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Union Edu Minister, faculties review performance of Universities in Yangon



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Vice President calls on traders, farmers to have confidence in contract farming system

VICE President U Henry Van Thio, the head of the Leading Committee for the Protection of Farmers Rights and Promotion of Interest, has called upon rice traders and farmers to control the quality and food safety standards for rice to ensure the ability for farmers to compete in markets, pledging that the Union Government would work to increase international rice quotas through government-to-government negotiations.

Speaking at the Myanmar Rice Federation's Annual General Assembly and Annual Meeting at the Mandalay Convention Centre yesterday, the Vice President said, "It is important for farmers, companies and businessmen to cooperate in the contract farming system, and have confidence, as the government is fulfilling the basic needs of farmers and the private sector, such as working through the Myanmar Rice Federation and NGOs, along with INGOs, which are cooperating with the government in helping farmers," said U Henry Van Thio.

The Vice President expressed thanks to the Myanmar Rice Federation for declaring floor prices for rice last year at a similar conference in Nay Pyi Taw, saying that the move prevented the exploitation of farmers. "Based on the success



Vice President U Henry Van Thio observes varieties of samples of rice displayed at the Myanmar Rice Federation's Annual General Assembly and Annual Meeting at the Mandalay Convention Centre in Mandalay yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

achieved last year, we are planning to form the "Rice Market and Price Assessment Working Body" as part of efforts to build a better system," said the Vice

President. "If the floor price for rice is declared before the cultivation season every year after calculating systematically, this can bring enormous benefits for

farmers," said the vice President.

While encouraging the PPP system, in which the government and private sectors are involved, the government has drawn up

strategies to carry out tasks for contract farming, lessons, directives and procedures for setting standards, he said.

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Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the Myanmar Rice Federation's Annual General Assembly and Annual Meeting at the Mandalay Convention Centre in Mandalay. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vice President calls on traders, farmers to have ...

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Vice President U Henry Van Thio also urged businessmen in the rice sector to step up their efforts to review contract farming systems, and to release guidelines and standard operation procedures.

Myanmar has earned over K1000 billion per year from rice export, as the rice export sector remains the most important business in the country.

Myanmar has reported the highest rice export volume in its 73 years, with 3.5 million tons of rice sold during the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year.

Meanwhile, since 2016 the government has increased agricultural loans from K100,000 to K150,000 per acre, in a bid to raise

the incomes of farmers.

The Vice President also said the government has relaxed restrictions on insurance businesses to attract foreign investment, and is planning to provide a climate-based crop insurance system to farmers.

The government is systematically managing and conducting farmland utilizations and permission in accordance with laws and rules to use vacant, fallow and virgin lands were being granted to those who really want to conduct agriculture works. Laws on farmland, protection and uplifting the lives of farmers were being amended in order to be appropriate for the time and era.

Myanmar Rice Federation is also learnt to be consulting and discussing with legal experts

... If the floor price for rice is declared before the cultivation season every year after calculating systematically, this can bring enormous benefits for farmers:
Vice President.

and Hluttaw representatives to draw up the Myanmar Rice Law for sustainable development of the rice sector and effective public-private cooperation.

SME loans, investment and post-harvest facilities to be systematically and

swiftly reviewed

Government and private sectors are urged to cooperate and coordinate in systematically and swiftly reviewing SME loans, investment and construction of storage and drying facilities and modern rice mills, Agro Service Centers in regions required for

rice sector development. The government will provide support according to law and procedures. Local and foreign investments are to be raised in value-added works. By products rice husk are not to be wasted by making rice husk briquettes. By conducting waste to energy, rice husks will play a role in filling the country's electricity requirement. This will also solve the problem of hard to rid rice husks. Government departments and experts are urged to cooperate in drawing up and submitting to the government an Action Plan on reusing similar wastes and attract local and foreign investment.

Government had drawn up, enacted and implementing Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) for all round sustainable development. Of the three pillars of MSDP, Pillar 3 – People & Planet is related to food produced including rice and agriculture products. As a future is to be aimed for, participation of youth and new generation is to be created without fail. Ways need to be opened so that experiences and lessons learnt are combined with the capability, modern views, thinking and innovation of youths. Only then can the development be sustainable.

Development of farm sector and socio economic of farmers could not be conducted singled handedly or a single group alone. Farmers need to systematically follow methods that increase yield and income while government and departmental officials are to provide quality services. Finally the Vice President wished that may all the new generation people establish a strong and everlasting rice industry.



Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects the production line at the Long Year Shoe Factory in Myotha industrial garden, Mandalay. **PHOTO:**

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Vice President calls on traders, farmers to have ...

FROM PAGE-2

Next, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu and Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung explained about Myanmar rice sector development matters.

After Myanmar Rice Federation Chairman U Chit Khaing spoke words of thanks, Vice President U Henry Van Thio posed for commemorative group photo with ceremony attendees and

inspected the Myanmar Rice Sector Development exhibition.

From there Vice President U Henry Van Thio accompanied by Union Minister Dr. Than Myint and officials went by cars to Mandalay-Myotha Industrial Garden Myodaw Project in Mandalay Region, Myingyan District, Ngazun Township and were explained about the project by officials in the project temporary briefing hall.

After the explanation about

the project, the Vice President went to Long Year Shoe Factory in the industrial garden where officials explained about the factory.

Later the Vice President was briefed about Myotha Industrial Garden Myodaw Project, Simikon (Ayeyawady) port and international level golf courses by Mandalay-Myotha Industrial Development Public Co., Ltd. Chairman U Aung Win Khaing and Managing Director Dr. Tun Tun Aung in Mandalay-Myotha

Industrial Garden Myodaw Project briefing hall.

In response to the briefing the Vice President said the project will benefit the region and the country must be systematically and successfully conducted so that it can be an exemplary and model project for central Myanmar. Job opportunities for the people will be created once the project is completed. Preservation and maintaining of the natural environment also must

be done so that factories in the project systematically dispose waste waters and refuses. More trees, both short and long life, are to be planted the project becomes a Green City, said the Vice President.

After signing the guest books, the Vice President went by car to Myotha National Golf Course and inspected the project model and the golf course. — MNA (Translated by AMS, Zaw Min)

Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman meets locals from Ottarathiri Township

NAY PYI TAW Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung met with Hluttaw representatives, departmental officials, ward/village administrators, local elders of Ottarathiri Township at the township general administrative department meeting hall yesterday morning to learn about the regional development works in the township and the requirement of the people.

Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman said the meeting was held because required work processes for regional development works to be conducted in fiscal year 2019-2020 with Nay Pyi Taw Council budget is best known and understood by ward/village administrators who are close and practically working with the people.

Next, township administrator U Nyi Nyi Aung explained about regional development matters and ward/village administrators and local elders raised regional development matters

consisting of land required for a new school building, obtaining farm land form 7, machinery assistance during crop harvesting and construction of a sub-rural health centre. Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and officials in return provided explanations.

The meeting was attended by Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Swe, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Min Hlaing, officials from Nay Pyi Taw level departments, district and township level departmental officials, ward/village administrators and people from the wards and villages.

After the meeting Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and officials went to Uppatasanti Pagoda and inspected the status of works conducted to donate gold plates to the pagoda. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung meets Hluttaw representatives, departmental officials and locals in Ottarathiri yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi attends the opening ceremony of a new precise measurement science (Myanmar) building in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

Opening ceremony of a new precise measurement science (Myanmar) building

AN opening ceremony of a new precise measurement science (Myanmar) building was held in the compound of Department of Research and Innovation at No. 6 Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon yesterday morning.

First Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi and Germany's Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) Chairman Prof. Dr. Joachim Hermann Ullrich delivered speeches.

Next Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Yangon Region Hluttaw Deputy Speaker

U Lin Naing Myint, National Education Policy Commission Chairman Dr. Myo Kywe, Germany's PTB Chairman Prof. Dr. Joachim Hermann Ullrich, KETT Electric Laboratory general manager Mr. Norihiro Yoshida, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry President U Zaw Min Win, Myanmar Engineering Council Chairman Dr. Charlie Than and National Standard Council member Dr. Sein Myint cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the precise measurement science building. Afterwards, Union Minister Dr.

Myo Thein Gyi and officials sprinkled scented water on the commemorative plaque and inspected the laboratories in precise measurement science building.

Later Union Minister and officials went to Rectors Committee meeting hall on Thaton Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon to attend the coordination meeting on reference frame of basic education high school level curriculum and then attended a TVET training workshop held in National Education Policy Commission office it is learnt. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Edu Minister, faculties review performance of universities in Yangon

UNION MINISTER Dr. Myo Thein Gyi held a discussion yesterday morning at the university with the rector, pro rector, department heads and teachers at Yangon Region University of Information Technology.

University of Information Technology Rector Dr. Saw Sanda Aye explained about the university, reviewed works conducted during the school year, as well as programmes held globally with international contacts, research undertaken, construction projects to build a sports field and classes, and job opportunities created for students.

After Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun delivered a greeting speech, Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi discussed the requirement to encourage and conduct project based teaching/learning for curriculums and graduate courses that are appropriate to the region. Teachers are to have good English language and



Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi meets with rectors, pro rectors, department heads and students at Yangon University of Economics in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

ICT skills in order to produce qualified graduates and upgrade their lifelong learning skills. To do this, teachers are to conduct

courses appropriate for the region and real life situation and upgrade the curriculum.

Furthermore conducting

researches, reading research papers and writing in local and foreign research journals are to be encouraged. In addition

to this universities are required to conduct competitions to raise capacities in science, technology, engineering, arts, culture and sports.

Websites of universities must be in English and there should be details and information about the universities. English and ICT skills are a must in order to compete in this modern era.

There should be university development programs to review and correct the weaknesses and strengthen the strengths.

Discussions made by the teachers were then coordinated.

Similarly the Union Minister went to Yangon University of Economics and Yangon University in the afternoon and held discussions with rectors, pro rectors, department heads, students and staffs. — MNA ■

*(Translated by
Zaw Min)*

SWRR Ministry's assistance benefits mothers, children, non-profit organizations in Rakhine State

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye provided assistances to mothers and non-profit organizations in Kyaukphyu, Yanbye and Maei Townships, Rakhine State.

Union Minister, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Soe Aung and officials from the ministry, attended the ceremony, where they provided K 1,134,000 to the Kyaukphyu Home for the Aged, K 9,753,000 to the Zetitaung Home for the Aged, K 700,000 each out of K 7,700,000 to the self-reliant primary schools, K 300,000 each to the Manaung Township Social Welfare Association, the Laywaddy Kularatkhit Association, the Great Bear Association, the Ratkhita Social Welfare Association, the Regional Development Association on Mayazine Island, No.8 unit, the Polaris Free Funeral Service Association, the Ratkhathandarme Non-profit social organization, the Paramishin Non-Profit Foundation, the Future Bright Non-profit Social Welfare Association, the Banuaung Health and Social Welfare Association, the Pensioners Association, Myittamon Education Foundation, the Kyaukphyu Blood Donation



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye poses for a photo with mothers, children in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Association, the Thandamyay Development Foundation, the Ponnynacari Association, the Up-right Social Development Association, the Farmers Development Association and the Thawwin Thazin Free Funeral Service Association and K 1,818,100 to open three maternal wards. Then an official accepted the cash assistance and expressed his appreciations. Next they displayed a demonstration of throwing garbage to the children. The Union Minister

and party went to the District Disaster Management Office in Kyaukphyu, where they inspected the storage of relief supplies.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye and party attended the ceremony holding in the meeting hall of the General Administration Office in Yanbye Township, Rakhine State, where they provided K 700,000 to the self-reliant primary school in Yanbye Township, K 300,000 to the Yanbye Township Development Association, K 300,000 to

the Yanmawaddy Free Funeral Service Association, K 300,000 to the Kyaukthway Social Welfare Association and K 3,218,100 to five maternal wards. Union Minister and party posed for documentary photographs together with attendees.

In the afternoon, Union Minister and party continued to Maei Township, where they provided K 700,000 each to self-reliant primary schools, K 600,000 to the Thahaya and the Mettashin Social Welfare Asso-

ciations and K 3,218,100 to five maternity wards. They posed for documentary photographs together with the attendees at the event. In his opening speech, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye said that the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement has been striving to render the healthcare services to the infants, young girls, women, senior citizens and persons with disabilities while building 26 weatherproof buildings in Rakhine State. As for the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, efforts are being made to provide necessary assistance to the displaced people who took shelters due to the conflicts, and people can be able to contact the office of Ministry's hotline on 067 3404666 and 067 3404777 at any time.

Afterwards, Union Minister and party went to the Yandanmanaung Monastery, where they paid respects to the Sanghas and donated robes and cash donation. Following this, they provided K 35,841,300 to the non-profit organizations and maternal wards in Kyaukphyu, Yanbye and Maei Townships, Rakhine State.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)*

Prices of Green gram slightly declines in Thonegwa market

PRICES of green gram are decreasing slightly in the Yangon market due to an increase in massive inflows of freshly harvested green gram into the Thonegwa market, traders said.

In Thonegwa market, a basket of green gram was sold for K42,000 on 9 February. Each basket contains 20 viss (72 pounds) of green gram. The current prices decreased by K3,000 per viss (3.6 lbs) in comparison with that of the prices on 26 January, when a viss of green gram was sold at K45,000.

The prices of green gram are usually volatile at the beginning of the harvest period, and prices typically decline following a good harvest. Due to growing demands, the market is now seeing a slight decrease in prices, compared with previous years.

In Thonegwa Township, growers are mainly cultivating monsoon paddy and marketa-

ble varieties of green gram, especially Yayzin and Shwewah species, in which Shwewah are usually assured a good price in the market.

Green gram can be harvested two and a half months after planting. Growers normally start cultivating green gram in the second week of November and harvest the crop in mid-February.

Depending on climate and quality of inputs, such as seeds, fertilizers and soil, an acre of green gram can produce up to 20 baskets.

