myittha River is seen before the inauguration. Photo: U Kyaw Than Swe

tinues to Chin State, both the travel and flow of goods has

become more convenient.—U Kyaw Than Swe, District IPRD,

Gangaw ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

World News

EU nations deadlocked on rescued migrants



A migrant is rescued with buoys and a rope, after he dived in the Mediterranean off Malta's coast from the Dutch-flagged Sea-Watch 3 rescue vessel. PHOTO: AFP

ROME (Italy) — Nearly 50 migrants rescued in the Mediterranean by two ships run by rights groups are still looking for countries to take them in, one of the groups told AFP Saturday.

"The situation is still the same," a spokeswoman for one of the groups, Sea Watch, told AFP. Their vessel, Sea Watch 3, was sheltering from stormy weather off the coast of Malta, which like Italy, has refused to allow the boat into port.

It has had 32 migrants on board, three of them children, since rescuing them on December 22.

A one-year-old baby and two children, aged six and seven, "are vomiting con-

tinuously and are at risk of hypothermia and dehydration," said Alessandro Metz of rights group Mediterranea, on Twitter Friday.

The German NGO Sea-Eye also has a ship stranded in the Mediterranean with 17 migrants on board. The row is the latest in a series about the sea rescues that has thrown a spotlight on the deadlock between EU countries over sharing responsibility for migrant and refugee arrivals.

Italy, Malta, Spain and the Netherlands initially refused to take in migrants from either of the boats. But Germany and The Netherlands later said they would allow some in — on condition that other nations did.—AFP ■

H&T Ministry holds talks with HK Macau and Myanmar Chamber officials

FROM PAGE-1

Arrangements are being made to use appropriate digital technologies to reduce manual systems when carrying out the ministry's office work. Also, this will assist with systematic maintenance, fast, easy access and the sharing of data and information, in a bid to reduce the use of paper.

The Union Minister urged participants to discuss the arranging of training courses to

increase ICT experts at the ministry, providing required suggestions and technical assistance on establishing tourism web portals, and to cooperate in arranging study visits by Hong Kong travel agencies to Myanmar.

Upping tourism business

Ministry of Hotels and Tourism Assistant Director U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin explained about the status of digital marketing and

Chamber Chairman Dr. Lin Khin Wan and GTMH Telecom Chief Operations Officer Mr. Derek Hellmons discussed developing the travel sector through the use of digital technology. The officials of the ministry also discussed using digital technology to increase travel, as well as increasing promotional works to attract visitors to Myanmar from the Hong Kong and Macau region. — MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

Third bridge connecting Thanlyin-Yangon to be built soon

THE construction of a third bridge across the Bago River connecting Thanlyin and Yangon will be built soon, said Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein.

There are currently two bridges connecting Thanlyin and Yangon, the No.1 Thanlyin Bridge linking the cities of Yangon and Thalyin, and the No.2 Bridge linking the Dagon Seikkan Township on the Yangon side and the Kalawe Village on the Thanlyin side, said Yangon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein yesterday at the



The Conceptual design of the third bridge connectingm; Thanlyin and Yangon. PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG SOE

60th anniversary of the founding of Thakayta Town. "The project to build the bridge, namely the No.3 Thanlyin Bridge, will be implemented soon. Development of Thanlyin will accelerate after No. 3 Bridge is constructed," he added. The building of the No.3 Thanlyin Bridge, funded with a JICA loan of K 56110.5 million, is expected to be completed in 2021. Meanwhile, the stake driving

ceremony for the bridge is to be held soon. No.1 Thanlyin Bridge, which includes both motorways and the railway, was opened on 31 July 1993, and was constructed with the assistance of China. The roads between Yangon and Thanlyin are busy, at present, as there are universities and the Special Economic Zone in Thanlyin. — Myint Maung Soe ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Stocks soared after US Federal Reserve Board Chairman Jerome Powell said interest rates were not a fixed upward course. PHOTO: AFP

Global stocks soar on dovish Fed, strong US jobs data

NEW YORK (United States)—Global stocks shot higher on Friday following a strong US jobs report and dovish comments from Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on the prospects for higher interest rates. Those back-to-back market-friendly developments helped US and European stock bourses surge higher and set aside for now nervousness over trade wars, a US government shutdown and a slowing economy that have pressured stocks for most of the last month.

“A solid set of job numbers and some comfortable words from the chairman of the Federal Reserve have been just the ticket to get markets into bullish mode,” said Chris Beauchamp, chief market analyst at online trading platform IG.

The Dow finished up 3.3 per cent, or nearly 750 points, to end the week at 23,433.16, more than making up for the 2.8 per cent slide on Thursday amid worries over slowing growth.

Bourses in Paris, Frankfurt and London all surged at least two per cent, also boosted in part by the US momentum.

Earlier, Japan's Nikkei had slumped 2.3 per cent, due in part due to a strengthening yen, which advanced further on the US currency following Powell's dovish commentary.

The losses in the Japan also followed Thursday's grim Wall Street session, which saw major indices end down more than two per cent after Apple slashed its revenue forecast on weak demand in China and a US report showed manufacturing activity slumping to a two-year low.

Dovish tone

Employment data showed the US added 312,000 jobs in December, much above analyst expectations, strengthening the case of those who have argued that markets have overreacted to signs that US growth may have peaked. Stocks rallied further after Fed Chair Jerome Powell told a gathering of economists that the US central bank had no “pre-set” plan for interest rates and was carefully monitoring economic conditions.

“Markets are expressing concerns about global growth

in particular and trade negotiations,” Powell said. “We're listening with—sensitively to the message that markets are sending and we'll be taking those downside risks into account as we make policy going forward.”

Powell “said exactly what the markets wanted to hear,” said Gregori Volokhine of Meeschaert Financial Services. “He will adapt to economic conditions and could provide support if it's needed.”

But Jason Schenker of Prestige Economics suggested the Fed could still take a hard line.

“Despite this dovish tone, we are skeptical,” Schenker said in a note. “The Fed has willfully ignored trade and interest rate risks while talking a hawkish game.”

Many analysts are girding for a rocky year for markets, owing to the US-China trade war and other unresolved matters, including a government shutdown fight in Washington that President Donald Trump warned on Friday could last years as he battles for funding for a border wall with Mexico.—AFP ■

Sri Lanka aims for 3 billion USD FDIs in 2019

COLOMBO—The Sri Lankan government on Friday said it is aiming to attract 3 billion US dollars worth of foreign direct investments in 2019 as several mega projects were being discussed with international investors. Development Strategies and International Trade Minister Malik Samarawickrama, quoted in local media reports said Sri Lanka had drawn an estimated 2.2 billion dollars worth of FDIs last year, which was an all-time high. “We are still reviewing the final statistics, which may be released towards the end of this month. However, I think we will end up with 2.2 billion US dollars for 2018,” the minister said. He added some of the foreign investments expected in 2018 had unfortunately been delayed due to the political instability experienced towards the later part of the year.

“We are re-discussing those investments. We are negotiating on a huge refinery and a steel manufacturing plant in Trincomalee, in eastern Sri Lanka. If these investments come in we will have a substantial inflow of FDIs by end of this year,” Samarawickrama said.

In 2017, Sri Lanka received FDIs worth 1.63 billion dollars with China bringing in the highest FDI followed by India and Singapore.

The Sri Lankan government is aiming to attract 5 billion dollars worth of FDIs per year by 2020.—Xinhua ■

Emissions test woes ding German car sales

FRANKFURT AM MAIN (Germany)—Months of disruption to the German car industry from new emissions tests barely dented annual sales figures in 2018, official data showed on Friday, although diesel vehicles' popularity ebbed further.

A total of 3.44 million new cars were registered on the roads last year, the KBA transport authority said, 0.2 per cent lower than in 2017.

The annual figure smooths out wide variations in monthly deliveries.

Carmakers rushed as many vehicles out of factory doors as possible in the months before the new Europe-wide emissions tests known as WLTP came into force in September. That month saw registrations tumble before a rebound in the final quarter, although at 237,000 December's figure was still down 6.7 per cent year-on-year.

The tougher Europe-wide emissions tests are one of the political responses to Volkswagen's “dieselgate” emissions cheating scandal. Mammoth carmaker VW

admitted in 2015 that it manipulated 11 million diesel-fuelled cars worldwide to appear less polluting in the lab than on the road.

The hangover for diesel has been harsh, with just 32.3 per cent of vehicles sold in Germany last year powered by the fuel—compared with 48 per cent in 2015 and 38.8 per cent in 2017.

Drivers have been scared off by the prospect of bans for diesel motors from parts of heavily polluted city centres like Frankfurt and Stuttgart, although the latest, cleanest models are set to be spared.

The year was a mixed one for German manufacturers, with VW and BMW inching up domestic sales of their own-brand cars by 1.5 per cent and 1.2 per cent.

Meanwhile Mercedes-Benz sold 2.2 per cent fewer cars and Opel's sales shrank 6.5 per cent.

Brighter news for BMW came from subsidiary Mini, which grew 8.1 per cent, and for Daimler from the Smart brand, which added 11.9 per cent—although both account for a fraction of their parent groups' sales.—AFP ■

Mongolian central bank's purchase of gold expected to decrease in 2019

ULAN BATOR—The Bank of Mongolia's purchase of gold is expected to decrease in 2019, the central bank's spokesperson said on Saturday. The 2014 amendments to the Minerals Law have played an important role in hiking gold sales to the Treasury Fund over the past five years, but the effective period of the law expired on 1 January, Ariun Dagva told Xinhua.

“Thus, gold purchase of the central bank is expected to decline significantly in 2019. The bank

has not yet set a goal on the amount of gold to buy this year,” Ariun said. The bank purchased only 12.7 tons of gold in 2014. Thanks to the low royalty taxes on gold with the 2014 amendments, the central bank's annual gold purchase almost doubled in 2018, she said.

The Bank of Mongolia bought a total of 22 tons of gold from legal entities and individuals in 2018, up 9.5 per cent from the previous year.—AFP ■



Volkswagen cars at the company's headquarters in Wolfsburg. PHOTO: AFP

Live in unity, prevent disintegration of the Union

OUR national people sacrificed their lives for years in their bid to gain independence. With the concerted effort, valor, zeal and enthusiasm of the entire Myanmar people, and under the leadership of our national leader, Bogyoke Aung San, independence was achieved.

For the independence which our national leaders and forefathers achieved with great risks, to survive till the end of our world, we must defend it in unity and hand in hand with each other. It is incumbent upon all citizens to safeguard our independence and to ensure that the country develops into a peaceful and modern nation.

At a time when the country celebrates Independence Day, those who served the country and at the risk of their lives are honoured every year. Honouring the honorables is in accord with Mingala Sutta.

Two Lieutenant-Colonels were posthumously honoured by President U Win Myint in Nay Pyi Taw on Independence Day on 4th January, receiving the "Thura" title for their extraordinary contributions to the country and the people.

In building the nation into a peaceful and modern Federal Democratic Union, it is a great virtue to honour those who are well worth honouring for their extraordinary contributions, remarkably more than others, for the security of the nation, rule of law, peace and stability of the area and nation-building sectors. For those who cannot accept the titles in person, it will be an honour forever remembered in posterity.

At the same time, we would like to express our deep

respect and honour to those who sacrificed their lives while guarding against the dangers facing the country.

Among those who were honoured with bravery titles by the State in the past, there were many ethnic service personnel.

They were found in the battles to be joining hands with others to protect the sovereignty of our country. They have no racial thoughts and are serving to guarantee the perpetual existence of the Union. They most hope for peace. We must live in unity and prevent the disintegration of the Union.

It is the duty and responsibility of us, all the citizens, to abide by and implement, with all ethnic nationals, the aims of the 71st Independence Day National Objectives and, at the same time, make our country modern, developed, peaceful and stable.

We would like to urge all to safeguard the independence and sovereignty of the State, without harboring racial and religious prejudices and hatred in our minds, and pass along good examples for future generations.

By Nandar Win,
Win Win Maw
PHOTO: WIN WIN

IN A broadcast on the Myanmar Radio and Television in collaboration with the Department of Alternative Education (Non-formal Education and Lifelong Learning), the topics of roundtable discussion on the role of teachers and additional recruitment of male teachers are discussed. The panelists are Dr. Than Oo, Director-General (Retired), Basic Education Department, Ministry of Education; U Ko Lay Win, Director-General (Duty), Basic Education Department, Ministry of Education; Dr. Aung Aung Min, Deputy Director-General, Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education; Dr. Win Aung and U Tun Hla, Members of National Educational Policy Commission; U Soe Tun Tun Naing, Principal, Basic Education Middle School No. (9), Insein Township, Yangon Region; U Lin Lin Htaik, Senior Assistant Teacher, Basic Education High School No. (4), Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region; Maung Arhman Htet, Fifth Year Student, Yangon University of Education.

Moderator: Kindly explain the vital role of teachers.

Dr. Than Oo: Sustainable Development Goals are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. The SDGs are part of Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly. Goal number four is quality education, and that lifelong learning opportunity is also included. This vision has been incorporated in our Myanmar Educational Policy in 2016-2021 with emphasis on the role of teachers.

Myanmar National Education Law, enacted on 30 September 2014, is designed to reform the country's outdated education system. Chapter 9 clearly outlined for the teachers that they shall be broad-minded to contribute to national and community development; shall love, value, protect and develop democratic

practices; shall have a sense of responsibility regarding their job, love and value their occupation, and be good models for students; to teach at the basic education level, shall have a teacher education degree, diploma, certificate or equivalent certification.

In accordance with our Myanmar tradition and culture, the teachers are highly valued and receive esteemed in Myanmar society. When we talked about teachers, it covered female teachers as well as male teachers. We could look back the situation of male teachers and female teachers in the past era.

Before the Second World War, there were three types of private schools such as that of English medium teaching schools, that of Anglo-Myanmar bilingual schools, and that of Vernacular schools.

At that time, the number of male teachers is more than female teachers. At the end of Second World War, most of the teachers went on retirement, and then reorganized the schools into two types namely State Primary School and State Post-Primary. At that juncture, the number of male teachers decreased.

I was serving as Princi-

pal of High School in 1954 and found that most of the schools had lesser male teachers. When I was serving as Principal at the Teachers Training School, I had noticed that the number of male teachers is much less. After 1964, the number of male teachers went down and the number of female teachers increased. At this roundtable discussion, we would find the cause and its solution.

Moderator: Please tell us why it is necessary to have balanced gender of teachers.

U Tun Hla: According to the. The Five National Education Policy, we are driving for the multifaceted development including five powers of strengths. The five Strengths are physical strength, mental strength, wealth strength, social strength and moral strength. Therefore, we need equal ratio of male teachers and female teachers.

Moderator: Please discuss on the number of gap between male and female teachers.

U Ko Lay Win: In the basic education sector, we have (47,005) schools, assigned with (402,374) teachers with the ratio of (17) per cent males and

(83) per cent females. As we are heading towards multifaceted development with the aim of five powers of strength in nurturing students as fine citizens, we need gender equality in teaching.

In some schools, we found that not even a single male teacher is there, and, it is quite obvious the need in recruiting more male teachers for these schools. With this backdrop of female and male gender gap, we need to formulate better education policy through the roundtable discussion.

Moreover, the intended reform in the education sector is required to inform the public through the roundtable discussion as desired by the Ministry of Education and the Union Minister. The aim and objective is in convincing the public to appreciate and approve the profession of teachers and to attractive male teachers.

Moderator: Please explain the selection plan.

Dr. Aung Aung Min: Those who passed the Matriculation Examination are allowed to attend the Yangon University of Education. When we checked the information and data for the past five years, we found that the

number of female students that passed the exam is more, and that the number of female applicants to the University is more.

In the selection process, we have to consider in all aspects to get gender equality on the basis such as that of the different townships, that of the combination of different subjects, that of the male and female ratio in particular township, that of the number of students to fill in the gap from other district and region. However, the statistics and information showed that the number of male students from Yangon Region and Mandalay Region is far to less in the application for teaching profession.

Moreover, the data and figures from Kayah State and Shan State (East) showed that the number of male applicants is not many. Our selection process is mainly based such as that of the situation of township, that of the subjects and combinations; that of the number of basic education students, that of the male and female gender equality.

Moderator: Please explain the status and situation of the application for teachers training.

U Ko Lay Win, Director-General (Duty),
Basic Education Department.

"When the educational reforms are carried out, we need to formulate policy guidelines in its implementation due to the acute gap between male teachers and female teachers"

Roundtable discussions on Educational Reforms



Dr. Aung Aung Min: We invited applications through the newspaper advertisement, and we processed the selection through proper rules and regulations.

We found some difficulty this year as we have (5914) students passed the Matriculation Examination with arts combination, and that (3463) students had applied to attend University of Education. The number and situation is quite satisfactory, and the condition is favorable as we desired.

However, our selection rule and standard is based on township circumstances, which started five to six years ago permitting the students in applying as they preferred in the whole of the country.

It was also based on the examination marks achieved. Therefore, those who passed from Yangon and from Mandalay may choose to attend in Shan State or Kachin State as they preferred, where they would pursue education at Educational Colleges.

After that, they would join as teachers of Basic Education Department, and they might work for one or two years. Next, they would transfer back to the State or Region that they have belonged either in Yangon or in Mandalay. These transfer cases are occurring heavily in the basic education sphere that we have to deal with, and that when they transferred to another place, they had made vacuums in the schools without basic education teachers.

It has been two years that we started the fresh selection system at various townships for the applications, and accepted them at relevant Education Colleges. When they graduated from the college, the Department of Education assigned them to the nearest school with the home of the students. This is best option in assigning the teachers and also in the subsequent transfer cases, and therefore, we are sensibly applying this principle.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Translated UMT (Ahlon)

Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 5th January, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (18:30) hrs M.S.T today, the Cyclonic Storm "Pabuk" over the Andaman Sea is centred at about (75) miles Southwest of Kawthaung, (360) miles Southeast of Coco Island (Myanmar) and (300) miles Southeast of Port Blair (India). Weather is a few cloud over the Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 6th January, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Kayin and Mon States and isolated in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Kachin, Shan and Kayah States with isolated heavy falls in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional Squalls with rough seas will be experienced Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (8-10) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (4-6) feet off and along Rakhine Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Naypyitaw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions, Shan, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th January, 2019: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th January, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th January, 2019: Generally fair weather.

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Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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, in person, or by email to ce@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

Three dead, four injured in California shooting: police

WASHINGTON (United States) — Police in California on Saturday said three people were killed and four were injured in a shooting at a bowling alley near Los Angeles.

Sergeant Ronald Harris of the Torrance Police Department confirmed to AFP that officers responded at 11:54 pm on Friday to reports of gunfire at Gable

House Bowl.

He added all seven victims were male. Three were pronounced dead at the scene, with two others taken to hospital.

Witnesses told The Los Angeles Times there had been a fight at the gaming complex.

In a tweet posted shortly after midnight, the Torrance Police Department had warned people

to “please stay away from the area.”

Torrance, a coastal city, is located around 20 miles (32 kilometers) southeast of downtown Los Angeles in the South Bay region. According to health authorities, nearly 40,000 people died in the United States as a result of firearms in 2017 — a figure that includes suicides. — AFP



Police guard the Gable House Bowl center after 3 men were killed and 4 injured in a shooting at the bowling alley in Torrance, California, according to police, on 5 January 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

France's 'yellow vest' protesters return to streets



“Yellow Vest” (Gilets jaunes) anti-government protesters throw stones towards security personnel during clashes on a street in Rouen, north-western France on 5 January 2019, part of a day of national demonstrations. **PHOTO: AFP**

PARIS (France) — France’s “yellow vest” protesters were back on the streets again Saturday as a government spokesman denounced those still protesting as hard-liners who wanted only to bring down the government.

Around a thousand protesters gathered on the Champs-Élysées in central Paris, where around 15 police wagons were also deployed, an AFP journalist said.

Some paused outside the headquarters of Agence France-Presse (AFP) in central Paris to hurl anti-media insults.

Police fired tear gas in the capital after protesters threw projectiles at police and AFP journalists saw minor scuffles near the River Seine as up to 4,000 joined the fray in the city by the afternoon, according to police.

Some protesters set bins ablaze and material damage included several burned out mo-

torcycles strewn across streets.

“I am here to defend the right of my children to work that enables them to eat. My daughter earns 800 euros (\$911) a month. She works 25 hours a week in a baker’s. For her, it’s about surviving,” said one protester, 58-year-old Ghislaine.

Several other cities across France also saw small marches — including up to 2,000 in Rouen northwest of Paris, where at least two arrests were made and one protester was hurt by a projectile after demonstrators set fire to a barricade. The scale and intensity of the protests has shrivelled in recent weeks, however, and authorities put Saturday’s nationwide turnout at around 12,000, compared with 282,000 for the initial rally on 17 November.

Public anger has on occasion been directed at the media, seen by some as too close to the government. Several journalists

have been assaulted since the protests called by the grass-roots movement started in November.

Last Saturday saw scuffles in Paris between some demonstrators denouncing media “collaborators” and police outside the headquarters of broadcasters BFMTV and France Televisions.

Police made four arrests Friday evening in the northeastern city of Nancy after some 50 demonstrators tried to block the entrance of newspaper L’Est Républicain. On Friday, government spokesman Benjamin Griveaux denounced those still protesting as “agitators who want insurrection and, basically, to overthrow the government”.

The midweek Paris arrest of Eric Drouet, one the movement’s spokesman, sparked anger among his supporters. Drouet already faces trial for carrying a weapon at a previous demonstration. — AFP ■

Violence rages over Indian flashpoint temple

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM (India) — Twin arson and bomb attacks rocked southern India Saturday, continuing a violent backlash that followed the entry of two women into a Hindu temple that forbids female devotees.

The Sabarimala temple in Kerala state has been at the centre of a prolonged showdown between religious hardliners and authorities since September, when India’s top court overturned a ban on women aged 10 to 50 setting foot inside.

Police said unidentified attackers hurled a homemade bomb at the home of a politician from the rightwing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and set ablaze the office of its Hindu nationalist parent group Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

Both are opposed to the court’s order to allow women inside the temple.

No injuries were reported, police said.

The fresh attacks came hours after unknown attackers bombed the house of a politician linked to the state’s ruling Communist Party, which has vowed to implement the court order.

One person has died and more than 270 others have been injured since Wednesday, when thousands protested after two women devotees in their 40s prayed inside the temple.

The two local women had become the first to access the shrine since the landmark verdict and months-long of siege by Hindu hardliners that forced dozens of women devotees to retreat from the gold-plated hilltop temple.

A third woman from Sri Lanka said she entered the

temple on Thursday night but this was disputed by the temple authorities, who performed a “purification” ritual after the two other women made their way into the shrine.

More than 3,000 protesters have either been arrested or taken into preventive custody after multiple clashes between police and demonstrators.

Kerala has a history of political violence between Hindu and the left-leaning parties but tensions in the region have escalated since the women entered the temple on 2 January.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a member of the BJP, joined calls by his party and the RSS for a statewide shutdown to protest the women’s entrance.

Modi’s party accuses the state government of backing “anti-religious” groups to violate Hindu traditions.

Hindu groups believe that women of menstruating age should not enter the temple because they are “impure” and the temple deity, Ayyappa, was celibate.

The Communist Party has accused the BJP and RSS of inciting violence in the state.

Women are barred from a handful of Hindu temples in India, including Sabarimala, where it was considered a taboo for centuries before the ban was given legal force by Kerala High Court in 1991.

But the Supreme Court in a landmark judgement in September overturned the Kerala court’s ruling after six women lawyers petitioned it in 2006, challenging a ban they said violated their fundamental rights. — AFP ■

Heads of Russia's General Staff, US JCS discuss Syria - Russian Defence Ministry

MOSCOW—The chief of Russia's General Staff, Valery Gerasimov, and chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, Joseph Dunford, discussed the situation in Syria in a telephone conversation on Friday, the Defence Ministry said on Saturday.

"On 4 January, there was a telephone conversation between the chief of the General Staff of Russia's Armed Forces, General of the Army Valery Gerasimov and chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Joseph Dunford. The two men exchanged opinion of the situation in Syria and struggle against terrorism and discussed other crucial issues of mutual interest," the Defence Ministry said. "The sides reaffirmed the importance of maintaining the existing channel of communication".—Tass ■



The chief of Russia's General Staff, Valery Gerasimov. PHOTO: TASS

Google moved almost 20 bln euros to Bermuda in 2017: report

THE HAGUE (Netherlands)—US internet giant Google used a legal mechanism to transfer almost 20 billion euros from the Netherlands to Bermuda in 2017 for tax purposes, a Dutch newspaper report said on Friday.