For the 2018-2019 Financial Year, the planted area of winter green gram in the township stands at 129,984 acres, said U Tin Myint Aung, head of Thonegwa Township Department of Agriculture. Myanmar exports green grams to China, Vietnam and other countries.—Ko Kyaw (Thonegwa)

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)



Traders check the quality of various beans at wholesale centre in Mandalay.
PHOTO: AUNG PHYO KYAW

Domestic gold price rises to over K 1.7 mln per tical

By Nyein Nyein

WITH the rise in global gold prices, domestic gold prices reached a new record of over K 1.7 million per tical on 9 February. (tical=16.3293 g)

In the last ten days, domestic gold prices increased to over K 1.6 million per tical on 30 January

The price of domestic gold has moved up as a consequence of rising global gold prices, said U Kyaw Win, chairman of the Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

“The global gold price is rising because of the instability of international economics. Therefore, most entrepreneurs made investments in gold, which is why global gold prices have increased,” he added.

Although the market has not heated up, though gold prices are soaring in the domestic market, the price of domestic gold prices stood around K 1.7 million, said U Ohn Myaing, the general secretary of the Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

“The domestic gold price closed with K 1,070,900 per tical on 8 February. The price of the dollar against local currency has not declined. The price of global

gold is still rising, and that is why it is not easy for domestic gold prices to decline within a short time,” said U Ohn Myaing.

Gold prices have been increasing from about K 1,050,000 per tical on 4 January, since the beginning of the month, and hit K 1,060,500 per tical on 30 January and K 1,072,500 per tical on 9 February, according to gold traders.

xxGlobal gold prices reached \$ 1,293 per ounce on 4 January, \$ 1,313 per ounce on 30 January and \$ 1,313 per ounce on 9 February. The price of local gold declined to K 1,027,100 per tical on 30 November, from K 1,044,500 per tical on 2 November. The price of gold increased to K 1,043,000 per tical on 29 December, from K 987,000 per tical on 4 December. In 2019, the price of gold reached a record high to K 1,061,000 per tical on 31 January, from K 1,043,400 per tical on 1 January, according to a gold dealer.

Starting 21 July 2017, domestic gold prices have remained above K 900,000 per tical. With the rise in global gold prices, the domestic price also peaked at K 1,047,700 million on 20 September, 2017, after touching a high of K 989,000 in August, 2017.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Import of consumer products continues to decline

MYANMAR imported consumer goods worth US\$1.4 billion during the current 2018-2019 fiscal year, down by \$92.9 million from this time last 2017-2018 FY, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

The total imports of consumer products included \$14.467 billion in the public sector and \$1.13 billion by the private sector. When compared with this time last year, this FY saw a decline in the imports of consumer products by both sectors.

At this time during the last financial year, Myanmar import-

ed consumer goods valued at \$1.239 billion, with \$37.089 million by the public sector and \$1.202 billion by the private sector. Between 1 October and 1 February, Myanmar imported three other groups of products, including \$1.98 billion worth of capital goods, \$12.27 billion of manufactured goods and \$786 million of CMP raw materials. Apart from the CMP raw materials, the import of other commodities declined by almost \$185 million in the current FY.

During the mini-budget

period (April-September), the country's imports of consumer products exceeded \$2.6 billion.

According to the ministry's yearly report, the imports of consumer goods were \$1.245 billion in the 2011-2012 FY, \$1.4 billion in the 2012-2013 FY, \$2.3 billion in the 2013-2014 FY, \$2.9 billion in the 2014-2015 FY, \$3.5 billion in the 2015-2016 FY, over \$4 billion in the 2016-2017 FY and \$4.403 billion in the 2017-2018 FY.—Shwe Khine

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Myanmar's foreign trade tops \$11.4 bln in four months

IN the first four months of fiscal year 2018-2019, Myanmar's overseas trade surpassed US\$11.4 billion, an increase of nearly \$320 million against the corresponding period last 2017-2018 FY, according to a report released by the Ministry of Commerce on Friday

Of the total trade value, \$5.2 billion were exports and imports were \$6.2 billion, with the country registering a trade deficit of \$955 million, which saw a decrease in value by some \$690 million from this time last FY,

when the country had a trade deficit of \$1.64 billion.

From 1 October through 1 February, the country exported domestic goods worth almost \$3 billion by sea, while its exports through border trade camps totalled \$2.23 billion. This FY saw an increase in the value of border exports, as well as non-border exports.

During the period, the country's maritime imports reached \$5.2 billion, while border imports exceeded \$1 billion. When compared with this time

last FY, the country's current imports by sea decreased by \$246 million, however, its imports at its borders rose by \$61 million.

Agricultural, forest, marine and animal products, minerals and manufactured products are included in Myanmar's major export products. The country chiefly imports capital goods, intermediate products, consumer goods and CMP raw materials.—Swe Nyein

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

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edited.

Local, foreign experts inspect crack at Taungnawin Dam

LOCAL and foreign experts are inspecting a crack at the earthen embankment of the Taungnawin Dam which happened following earthquakes in Paukkaung Township in 2018.

"According to initial assessment by Myanmar Dams National Committee, the crack at the dam poses no risk to the public safety. The news that the dam is collapsed is a rumour," said U Aung Zaw Min, Assistant Director of the Irrigation and Water Utilization and Management Department.

The authorities are monitoring the situation round the clock.

The crack which is 100 ft long, 3 inches wide and 3 ft in depth developed after several earthquakes jolted including the magnitude-3.8 earthquake on 5 October last year about 15 miles east of Paukkaung, the magnitude-5.1 earthquake about 6 miles north of Paukkaung, the magnitude-4.5 earthquake near



Local and foreign experts are inspecting a crack at the earthen embankment of the Taungnawin Dam in Paukkaung Township. **PHOTO: NAY LIN (MNA)**

the dam on 27 October and the magnitude-3.7 earthquake about 13 miles east of Paukkaung last year.

Paukkaung Township au-

thorities apprised local people of the current state of the Taungnawin Dam, and asked residents not to worry as there is currently no risk of the dam collapsing.

The dam was constructed in 1995 to irrigate 57,258 acres of farmland in Paukkaung Township.—Nay Lin (MNA) ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Cruise Ship tourists visit cottage industries in Mawlamyine

UNDER the arrangement with Abrecrombie & Kent International Co., Ltd, a cruise ship with 68 British tourists on board arrived early morning on February 8 at the Kyaik Khami, Kyaik Khami Township, Mon State from Yangon.

The MS. Sliver Discoverer started her journey in Yangon and the tourists, after visiting Kyaik Khami, proceeded their trip with the Fortune Express 727 boat to Seikkanthar Jetty in Mawlamyine at 8:30 a.m.

They arrived at the village football field in Kanyaw Village, Chaung Sone Township, by three 7N-7272 vessels. During their excursion tour, they visited

the Myoma Market in Chaung Sone, the bamboo-based handicraft workshops in Hnee Hmote Village, the wooden smoking pipe manufacturing workshops and the rubber ring production workshops in Ywalut village, the rice milling industry in Kamarmo Village, the Forested Monastery in Kyaikdo and the view point on the Mawlamyine Ridge.

Then they left the Seikkanthar Bridge by Fortune Express 727 boat and came back to their cruise ship at the Kyaik Khami port, From which they continued to India in the evening. —Kyaw San Myint (IPRD) ■ (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)



The cruise ship arrives at the Kyaik Khami Jetty, Kyaik Khami Township, Mon State from Yangon on 8 February.

PHOTO: KYAW SAN MYINT (IPRD)

Motorcyclist killed in collision between two motorbikes in Khin U

A motorcyclist has died following a collision between two motorbikes on Friday, according to officials at the Myoma Police Station.

The accident occurred near Club tea shops, Aungchanthar ward, Khin U Town, Sagaing Region at around 7 pm.

According to the investigation, the KENBO 125 motorbike was driven by Aung Phyto Thu (alias) Tha Sit, 19 years old, which crashed into the FE-KON-125 motorbike driven by U Myint, 61, on Khin U- Ye U road.

"Aung Phyto Thu made the mistake. He could not control his speed," said the official.

Both of the motorcyclists were rushed to the Khin U public hospital. U Myint was transferred to the Mandalay general hospital, and was later pronounced dead.

The traffic police have filed charges against the reckless driver Aung Phyto Thu under sections 337, 338 and 304 (A) of the Penal Codes.—Chit San (Khin U) ■ (Translated by Hay Mar)

One dead, another injured in motorcycle accident in Hlegu

A 35-year old female motorcyclist was killed, while a passenger sustained serious injuries, when their motorbike crashed into a concrete block in the middle of the Yangon-Bago road near Yemon Village in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, on Friday evening, police reported.

While travelling to Bago from Yangon around 3 p.m. on 8 February, the motorbike, driven by Thet Thet Han with one other onboard, collided with a concrete traffic divider on the road near mile post No. 11/5

near Zeyatu Rice Mill. Police blames the accident on the motorbike travelling at excess speeds.

The motorcyclist died at the scene. Ei Phyu Nyein, who was riding pillion, sustained serious injuries and was taken to the Hlegu Hospital.

Township police have filed charges against the driver for her reckless driving under Sections 279, 337 and 304 (a) of the Penal Code.—Than Min ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Union Minister for Information inspects studios, attends word usage in movies discussion by language experts in Yangon

A DISCUSSION on word usage in movies, the Myanmar language and in translations of literature, held at the Film Development Center in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint attended the talks.

First, he inspected works being conducted in the movie industry and arts at No. 50 Golden Valley, Bahan Township, Yangon.

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint accompanied by Myanmar Film Asiayone Chairman U Zin Waing, Myanmar Music Asiayone Chairman U Tin Oo Lay and officials first inspected the studios and shooting of movies in the studios at the movie and arts environ.

Next, the Union Minister attended the talk circle on word usage in movies, Myanmar language and literature usage in translation held at Film Development Center and delivered an opening remark.

The talk circle was then held where Film Development Center

management board member Daw Swe Zin Htike explained and discussed about the current status.

Afterwards U Myo Myat Thu (author/advisor, Forever Group) led Maung Khin Min (Danu Phyu) (retired Myanmar language professor, Myanmar Language Department, Yangon University and Myanmar Language Board full time member), U Win Nyein (movie and video censor member), U Zaw Myint Oo (script writing expert), U Kyaw Swar Tun (general manager, Shwe Than Lwin Company) and U Kyaw (translation department head, Forever Group) in discussing correct spelling and grammar in Myanmar language, notifications and enactments by Myanmar Language Board and related entities, movie producers to be precise and careful in spelling and usage of Myanmar language and words, spoken and written words in movie, video and television to be error free, scripts used in the



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint inspects the studios at Film Development Center yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

current movie circle, omissions and mistakes in using Myanmar language and literature in social environs.

Officials then responded to the discussions and questions raised and Film Development Center management board member U Zaw Myint Oo spoke words of thanks.

The talk circle was jointly

organized by Information and Public Relations Department and Film Development Center management board with an aims for young viewers of Myanmar movies and Myanmar language captioned foreign movies to know the correct usage of Myanmar language, recognize the incorrect usages and to use correct usages.

The Union Minister then attended another discussion circle on Myanmar literature and language jointly organized by Ministry of Information Sarpay Beikman and Knowledge Distribution Group Myanmar in Sarpay Beikman hall at Merchant Street, Yangon.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Outstanding trainees, factories honoured by LIP Ministry



Union Minister U Thein Swe presents certificate to the outstanding trainees and garment factories. PHOTO: MNA

The Prize-giving ceremony for those who were outstanding trainees in the course conducted by the Aung Myin Hmu Garment Skills Training Centre and for factories which did ardent cooperation with the government, was held at the meeting hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCD) yesterday.

Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe attended the prize-giving ceremony and awarded the prizes to the winners.

Union Minister U Thein Swe said that the garment industry has enjoyed special exemption from tariffs in Myanmar, and which generate opportunities for employment on

the Myanmar Labour market.

He added that as of December 2018, there have been 356 CMP / CMP connection factories, with a labour force of more than 217787. Also, there are 310 garment factories, with 179152 labour forces in Yangon. Most of the labourers are low-skill workers without holding recognized certificates. There is a growing need for skilled workers who undergo in the garment industry. Thus, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population has acted as focal ministry in the NCCA that includes experts and academicians, and efforts were being made to conduct promotion of vocational training skills while conducting to evaluate skills and issuing professional certificates, in

cooperation with partnership departments.

Then Yangon Region Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister U Zaw Aye Maung and Chair of the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) U Myint Soe delivered ceremonial speeches at the event, and officials explained about the purpose of establishing the training school.

Afterwards, Union Minister and officials presented certificates to the outstanding trainees and outstanding garment factories. Afterwards, the attendees shared their experiences and benefits of attending the training course and current status of the socio-economic development. —MNA ■ (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Notice to mariners issued to conduct ROV works between Daminseik Beach, Yadana platform

THE Directorate of Marine Administration has notified mariners that Total E & P Myanmar will carry out ROV inspections and maintenance operations on the 36-inch pipelines used for

transporting natural gas from its offshore projects.

Total E & P Myanmar is an oil and gas exploration company, which is operating joint venture projects with Myanma Oil and

Gas Enterprise (MOGE).

The vessel M.V. POSH DAUNTLESS will be used in conducting the ROV operations in the areas east from Daminseik Beach, and continuing to

the Yadana platform.

Works will start on 25 February and be completed by 30 March.

During the work, ships, cargo boats, fishing vessels and

motor boats are prohibited from passing, fishing and placing fishing equipment in areas situated 2.5 miles along the pipelines.—MNA ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

We must cultivate our mental abilities to stand proud as a Union

HERE are countries that are genuine Unions throughout the world. There are also countries that border on being Unions, while other countries are simply a coalition of societies with no uniting spirit among its citizens. It is invigorating to know that Myanmar is among the true Unions of countries, and even more so for being recognized as a strong Union.

It is not so simple to categorize a country as a Union. A country must meet the standards of integrity and unity that constitutes a Union. It's a joyous notion to have factors that determine what makes a citizen of a certain Union. For Myanmar, it is the fact that over one hundred ethnic groups live together in harmony.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi made a speech on 6 February at the stake-driving ceremony for the Thanlwin Bridge (Tarsan) in east Shan State, saying: "We can take more pride in the fact that our country is made up of a diverse collection of ethnic people. A country that has its diverse citizens living in harmony has powerful inner strengths. While our internal and external physical strengths may not be as strong as they should be, we are nevertheless striving for cultivating our mental fortitude."