Google, which is owned by US parent company Alphabet, moved 19.9 billion euros (\$22.7 billion) with a tax evasion strategy dubbed "Double Irish, Dutch

Sandwich", according to 2018 financial documents cited by the financial daily FD.

The technique consists of shifting revenues from an Irish subsidiary to a Dutch shell company, which transfers the funds to another Irish subsidiary based in Bermuda, where it pays no income tax.

Google's transfer for 2017 was about four billion euros more

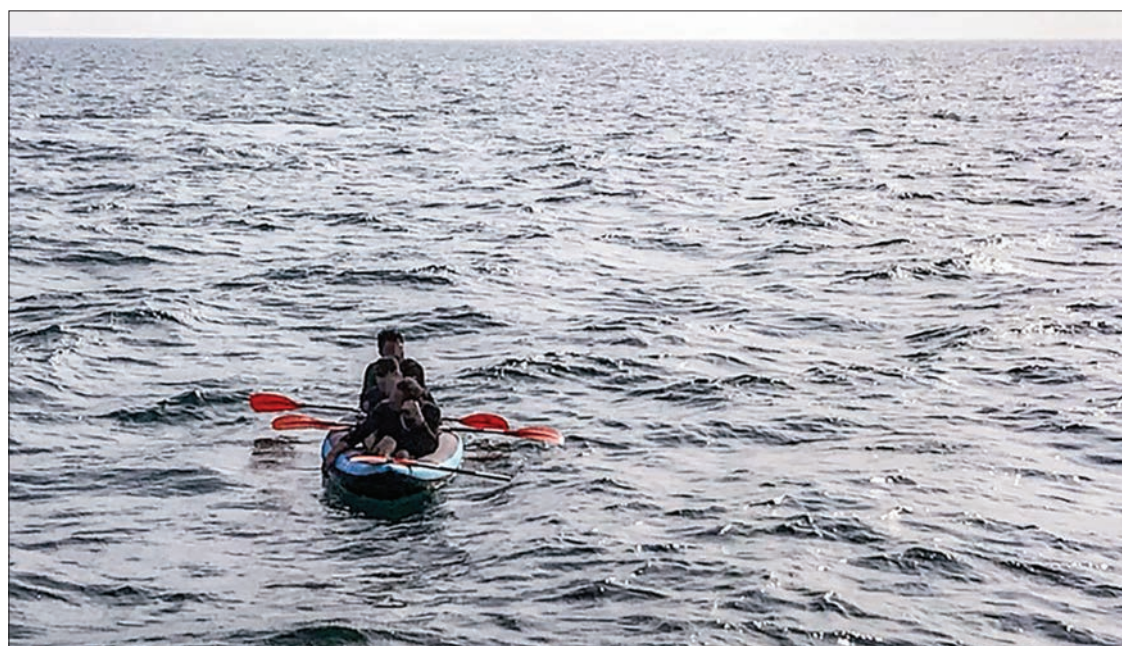
than compared to 2016, based on annual accounts filed by Google Netherlands Holding with the Dutch chamber of commerce at the end of last year.

"We pay all of the taxes due and comply with the tax laws in every country we operate in around the world," Google said in statement. "Google, like other multinational companies, pays the vast majority of its corporate

income tax in its home country, and we have paid a global effective tax rate of 26 per cent over the last ten years," it added.

Apple, Facebook and Amazon have also been singled out for sophisticated use of fiscal loopholes to pay as little tax as possible. In Europe, they often benefit from advantageous rates in Ireland and Luxembourg.—AFP ■

France announces 'action plan' to counter migrant Channel crossings



Migrants crossing Channel to Britain on 4 August, 2018. PHOTO: AFP

PARIS (France)—The French government announced an "action plan" on Friday to counter attempts by migrants to cross the Channel to Britain by sea, which it promises will end a phenomenon that has alarmed the Conservative government in London.

An increase in crossings by asylum-seekers, mostly Iranians,

has led Home Secretary Sajid Javid to declare a "major incident" with the government under pressure to provide a response.

"This plan should enable us to end these crossings," French Interior Minister Christophe Castaner was quoted as saying in the statement on Friday, adding that they were "not only illegal but also

extremely dangerous.

"It's in our interest, as well as the United Kingdom's, to do everything to prevent new networks (of people smugglers) developing which would likely attract irregular migrants to our shores again," it added. The plan will see stepped-up police patrols around ports where some

migrants have attempted to steal boats, as well as surveillance of beaches where dinghies have been launched from. A British navy ship was patrolling the Channel on Friday in addition to four other British coastguard boats which watch over the 21 miles (33 kilometres) of sea that separate France and Britain at its narrowest point. France has already doubled the number of coastguard boats in the Channel to two-four per night depending on the weather, a spokeswoman for French marine operations in the area told AFP this week.

The new French measures will be in addition to a joint action plan announced on 31 December by the French and British government, according to the statement from the French interior ministry. Castaner is to travel to London soon to discuss this joint plan, which is expected to include combined operations at sea and greater intelligence sharing about smuggler networks.—AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Trump to Apple: 'Make your product in the United States'

WASHINGTON (United States)—President Donald Trump called on Apple on Friday to make its iPhones in the United States, saying that China is "the biggest beneficiary" of the California tech giant. Trump's comments marked his latest effort to press US firms to bring back manufacturing amid a simmering trade war between Washington and Beijing. Trump told reporters at the White House: "I told (Apple CEO) Tim Cook, who is a friend of mine, who I like a lot, make your product in the United States. Build those big beautiful plants that go on for miles it seems, build those plants in the United States." The US president said "China is the biggest beneficiary of Apple" because smartphones are assembled in the country.—AFP ■

Bus stop blast wounds five in Chilean capital

SANTIAGO (Chile)—A blast at a bus stop that wounded five people in the center of the Chilean capital on Friday was described as a "terrorist act" by the government. A Venezuelan couple was hospitalized with facial and leg injuries after handling a package containing the device at the bus stop on the busy Vicuna Mackenna avenue, authorities said. A militant environmental group claimed the attack on its website.—AFP ■

Iran to deploy warships to Atlantic: media

TEHRAN (Iran)—Iran is to deploy its newest warship to the Atlantic Ocean on a five-month mission—the navy's longest in a decade, the conservative Fars news agency reported on Saturday. "The navy has had a plan to deploy a flotilla to the Atlantic Ocean for a few years and now everything seems prepared to launch the mission," said Fars, which is considered close to Iran's military. Rear Admiral Touraj Hassani-Moghadam told the official IRNA news agency on Friday that the mission would start early in the next Iranian year, which begins in late March.—AFP ■



Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), delivers a speech at a CMC meeting held in Beijing, capital of China on 4 January, 2019. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Xi orders armed forces to enhance combat readiness

BEIJING—President Xi Jinping on Friday ordered the Chinese armed forces to enhance their combat readiness from a new starting point and open new ground for developing a strong military.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), made the instruction at a CMC meeting held in Beijing.

Hailing the landmark, pioneering and historic military achievements since the 18th CPC National Congress, Xi said the armed forces had resolutely safeguarded national sovereignty, security and development interests and withstood complex situations and severe struggles.

“The world is facing a period of major changes never seen in a century, and China is still in an important period of strategic opportunity for development,” he said, warning that various risks and challenges were on the rise.

The entire armed forces should have a correct understanding of China’s security and development trends, enhance their awareness of danger, crisis and war, and make solid efforts on combat preparations in order to accomplish the tasks assigned by the Party and the people, Xi said.

Regarding combat capability as the only and fundamental criterion, Xi ordered all work, forces and resources to focus on military preparedness and ensure a marked progress in this regard.

Xi stressed the armed forces’

ability to respond quickly and effectively to contingencies, asking them to upgrade commanding capability of joint operations, foster new combat forces, and improve military training under combat conditions.

Party and government departments and agencies at the central and local levels are required to support the defence and military development.

Xu Qiliang, a CMC vice chairman, presided over the meeting, and Zhang Youxia, the other CMC vice chairman, announced the decision to give awards to 10 model units and 20 model individuals. They received awards from leaders, including Xi. Xi also signed a mobilization order for the training of the armed forces, the CMC’s first order in 2019.—Xinhua ■

Car bomb injures six in Pakistan’s Peshawar

PESHAWAR (Pakistan)—A car bomb injured six people in Pakistan’s northwestern city of Peshawar on Saturday, police said, with the blast ripping through multiple storefronts.

Officers said a 10 kilogramme improvised explosive device (IED) was fitted to a car parked in the Saddar area of the city. “It was an IED explosion and

the explosive material was fitted inside the vehicle,” Peshawar city police chief Qazi Jamil-ur-Rehman told AFP. He said all six injured, including two women, were in a stable condition. “All of the vehicle had blown up and only (its) engine part remained intact,” said local bomb disposal squad chief Shafqat Malik. At least three stores were damaged

by the bomb’s impact. Pakistan has been battling Islamist groups in the Peshawar region since 2004 and multiple bloody military operations have been carried out in the tribal areas neighbouring the city. Security in Peshawar improved in the region in recent years, though low-level attacks are still carried out with devastating regularity.—AFP ■

Six killed after school bus falls into gorge in India

NEW DELHI—At least six people including five school children were killed and seven others injured on Saturday after a bus carrying them skidded off a mountainous road and fell into gorge in northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, officials said.

The accident took place in Sangrah town of Sirmaur district, about 175 km south of Shimla, the capital city of Himachal Pradesh.

“Five school children of a private school and driver of the bus were killed while as seven other children injured when a bus carrying them skidded off the road and fell into a deep gorge here,” a local government official posted in Sirmaur said. “The injured school children were taken to hospital.”

Police have registered a case and ordered investigations to ascertain reasons behind the accident.—Xinhua ■

Tuna fetches record 333 mil. yen at new market’s New Year auction

TOKYO—A bluefin tuna fetched a record 333.6 million yen (\$3.1 million) at the first New Year’s auction held at Tokyo’s Toyosu fish market following the market’s relocation from nearby Tsukiji last year.

Costing 1.2 million yen per kilogram, the total price of the 278-kilogram tuna from Oma, Aomori Prefecture, is the highest paid at the metropolitan central market since 1999, the first year for which such records are available.

It is customary for bidders to pay extra at the year’s first auction, and particularly this time because it was the first such auction held at the new market that opened in October.

The successful bidder was Kiyomura Corp, the Tokyo-based operator of sushi restaurant chain Sushizanmai, which came out on top at Tsukiji for six consecutive New Year’s auctions through 2017.

“I didn’t expect the price to get this high,” said Kiyomura President Kiyoshi Kimura, but added, “We were able to buy a great tuna and hope our customers will enjoy it.”

Ryoichi Fujieda, the 64-year-old Oma fisherman who caught the fish, said he was still in disbelief.

“A local intermediate wholesaler called me about the auc-

tion. The amount was so big I thought he must have gotten the digits wrong,” said Fujieda.

Kiyomura held the previous record of 155.4 million yen for a 222-kg tuna in 2013. The final New Year’s auction at Tsukiji in 2018 saw a tuna fetch 36.45 million yen. It was auctioned off by Yamayuki, an intermediate wholesaler in Tokyo.

“We received a major boost that goes beyond a congratulatory gift of money for the first New Year’s auction after Toyosu opened,” said Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike after observing the auction.

The Tokyo metropolitan government decided in 2001 to relocate the aging Tsukiji market to Toyosu, but the initial plan to open the new market in 2016 was pushed back following the discovery of pollutants and subsequent decontamination work.

Toyosu market—a new tourist attraction in Tokyo—is a closed facility suited for controlling temperatures and sanitation and is 1.7 times larger than Tsukiji.

Unlike at the old market, visitors are only able to observe the bidding from an upper floor.

A special deck, which requires reservations in advance, will open from 15 January, allowing visitors to see the bidding up close.—Kyodo News ■



Kiyomura President Kiyoshi Kimura poses with a bluefin tuna that his company paid a record 333.6 million yen (\$3.1 million) for at the first New Year’s auction held at Tokyo’s Toyosu fish market on 5 January, 2019. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Floods, blackouts after Thai storm, but tourist islands spared

NAKHON SI THAMMARAT (Thailand)—Floods and blackouts caused by Tropical Storm Pabuk left nearly 30,000 people in evacuation shelters across southern Thailand on Saturday, as relieved tourists stranded on islands further north were spared the worst and began to plot routes home.

Pabuk, a once in three-decades weather system, packed winds of up to 75 kilometres (45 miles) an hour and brought heavy rains and storm surges as it lashed the entire south of the kingdom on Friday, downing power cables and causing widespread flooding.

A fisherman died in southern Pattani province early Friday as high waves

smashed into his boat and another crew member was reported missing.

But the storm tacked away from the key tourist islands of Koh Samui, Koh Phangan and Koh Tao where large numbers of tourists hunkered down for 24 hours in heavy rains, unable to leave as airports closed and ferry services were cancelled. “There were no casualties, there is some sunshine today and I’m confident some tourists will be able to leave today as ferries and flights resume,” Kittipop Roddon, Koh Samui district chief said.

But “red flag” warnings banning swimming off what are normally sun-baked paradise beaches at this time of year were still

in place. “It’s all over. All 10,000 tourists are safe... I am relieved,” Krikkrai Songthanee, district chief of neighbouring Koh Phangan, an island famed for its full-moon parties, told AFP, adding only minor damage had been caused by high winds. But holiday-makers keen to leave the islands face long delays as transport links are slowly reopened on Saturday.

The storm was downgraded early Saturday to a depression with wind speeds slackening as it moved into the Andaman Sea, the Meteorological Department said.

Pabuk made landfall on Friday afternoon in Nakhon Si Thammarat province, south of the



Electricity poles are seen on the road in the aftermath of tropical storm Pabuk in the southern Thai province of Nakhon Si Thammarat on 5 January, 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

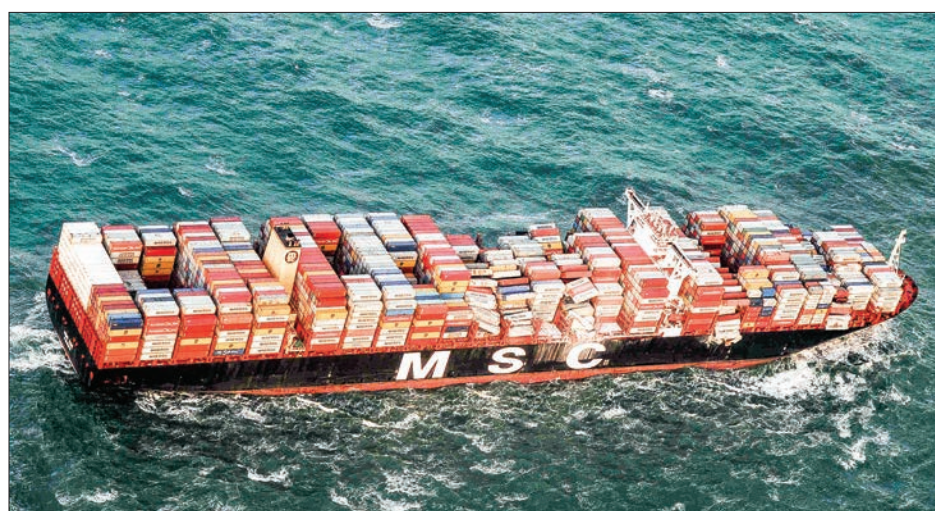
tourist hubs on the Gulf of Thailand, hammering the coastal province with rain.

Authorities warned of flash floods as some parts remained inundated by a combination of rainfall and storm surges. Around 200,000 people were left without power as dozens of

electricity poles were toppled by high winds or falling trees. Some 30,000 customers remained without power early Saturday, according to an update by the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department. A similar number of people remained in evacuation

shelters, waiting for floods to recede and power to be restored, it added. Pabuk struck in peak tourist season, a blow to the cash-cow sector that is integral to Thailand’s economy. The kingdom is expected to welcome a record 40 million visitors this year.—AFP ■

Army helps Dutch island clean-up after ship spills cargo



This Handout aerial photo made available by the Central command for maritime emergencies (Havariekommando) on 2 January, 2019 shows the container ship MSC ZOE, which lost up to 270 containers in the storm in the North Sea. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE HAGUE (Netherlands)—The Dutch military joined beach clean-up efforts on Friday, two days after some 270 shipping containers tumbled from one of the world’s biggest cargo boats into the North Sea in stormy weather.

A hundred soldiers landed at dawn on the island of Schiermonnikoog, off the Dutch north coast, where a closed bag of a dangerous powder was discovered washed up on Thursday.

The powder was identified by authorities as “organic peroxide”, a highly

flammable substance used in making plastics.

Objects, including plastics and polystyrene, are continuing to come ashore on Dutch beaches with local residents helping in the clean-up operation.

“On various Wadden islands, plastics and other objects were once again stranded,” tweeted the security services of Friesland, the region on which the archipelago depends.

The Panama-registered MSC Zoe, which was mostly carrying toys, furniture and auto parts, lost the containers late on

Tuesday while battling a storm off the Frisian Islands, an archipelago off the northwestern Dutch coast also known as the Wadden Islands.

The Dutch public ministry in a statement announced that prosecutors have opened an inquiry into the incident to determine “if the damage caused was the result of punishable acts” under the law and also who was responsible. So far, around 30 containers have been located in The Netherlands and Germany.

Coastguards said three containers that had

been transporting organic peroxide on the MSC Zoe have not been located and are thought to have sunk.

“Every day of the year, we make efforts to keep the beaches clean. It is depressing to see that everything is ruined at once,” said Bert Wassink, mayor of Terschelling Island, close to Schiermonnikoog.

Small pieces of polystyrene being strewn across sand dunes by the wind were a “disaster”, said resident Siep Wobbles, quoted by the NRC newspaper. The mayors of several Wadden Islands wrote a letter to shipping firm MSC Mediterranean Shipping, saying it was responsible for the “beach pollution”.

They are demanding reimbursement for the costs incurred, said Tineke Schokker, Vlieland Island mayor, on the TV show Jinek. MSC Mediterranean Shipping said it was working in collaboration with local authorities and several salvage companies to clean-up the affected German and Dutch waters and beaches.—AFP ■

German court opens way for diesel case against Daimler

FRANKFURT AM MAIN (Germany)—A German court said on Friday it had opened the way for shareholders to join a collective legal action against Mercedes-Benz parent Daimler for diesel cheating that mirrors one already brought against VW. Multiple shareholders in the luxury carmaker argue that their investment was harmed by the “dieselgate” scandal and that they deserve compensation as a result.

Now a Stuttgart tribunal has called for a so-called “model case” that would test questions common to the claims, in the German legal system’s closest analogue to a class-action lawsuit. In a statement, plaintiffs’ lawyer Andreas Tilp said that Daimler should have “informed financial markets about the risks arising from the use of illegal software in its diesel cars” as early as 2012. A Daimler spokesman told AFP: “We believe this case is baseless and we will contest it with all the legal means at our disposal”.

The Stuttgart-based manufacturer has consistently disputed claims that it manipulated its motors to appear less polluting in the lab than in real driving conditions.—AFP ■

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

Sealed bids are invited by Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports for the supply of Medical and Laboratory Equipment by the loan of Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the (2018-2019) Fiscal Year.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the Procurement and Supplying Division, Department of Medical Services office No. (4), Ministry of Health and Sports commencing from (7.1.2019).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the Office not later than (7.2.2019), 15:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the phone No. 067-3411510, 067-3411544, Procurement and Supply Division Office, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports.

Procurement and Supply Division
Department of Medical Services
Ministry of Health and Sports

Britney Spears announces career hiatus to look after ailing father

LOS ANGELES (United States)—Pop superstar Britney Spears announced on Friday she is placing her career on hold indefinitely to take care of her sick father.

"I will not be performing my new show Domination," she wrote in an emotional post on Twitter which featured a picture of herself as a young child alongside her parents.

The 1990s and 2000s icon had been due to kick off a series of concerts at the MGM resort in Las Vegas in February as part of a new residency in the city.

"I've been looking forward to this show and seeing all of you this year, so doing this breaks my heart," the 37-year-old continued.

"However, it's important to always put your family first... and that's the decision I had to make. "A couple of months ago, my father was hospitalized and almost died. We're all so grateful that he came out of it alive, but he still has a long road ahead of him."

As a result, she said, she had decided to "put my full focus and energy on my family



Pop superstar Britney Spears. PHOTO: AFP

at this time."

Reports indicated Spears' father Jamie suffered a colon rupture but is expected to

make a full recovery.

Spears had previously held a Las Vegas residency between 2013 and 2017.—AFP ■

Justin Timberlake returns to tour after vocal cord injury

LOS ANGELES—Pop star Justin Timberlake is ready to restart his 'Man Of The Woods' tour two months after postponing numerous dates due to bruised vocal cords. The singer shared the news on Instagram on Thursday night, one day before the tour resumed in Washington DC at the Capital One Arena. "First of all, Happy New Year. Hope everybody had a good holiday. Second of all, D C we here. We're back. Can't wait. Excited, ya'll ready?" Timberlake said in a new clip he posted to Instagram.

He captioned the video, "And... we're back. See you tomorrow DC!"

Timberlake, 37, has been facing vocal issues throughout the global tour, which is slated to run through April. In October, he announced on Instagram just hours before a show in New York City at Madison Square Garden that his doctors had ordered him to rest. He then postponed planned shows in Buffalo, New York, and Tacoma, Washington. His November Los Angeles concert was to be his first since the injury, but that too was ultimately postponed.

And in early December, Timberlake was forced to postpone another month due to a slower recovery time than initially expected. The singer previously had an operation to remove his throat nodules benign growths on the vocal cords in 2005.—PTI ■

Danny DeVito joins 'Jumanji' sequel

LOS ANGELES—Actor Danny DeVito has joined the cast of Dwayne Johnson's "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" sequel.

Kevin Hart, Jack Black and Karen Gillan are also returning for the sequel, reported Variety. Jake Kasdan is coming back as the director.

"The magic of Jumanji' is who becomes who. And the idea of Danny DeVito joining our cast was too irresistible and something we knew we wanted to deliver to our audience this upcoming Christmas. Dwanta Claus loves everyone," Johnson said.

"Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" followed a group of four teens transported into the world of Jumanji, where they turn into their adult avatars. The setting is now a video game instead of a board game, on which the book and original 1995 film, featuring Robin Williams, were based. Scott Rosenberg, Kasdan and Jeff Pinkner have penned the script of the sequel.—AFP ■

New York's Met welcomed record 7.4 million visitors in 2018

NEW YORK (United States)—New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art welcomed almost 7.4 million visitors in 2018, figures showed on Friday, a new record for the venerable institution which in March began charging a fixed fee for out-of-towners.

The figure represented a rise of 5.1 per cent compared to 2017, itself a record-setting year.

The bump in attendance was in large part thanks to the "Heavenly Bodies" exhibit which explored the links between fashion and the Catholic Church and attracted 1.7 million people.

Also of note were exhibitions dedicated to Michelangelo and David Hockney, both of which took place in late 2017 and early 2018.

The 2018 figures included visitors to the museum's

main building, located on the eastern side of Central Park

facing 5th Avenue, as well as its two other Manhattan locations,

the Met Cloisters and the Met Breuer.