Both a country and a person possess physical and mental capacities, and of these, mental capabilities are more important. No matter how fit a person is physically, without mental fortitude to support it there will be no satisfying results. If we cannot cultivate our mental strengths, then we will be segregated. This is why the State Counsellor constantly urges the people to nurture and grow their mental capabilities.

A country united in spirit will be immune to all forms of disintegration and can overcome any challenges thrown its way. Our ethnic brothers and sisters have their significant physical prowess, but we all need to further empower our close relations and work together hand-in-hand.

We have all been living in this country for thousands of years, but we were once divided due to various circumstances. Though most of our past issues have been resolved, our mental strengths have been diminished. We must cultivate trust and compassion to remedy this predicament.

Therefore, for Myanmar to stand tall and proud in the middle of the global stage, we must employ our collective strength to prevent the disintegration of the Union, preserving ethnic solidarity and safeguarding our sovereignty.

■■■

Union Law that will lead to harmony within the Union

By Maung U Pa De

Union Day

Just around the corner is the auspicious Union Day to be celebrated across the country, and that Nay Pyi Taw weather is cool and serene pleasant as befits the cold season.

Plans are already in place for the Union Day festivities and that the writer of this article who studies law wishes to write about the 'Union Law'

Basic Law

While there is intense and bubbling interest about the Constitution are enthusiastic in line with the Panglong Spirit I ponder about our country which has drafted and operated under three different Constitutions.

Three different constitutions They are:

- (1) 1947
- (2) 1974
- (3) 2008 Constitutions

By looking at the dates and years of the adoption of the Constitution one can easily guess the thoughts and outlooks of those times which are naturally reflected in the respective Constitutions.

State Structure

The first Constitution of the Union of Burma was adopted by Constituent Assembly of Burma in 1947. After the 1962 military coup, the 1974 Socialist (one-Party) constitution came into force. The Tatmadaw (Myanmar Armed Forces) retain significant control of the government under the existing 2008 constitution.

Salween District

The area that was called as Salween District in the past must be included as an area of the Union, and that the land must be called as "Kayin (Karen) State".

... The Constitution should be a stable and strong wall which would deservingly, righteously lasts for a long time.

The areas adjacent to the land where the Karen nationalities (as it was formally called) resided must be incorporated in that state.

(Note: THE CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT ACT, 1951-4: For the provisions in sections 180 and 181 of the Constitution, the following shall be substituted, namely :-

"180. (1) the territory hitherto known as the Salween District shall form a constituent unit of the Union of Burma and be hereafter known as 'The Karen State'. It shall also include such adjacent areas occupied by the Karens as may be determined by an Act of Parliament.)

Kantarawadi

Also known as Gantarawadi, was one of the Karenni States in what is today Kayah State in Myanmar. It was also known as "Eastern Karenni" owing to the location of part of its territory east of the Salween River.

Older names such as Kantarawadi, Balakhai and Kyaigphogyee areas are called Karenni in the past, and that the areas must be included in the union of the country.

Significantly, the 1947 Constitution had the following provision.

PART VI: NEW STATES.

199. The Parliament may by an Act admit to the Union a new State upon such terms and conditions including the extent of representation of the State in the Parliament as may be specified in the Act.

2008 Constitution

Chapter II

State Structure

49. The Union is delineated and constituted by seven Regions, seven States and the Union territories as follows:

- (a) Kachin State;
- (b) Kayah State;
- (c) Kayin State;
- (d) Chin State;
- (e) Sagaing Region;
- (f) Taninthayi Region;
- (g) Bago Region;
- (h) Magway Region;
- (i) Mandalay Region;
- (j) Mon State;
- (k) Rakhine State;
- (l) Yangon Region;
- (m) Shan State;
- (n) Ayeyawady Region; and
- (o) Union territories.

50. (a) Nay Pyi Taw, the cap-



ital of the Union, prescribed as Union territory, shall be under the direct administration of the President.

(b) If there arises a need to specify areas that have special situations concerning national defence, security, administration and economy, so forth, those areas may be prescribed as Union territories under the direct administration of the President after enacting laws.

Essence of a Constitution

354. Every citizen shall be at liberty in the exercise of the following rights, if not contrary to the laws, enacted for Union security, prevalence of law and order, community peace and tranquility or public order and morality:

- (a) To express and publish freely their convictions and opinions;
- (b) To assemble peacefully without arms and holding procession;
- (c) To form associations and organizations;
- (d) To develop their language, literature, culture they cherish, religion they profess, and customs without prejudice to the relations between one national race and another or among national races and to other faiths.

355. Every citizen shall have the right to settle and reside in any place within the Republic of the Union of Myanmar according

to law.

WHAT MAUNG UPADEI WROTE WAS;

There should be justice for every citizen of the Union in social, economic, political justice and there should be freedom of thought, speech and writing, freedom of belief, freedom of worship, right to livelihood, freedom of association, freedom to organize and freedom of movement.

Drafting Committee

The 1947 Committee was drafted by a committee consisting of 55 members and they include by Bogoyoke Aung San. Other members of the Committee included nationalities leaders namely Mann Ba Khaing, Saw San Pho Thin, Mann Win Maung, Saw Ba Yin, Samar Duwar Sin-wan Naung, Wah Baw Zaw Rit, Duwar Zaw Lun, U Wan Ko Hall, Mai Pun Saw Bwa Gyi, Moe Meik Saw Bwa Gyi, Nyaung Shwe Saw Bwa Gyi, U Tun Myint (Taung-gyi). The formation was based on national unity and also based on Union Spirit.

State Sub-committee

The Union and State Sub-committee was formed with Bogoyoke Aung San, Maing Pon Saw Bwa Gyi, Samar Duwar Sin Wan Naung, Mann Ba Khaing and (19) others.

Judicial Sub-committee

Moe Meik Saw Bwa Gyi was the Head of the Committee which consists of 15 members.

Basic Rights Sub-committee

(15) Nyaung Shwe Saw Bwa Gyi was the Head of the Committee which consists of 15 members.

Minority Sub-committee

(15) Members headed by Mann Ba Khaing.

This historical background attests to the fact that the Union nationalities in unity and in conformity with the Union spirit without discrimination of the central and peripheral area worked in the Panglong spirit. Their unity is such that they would never to let the egg shells break and the nests be destroyed as the Burmese saying goes.

Democracy Federal Union

The aspirations and goals are to establish a Democracy Fed-

Basic Law

The weakness of the [current] 2008 Constitution as well as its strengths need to be considered. The administrative structure of the State and its policies need to be reviewed. It is high time if in fact it is not already somewhat late to find solutions instead of blaming each other.

Need to review

We have had the experience of drafting three different and three different categories of Constitutions. They are not flimsy experiences. The flames of the civil war cannot fully be extinguished as yet. We should learn our political lessons. Some still mock the Panglong spirit. A few are stating that only they are right. Not getting involved (sitting beside) and saying awkward, cynical statements as the Burmese saying goes. Where then is our

From the land of Panglong the dream for a Union needs to be realized// May the Law of the Union lead to harmony within the Union and all its peoples.

eral Union where the principles of justice, liberty, equality, and self-determination are embodied in it.

Based on Peace

For over 70 years due to conflicts where the sound of bombs and artillery boomed, where the nationalities had to suffer the scourge of the civil war the dream for a Union became dimmed. From this we should take lessons by being politically aware and politically be on guard. Instead of bickering among ourselves we should be more tolerant and co-operative and made progressive steps to achieve our goals.

Bogoyoke Aung San once warned to some of the bickering nationalities that you guys are making mountains out of mole hills over small things. For the sake of unity believe only those which ought to be believed. If you do heed my words and continue to be cursed and destructive to yourselves you go ahead. I won't say anything more.'

goal?

Unity

Unity is energizing and it is also a strength. It is also the 'heart' of the Union. The Union must develop unity and harmony. The (Rule) of law is also the heart of the nation. In order to have a peaceful union the (Rule) of (just) law(s) must be at the forefront. The Constitution is the source of strength of the Union. The Constitution should be a stable and strong wall which would deservingly, righteously lasts for a long time.

Wishes

The weaknesses and strengths of the Current Constitution should be transparently, candidly, truthfully evaluated in accordance with the wishes of the people. From the land of Panglong the dream for a Union needs to be realized// May the Law of the Union lead to harmony within the Union and all its peoples.

Translated by UMT (Ahlon), edited by Myint Zan

72nd Anniversary (2019) Union Day National Objectives

1. All ethnic nationalities to work with collective strength for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national unity, perpetuation of national sovereignty; and to work for preservation and protection of the above.
2. To strive for the emergence of a Constitution that is in alignment and harmony with the Democratic Federal Union.
3. To strive for the success of the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong and thence till the success of the internal peace process.
4. All union nationalities to cooperate and work in "Unity and Harmony" for rule of law and for the people to be secure and free from danger.
5. All union citizens to be able to enjoy good education and adequate health care protection.

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Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 9th February, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is generally fair over the Andaman Sea and East central Bay and a few cloud to partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 10th February, 2019: Rain will be scattered in Kachin State and isolated in Upper Sagaing Region and Chin State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing, Taninthayi Regions and Rakhine State, generally fair in Mandalay, Magway Regions, Shan, Kayin and Mon States and fair weather in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (1-3) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

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

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10th February, 2019: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10th February, 2019: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10th February, 2019: Generally fair weather.

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IMF chief warns of high Arab public debt

DUBAI (United Arab Emirates)—Public debt has rapidly increased in many Arab countries since the 2008 global financial crisis, due to persistently high budget deficits, the International Monetary Fund warned on Saturday. “Unfortunately, the region has yet to fully recover from the global financial crisis and other big economic dislocations over the past decade,” IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde said.

“Among oil importers, (economic) growth has picked up, but it is still below pre-crisis levels,” she told the Arab Fiscal Forum in Dubai.

Lagarde said public debt among Arab oil importing nations had increased from 64 percent to 85 percent of Gross Domestic Product in the decade since 2008.

Nearly half of these countries now have public debt of over 90 per cent of GDP, she said. Public debt among oil exporters—including the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council—rose from 13 per cent of GDP to 33 percent of GDP, accelerated by the crash in oil prices around five years ago, Lagarde said. “The oil exporters have not fully recovered from the dramatic oil price shock of 2014,” she said. “Modest growth continues, but the outlook is highly uncertain.”

Lagarde said oil producing countries should look to renewable energy in the coming decades, in line with the Paris Agreement on climate change, which stipulates a reduction in greenhouse emissions. The IMF last month lowered its economic growth forecasts for Saudi Arabia—the world’s top crude exporter—and the wider Middle East and North Africa region due to a renewed fall in oil prices, low output and geopolitical tensions.—AFP ■

World stocks mostly slide over gloomy growth outlook



Two traders confer seconds after the closing bell on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on 1 February, 2019 in New York City. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEW YORK (United States)—Global stocks mostly fell on Friday amid worries over slowing global growth and continued uncertainty on US-China trade talks.

Key European stock markets were all lower at the close, with Frankfurt again the weakest performer and Paris and London also retreating.

US stocks also were under pressure, spending most of the day in the red before recovering and ending nearly unchanged.

“After the rebound in January, we go back to fundamentals,” said Maris Ogg, analyst and portfolio manager at Tower Bridge Advisors, who said commentary from companies during earnings season had emphasized sluggishness in Europe and China.

“If the deceleration continues in Eu-

rope and China, it will be very difficult for the US alone to buck against these trends,” Ogg said. “The logical approach is to take some risk off the table.” Analysts cited the latest signals on US-China trade talks, which were not especially upbeat.

On Thursday, US President Donald Trump said he did not expect to meet his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping before a 1 March deadline for the two economic powers to reach a deal before new tariff actions came into effect.

Also, White House economist Larry Kudlow doused expectations by saying on Thursday that Washington and Beijing were a “sizeable distance” apart in talks.

“The past 24 hours has been dominated by growth concerns, with UK, eurozone, and now Australian GDP expected to come

in significantly lower than had previously been speculated,” IG analyst Joshua Mahony said.

Earlier, Tokyo led an Asia-wide slump, while Hong Kong returned from the three-day Lunar New Year break also in the red.

US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin are due to travel to China next week for a third round of talks.

Negotiators are working towards an agreement before the 90-day tariff truce expires 1 March, after which the US is set to more than double punitive duties on \$200 billion in Chinese goods.

“While progress has been made in these fraught negotiations, the two sides still remain some way from a deal, denting market sentiment,” said Mahony—AFP ■

Next round of US-China trade talks set for 14-15 February: White House

WASHINGTON (United States)—US officials will be in Beijing on 14-15 February for the third round of talks aimed at heading off an escalation of the ongoing trade war with China, the White House announced on Friday. Negotiators are working towards an agreement before the 90-day tariff truce expires on 1 March, after which the US is set to more than double punitive duties on \$200 billion in Chinese goods.

US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin will lead the delegation, which also includes David Malpass, who President Donald Trump has nominated to be president of the World Bank, according to

the statement.

However, strident White House China critic Peter Navarro was not listed as part of the US team. While officials seemed optimistic after talks last week in Washington, more recent comments have jarred financial markets, amplifying concerns about how the dispute will impact global growth.

US President Donald Trump said Thursday he did not expect to meet his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping before a March 1 deadline for the two economic superpowers to reach a deal.

Trump had said final resolution of the trade dispute would depend on the meeting with Xi “in the near future,” but told reporters it had not yet been

arranged.

And top White House economist Larry Kudlow said Thursday that while Trump was “optimistic” about prospects for a deal, there remained a “sizeable distance” separating the two sides.

Washington is demanding far-reaching changes from China to address unfair practices it says are deeply unfair, including theft of American intellectual property and the massive Chinese trade surplus.

The White House said there will be a preparatory meeting of senior officials beginning on 11 February, and the talks will include officials from the Agriculture, Energy and Commerce Departments.—AFP ■

S Korea’s foreign reserves keep record-breaking trend for 3 months

SEOUL—South Korea’s foreign currency reserves kept a record-breaking trend for the third straight month as the weak US dollar increased the conversion value of non-dollar assets, central bank data showed on Friday.