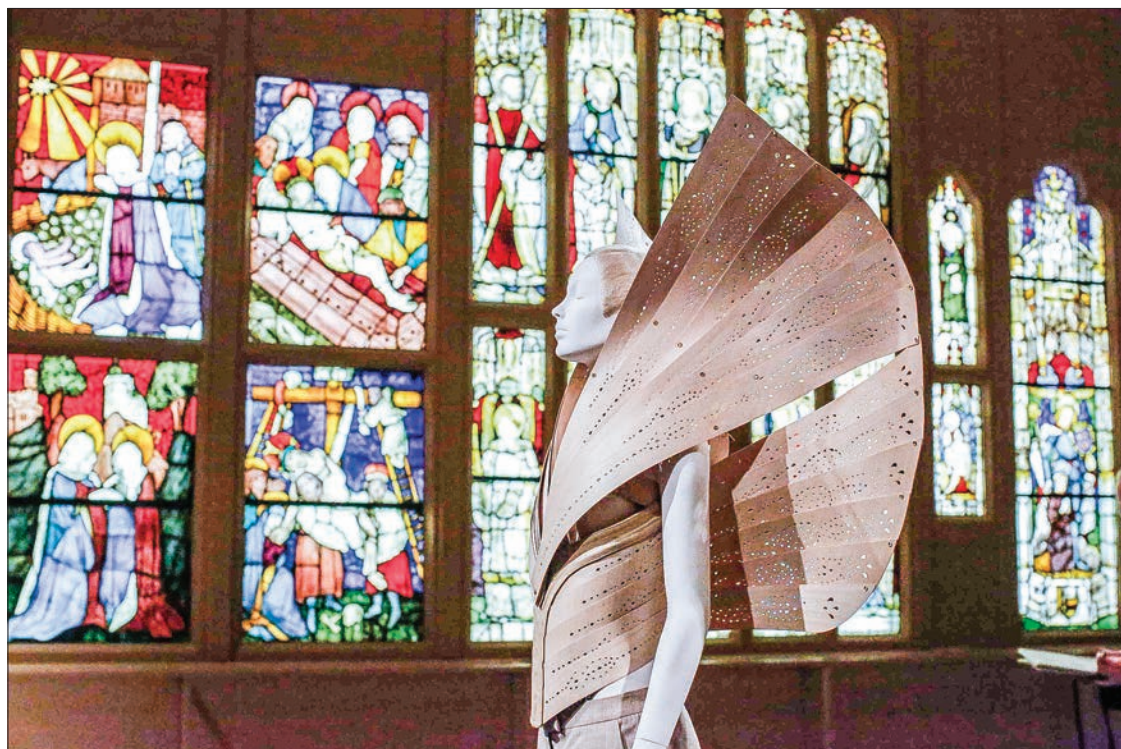
Attendance did not suffer as a result of a new pricing policy that was introduced on 1 March, which broke for the first time the tradition of allowing everyone to pay however much they wished.

Now, those who live outside New York must pay \$25, though New Yorkers are still subject to voluntary donations.

The figures published Friday showed that 32 per cent of visitors were New Yorkers, 34 per cent from the rest of the United States and 34 per cent were foreign tourists.

China was the best represented country and accounted for 5 per cent of the foreign contingent.

Despite its successes, the Met remains far behind the Louvre in Paris, which saw 10.2 million visitors in 2018—also a record.—AFP ■



In this file photo taken on 7 May, 2018 the dress ensemble spring/summer by Alexander McQueen is exhibited during the press preview for the annual fashion exhibition "Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination" at The Metropolitan Museum of art in New York. PHOTO: AFP

Chinese rover 'Jade Rabbit' drives on far side of the moon

BEIJING (China)—A Chinese lunar rover has driven on the far side of the moon, the national space agency announced on Friday, hailing the development as a "big step for the Chinese people".

The Yutu-2 (Jade Rabbit-2) rover drove onto the moon's surface from the lander at 10:22pm Thursday (1422 GMT), about 12 hours after the groundbreaking touchdown of the Chang'e-4 probe, the agency said.

The China National Space Administration released a photo taken by the lander showing tracks left by the rover as it departed the spacecraft, though it did not specify how far the rover travelled.

Beijing is pouring billions into its military-run space programme, with hopes of having a

crewed space station by 2022, and of eventually sending humans to the moon. Chang'e-4 lunar probe mission—named after the moon goddess in Chinese mythology—was the second Chinese probe to land on the moon following the Yutu rover mission in 2013.

The separation of the rover—which is named after the moon goddess' pet white rabbit—went smoothly, said Wu Weiren, chief designer of the lunar project.

"Although this was one small step for the rover, I think it is one big step for the Chinese people," he said in an interview with state broadcaster CCTV, echoing the famous quote by US astronaut Neil Armstrong, the first person to walk on the Moon in 1969.

No lander or rover has ever previously touched the surface of

the far side of the moon, and it is no easy technological feat. Challenges include communicating with the robotic lander as there is no direct "line of sight" for signals.

The photo of the rover was sent via the Queqiao (Magpie Bridge) satellite, which was blasted into the moon's orbit in May to relay data and commands between the lander and Earth.

Chang'e-4 is carrying six experiments from China and four from abroad, including low-frequency radio astronomical studies—aiming to take advantage of the lack of interference on the moon's far side. The rover will also conduct mineral and radiation tests, the China National Space Administration has said.

Beijing is planning to send another lunar lander, Chang'e-5,



The Chinese lunar rover explores the far side of the moon. PHOTO: AFP

later this year to collect samples and bring them back to Earth.

It is among a slew of ambitious Chinese targets, which include a reusable launcher by 2021, a super-powerful rocket

capable of delivering payloads heavier than those NASA and private rocket firm SpaceX can handle, a moon base, a permanently crewed space station, and a Mars rover.—AFP ■



In this hand-out picture released by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (RZSS), received in London on 4 January, 2019, a scientist drills an ivory sample in the WildGenes laboratory based at Edinburgh Zoo in Scotland on 7 November, 2017. PHOTO: AFP

Mammoth DNA found in Cambodia market items

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Scientists tackling the illegal trade in elephant ivory got more than they bargained for when they found woolly mammoth DNA in trinkets on sale in Cambodia, they revealed on Friday.

"It was a surprise for us to find trinkets made from woolly mammoth ivory in circulation, especially so early into our testing and in a tropical country like Cambodia," said Alex Ball, manager at the WildGenes laboratory, a wild-

life conservation charity based at Edinburgh Zoo.

"It is very hard to say what the implications of this finding are for existing elephant populations, however we plan to continue our research and will use genetics to work out where it has come from." The giant mammals have been extinct for around 10,000 years and are not covered by international agreements on endangered species.

WildGenes has been using genetic data to tackle wildlife crime by determining the ori-

gin of ivory finding its way to the marketplace. "It is estimated that globally over 30,000 elephants are killed every year for their ivory and it appears there are increasing amounts of ivory for sale within Cambodia," said Ball. "Understanding where the ivory is coming from is vital for enforcement agencies looking to block illegal trade routes."

Britain last year banned sales of all ivory except for the rarest and most important antiques.—AFP ■

American, Chinese scientists develop potential therapy for aggressive breast cancer

WASHINGTON—American and Chinese researchers developed an experimental therapy that can reduce the spread of a kind of hard-to-treat breast cancer in a mice study. The study, published on Thursday in the journal *Cancer Cell*, reported the therapeutic agent that blocks two of the main pathways by which breast cancer cells grow and migrate out of the primary tumour to spread to other organs in the body.

The spread of triple-negative breast cancer is difficult to block, because "if you try one approach, the cancer cells compensate by finding a way to escape," according to the paper's senior author Kang Yibin, professor of molecular biology at Princeton University. This kind of breast cancer is highly aggressive and it occurs in 12 to 17 per cent of all breast cancer cases. It gets the name from the lack of three major biological targets that are used to find and kill cancer cells. Patients with triple-negative breast cancer have high rates of recurrence and fewer treatment options, according to the researchers.

"With this new approach, the

treatment blocks both pathways at the same time. It is like having one stone that kills two birds," said Kang.

The researchers found that the new agent called Tinagl1 could inhibit distinctly two main pathways that contribute to triple-negative breast cancer's aggressiveness and ability to resist treatments.

The agent can stop action of a tumor-promoting protein known as EGFR and also target molecules called integrins that are involved in regulating cellular transformation into tumors, according to the study.

The researchers found that high expression of Tinagl1 in mouse cancer cells produced slower-growing tumors that were less likely to metastasize to the lung. They also administered Tinagl1 protein to mice with breast cancer and found that treatment for seven weeks significantly inhibited primary tumour growth and spontaneous lung metastasis.

Researchers from Fudan University Shanghai Cancer Centre and Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey also contributed to the study.—Xinhua ■



Yangon United's midfielder Maung Maung Lwin (green) vies for the ball with his opponent in a match. **PHOTO: YUFC**

Every team is a challenge for our team, says Maung Maung Lwin

YANGON United midfielder Maung Maung Lwin expressed his feelings over defending the Champion title at the Charity Cup, according to the Yangon United FC.

As part of the Charity Cup 2018, Yangon United will play against Shan United today at 3:30 pm at Aung San stadium in Yangon.

"We have already prepared for the match against Shan United in the Charity Cup 2019, and now is the time to show how we play on the pitch", said Maung Maung Lwin.

"Every team is our best opponent, not only Shan United. And it is hard to see the matches being just easy-going play. The Charity cup game (today) is a bit harder to play, because our opponent also prepared and will be a tough rival. But we are stronger and possess good communications, with not only local players but also foreign players on the pitch", he added.

"I would like to invite all fans to come and cheer us. We promise to defend our Championship title, which we all want", said Maung Maung Lwin.

Yangon United won the championship title last year by defeating Shan United 6-4 after a penalty shootout.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Myanmar team leaves Oman, Qatar for international friendlies

THE Myanmar U-22 national football team departed for Oman and Qatar from Yangon International Airport yesterday morning, to compete in international friendly matches with Oman and Qatar U-23 national football teams, according to the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF).

Team Myanmar is comprised of 20 young footballers who won a silver medal at the International U-21 Thanh Niên Newspaper Cup held in Viet Nam in December 2018.

The Myanmar squad is strong, and includes goalkeeper Bhone Thitsar Min, defenders Aung Wunna Soe and Thet Paing Htwe, midfielders Myat Kaung Khant, youth player of the year Lwin Moe Aung and strikers Win Naing Tun, Zin Min Tun, Htet Phyto Wai and Chan Nyein.

Myanmar will play the international friendly away matches against the Oman U-23 team in Muscat, the capital of Oman on 7 January, and Qatar U-23 in Doha, the capital of Qatar, on 10 January.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

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Guardiola warned by FA after touchline rant

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Pep Guardiola has been warned by the Football Association over his behaviour after Manchester City manager launched into a touchline rant during the champions' crucial 2-1 victory against Liverpool.

Guardiola threw his scarf to the ground and shouted at fourth official Martin Atkinson after a decision from referee Anthony Taylor went against City in the second half on Thursday. It is the 47-year-old's first warning and the decision was posted on the FA website, which also makes it clear that any manager receiving four such warnings must serve a touchline ban. City moved to within four points of Premier League leaders Liverpool thanks to Leroy Sane's second half winner at the Etihad Stadium.—AFP ■

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Solskjaer says he will be judged on style at Man Utd

MANCHESTER (United Kingdom)—Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has suggested he will be judged on playing style rather than trophies if he is to land the Manchester United manager's job on a full-time basis.

Solskjaer, appointed as interim boss last month to replace the sacked Jose Mourinho, has made clear that he would love to stay at Old Trafford beyond the end of this season, when his temporary arrangement is set to expire. The former United striker, on a managerial loan from Norwegian club Molde, has not spoken to executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward about a longer stay. However, he feels that the key to being seen as a success is to return to the attractive, attacking football that the club played for much of Alex Ferguson's near 27-year reign as manager. Ferguson won 38 trophies before retiring in 2013 but his United team were also renowned for their positive football, which many fans felt went missing in the final year of Mourinho's reign.

Solskjaer, when asked what would constitute success and improve his chances of getting the job permanently, said: "If we get to the summer and people are talking about the way Manchester United are playing. 'If the style we're playing, it reminds us of Sir Alex's team, if it reminds us of the successful times.'" Solskjaer said he is keen to win trophies this season but suggested that the style, for now, was more important. "It has to start with the way we play because results you cannot control," he said. "You can control how you approach the game and how you play."

Trophy hunt

"And of course, it's about trophies—if you can get to the final of the FA Cup and get a trophy. Let's see in May if it's a success or not." Solskjaer has won his first four matches at the helm, including a 2-0 victory at Newcastle on Wednesday, and hopes to extend that run when Championship strugglers Reading visit Old Trafford in the FA Cup on Saturday. However, he expects there to be setbacks as he attempts to improve United's Premier League position from sixth over the second half of the season. "When you win games of football, you're happy," he said. "There will be tougher times coming, there will be tougher games coming up, we know that. —AFP ■



Molde's coach Ole Gunnar Solskjaer celebrates a goal on the pitch line during the UEFA Europa League Group E football match Molde vs Stuttgart in Molde on 4 October, 2012. **PHOTO: AFP**

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

6 JANUARY 2019

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR



By Khin Moh Moh Aung
Yadanabon University

Tranquil Travelling

“MOM, I want to travel all around the world, hmm...but this is just a dream” I said to my mother who was busy with her daily chores. I had been saying those words since my childhood. On one sunny day, my mother and I went to my mother’s native town, Pyin Oo Lwin, one of the famous places in Myanmar. When we reached there, we stayed at my grandfather’s house. We could not meet with each other for a long time. So, I did not dare to speak with him intimately. So, my mother helped me speak to each other. “Dad, your granddaughter is very passionate to travel all around the world”, my Mom said. “Really?”, my grandpa said looking at me. “Yes,” I answered timidly. He looked at me and asked me “So, where will you travel first?”. “I don’t have an exact answer, grandpa, because I do know that it cannot be implemented. I don’t even have a job as I’m just a student. I don’t have any money. And my family is not rich to support me. How can I travel all around the world? But the only thing I can tell why I want to travel all around the world is I want to explore the world with my heart”, I answered hesitantly. At that time, my Mom left us saying “I will prepare a meal for tonight. So, just talk over tea.”