Foreign reserves reached a fresh high of 405.51 billion US dollars as of end-January, up 1.82 billion dollars from a month earlier, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

The record-breaking trend continued for three months in a row as the dollar weakness raised the conversion value of non-dollar assets.

The British pound appreciated 3.3 per cent versus the dollar, and the Australian dollar rose 2.8 per cent to the dollar.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback’s value against six major peers such as the euro, the pound, and the Japanese yen, declined 1.1 per cent last month.

The country’s foreign reserves were composed of 380.3 billion dollars of securities, 14.9 billion dollars of deposits, 4.79 billion dollars of gold bullion, 3.39 billion dollars of special drawing rights and 2.18 billion dollars of IMF positions.

South Korea was the world’s eighth-largest holder of foreign reserves as of the end of December.—Xinhua ■

Merkel opens spy agency's massive new Berlin HQ

BERLIN (Germany)—Chancellor Angela Merkel on Friday inaugurated the new, fortress-like Berlin headquarters of Germany's scandal-plagued BND foreign intelligence service.

Located where the Berlin Wall once dissected the city, the huge 1.1-billion-euro (\$1.25-billion) complex now houses 4,000 of the spy agency's 6,500 staff.

Built on the former site of an East German sports stadium, it is one of the world's largest secret service bases, covering 10 hectares (25 acres)—the equivalent to 36 football fields.

Pointing to a host of global threats from terrorism to cyber-attacks, Merkel thanked the BND staff for their work "so that millions of Germans can live in safety". For the BND, which until now has been cloistered away in a former Nazi settlement outside Munich since its founding after World War II, its bold new presence is meant to signal a more self-confident global role. The massive limestone and aluminium-fronted structure in central Berlin affords Federal Intelligence Service chief Bruno Kahl a view of the chancellery building, which he reports to. The BND, hit by a series of scandals—most recently the 2013 revelations of



German Chancellor Angela Merkel gives a speech during the official opening ceremony of the Federal Intelligence Service (BND) building on 8 February, 2019 in Berlin. PHOTO: AFP

fugitive US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden—has also signalled greater transparency to a sceptical public. Mid-year it even plans to open a visitor centre, having already built up its online presence and stepped up open recruitment activities for the next generation of German spies.

'Healthy distrust'

For many Germans, given their country's fascist and totalitarian past, the idea of a secret

service evokes images not just of James Bond but also of the Gestapo and Stasi. The far-left opposition Die Linke party routinely demands the abolition of Germany's three intelligence agencies, also including the domestic BfV and military spy service MAD.

Merkel stressed that while the Stasi "was used against the populace", the BND serves the country and is subject to laws and parliamentary oversight.

"A healthy distrust is help-

ful, but being overly suspicious is a hindrance," said Merkel. Many Germans were shocked by Snowden's revelations that the BND had closely cooperated with US and British services in the near-blanket surveillance of the world's digital communications. Merkel, who grew up in the East German police state, herself expressed anger at news that Washington had for years tapped her mobile phone, insisting that spying on allies "is not on".—AFP ■

May, Juncker hold 'robust' Brexit meet, agree new talks

BRUSSELS (Belgium)—Britain and the EU agreed on Thursday to hold more talks to try to avoid a no-deal Brexit after a "robust" meeting between Prime Minister Theresa May and European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker.

Juncker reiterated in a joint statement that the EU-UK divorce agreement struck in November cannot be renegotiated, rebuffing May's attempts to change arrangements for the Irish border. But Juncker expressed "openness to add wording" to a parallel political declaration laying out plans for future EU-UK ties, with hopes this could break the deadlock. After his own talks with May, EU President Donald Tusk warned there was "no breakthrough in sight", although the British leader said she had seen willingness from Brussels to find a deal. May has been desperately trying to salvage the withdrawal agreement she spent months



British Prime Minister Theresa May (l) is welcomed by European commission President Jean-Claude Juncker (r) ahead to a meeting on Brexit on 7 February, 2019 in Brussels. PHOTO: AFP

negotiating with Brussels, after it was rejected by the British parliament last month.

She has been working with her own MPs to find a way through, but an EU official said that in Thursday's meeting with Tusk, she "did not offer any new

concrete proposals". Instead, Tusk apparently suggested to May that she study a plan laid out by British opposition Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn. May has already rejected the proposal for an EU-UK customs union, but the EU leader said it "might

be a promising way out of the impasse", the official told AFP.

Talk has been growing that even if MPs finally back the deal, Britain may have to delay Brexit, scheduled for 29 March, to get the necessary legislation through parliament. But May vowed: "I'm going to deliver Brexit, I'm going to deliver it on time."

The impasse has deepened fears that Britain could crash out of the EU without a deal in 50 days time, disrupting trade and supplies to manufacturing.

In a sharp reminder of the urgency of finding a solution, Bank of England governor Mark Carney warned that Britain's economy was "not yet prepared" for a no-deal departure. Speaking to reporters as she left Brussels, May said she had spelled out Britain's "clear position" that legally-binding changes are needed to the so-called backstop plan for the Irish border.—AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

US envoy in Taliban talks seeks peace deal before July vote

WASHINGTON (United States)—The United States is hoping Afghanistan can strike a peace agreement including the Taliban before elections scheduled for July, US envoy Zalmay Khalilzad said on Friday.

"It will be better for Afghanistan if we could get a peace agreement before the election, which is scheduled before July," the US negotiator told a Washington conference, adding that there remained "a lot of work" to do.

Ashraf Ghani, who was elected in a fraud-tainted poll in 2014, is seeking a second term in conflict-riven Afghanistan's delayed presidential ballot.—AFP ■

Maduro rejects 'one-sided' international forum on Venezuela

CARACAS (Venezuela)—Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro on Friday rejected a call by European and Latin American ministers to hold new presidential elections as soon as possible.

Meeting in Uruguay on Thursday, the International Contact Group had called for "free, transparent and credible presidential elections" in crisis-racked Venezuela "as soon as possible" to find a peaceful solution to the power struggle between Maduro and opposition chief Juan Guaido.—AFP ■

One dead, four injured in Spanish train collision

MADRID (Spain)—A train driver died and four people were seriously injured in northeast Spain on Friday when two trains collided head-on outside Barcelona, the rail company and emergency services said.

The crash occurred during the after-work rush hour, near Castellgali some 50 kilometres (31 miles) from the Catalan capital, national rail company Renfe said in a statement.

The collision claimed the life of a 26-year-old driver and severely injured four passengers, while another 100 suffered minor injuries, the emergency services said on Twitter.—AFP ■

IN Picture

Tourists visit Shaolin Temple in China's Henan during Spring Festival holiday



Tourists visit Shaolin Temple, the cradle of the Chinese martial arts, during the Spring Festival holiday in Dengfeng City, central China's Henan Province on 8 February, 2019. PHOTO: XINHUA

Singapore police raid offices of beleaguered Wirecard

SINGAPORE (Singapore)—Singapore police said on Friday they raided the local offices of German payments processing firm Wirecard, following reports of fraud at the company that have sent its stock plummeting.

Stock in the star “fintech” firm, which sells software for cashless and contactless payments, sank more than eight percent in afternoon trading in Frankfurt after news of the raid broke. It came a day after the Financial Times reported that two senior executives at Wirecard HQ knew of a so-called “round-tripping” scheme—in which cash was moved around between Asian subsidiaries to artificially pad the books—orchestrated in the group's Singapore offices.

It was the third and most detailed report on the topic from the business daily since 30 January.

The company told AFP on Friday that it had handed over

documents to police in Singapore and intended to “continue to cooperate” with investigators. It added that the firm was committed to “carry out its internal investigation and make the results public”.

“We repeat that the defamatory FT accusations against Wirecard employees are unfounded,” the company added.

Germany's Bafin financial markets watchdog said last week it would launch a probe of its own into possible market manipulation after the FT reports.

Wirecard stunned the traditional German banking sector last year by displacing financial stalwart Commerzbank from the prestigious DAX index. Hailed as a champion of the insurgent “fintech” (financial technology) scene, it then boasted a market valuation of more than 23 billion euros—outweighing even giant Deutsche Bank. —AFP ■

Imported infectious diseases on rise in China: research

BEIJING—A recent study shows that more than 30,000 cases of infectious diseases were imported to the Chinese mainland from 2005 to 2016, and the types of imported infectious diseases increased from two in 2005 to 11 in 2016.

The study, conducted by researchers from the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention and other Chinese research institutions, collected and analyzed data related to imported infectious diseases from China's National Information Reporting System of Infectious Diseases.

A total of 31,470 cases of infectious diseases were imported to the Chinese mainland from 2005 to 2016, and the cases were imported mainly from Africa and Asia. The study was published in the January issue of the US journal Emerging Infectious Diseases. According to the China Statistical Yearbook, the number of inbound tourists from Africa grew from 238,000 in 2005 to 589,000 in 2016, and the number of inbound tourists from Asia grew from 12.5 million in 2005 to 18 million in 2016. —AFP ■

Thai princess' bid for PM scuttled as party obeys royal command

BANGKOK (Thailand)—A new Thai political party vowed on Saturday to obey a command from the king blocking the candidacy of a princess for prime minister in a dramatic reversal that appeared to boost the junta's chances ahead of March elections.

The announcement effectively blocks Princess Ubolratana's unprecedented bid for the premiership and comes after an extraordinary rebuke of the candidacy by her younger brother, King Maha Vajiralongkorn.

The Thai Raksa Chart party, affiliated with the powerful Shinawatra political clan, announced the princess as their candidate on Friday morning.

The move looked to rattle the status quo and threaten the ambitions of the junta that has ruled Thailand since it toppled the administration of Yingluck Shinawatra in a 2014 coup.

But the Thai king torpedoed the bid in a sharply worded statement the same day that said bringing senior royal family members into politics is against tradition, national culture and “highly inappropriate.”

Thai Raksa Chart responded swiftly, cancelling a campaign event on Saturday and issuing a statement saying it would respect “tradition and royal customs”.



In this file photo taken on 15 May, 2008 Princess Ubolratana of Thailand attends the 'Where the Miracle Happens' Press Conference held at the Carlton Hotel during the 61st Cannes International Film Festival. PHOTO: AFP

“Thai Raksa Chart party complies with the royal command”, it said.

Thailand has some of the most severe lese majeste laws in the world and the king's word is considered final. Royalist Thais and celebrities praised the intervention on social media after the order, writing “long live the king”. Analysts believe the events that unfolded over the past day will help the junta consolidate power and tilt the odds in favour of coup leader Prayut Chan-O-Cha.

Military gains upper hand

Prayut is standing as premier for the Phalang Pracharat

party, a group aligned with the regime.

The military has “gained the upper hand”, said professor Anusorn Unno from Thammasat University, adding that it is poised to perform well in the upcoming vote. The election on 24 March is the first since the 2014 coup. Even before Thai Raksa Chart's reversal, many warned the palace statement had scuttled the princess' chances. “The palace disapproval invalidates her candidacy,” said Puangthong Pawakapan, professor of political science at Chulalongkorn University.

Thailand is a constitutional monarchy and has not had a royal

run for frontline office since 1932.

The 67-year-old princess did not address the royal rebuke head-on when she thanked supporters on Saturday on her widely followed Instagram account, saying vaguely that she wanted Thailand to “move forward”.

The king did not criticise the princess directly and seemed to focus blame on political party members who brought her on board.

Thai Raksa Chart is aligned with Yingluck and her brother Thaksin, who was ousted by the army in 2006.

Both live in self-exile to avoid charges they say are politically motivated. Observers assumed Thaksin and the party would not have taken the princess on board without royal approval.

But the bold play appears to have backfired dramatically on Thaksin. “After last night the king's intervention had an effect of discrediting Thaksin,” Anusorn said. Ubolratana gave up her royal titles when she married an American decades ago, but they divorced and she moved back to Thailand. The first-born of the former king is an unusually public figure for a royal, having starred in movies and dished out advice to nearly 100,000 followers on Instagram. —AFP ■

Thousands without power as storm lashes Sydney

SYDNEY (Australia)—Thousands of Sydney homes were without power on Saturday after severe storms hit Australia's largest city, causing transport hold-ups, inundating vehicles with floodwater and delaying a national football match. Heavy rains and lightning storms lashed parts of Sydney late Friday, with close to 60 millimetres (nearly two and a half inches) of rain falling in some areas. In Sydney's west, which experienced some flash flooding, one suburb saw nearly 42 millimetres fall in a short downpour lasting just 30 minutes.

"It was a slow-moving storm with that warm humid air moving along the coast... that allowed for that increase of moisture," Byron Doyle from the New South Wales Bureau of meteorology told AFP.

Images of cars submerged in floodwaters on main roads, broken traffic lights and fallen trees circulated on social media. Energy companies reported that more than 40,000 customers were affected by power outages at the peak of the storm overnight, with more than 5,000 still without power early Saturday.

Emergency services fielded over 1,000 requests for assistance, including nine flood rescues in the Sydney area. The rescues were "all for vehicles in flood water," a New South

Wales state emergency services spokesperson told AFP.

Flights were delayed at Sydney's airport, while the storm caused havoc on some of the city's train lines. The start of a national Australian rules football women's match was delayed twice, pushed back 45 minutes as heavy rain and lightning pummelled the oval. Several light towers then went out mid-match during the live television broadcast, temporarily stopping the game during a reported blackout.

The Sydney storm comes as recovery efforts continue in Australia's flood-ravaged northeastern state of Queensland, which over the past week has seen record-breaking rainfall, forcing hundreds of evacuations and thousands of requests for help.

Extreme heatwaves during the southern hemisphere summer have also led to temperature records being broken in some towns. Eastern inland areas have been experiencing a severe drought, while firefighters in the country's southern states have been recently battling bushfires. High temperatures are not unusual in the Australian summer, but climate change has pushed up land and sea temperatures and led to more extremely hot days and severe fire seasons, scientists say—AFP ■

Erupting Indonesian volcano spews ash, lava

YOGYAKARTA (Indonesia)—Indonesia's Mount Merapi, one of the world's most active volcanoes, has spewed a plume of grey ash into the sky as fiery red molten lava streamed down from its crater.

Authorities did not raise the rumbling volcano's alert status after the eruption on Thursday evening. But any activity at Merapi raises concern and local residents have previously been ordered to stay outside a five-kilometre (three-mile) no-go zone around the crater near Indonesia's cultural capital Yogyakarta. Its last major eruption in 2010 killed more than 300 people and forced some 280,000 others to evacuate.

It was Merapi's most powerful eruption since



In this picture taken on 7 January, 2019 lava streams down from Indonesia's volcano Merapi as seen from Klangon hill in Sleman, in Yogyakarta province. Mount Merapi, near Indonesia's cultural city Yogyakarta on Java island, is one of the world's most dangerous volcanoes. PHOTO: AFP

1930, which killed some 1,300 people, while another explosion in 1994 took about 60 lives. Across the Southeast Asian archipelago, Mount Karangetang on Sulawesi island also erupted

this week with more than a hundred nearby residents ordered to evacuate from the remote site.

Indonesia has more than 17,000 islands and islets—and nearly 130 ac-

tive volcanoes. It sits on the Pacific "Ring of Fire", a vast zone of geological instability where the collision of tectonic plates causes frequent quakes and major volcanic activity.—AFP ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY. NO. (003W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY. NO. (003W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (010 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (010 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY. NO. (1005 W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY. NO. (1005 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS
(S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1097 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1097 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V BANOSA

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BANOSA VOY. NO. (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of WILMAR where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WILHELMSSEN SHIP
SERVICES PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

Five 'Hitler' paintings to go under hammer in Nuremberg

NUREMBERG (Germany)—Five paintings attributed to Adolf Hitler will be auctioned off on Saturday in the German city of Nuremberg, sparking anger that the Nazi memorabilia market is alive and well. Nuremberg's mayor Ulrich Maly has condemned the upcoming sale as being "in bad taste," speaking to *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper.

Among the items to go under the hammer are a mountain lake view with a starting price of 45,000 euros (\$51,000) and a wicker armchair with a swastika symbol presumed to have belonged to the late Nazi dictator.

The Weidler auction house is holding the "special sale" in Nuremberg, the city in which Nazi war criminals were tried in 1945.

The auction made headlines days before its start after several artworks were withdrawn Thursday on suspicion they were fakes and prosecutors stepped in. Sales of alleged artworks by Hitler—who for a time tried to make a living as an artist in his native Austria—regularly spark outrage that collectors are willing to pay high prices for art



A picture taken on 8 February, 2019 at the Weidler auction house in the southern German city of Nuremberg shows a wicker armchair bearing a swastika which is presumed to have belonged to the late Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler. **PHOTO: AFP**

linked to the country's Nazi past.

"There's a long tradition of this trade in devotional objects linked to Nazism," Stephan Klinggen of the Central Institute for Art History in Munich told AFP.

"Every time there's a media buzz about it... and the prices they're bringing in have been rising constantly. Personally, that's something that quite an-

noys me."

'Ambitious amateur'

In Germany, public displays of Nazi symbols are illegal but exceptions can be made, in educational or historic contexts for instance. To comply with the law, the auction house pixellated the swastikas on the wicker chair and a blue-and-white Meissen

porcelain vase in catalogue photos, and has covered them up on-site. But none of the paintings include any of the totalitarian party's insignias. According to Klinggen, Hitler had the style of "a moderately ambitious amateur" but his creations did not stand out from "hundreds of thousands" of comparable works from the period—making their

authenticity especially hard to verify.

A haul of 26 pieces originally featured in the catalogue have been removed from sale after suspicions were raised that they might be fakes.

The watercolours, drawings and paintings bearing "Hitler" signatures featured views of Vienna or Nuremberg, female nudes and still lifes, the auction house said. They were offered by 23 different owners.

Prosecutors on Wednesday collected 63 artworks from the Weidler premises bearing the signature "AH" or "A Hitler", including some not slated to go under the hammer Saturday.

The Nuremberg-Fuerth prosecutor's office said it had opened an investigation against persons unknown "on suspicion of falsifying documents and attempted fraud", chief prosecutor Antje Gabriels-Gorsolke told AFP. "If they turn out to be fakes, we will then try to determine who knew what in the chain of ownership," she said.

Weidler said in a statement that the paintings' withdrawal from sale "does not automatically mean they are fakes".—AFP ■

Galaxy to unveil Beckham statue before season opener

LOS ANGELES (United States)—A statue of former England and Manchester United star David Beckham will be unveiled next month by the Los Angeles Galaxy at the club's home stadium, the team announced on Friday.

The iconic midfielder—who also had stints at Real Madrid, AC Milan and Paris Saint-Germain before retiring in 2013—will receive the honor before the Galaxy's 2 March Major League Soccer opener against Chicago.

Beckham moved to MLS with the Galaxy in 2007 and played six seasons with the team, winning MLS titles in 2011 and 2012 and expanding the sport's popularity in America. The 43-year-old Englishman remains involved with MLS as a co-owner of future expansion club Inter Miami, which is set to take the field in 2020.—AFP ■

Rappers, women aiming big at Grammys after past snubs

LOS ANGELES (United States)—Music's biggest stars will gather in Los Angeles on Sunday for the Grammy Awards—and this year, observers are hoping the hip-hop and women artists leading the pack will get their due. The industry's annual gala draws eye rolls every year from critics who say the winners are too white and too male, but for the second consecutive year, black hip-hop artists dominated the nominations across the board.

Rapper Kendrick Lamar—who won a Pulitzer Prize for his album "DAMN." but not a Grammy for Album of the Year—earned eight nods while Canadian rapper Drake snagged seven. Women artists scored nods in all of the top categories, after being largely snubbed a year ago: rapper Cardi B, pop diva Lady Gaga, pop futurist Janelle Monae and folk rocker Brandi Carlile are among the frontrunners. In the Best New Artist category, six of the eight nominees are women.

But skepticism lingers that nods will actually translate into wins, after rap mogul Jay-Z left empty-handed last year despite



Kendrick Lamar. **PHOTO: AFP**

eight nominations. That show sparked a major backlash—even retro-funk star Bruno Mars's surprise sweep in the top categories was divisive, as it was seen as somewhat out of touch with the more groundbreaking work on offer. In response, the Recording Academy—which organizes the gala, to be held this year at the Staples Center—created a diversity task force and expanded the four top categories from five nominees to eight.

"The industry and the Recording Academy do understand that they have a problem on their hands," Murray Forman, who stud-

ies pop music at Boston's Northeastern University, told AFP.

'It has to start with us'

As the gala approached, controversy was brewing, with a slate of superstars declining to perform. Drake, Lamar and Childish Gambino have all reportedly turned down offers to perform—and Ariana Grande withdrew from the show over creative difference with organizers.

Even Grammys producer Ken Ehrlich has admitted the "problem" over hip-hop artists who feel undervalued by the Academy, which includes more

than 13,000 music professionals.

Lamar once again has a chance to win the prestigious Album of the Year award after three prior losses, this time for masterminding the soundtrack for the blockbuster superhero film "Black Panther." The lead song off the soundtrack—"All the Stars," which he performed with R&B singer SZA—is in the running for both Record of the Year, which honors best overall song, and Song of the Year, which awards songwriting.

Drake, who has sparred with the Recording Academy in past years, nabbed nominations across the top categories for his album "Scorpion" and inescapable 2018 hit "God's Plan." Women snagged five of the eight Album of the Year nominations: Cardi B, Carlile, Monae, R&B prodigy HER and country star Kacey Musgraves are in the running. Lady Gaga boasts five nominations including for both Record and Song of the Year for her heart-pounding hit "Shallow," which she performed in the film "A Star Is Born" with co-star Bradley Cooper.—AFP ■

NASA's lunar orbiter has its second, clearer look on China's Chang'e-4 probe

WASHINGTON —The United States space agency NASA's lunar orbiter has observed the landing site of China's Chang'e-4 lunar probe for the second time and in a higher definition.

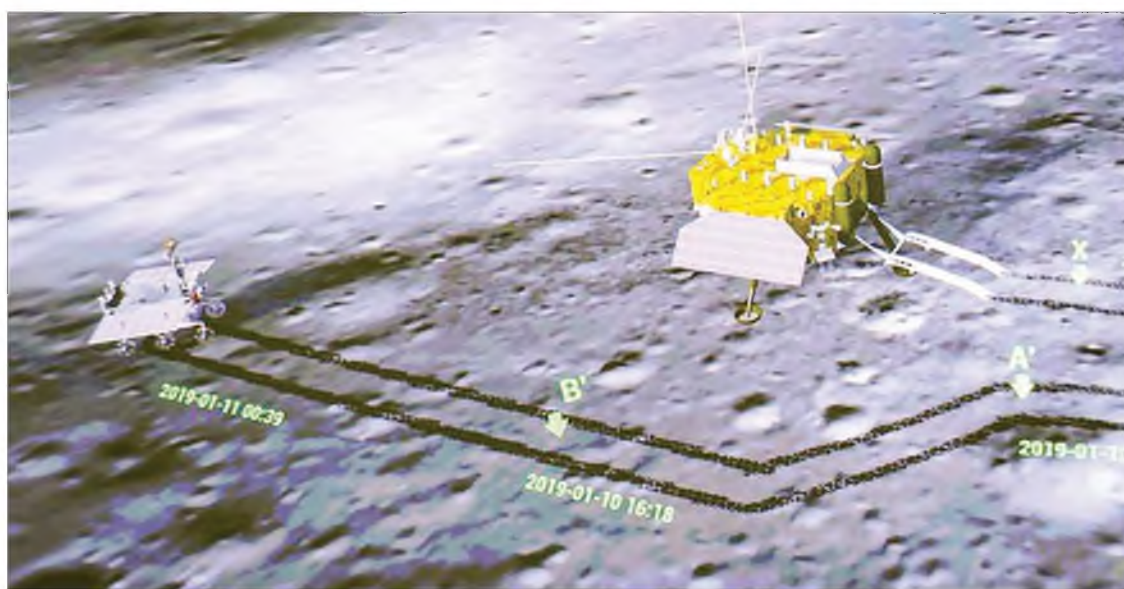
NASA announced on Friday that its Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) acquired a new shot on Chang'e-4 landing site the day after it did so on 30 January.

This time, LRO, a NASA spacecraft orbiting the Moon, moved closer to the floor of Von

Karman crater and tilted to capture the Yutu-2 rover in two pixels just north of the lander, according to NASA.

The rover was not discernible and the Chang'e-4 lander was only a few pixels across in its first shot. Chang'e-4 probe comprises a lander and a rover, and the rover is smaller than the lander.

In the picture released by LRO's scientific team from Arizona University on Friday, Chang'e-4 lander and rover nestled among craters on the



The screen at the Beijing Aerospace Control Center shows the Chang'e-4 lander (R) and the Yutu-2 rover taking pictures for each other on 11 January, 2019. PHOTO: XINHUA

floor of Von Karman crater. Even shadows cast by the lander and rover are visible.

Chang'e-4 probe, launched

on 8 December in 2018, landed on the Von Karman Crater in the South Pole-Aitken Basin on the far side of the moon on

3 January. NASA released its first look of China's Chang'e-4 Lunar Landing Site on Wednesday.—Xinhua ■

Oral insulin capsule developed to replace injections for diabetes patients

WASHINGTON—American scientists developed a drug capsule that can deliver oral doses of insulin and it might replace the injections that people with type 2 diabetes have to make each day.

The study published in the 8 February issue of journal Science reported the capsule, about the size of a blueberry and containing a needle made of compressed insulin.

In tests in animals, the researchers showed that they could deliver enough insulin to lower blood sugar to levels comparable to those produced

by injections given through skin.

The needle comprised compressed, freeze-dried insulin on its tip and biodegradable needle shaft. The needle is attached to a compressed spring installed on a sugar disk, according to the study.

When the capsule is swallowed, water in the stomach dissolves the sugar disk, releasing the spring and injecting the needle into the stomach wall. The stomach wall has no pain receptors.

The researchers from Massachusetts Institute of

Technology (MIT) were inspired by a tortoise called the leopard tortoise. The tortoise with a high, steep shell dome can right itself when rolling onto its back.

They created a similar shape for the capsule that can orient itself to ensure the needle is in contact with the lining of the stomach.

In this study, it takes about an hour for the insulin to be fully released into the bloodstream.

In tests in pigs, the researchers showed that they could successfully deliver up to

300 micrograms of insulin. Later, they managed to increase the dose to 5 milligrams, comparable to the amount that a patient with type 2 diabetes would need to inject.

“Our motivation is to make it easier for patients to take medication, particularly medications that require an injection,” said the paper's co-author Giovanni Traverso, an assistant professor at Brigham and Women's Hospital and a visiting scientist at MIT.

“The classic one is insulin, but there are many others,” said Traverso.—Xinhua ■

Zika-resistant mosquitoes engineered by Australian researchers

CANBERRA—Australian scientists have made a major breakthrough in the fight against the Zika virus.

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) said on Wednesday that it has successfully engineered mosquitoes resistant to spreading the deadly virus. Zika virus, named after Uganda's Zika Forest, is spread by daytime-active *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes.

It caused more than 4,000 birth defects worldwide in 2015 alone and remains a major threat to millions of people.

Researchers from the CSIRO and University of California San Diego found that injecting mosquito embryos with a synthetic anti-Zika gene prevented them from carrying the virus as adults.

“Our study found the mosquitoes with an anti-Zika gene were unable to pick up Zika when they fed, so they were incapable of spreading the virus to anybody else,” CSIRO Senior Research Scientist and paper co-author Prasad Paradkar said in a statement on Wednesday.

“With further investigation, this mosquito could potentially one day be used to replace populations of wild *Aedes aegypti*, adding to the arsenal of control strategies against this mosquito to halt the virus' spread around the world.” —Xinhua ■

Google Fiber to close high-speed internet service in Kentucky city

SAN FRANCISCO—Google said on Thursday that it will suspend its high-speed internet service in Louisville, the largest city in the US state of Kentucky, in mid-April after it has experienced challenges that have been “disruptive” to residents.