Meanwhile, my grandpa said, “Actually, I’ve traveled all around the world since I was young.” “Really?”, I said with astonishment. I continued, “Wow! It’s awesome.” “Of course”, he answered with laughter. “It’s enviable. I want to travel like you” said I. “Yes, you can”, he said.

His words do my heart’s good. And I continued “Grandpa, I think you have many treasures. If not, you cannot travel all around the world.” When I said those words, he nodded and said to me, “Yes, I have many treasures. I will give you them which can help you to go to different places”. After he had said to me, he went into his room. After a while, he came back carrying a lot of books in his both hands. I looked at him astonishingly because he told me that he would go and take treasures to give me. But the only things I could see in his hands are books.

Whilst I was looking at him, he gave me the books he carried and he said, “I traveled a lot of places with them. I do not need to travel by motorbike or car or plane. I just need to sit in a quiet place and just read them. And I can see the different places with my imagination.” So, I looked at him with muddle-headed eyes. He continued his explanation by saying “Reading can help us to reach where we want to go. Even though you cannot enjoy the exotic places or see fantastic animals in reality, you can see them with your imagination. So, don’t be depressed by thinking you are not able to travel all around the world. You can create a quiet traveling by yourself.” “Thanks a million, grandpa for giving me these treasures,” said I with thankfulness. The while, my mother called us to have meals she cooked. At that time, I knew that I did not fill my stomach although a part of my brain was filled with nutritious nourishment.



(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

Patterns စာကြောင်းပုံစံများ
ဤကဏ္ဍတွင် စာကြောင်းများ ပြောင်းလဲပုံ၊ ဆက်ပုံတို့ကို ပုံစံများ (Patterns) အသုံးပြုခြင်းဖြင့် လေ့လာသွားနိုင်ရန် တင်ပြသွားပါမည်။
(A) So....that (လွန်း)သည်အတွက်ကြောင့် (adverb clause of reason) - အကြောင်းပြချက်။
so that နိုင်စေဖို့ရန် averb clause of (purpose) - ရည်ရွယ်ချက်။

- (a) so that**
- So နှင့် that ကြားတွင် adjective/adverb လိုက်ရသည်၊ adjective/adverb ရှေ့မှ Very, quite စသည်တို့ကို ဖြုတ်ထားရသည်။
 - အကြောင်းပြချက်ဖြစ်သည်။
 - The night was very dark. We lost our way.
The night was so dark that we lost our way.
ညမှောင်လွန်းသည့်အတွက်ကြောင့် ကျွန်တော်တို့ လမ်းပျောက်ခဲ့သည်။
 - They were very tired.They could not continue the journey.
They were so tired that they could not continue the journey.
သူတို့ မောပန်းလွန်းသည့်အတွက်ကြောင့် ခရီးမဆက်နိုင်ခဲ့ကြပါ။
 - He was very poor. He could not eat two meals a day.
He was so poor that he could not eat two meals a day.
သူ ဆင်းရဲလွန်းသည့်အတွက်ကြောင့် တစ်နေ့ထမင်းနှစ်နပ် မစားနိုင်ပါ။
 - The box is very heavy. She cannot carry it.
The box is so heavy that she cannot carry it.
သေတ္တာအလွန်လေးသည့်အတွက်သူမ မသယ်နိုင်ပါ။
many, more, a lot of နှင့်စသောစာကြောင်းများကို ဆက်ရာတွင် So ကို စာကြောင်းရှေ့မှထည့်၍ many နှင့် much ကိုဆီလျော်သလို ကပ်ထည့်ရသည်။ That ကို ပထမစာကြောင်းနှင့် ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းကြား ထားရသည်။
 - Many books were published last year.
I was not able to read them all.
So many books were published last year that I was not able to read them all.
မနှစ်က စာအုပ်အလွန်များစွာ ထုတ်ဝေခဲ့သည့်အတွက် ကျွန်တော်အားလုံးကို မဖတ်နိုင်ခဲ့ပါ။

- A lot of rice was produced last year.
We had to build many warehouses to store it.
So much rice was produced last year that we had to build many warehouses to store it.
မနှစ်က ဆန်များစွာထွက်ခဲ့သည့်အတွက် သိုလှောင်ရန် ဂိုဒေါင်များဆောက်ခဲ့ရသည်။

- Exercises** လေ့ကျင့်ခန်း။
အောက်ပါစာကြောင်းများကို So-That နှင့်ဆက်ပါ။
- He is very hungry. He will eat anything you give him.
 - The noise was very loud. It woke the child up.
 - He came very late. He missed the last train.
 - She was very angry with me. She did not speak to me.
 - Many years have passd since we parted. I have even forgotten her name.
 - He went out hurriedly. He left his umbrella.
 - A lot of salt was put in the curry. It was very salty.

- Answers**
- He is so hungry that he will eat anything you give him.
 - The noise was so loud that it worke the child up.
 - He came so late that he missed the last train.
 - She was so angry with me that she did not speak to me.
 - So many years have passed since we parted that I have forgotten her name.

- He went out so hurriedly that he left his umbrella.
- So much salt was put in the curry that it was very salty.

- So that**
- (a) ဤ So that နှင့်ဆက်သောစာကြောင်းမှာ ရည်ရွယ်ချက်ကိုပြသော ပုဒ်စု (Adverb clause of purpose) ဖြစ်သည်။ So နှင့် that ကြားတွင် အခြားမည်သည့်စာလုံးမှ ထည့်ရန်မလို။
(b) ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းတွင် may, might, can, could တို့လိုက်လေ့ရှိသည်။
ဥပမာ -
1. He ran very fast.
He might catch the train.
He ran very fast so that he might catch the train.
သူမီးရထားကို မီကောင်းမီနိုင်စေရန်အတွက် လျင်မြန်စွာပြေးခဲ့သည်။(မိလိုမိငြား) မိရန်မလွယ်မှန်းသိလျက်နှင့် မိလိုမိငြား လျင်မြန်စွာ ပြေးခဲ့ခြင်းကိုပြသည်။
 - She worked very hard.
She might get high marks in each subject.
She worked very hard so that she might get high marks in each subjects.
ဘာသာရပ်တိုင်းတွင် အမှတ်ကောင်းကောင်းရလိုရငြား သူမပြင်းထန်စွာ ကြိုးစားခဲ့သည်။
 - The teacher spoke very slowly.
The students could understand what she was talking about.
The teacher spoke very slowly so that the students could understand what she was talking about.
သူမပြောသည့် အကြောင်းအရာကိုကျောင်းသားများ နားလည်နိုင်စေရန်အတွက် သူမသည် စကားကို ဖြည်းဖြည်းပြောခဲ့သည်။
 - He is saving money every month.
It means that he will be able to buy a car next year.
He is saving money every month so that he will be able to buy a car next year.
သူ နောင်နှစ်တွင် ကားတစ်စီးဝယ်နိုင်ရန်အတွက် လစဉ်ငွေစုနေသည်။

- Too-to/Enough to**
- (B) Too...to နှင့်စာကြောင်းနှစ်ကြောင်းကို ဆက်ရာတွင် too ကို adjective/adverb ရှေ့တွင် ကပ်ထည့်ရသည်။ to နောက်တွင် မူရင်းကြိယာလိုက်သည်။
ဥပမာ -
1. She is fat.
She cannot run fast.
She is too fat to run fast.
သူမ လျင်မြန်စွာမပြေးနိုင်လောက်အောင် ဝသည်။
 - Ko Ko is short.
He cannot reach the fruit.
Ko Ko is too short to reach the fruit.
 - He came late. He did not catch the train.
He came too late to catch the train.
သူ ရထားမီနိုင်လောက်အောင် အရောက်နောက်ကျသည်။

- (C) adjective/adverb ရှေ့တွင် very, quite ပါလာလျှင်ဖြုတ်ပစ်ရသည်။
- He was very busy.
He could not attend the meeting.
He was too busy to attend the meeting.
သူအစည်းအဝေးမတက်နိုင်လောက်အောင် အလုပ်များသည်။
 - (D)စာကြောင်းနှစ်ကြောင်းတွင်ပါသော ကတ္တား Subjects တစ်ခုနှင့်တစ်ခု မတူလျှင် ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းပါ ကတ္တား (subjects) ကို for နှင့် တွဲဖက်၍ adj/adv နောက်ကပ်ထည့်ရသည်။ စာကြောင်းနောက်ဆုံးမှ it ကို ဖြုတ်ပစ်ရသည်။
 - The box was very heavy.
The girl could not carry it.

The box was too heavy for the girl to carry.
သေတ္တာသည် မိန်းကလေးအတွက် မသယ်နိုင်လောက်အောင်လေးသည်။

- မှတ်ချက် - she ဆိုလျှင် for her, he ဆိုလျှင် for him, I ဆိုလျှင် for me, they ဆိုလျှင် for them, we ဆိုလျှင် for us တို့ကိုသုံးရသည်။
- The book is very expensive.
He cannot buy it.
The book is too expensive for him to buy.
စာအုပ်သည် သူ မဝယ်နိုင်လောက်အောင် ဈေးကြီးသည်။
 - The problem was very difficult.
She could not solve it.
The problem was too difficult for her to solve.
(နောက်ဆုံးမှ it ဖြုတ်ထားခဲ့ရသည်ကို သတိပြုပါ။)

- (E) Enough to သည် အဓိပ္ပာယ်တွင် too-to နှင့် ဆန့်ကျင်ဘက်ဖြစ်သည်။
- He is very short. He cannot reach the fruit.
He is too short to reach the fruit.
သူ သစ်သီးကို မခူးနိုင်လောက်အောင် အရပ်ပုသည်။
 - He is very tall. He can reach the fruit.
He is tall enough to reach the fruit.
သူသစ်သီးကို မီနိုင်လောက်အောင် အရပ်ရှည်သည်။

- (F) Enough နှင့်ဆက်ရာတွင် Enough ကို adj/adv နောက်ကပ်ထည့်ရသည်။ to နောက်တွင် မူရင်းကြိယာ လိုက်ရသည်။ very, quite တို့ကို ဖြုတ်ပစ်ရသည်။
- He is very rich.
He can buy two more cars.
He is rich enough to buy two more cars.
သူနောက်ထပ် ကားနှစ်စီး ဝယ်နိုင်လောက်အောင် ချမ်းသာသည်။
 - He is very strong.
He can carry two bags of rice.
He is strong enough to carry two bags of rice.
သူဆန်နှစ်အိတ်ကို သယ်နိုင်လောက်အောင် သန်မာသည်။

- (G) အကယ်၍ နာမ်များနှင့်တွဲဖက်လျှင်မူ enough ကို နာမ်ရှေ့တွင် ထည့်ရသည်။ a lot of, plenty of, a great deal of, many စသည်တို့ကို ဖြုတ်ပစ်ရသည်။
- She has a lot of food.
She can feed all my friends.
She has enough food to feed all my friends.
သူမမှာ ကျွန်တော့်သူငယ်ချင်းအားလုံးကိုကျွေးမွေးနိုင်လောက်အောင် အစာရှိသည်။
 - Ma Ma has plenty of money.
She can buy a car.
Ma Ma has enough money to buy a car.
မမမှာ ကားတစ်စီး ဝယ်နိုင်လောက်အောင် ပိုက်ဆံရှိသည်။

- (H) အကယ်၍စာကြောင်းနှစ်ကြောင်းရှိ ကတ္တား (Subjects) များ မတူလျှင် ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းပါ ကတ္တားကို for နှင့်တွဲ၍ enough နောက်ထပ်ထည့်ရသည်။ စာကြောင်းနောက်ဆုံးမှ it ကိုဖြုတ်ပစ်ရသည်။
- The box was very light.
Su Su could carry it.
The box was light enough for Su Su to carry.
 - The book was cheap.
He could buy it.
The book was cheap enough for him to buy.
စာအုပ်သည် သူဝယ်နိုင်လောက်အောင် ဈေးပေါသည်။
- မှတ်ချက် - he အစား for him, she အစား for her, I အစား for me, they အစား for them နှင့် we အစား for us သုံးရသည်ကို သတိပြုပါ။

- (I) (a) ပေးထားသောစာကြောင်းနှစ်ကြောင်းစလုံးတွင် Not ပါလျှင်သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ မပါလျှင်သော် လည်းကောင်း Enough to နှင့်ဆက်ရသည်။
(b) ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းတစ်ကြောင်းတည်းတွင်Not ပါလျှင်Too-to နှင့်ဆက်ရသည်။
- Ko Ko is old. He can drive a car.
Ko Ko is old enough to drive a car.
ကိုကိုသည် ကားမောင်းနိုင်လောက်အောင် အသက်ကြီးသည်။
 - Ko Ko is not old. He cannot drive a car.
Ko Ko is not old enough to drive a car.
ကိုကိုသည် ကားမောင်းနိုင်လောက်အောင် အသက်မကြီးသေးပါ။
 - He is very poor. He cannot eat two meals a day.
He is too poor to eat two meals a day.
သူ တစ်နေ့ထမင်းနှစ်နပ် မစားနိုင်လောက်အောင် ဆင်းရဲသည်။
 - The book is very thick.It cannot be read in a few minutes.
The book is too thick to be read in a few minutes.
စာအုပ်သည် မိနစ်အနည်းငယ်အတွင်းဖတ်၍ မရနိုင်လောက်အောင်ထူလွန်းသည်။

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)



Don't believe easily on others!



By Lionel Zaw
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ONE evening, at about five o'clock, Angelio is buying some goods for her family and choosing what is the best one for her mother's birthday present. Angelio loves her mother so much and her mother loves her too. Her father passed away since Angelio was born. So, her mother had to take care of Angelio both as a father and a mother. Angelio is naive although she is very intelligent, beautiful and smart. Due to this thing, her mother always admonishes and warns her not to be naive and also urges Angelio to pay attention everything. Another weak point of Angelio is that she believes easily on her intimate friend's words. She took M.Com (Master of Commence) Degree recently. Although her mother admonishes her every day, Angelio is so stubborn that some of her mother's neighbours call her "an idiot". As she is quite pretty, it is not strange that there are many suitors around her. Although the suitors try to propose her, Angelio rejects every proposal and responds angrily and physically. As a result, the suitors come back with no hope.

Today is her mother's birthday. So, she feels very happy and chooses the best birthday present to make her mother feel surprised. After wards, she comes out from the supermarket to hire taxi. Meanwhile, Sam who was one of Angelio's suitors years before, is preparing to take revenge on her. Two months ago, Angelio responded Sam by striking his cheeks when he kissed her passionately. She also refused his proposal of marriage and said that she had no trust on every boy's love including him. Later, Sam becomes furious and it grows more and more in his mind like an injury until now. He replied to her that he would never give up on her manner and she would know about him one day. Then, he plans to achieve his revenge and tells it to his friends.

He always follows her what she is doing and where she is going everyday. Now, he is watching Angelio who prepares to hire taxi on the main road. While she departs from the main road, he says it needs to take in his car whatever she wants to go. At first, She refuses him. But when he reveals about

his dismissal of everything in the past, she nods easily without thinking thoroughly. After driving his car for an hour, Sam stops the car suddenly somewhere in the edge of the town. Angelio asks why he stops the car. Sam replies that he wants to fetch his friends. After that, she becomes fearful and decides to runs out as she understands gradually that it is a trap. Finally, she has got an idea and makes to escape from him by hitting and crushing the glass of the door in the car. Sam also follows her and tries to rape her. She struggles by kicking against him and gets free. At this time, a man named Mr.Koch who knows very well about her though Angelio does not know about him, unexpectedly sees her being tired and running without any pause to escape from Sam. As soon as Mr.Koch saves Angelio, the police arrest Sam. Her mother hugs Angelio very tightly. Now it's all over.

Finally, Angelio comes to hear her mother's repeated words again;

"Don't believe easily on others, my daughter!"



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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



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Phot



Photo © Thant Zin...

Kids with traditional hair style near Bagan attract local, foreign visitors

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House), PHOTO: Thant Zin

SET Set Yo Village near Bagan is becoming a tourist attraction, as it keeps alive a millennia-old traditional hair style.

"Thanks to social media, our village is becoming popular due to our kids having traditional hairstyles, and our village has attracted local and foreign visitors," said U Aung Naing, Administrator of the village.

Set Set Yo Village can be reached by bicycle from Bagan, and travel companies have listed the village among local destinations so tourists might see the unique hair style, which can no longer be seen in other parts of Myanmar.

"I used to have such a Yaung-Pay-Sue (the traditional topknot style with a circular fringe) at the age of 7 when I was sent to the monastic school in the village. The Sayadaws (the abbot monks) have advised us to conserve this tradition," said U Maung Shin, a villager who is over 80 years old.

Set Set Yo is located in Kyaukpadaung township, far from any large town. The village has a population of 856 and there are about 177 houses in the village. Some 50 children wear Yaung-Pay-Sue, and are enrolled at the village's monastic education school.

The villagers rely on seasonal agriculture, mainly growing crops such as pigeon peas,

groundnut and sesame. Located in the country's dry zone, Set Set Yo, like other village in the zone, has been facing an issue of food security caused by climate change for the past 10 years.

"Our children also received training in making Myanmar handicrafts from hyacinth stalks in the village. If we can find a market, with the help of travel agencies, we can find an alternative income for us," said U Than Maung, a retired teacher from the village, which can create the unique top-knot hair style, which is a fading tradition in Myanmar.

The country's ancient hairstyle is said to date back to the Bagan Empire.

During the time of the monarchy and before colonial rule, all boys and girls wore their hair in this traditional style.

The charming village is certainly worth the detour, for local and foreign visitors wishing to tour Bagan.

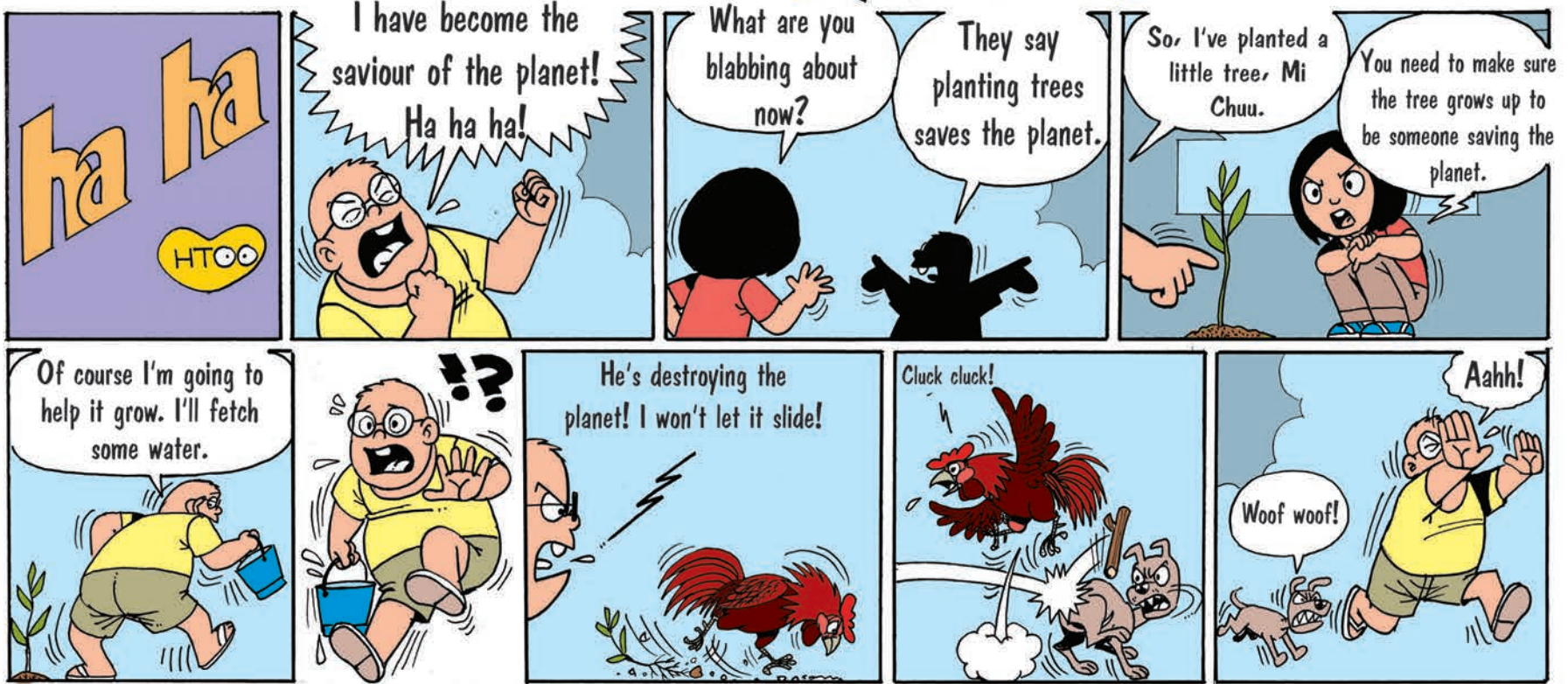
Translated by
Kyaw Zin Tun



Photo © Thant Zin...