The service, which is part of Google Fiber programme that was aiming to offer customers broadband internet service with speeds up to 1 gigabit (Gbps) via fiber-to-premises deployment, will come to an end on 15 April.

Google Fiber said in a blog that its operation in Louisville



Google logo displayed on a tablet in Paris. PHOTO: AFP

was a failure after its plan to place fiber optic cable in very shallow trenches cut into side-

walks and streets proved to be disruptive to local residents.

“We're not living up to the

high standards we set for ourselves, or the standards we've demonstrated in other Fiber cities,” Google said.

Google has launched the Fiber project in several US cities, and the first one was Kansas City where the high-speed internet service was made available in 2012. Louisville was one of the most recent cities included in the project, when Google brought the program to the city in 2017. Google Fiber has agreed to offer two more months of free service to its existing customers in Louisville after it turns off its network in the city.—Xinhua ■

MFF plans new indoor futsal stadium

THE Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) recently announced plans to build a first-of-its-kind international-standard stadium in Myanmar by mid-2020, located next to the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

The seating capacity of the stadium will be between 2000 to 2800, said officials.

For the plan, the MFF has also submitted a four-year budget to FIFA about this project, and FIFA has agreed to support the project, said officials.

The officials stated that futsal is growing very fast in Myanmar, while garnering some success in international competitions.

Though futsal is relatively

new to Myanmar, during South-east Asian competitions the Myanmar national futsal team won numerous medals, noted officials.

But futsal in Myanmar does not have proper infrastructure, which is needed if Myanmar can attract international tournaments.

Officials sought to carry out the plan ten years ago, but due to other football plans the federation is only now moving forward with the futsal stadium.

For the domestic futsal league, the team is renting the Thuwunna Indoor Stadium, in which the all-round sports competition is being held.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Architectural building model for futsal stadium to be built on international standard in Yangon. **PHOTO: MFF**

Marseille nail second straight victory in Ligue 1

PARIS—Marseille celebrated their second straight win in Ligue 1 as they rallied past troubled Dijon 2-1 in the 24th round match on Friday.

After conceding a goal by Jordan Marie less than 20 minutes into the duel, Marseille staged their comeback thanks to Mario Balotelli and Lucas Ocampos. Marseille had recorded their first home win of the league in almost three months after going past Bordeaux 1-0 at an empty Stade Velodrome earlier this week. They found themselves down against Dijon in the 18th minute, when Marie was on position to hit target after veteran goalkeeper Steve Mandanda had denied Fouad Chafik's long-range effort.

The match, however, went

into Marseille's direction after the restart. Balotelli latched onto Florian Thauvin's header on a corner to sweep home at the far post in the 56th minute. It was the Italian striker's second goal after his arrival during the winter transfer window.

Marseille's second goal of the match was more spectacular, as Ocampos cut inside past one defender before finishing a powerful shot into the top corner in the 74th minute. The second consecutive win has lifted Marseille up to fifth place, while Dijon remain 16th. Leaders Paris Saint-Germain, who suffered the first league loss of the season last weekend, will take on Bordeaux at the Parc des Princes on Saturday.—Xinhua ■



Myanmar's Win Theingi Tun (red) vies for the ball with a player from Nepal in yesterday's Hero Gold Cup opening match at Kalinga Stadium in Odisha, India. **PHOTO: MFF**

Myanmar beat Nepal 3-0 in Hero Gold Cup 2019 opener

THE Myanmar women's national football team secured their first win in the Hero Gold Cup 2019 with a decisive 3-0 triumph over the Nepal women's team at Kalinga Stadium in Odisha, India yesterday.

The match was not difficult for Myanmar, as football experts noted that Myanmar's team is one of the highest ranked teams in the entire competition.

Myanmar fielded key players, including Win Theingi Tun and Khin Moe Wai in the match.

The first half was solely

dominated by the Myanmar team, with clear support from power plays.

However, Myanmar was unable to score a goal until the 43 minute mark, as Nepalese defenders blocked every opportunity to score that Myanmar created.

At the 44th minute, Myanmar's star Khin Moe Wai scored the icebreaker.

The second half saw some changes in tactics by the Nepal team, but Myanmar was eager to score more goals.

It was Win Theingi Tun, the

experienced player with the Myanmar team, who scored the second goal for Myanmar at 54 minutes.

Myanmar continued to force play and scored its third goal by Khin Moe Wai at the 77 minute mark.

In the final minutes Myanmar reduced its power and ended the match with a score of 3-0.

Myanmar will next take on Iran at Kalinga Stadium, as its win creates pressure to the host, the India team.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Organizers to install latest surveillance system at 2020 Games

TOKYO—The organizing committee of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics will install a state-of-the-art video surveillance system at venues and the athletes' village during the games in a bid to improve the efficiency of its surveillance measures, several sources said on Friday.

According to the sources, the surveillance system, provided by Olympic sponsor Panasonic Corp, combines infrared ray sensors and cameras. The organizers hope the new system will allow a high level of security

despite having venues spread across the country. Organizers are planning on installing some 2,500 sets of sensors and 8,000 surveillance cameras at next year's Games, sources said.

When sensors detect an irregularity, footage from a camera at that location will appear on monitors at the local security office as well as the main security center that will oversee the entire Games.

The total number of security cameras in 2020 will outstrip that of previous Games because

of the number of venues. The organizers hope the sensors will reduce the workload and the number of security personnel needed.

According to the sources, the organizers are also planning to equip some security guards with wearable cameras to be able to monitor scenes in real time.

The Tokyo Olympics are scheduled to be held between 24 July and 9 August, followed by the Paralympics from 25 August to 6 September.—Kyodo News ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

10 FEBRUARY 2019
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Extracurricular Activities are Essential



By **Aye Myat Mon** (Eain)
Senior Teacher

EXTRACURRICULAR activities are undertaken outside the realm of the regular course of study. These activities can be divided into indoor and outdoor activities. Indoor activities include music and dance, art and craft, drawing and painting, tailoring and so on. Outdoor ones comprise football, volleyball, basketball, excursions and so forth. While some schools and universities are trying to serve these activities to students, some do not pay attention to these ones. Reasons for this difference are depending on the benefits and setbacks resulting from these activities.

An argument in favour of extracurricular activities is that they can arouse the motivation and enthusiasm of students. Only learning the academic subjects can bring boredom and can make children become less motivated. Learners without being given the chance to take part in extracurricular activities are likely to dim their qualities and feelings towards learning. Mostly young learners need as much extracurricular activities as possible. Because young learners can be molded through extracurricular activities to become curious, to love and appreciate the nature, to develop the ability to observe and to think creatively. Besides, at university level, debate and discussions, academic teams and clubs, culture clubs, volunteer work and community service and etc. are carrying out as more advanced extracurricular activities and bringing positive results on students like becoming more active, zealous and confident learners. Apart from this, extracurricular activities widen the views of learners and give them chances to apply their knowledge. To a great extent, the theoretical knowledge gets strengthened when a relevant extracurricular activity is organized related to the content taught in the classroom. Furthermore, these activities encourage learners to find out what their hobbies and interests are and to develop their characters, social interactive skills, coordination, speech fluency, aesthetics and moral values.

On the other hand, an argument against extracurricular activities is that they make the educators busy. It is not an easy job to carry out these activities without careful and skillful planning. For instance, during excursions, teachers always need to keep their eyes on the children not to get them lost or not to let something bad happen. They also have to prepare a lot before excursions like hiring cars, preparing for foods and managing of money. What is more, extracurricular activities reduce the amount of time on learning academic subjects. In some cases, teachers groan concerning with the extracurricular activities for hindering to finish the established curriculum in time. Moreover, overuse of extracurricular activities tend to discourage the interest of students on academic subjects.

To take everything into account, the mixture of pluses and minuses are included in extracurricular activities. However, the benefits of extracurricular activities outweigh their drawbacks. I think every school and university should set aside time for extracurricular activities and ensure that these activities are operated in moderation because excessive or insufficient use of them can cause side effects. Therefore, it is to be considered that extracurricular activities are the essential tools for bringing the best out of the learners and supporting all-round development of the learners. ■





(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းလုပ်ကြည့်ပါ။

အောက်ပါတို့ကို သုံးနည်းစလုံးဖြင့်ဆက်ပါ။

1. Coffee is good. Tea is better.
2. Mother is fat. Father is fatter.
3. Dogs are intelligent. Elephants are more intelligent.
4. She is old. He is older.
5. Basketball is interesting. Football is more interesting.

Answers

1. Tea is better than coffee.
Coffee is less good than tea.
Coffee is not as good as tea.
2. Father is father than Mother.
Mother is less fat than Father.
Mother is not as fat as Father.
3. Elephants are more intelligent than dogs.
Dogs are less intelligent than elephants.
Dogs are not as intelligent as elephants.
4. He is older than she.
She is less old than he.
She is not as old as he.
5. Football is more interesting than basketball.
Basketball is less interesting than football.
Basketball is not as interesting as football.

ပေးထားသော စာကြောင်းကို not as ... as ပုံစံဖြင့် ပြောင်းရသည်အခါ Verb ပျားဖြစ်လျှင် do not, does not, did not ပျားသုံးရသည်ကို ဂရုပြုပါ။

အောက်တွင်လေ့လာပါ။

1. Ko Ko drinks more tea than Nyi Nyi.
Nyi Nyi does not drink as much tea as Ko Ko.
ညီညီသည် ကိုကိုလောက် လာဘက်ရည် ပျားပျားပသောက်ပါ။
(ရေတွက်ပရသော နာမိဖြစ်၍ much သုံးရသည်။)
2. Ma Ma has more longvis than Nu Nu.
Nu Nu has not as many longvis as Ma Ma.
(ရေတွက်၍ ရသောနာမိဖြစ်၍ many သုံးရသည်။)
(Nu Nu does not have as many longvis as Ma Ma.)
နနမှာ မမလောက် လုံချည်ပျားပျားပရပါ။

Passive Voice စာကြောင်းပျားကို ပြောင်းရာတွင် Not as much, not as many တို့ကို ရှေ့ဆုံးတွင် ထားရသည်ကိုသတိပြုပါ။ အောက်တွင်လေ့လာပါ။

3. More money is spent by Nyi Nyi than by Ko Ko.
Not as much money is spent by Ko Ko as by Nyi Nyi.
ညီညီသုံးသလောက် ငွေပျားပျားပရပါ။
4. More paddy is grown in Lower Burma than in Upper Burma.
Not as much paddy is grown in Upper Burma as in Lower Burma.
အထက်မြန်မာပြည်တွင် အောက်မြန်မာပြည်လောက်ဆန်ပျားပျားပရပါ။
5. More people were killed during the Second World War than during the First World War.
No as many people were killed during the First World War as during the Second World War.
ဒုတိယကမ္ဘာစစ် အတွင်းမှာလောက် ပထမကမ္ဘာစစ်အတွင်းက လူပျားပျား မသေခဲ့ပါ။ (အသတ်ပမီခံခဲ့ရပါ။)

Superlative Degree

အပျားတွင် နှိုင်းယှဉ်ခြင်း

1. Nyi Nyi is tall. Ko Lat is taller.
Ko Ko is the tallest.
ကိုကိုသည် ညီအစ်ကိုသုံးယောက်အနက်အရပ် အရှည်ဆုံးဖြစ်သည်။
(Superlative degree adj ရှေ့တွင် The ထည့်ရသည်ကိုသတိပြုပါ။)

2. Mt. Everest is the highest mountain in the world.
စဝရက်တောင်သည် ကမ္ဘာပေါ်တွင် အမြင့်ဆုံးတောင်ဖြစ်သည်။
3. The Shwedagon is the most famous pagoda in Myanmar.
ရွှေတိဂုံသည် မြန်မာပြည်တွင် အကျော်ကြားဆုံးသော စေတီဖြစ်သည်။
4. Shwe Mi is the prettiest girl in our village.
ရွှေမီသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့ရွာတွင် အလှဆုံးသော မိန်းကလေးဖြစ်သည်။
5. Chimpanzees are the most intelligent animals in the world.
ချင်ပင်စီမြောက်ပျားသည် ကမ္ဘာပေါ်တွင် အသိဉာဏ်အရှိဆုံးသော တိရစ္ဆာန်ပျားဖြစ်သည်။
6. Ko Ko is the best swimmer in our school.
ကိုကိုသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့ကျောင်းတွင် အကောင်းဆုံးရေကူးသမားဖြစ်သည်။
7. Mandalay is the second largest city in Myanmar.
မန္တလေးသည် မြန်မာပြည်တွင် ဒုတိယအကြီးဆုံးမြို့ဖြစ်သည်။
8. April is the hottest month (of the year).
ဧပြီသည် အပူဆုံးသောလဖြစ်သည်။
9. April 13, 1978 is the most unforgettable day in my life.
၁၉၇၈၊ ဧပြီလ ၁၃ ရက်နေ့သည် ကျွန်တော်ဘဝတွင် ပမေ့နိုင်ဆုံးသော နေ့တစ်နေ့ဖြစ်သည်။
10. This is the latest news from the United Nations.
ဒါ ကုလသမဂ္ဂကလာတဲ့ နောက်အကျဆုံးသတင်းပဲ။
This is the last train to Insein for today.
ဒါ ဒီနေ့အတွက် အင်းစိန်သွားမဲ့ နောက်ဆုံးရထားပဲ။
11. The moon is the nearest neighbour of the earth.
လပင်းသည် ဤကမ္ဘာမြေ၏အနီးဆုံးသော အိမ်နီးချင်းဖြစ်သည်။
ထို့အပြင် ဤအဓိပ္ပာယ်ကိုပင် ဖော်ပြသော အခြားပုံစံနှစ်မျိုးရှိသေးသည်။ Comparative နှင့် Positive Degrees တို့ဖြင့် Superlative Degree အဓိပ္ပာယ်ပေါ်လွင်အောင် သုံးထားခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။

1. Ko Ko is the tallest boy in our class.
ကိုကိုသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့အတန်းထဲတွင် အရပ်အရှည်ဆုံးသော လူကလေးဖြစ်သည်။
Ko Ko is taller than any other boy in our class.
ကိုကိုသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့အတန်းထဲမှ အခြားပညာသည်လူကလေးထက်ပမို ပို၍အရပ်ရှည်သည်။
(than နောက်တွင် any other လိုက်ရသည်ကို သတိပြုပါ။)
No other boy in our class is as tall as Ko Ko.
ကျွန်တော်တို့အတန်းထဲမှ မည်သည့်လူကလေးမှ ကိုကိုလောက်အရပ်ပရှည်ပါ။
(No other နှင့်စာကြောင်းကိုစ၍ as...as ပုံစံသုံးထားသည်။)
2. The Shwedagon is the most famous pagoda in Myanmar.
ရွှေတိဂုံသည် မြန်မာပြည်တွင် အကျော်ကြားဆုံးသော စေတီဖြစ်သည်။
The Shwedagon is more famous than any other pagoda in Myanmar.
ရွှေတိဂုံသည် မြန်မာပြည်ရှိ အခြားမည်သည့်စေတီတက်မဆိုပို၍ကျော်ကြားသည်။
No other pagoda in Myanmar is as famous as the Shwedagon.
မြန်မာပြည်ရှိ အခြားမည်သည့်စေတီမှ ရွှေတိဂုံလောက် မကျော်ကြားပါ။
3. Ma Ma is the most hardworking student in our class.
ပပသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့အတန်းထဲတွင် စာအကြိုးစားဆုံးသော ကျောင်းသူ တစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။
Ma Ma is more hardworking than any other student in our class.
ပပသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့အတန်းထဲမှ မည်သည့်ကျောင်းသူကျောင်းသားထက် ပမို ပို၍ စာကြိုးစားသည်။
No other student in our class is as hardworking as Ma Ma.
ကျွန်တော်တို့အတန်းထဲမှ မည်သည့်ကျောင်းသူကျောင်းသားမျှ မမလောက် စာပကြိုးစားပါ။
4. U Ba is the richest person in our town.
ဦးဘသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့ မြို့တွင် အချမ်းသာဆုံးသော လူတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။
U Ba is richer than any other person in our town.

ဦးဘသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့မြို့မှ အခြားမည်သူထက်မဆို ပို၍ချမ်းသာသည်။

No other person in our town is as rich as U Ba.

ကျွန်တော်တို့မြို့မှ အခြားမည်သူမျှ ဦးဘလောက် မချမ်းသာပါ။

5. U Wisara Road is the best road in Yangon.

ဦးဝိစာရလမ်းသည် ရန်ကုန်တွင် အကောင်းဆုံးလမ်းဖြစ်သည်။

U Wisara Road is better than any other road in Yangon.

ဦးဝိစာရလမ်းသည် ရန်ကုန်ရှိ အခြားမည်သည့်လမ်းထက်မဆို ပိုကောင်းသည်။

No other road in Yangon is as good as U Wisara Road.

ရန်ကုန်ရှိ အခြား မည်သည့်လမ်းမှ ဦးဝိစာရလမ်းလောက် မကောင်းပါ။

လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းလုပ်ကြည့်ပါ။

အောက်ပါတို့ကို အခြားပုံစံနှစ်မျိုးဖြင့်ရေးပါ။

1. The Nile is the longest river in the world.
2. Khet Khet is the most beautiful girl in our town.
3. U Wunna is the most powerful man in this region.
4. Ko Ko is the cleverest boy in our class.
5. Cancer is the worst of the diseases.

Answers

1. The Nile is longer than any other river in the world.
No other river in the world is as long as the Nile.
2. Khet Khet is more beautiful than any other girl in our town.
No other girl in our town is as beautiful as Khet Khet.
3. U Wunna is more powerful than any other man in this region.
No other man in this region is as powerful as U Wunna.
4. Ko Ko is cleverer than any other boy in our class.
No other boy in our class is as clever as Ko Ko.
5. Cancer is worse than any other disease.
No other disease is as bad as cancer.

အထူးဂရုပြုရမည် အသုံးအနှုန်းပျား

late later latest သာ၍ နောက်ကျသော၊ နောက်အကျဆုံးသော later နှင့် latest တို့မှာ အချိန်ကို ရည်ညွှန်းသည်။

(1) She came later than I expected.

သူမ ကျွန်တော် မျှော်လင့်ခဲ့သည်ထက် နောက်ကျရောက်လာသည်။

(2) I have not heard the latest news.

ကျွန်တော်နောက်အကျဆုံး သတင်းကို မကြားသေးဘူး။

late later last နောက်ပိုင်းကျသော၊ နောက်ဆုံး (ဖြစ်သော)

later နှင့် last မှာ နေရာ (Position) ကို ရည်ညွှန်းသည်။

(1) I like the latter part of this novel.

ကျွန်တော် ဤဝတ္ထု၏နောက်ပိုင်းကို ကြိုက်သည်။

(2) I will love you till my last day on earth.

ငါပင်ကို ဤတမ္ဘာမြေပေါ်မှာ ငါ့ဘဝရဲ့ နောက်ဆုံးနေ့အထိ ချစ်နေမှာပဲ။

(3) Under capitalism the workers are the first to suffer and the last to enjoy.

အရင်းရှင်စနစ်အောက်တွင် အလုပ်သမားပျားသည် ခံစရာရှိလျှင် ရှေ့ဆုံးက

ခံစရာရှိလျှင် နောက်ဆုံး ကပင်။

elder eldest ကို လူပုဂ္ဂိုလ်ပျားအတွက်သာသုံးသည်။ တိရစ္ဆာန်ပျားသက်မဲ့

ပျားအတွက် ပသုံးရ။ သို့ရာတွင်ယခုအခါ မိသားစုဝင်များအတွက်သာ သုံးသည်။

older နှင့် oldest ကိုအားလုံးအတွက် သုံးနိုင်သည်။

(1) I have two elder brothers.

ကျွန်တော်မှာ အစ်ကိုနှစ်ယောက်ရှိသည်။

(2) Min Lwin Oo is my eldest son.

ပင်းလွင်ဦးသည် ကျွန်တော်၏အကြီးဆုံးသားဖြစ်သည်။

(3) I am older than my wife.

ကျွန်တော်သည် ဇနီးထက်ပို၍အသက်ကြီးသည်။

(4) Ko Ko is the oldest boy in our class.

ကျွန်တော်တို့အတန်းထဲတွင်ကိုကိုသည်အသက်အကြီးဆုံးသောလူကလေးဖြစ်သည်။

(C) Father Farthest သာ၍ဝေးသော၊ အဝေးဆုံး

Farther နှင့် Furthest ကို အကွာအဝေးနှင့်ပတ်သက်၍ သုံးသည်။

Futher နှင့် Furthest ကို 'နောက်ထပ်' တူသောအဓိပ္ပာယ်ဖြင့်သုံးသည်။

(1) London is farther from Japan than from Myanmar.

လန်ဒန်သည် မြန်မာပြည်မှထက် ဂျပန်ပြည်မှပို၍ ဝေးသည်။

(2) Man has always wanted to travel farther and faster.

လူသားသည် အမြဲပို၍ ဝေးဝေးနှင့် ပို၍ မြန်မြန် ခရီးသွားလိုခဲ့သည်။

(3) He went abroad for further studies.

နောက်ထပ်လေ့လာရန် နိုင်ငံခြားသို့သွားခဲ့သည်။

(4) I can do no further.

ကျွန်တော် နောက်ထပ်မသွားနိုင်တော့ဘူး။

nearest ကို အနီးအဝေးပြရန် သုံးသည်။

next သည်နေရာကို ပြဆိုသည်။

(1) The moon is the nearest neighbour of the earth.

လပင်းသည် ကမ္ဘာမြေ၏ အနီးဆုံးသော အိမ်နီးချင်းဖြစ်သည်။

(2) She lives in the next house.

သူမ (ကျွန်တော်တို့အိမ်) ဘေးက အိမ်မှာနေသည်။

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

To the people's faith in the prevalence of law and order



By May Thu Htay
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THE definition of law goes as “the whole system of rules that everyone in a country or society must obey”. Here, it can highlight how the law can be dominant in the morals, uprightness of the people in a country and in deterring the people from doing unethical behaviors and the possible criminals, manipulators from committing crimes and to do something unjust. Laws are of various types: Maritime law, Business law, Military law, Criminal law, Labor law and etc. In this, based on the criminal law, I want to share my ideas how to have people's faith in the prevalence of law and order in a country.

Everyone might have heard of the novel “To Kill a Mocking Bird” by Harper Lee which is about the portrayal of “Racism”, “Prejudice in Law,” between Negroes and the White people in Maycomb of the United States. From this novel, what I would like to pick out is how the lawyer, the main character, “Atticus” fought to stand with the justice and the law by proving that the accused Negro was actually innocent against the Amer-

ican racist society at that time. His act and his loyalty to the justice and the law value “to save the innocence, punish the criminals, and build morals in humans” is definitely what the lawyers, judges should emulate in the trial and in their career life nowadays.

If the prejudice, the bribe and the small fault of the lawyers, the judges result in the wrong verdict, just imagine how it affects the real criminal and the accused one. The consequence is that the real criminal escaped and thus it will be like “adding fire to the fuel” which means encouraging him to commit more crimes in the future and does not respect the country's law any more. On the other hand, the innocence got sentenced and his future life will be ended in jail and in his mind, the idea that “this country law is biased and unreliable” will forever instill in his mind and he will definitely lose faith in the law and order of his country. So, we can clearly see that the value of law is underestimated in the thoughts of the citizens if the judges, lawyers, police do not pay much attention to have justice

and fairness in the law. According to the aforementioned definition, law has the standard which has to be abided by everyone from all walk of life. Thus, it is not possible to favor anyone and to give leniency to anyone. Only the law is consistent with no prejudice, bias, error, the innocent citizen will have faith and trust in the prevalence of law and order as well as the criminals never dare to disrespect the law of a country. To make the law strong, the lawyers, judges, and juries' participations are badly essential.

To conclude, in my opinion, in meeting these political objectives, “Stability of the State, Community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order” in Myanmar, the fact “prevalence of law and order” should be taken into account seriously as it is the backbone of the morals, disciplines and spirits of the citizens. Only every individual believes in the country's law, then they can reside in this country with the mind that as long as they are right, the law will stand with them and no one can be above the law.





Weighing opportunities,

Thaketa Crocodile Farm considers opening resort, or raising crocs for leather

By: Nat Ye Hla



THAKETA Crocodile Farm is expecting to see more visitors, especially school children, as the summer holiday draws near.

Contributions from visitors, along with support from the government, is enough to feed its 536 crocodiles, including 298 adults, with maintenance diets two times per week.

The farm, consisting of over 40 acres and located besides the Ngamoeyeik River, has the potential to become a resort or commercial crocodile farm.

"To run this farm commercially, we need to turn this establishment into a resort or commercial farm for producing meat and leather, through private investment. Visitors can enjoy the natural life of the crocodile on some five acres of wild habitats on our farm," said

producing marketable crocodile leather.

"See" said U Myo Min Hlaing while pointing at the leather, "this kind of skin is marketable. We need investment and technology to produce products from crocodiles."

Meanwhile, U Myo Min Hlaing noted that Myanmar's crocodile population is decreasing. Urbanization, which caused a depletion of the natural habitat for the reptile and wildlife trade, are mainly threatening the endangered species. Out of four species of crocodile in Myanmar, three have become extinct.

A foreign movie team recently visited the crocodile farm and filmed a documentary about crocodiles in Myanmar. When they witnessed how foreign experts controlled the crocodiles, the employees of the farm realized they are lagging behind in



U Myo Min Hlaing, Deputy Director, Head of Thaketa Crocodile Farm, Says: "We need investment and technology to produce products from crocodiles."

PHOTOS: PHOE KHWAR

U Myo Min Hlaing, Deputy Director, Head of Crocodile Farm, of the Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

About 1989-1990, the farm found a foreign buyer for over 1,000 crocodiles and those became prosperous days for the farm.

Yet, to regain its former glory, it has challenges to overcome.

"We need to do DNA testing on our crocodiles to meet international standards. We should farm crocodiles that the international market demands," said U Myo Min Hlaing.

U Myo Min Hlaing, 48, became the head of the crocodile farm in 2017. He has taken note of how the crocodile population in Myanmar has decreased, mainly due to man-made environmental degradation.

In his office is a brown crocodile skin mounted on a board. The farm's only non-living crocodile skin, from a reptile which died naturally in 1981 in Bogalay, a prominent area for salt-water crocodiles in the Ayeyawady Delta, has shown that Myanmar has prospects for

the use of modern techniques.

Myanmar's wild crocodiles can generally be found in the eastern part of the Bogale River and the western part of the Kankani River in the Ayeyawady River sanctuary. Some people have reported seeing crocodiles measuring up to 6 metres long. Crocodiles in the area can live up to 100 years.