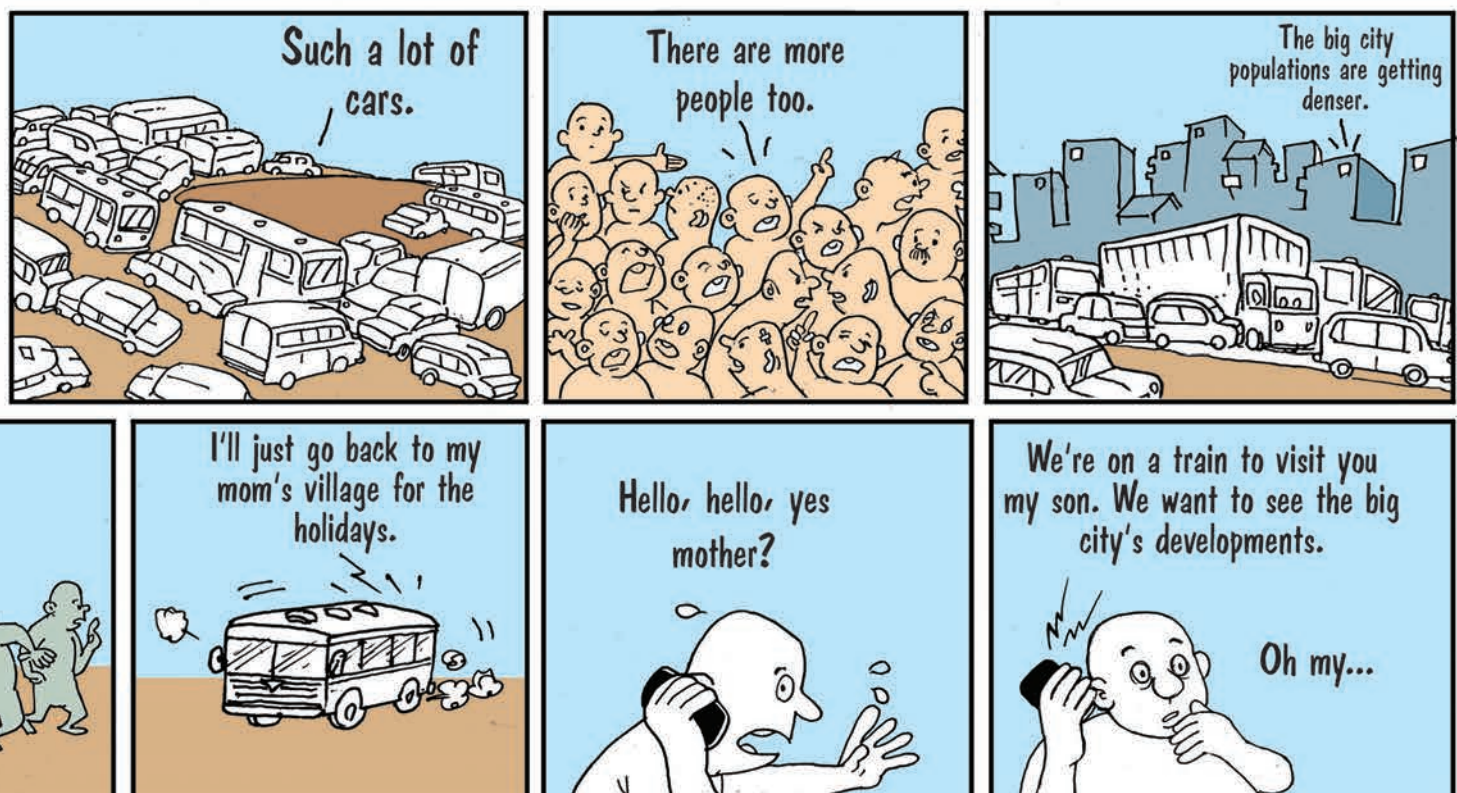


SUNDAY COMICS



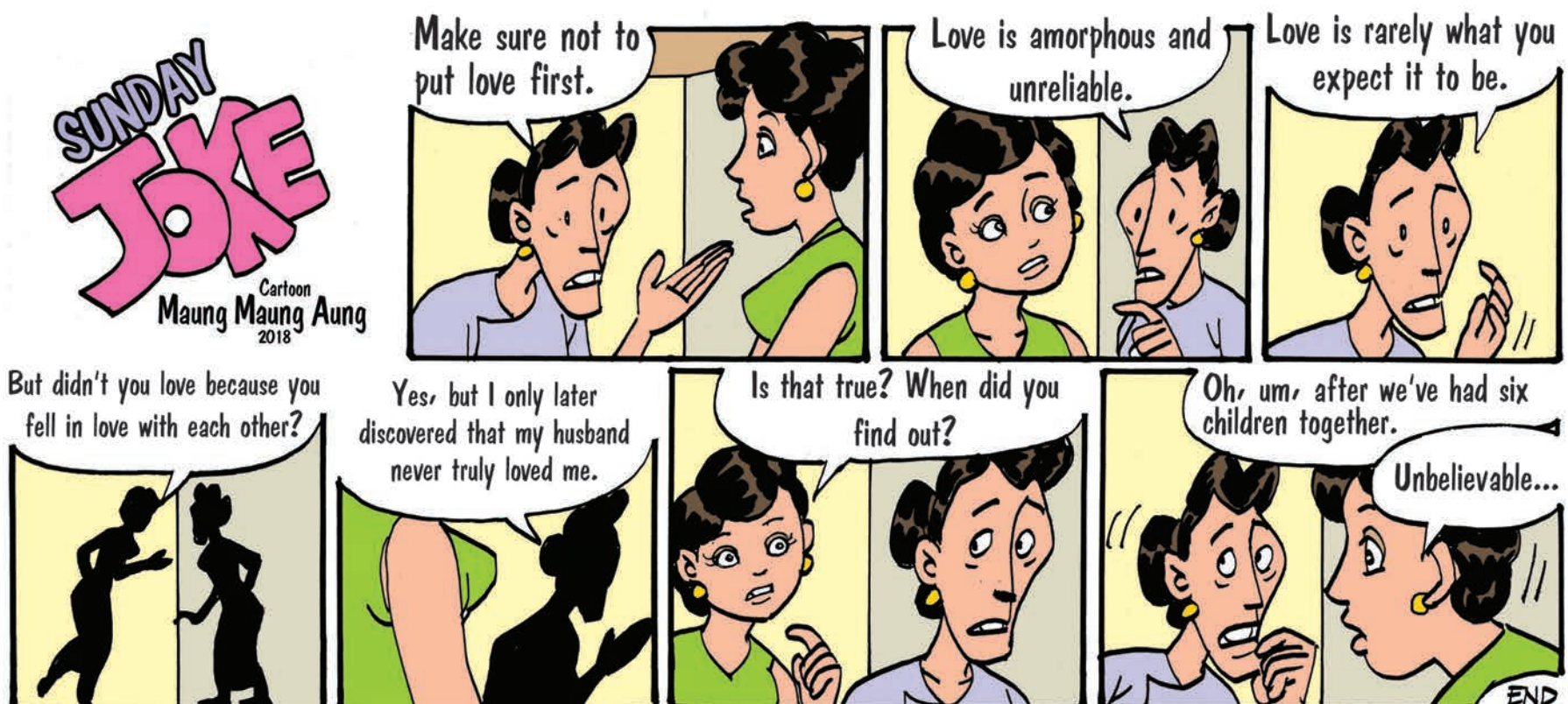
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win

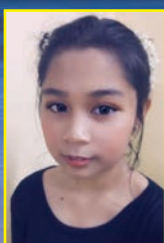


SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2018



The Moon And The Rose And



By AW Khin Myat Phone
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Botahlaung

It is said that the ancient people used to yearn for the sun and the moon. We all are constantly longing for the silvery moon whether it is shining or not. The delicate beauty of the crescent moon is always unique differently from that of the full moon. We all are the same in loving its beauty and light. We also have high regards for it. Even in the mere infancy, the image of the moon is reflected in the baby's face. Having gazed, we have been highly pleased with the old man pounding rice in the moon. We have also been delighted seeing afar the crouching rabbit together with that old man.

We got from the moon god, as a present, a morsel of rice in a golden tray and a dipper of water. We played joyously in our childhood under the moonlight. In our adolescence, we felt the warmth of our lover's heart in the shadow against the moon. When we are far away from our lover, we met each other face to face at the moon.

The rose is a pride among various flowers. Though its petals are as soft as velvet, it has the courage in the color of crimson red. Even in a pink rose, the serenity can be seen. The sharp pointed thorns on the hard stem are its glory and pride. Therefore, it is a flower that can be

duly proud. Its beauty can be seen on an altar. It also shows its elegance on the hair of a maiden. All its dignity is a thing to be proud of and cherish.

The charming beauty of the rose is comparable to that of the moon. But it exceeds in one aspect. Isn't that it has rose fragrance? Isn't that its fragrance has no ending in sweetness? A breeze will seemingly convey its fragrance with pride.

While passing through the worldly journey, it is presumably better if we can be, for everyone we encounter, the welcome persons who can share the others light and beauty like the moon. In the same way, it may be good if our good news overwhelms

far and near like proud fragrance of the rose. The moon and rose have already seated in our hearts.

Moonlight floods forestland
green leaves
painted in dark color
far-off stream
made of silver thread
fragrance emitted
from evening-flower
named rose
rose is a rose
not only because of its color
not only because of its fragrance
rose is a rose
also because of the thorns
It holds very close.

A bulb

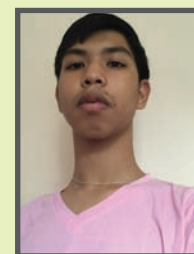


In a night I was reading a book by a window when the moon smiled to us. I read the book with the help of a bulb. I looked at the sky and saw the light of the moon. Suddenly, a thought touched me with the gentle breeze. 'What is the value of a bulb?' As far as I think, the value of a bulb is more than its price. If a bulb doesn't give me light, I can't read book. Thus, I know the value what cannot be bought with money. The bulb can't shine as brightly as the sun but it gives its own light. So its value is the light. Similarly, another thought came into my brain.

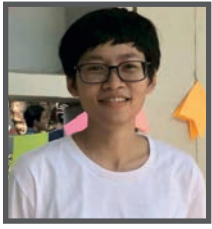
I reflected about us 'What is the value of a person?' and 'What are rulers to measure the values?'. Some people say wealth, qualification, beauty, religions and gender are the value. But all of that aren't the value. Thus, the world has many rulers to measure the value of a person. I searched the solution to measure the value. I had many problems like standing in front of the high wall to climb up and down over the wall. Finally, I found the solution. At that time, I felt like saw the light in the dark room.

As for me the value of a person is loving the truth and telling the truth. We can adapt any kind of cultures, religions and policies. It is no effect on the value. These will left when we stop breathing. But the valuable person will exist in the hearts of people.

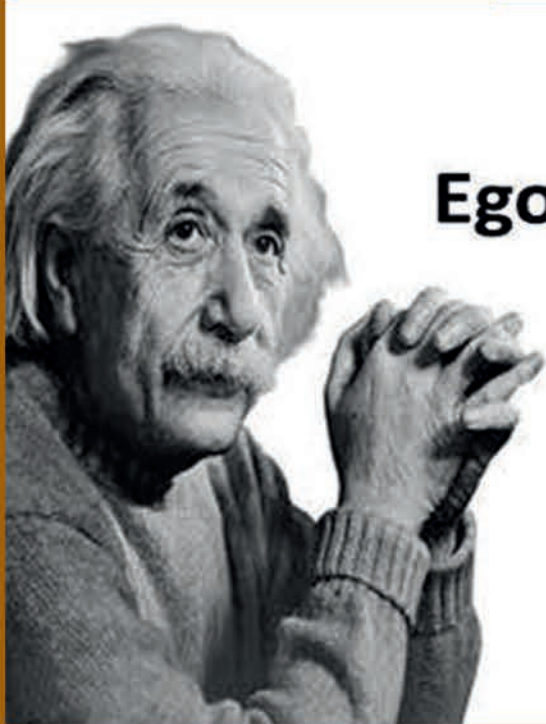
All bulbs can give light for the world but all people don't bring good things to the world. So, we should try to become the valuable people for our country and for our world instead of conflict. If we try to do it, our world can be a heaven.



By Htet Myat Aung
Grade(11)
Icec (Tamwe)



By Su Naychi Moe
(Naychi)
first M.B.B.S;
U.M.1



$$\text{Ego} = \frac{1}{\text{Knowledge}}$$

*"More the Knowledge
Lesser the Ego,
Lesser the Knowledge
More the Ego..."*

-Albert Einstein.

OUR lives revolve around the 'I'. Nature grants us with only two 'I', the body and the mind. From the moment of birth, our definition of the 'I' has expanded to such monstrous diversity that it would be no exaggeration to call it a universe of its own. There seems to be infinite appendages to the binary entity of 'I'; 'my house', 'my belongings', 'my friends', 'my convictions', 'my fears' — these are all manifestations of the 'I'.

Our consumerist society has further inflated the already voluminous 'I'. We are ushered through innumerable streams, rivers, and the entire seas of desireables, the packets of which we are sorely tempted to add to the appendages of the 'I'. We want to hold all these things, all of them, close to us, close to our extensions, breathing in every bit of them until there is no bit of them left.

It is a sad thing that we cannot see beauty, watch it hatch and unfurl and radiate itself through this world, without wanting it. We cannot see beauty as it is, as it exists, without feeling the need to exert something on it. We are eternally driven to see nature as a marketplace and beauty as a commodity waiting to be bought or sold. In the end, we become walking Christmas trees teeming with items of desire.

We are but one existence. Nature is also one existence, one housing many moments of wonder, joy, and unconditional feelings. Beauty, which resides in nature, is not an item to be packed and shipped away to the black hole of the 'I'. It is there. It exists. It is there to be experienced, to be flowed through, to feel the togetherness in its presence. And it deserves to be respected, not bought and sold.

The life-changing moment comes when one manages to view commodity not as viable appendages to our egotistic organism, but as an experience, a leaf falling from the skies of creation towards its gradual tapering and finally nonexistence. The mind then becomes what the Taoists call 'empty'. The 'I' is left with its original duality. Nothing else can attach me anymore.

Let's lead a tranquil and peaceful life

Dear...
Live your life
Under the trees which produce
Flowers and fruits of truth.

Dear...
Dry the fake lawn out
Under the light of your detachment.

Dear...
If all the deceitful leaves fall down on you,
Sweep them out by consciousness
To clear the impurities in your mind.

Dear...
If the philanthropic flowers
Are in full bloom,
Get ready to be brave to kiss them
By your heart.

Dear...
Don't be fond of treading water
In the river of impartiality.
Let's be soluble
In the just and fair sea.
And
Let's lead a tranquil and peaceful life.

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