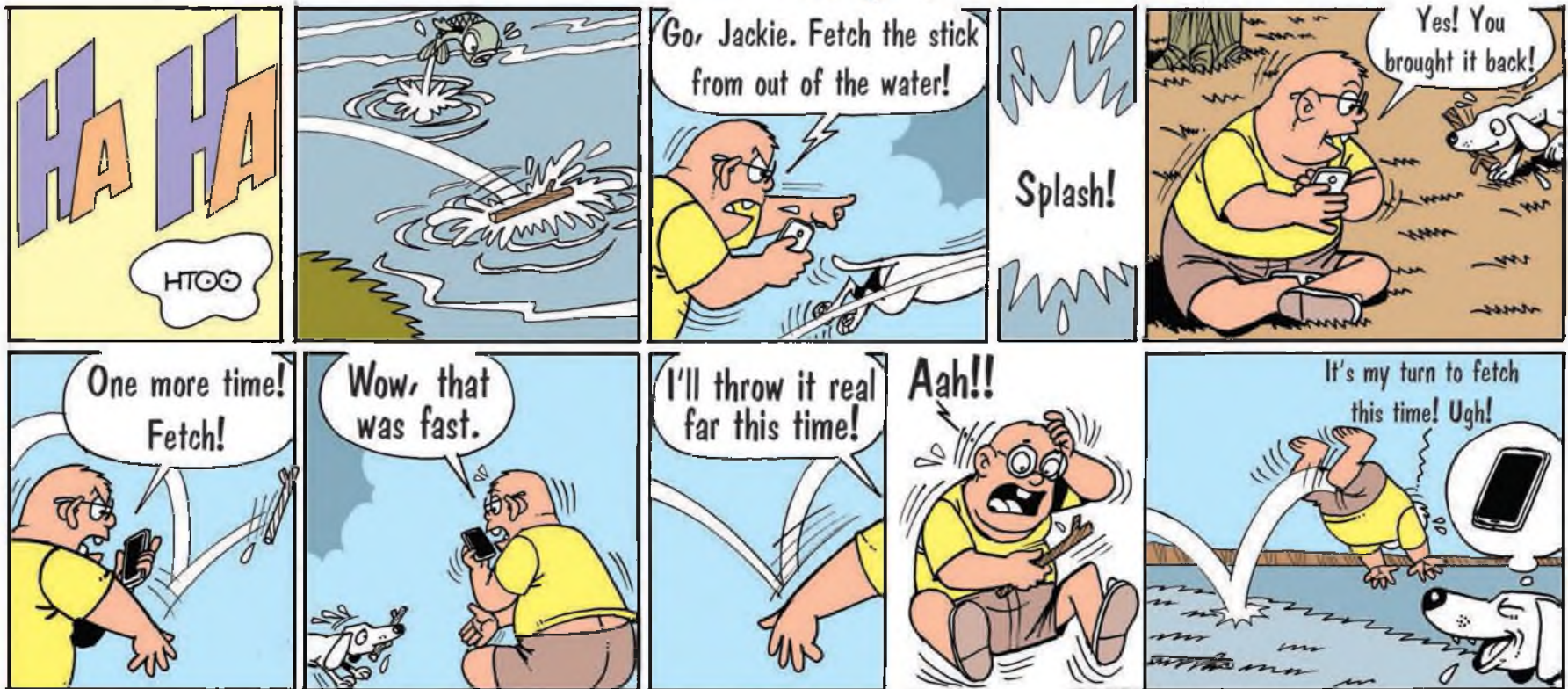
Those want to see crocodiles visit Thaketa Farm, which was founded in 1978 and opened to the public in 1997.

About 100 visitors come to the farm on Saturdays and Sundays, though that number is not as high it might be. There is no shuttle bus between the farm and bus stop, so it is a challenge for ordinary holiday makers to reach the farm.

"Anyway, this farm is not so far from downtown. It is also located besides the Ngamoeyeik River. This offers a natural infrastructure to become a proper resort," said U Myo Min Hlaing.



SUNDAY COMICS



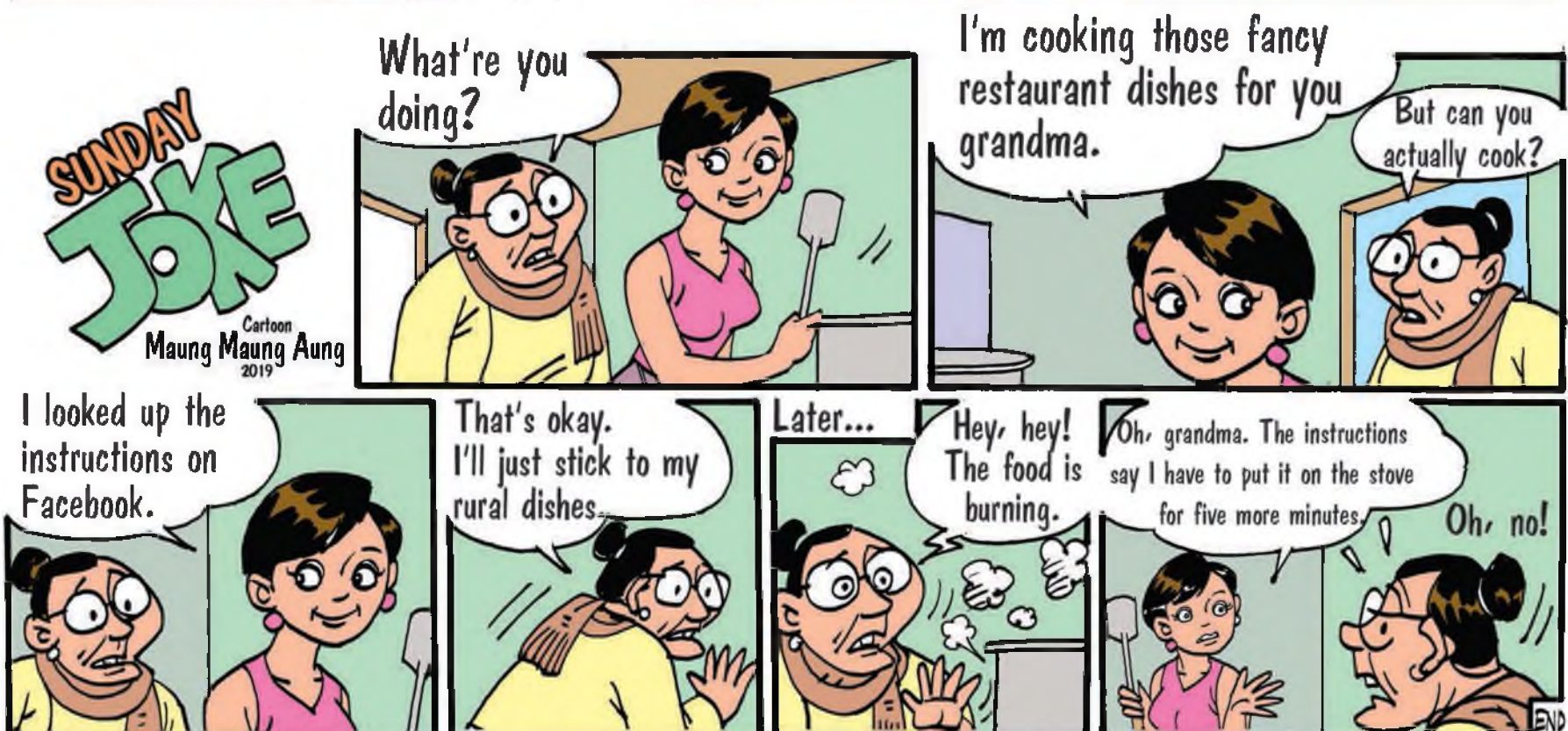
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Aung
2019





Time Management



C. Mya Yin
Master of Law in IR (China)

TIME Management refers to the successful and effective implementation of your tasks throughout of your own time for emerging the fruitful results by performing step by step. That means if you target to do something, it will create to implement of your tasks and aspiration effectively. A person who has understood this title, and already known how would he/she applies it precious, time is constant and eternity. Although we, all human beings have unlike properties, we have the same amount of time. That's why you can manage your time that is the individual skill to possess a successful life.

Save Up the Time

First and foremost, you should consider the ways that can be waste of time in your personal life or your workplace. If you can organize your time ineffectively, you will be under stress and it will impact on your professional skill. Sometimes when there are many tasks to do all in a short time, the files are spread out, how you find and arrange them that can be the waste of time. To cover this problem, you need to make sure to arrange the file according to the alphabetical order, if so you can be able to find documents quickly rather than spending a lot of time searching for them. It is one of the basic principles of time management how to apply in workplace.

Managing Your Time and Control Your Life

In spending your time, how to get better your life more effectively with three steps: "RAC" recording, analyzing and changing. Taking a note, everything what you do from morning till go to sleep. There need to write down the detailed schedule whatever you do. After that, you can criticize for your daily achievements how you spend your time by performing your tasks or how you waste of your time by chitchatting with your co-workers, colleagues, using social media, going to the canteens. Likewise, procrastination can be delayed of your potential and undermine your job that can also dissatisfy teamwork, reduce morale and depression in your life.

First and foremost, you should consider the ways that can be waste of time in your personal life or your workplace. If you can not organize your time effectively, you will be under stress and it will impact on your professional skill.

Taking and reviewing the weakness, how much is your time productive in your daily life? However, it is easier said than done to change your behavior in practical. Some people think that even the short time cannot be valuable to carry out worthy tasks for 5 minutes or 10 minutes. It can mislead the wrong concept. On my own opinion, the short time is very useful and essential to divide your time management. For instance, if you can learn five new words in 15 minutes by heart day after day, you can learn 1825 words like a mini dictionary at the end of the year.

Effective Time Management Skills

These tips are very important to protect time wasting and to get your better time management and to achieve your goals successfully in your life.

- **Planning** : you can divide into your plans daily in accordance with plan for a week, plan for a month and plan for a year. It is important to note that when you make a plan, you can use flow chat, time log and pie chart. In so doing, these can be able to describe your accomplishments.
- **Prioritize your tasks**: With doing list, you can prioritize your tasks by spending your time and to replenish your energy so you can focus and concentrate.
- **Delegate**: you can hand over to someone and sometimes you can get technical assistance, copying, typing the documents, phoning and others things. In this situation, you can handover your co-workers to save your time. When you write submit of report with foreign languages like English, Chinese, Japanese, etc. even though you can use spellchecker of computer.
- **Diary**: To be a successful person, you must keep a diary. That's why whatever you do, at least you should take a diary book that can be recalled whenever you need.
- **Arrange the file**: It is one of the effective ways from wasting your time. With the adequate systems into alphabetical order, you can be able to take out easily so far.

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- Don't procrastinate: Whatever you do, you should not procrastinate. The proverbs, "Make hay when sun shines", "time and tide wait for no man", "Never put off till tomorrow what may be done today", "Lost time is never found", "Procrastination is a thief of time" are intended to use time effectively. Consequently, you should attempt to complete anything without delaying.
- Measurable: Efforts are being taken to accomplish your tasks by adjusting your time. It is needed for not only for adult people but also for students.
- Calm: Even you make a mistake; you don't need to be afraid of it. In this regard, stress can also lead to emotional problems, depression, panic attacks and other forms of worry, so you should make a good recovery.
- Take a break when needed: Too much stress you won't be successful. So, when you need a break, take one. (for example: take a walk, listen to music and get a beauty sleep). If you are healthy, you can move



forward with your aspirations. Most of the people think that time management is not concerned with health. Actually, "be healthy and be wealthy physically", being healthy is one of the effective ways of time management.

As a matter of fact that the world famous author Benjamin Franklin said that "time is money". One of the examples can be given that interpreter and part-time employments get their salary per hour. For them and us,

not only short time but also long time is very precious. As "SMART", is often defined in management field and it is ended with the word "T"-time, so we can notice why time is one of the essential words wherever. As mentioned above SMART means

S-specific (to be exact for your tasks)

- M- measurable (to be balance how will be finished)
 - A- achievable (to be accomplished your tasks)
 - R- realistic (your destination and your business are identical)
 - T- timed (when will you start and finish)
- These five words are very systematical and compact which are very useful to practice for time management. Last but not least, I always use time management in my job with my own motto whatever I do with "PLAN" :
P-plan (focus on job)
L-limitation (when you have many tasks, you need to restrict)
A-acceleration (to be increased of motion and active)
N-negation (say "no" if you need)



INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT SCHEDULE



YANGON TO BANGKOK				BANGKOK TO YANGON				YANGON TO KUALA LUMPUR				KUALA LUMPUR TO YANGON				YANGON TO DHAKA				DHAKA TO YANGON			
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG706	5:45	8:10	Daily	TG303	8:00	8:45	Daily	AK505	8:30	12:45	Daily	AK504	6:50	8:00	Daily	BG061	17:00	18:45	1,3,6	BG060	13:30	16:15	1,3,6
8M335	7:30	9:15	Daily	PG701	8:40	9:40	Daily	MH741	11:20	15:45	Daily	MH740	9:10	10:15	Daily								
UB-019	7:50	9:20	1,3,5,6,7	TG2301	10:00	10:55	Daily	OD551	12:25	16:45	1,4,7	OD550	10:15	11:30	1,4,7								
TG304	9:50	11:45	Daily	8M336	10:15	11:00	Daily	MH743	16:10	20:30	1,4,6,7	MH742	13:55	15:05	1,4,6,7								
PG702	10:30	12:30	Daily	UB020	10:20	10:50	1,3,5,6,7	AK503	19:10	23:30	Daily	AK502	17:20	18:30	Daily								
TG2302	11:45	13:40	Daily	PG707	13:45	14:40	Daily	OD553	23:55	4:20+1	2,3,5,6	OD552	21:45	22:55	2,3,5,6								
PG708	15:30	17:30	Daily	PG703	16:50	17:45	Daily																
8M331	16:30	18:15	Daily	TG305	18:05	18:50	Daily																
UB-017	18:00	19:30	Daily	8M332	19:20	20:05	Daily																
PG704	18:35	20:35	Daily	PG705	20:30	21:50	Daily																
TG306	19:50	21:45	Daily	UB018	20:30	21:00	Daily																

YANGON TO DON MUEANG				DON MUEANG TO YANGON				YANGON TO TAIPEI				TAIPEI TO YANGON				MANDALAY TO BANGKOK				BANGKOK TO MANDALAY			
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
DD4231	8:00	9:50	Daily	DD4230	8:30	7:15	Daily	CI7916	10:50	16:10	1,2,3,4,6	CI7915	7:00	9:50	1,2,3,4,6	PG710	14:30	16:55	Daily	PG709	12:15	13:40	Daily
FD252	8:45	10:30	Daily	FD251	7:30	8:15	Daily									PG714	19:15	21:40	Daily	PG713	17:00	18:25	Daily
SL201	9:00	10:50	Daily	SL200	7:35	8:25	Daily																
DD4235	11:55	13:40	Daily	DD4234	10:35	11:20	Daily																
FD254	17:35	19:25	1,3,5,6,7	FD253	16:10	17:05	1,3,5,6,7																
SL207	19:00	20:55	Daily	SL206	18:55	19:45	Daily																
DD4239	21:00	22:45	Daily	DD4238	19:25	20:15	Daily																
FD258	21:40	23:30	Daily	FD257	20:30	21:10	Daily																

YANGON TO GUANGZHOU				GUANGZHOU TO YANGON				YANGON TO KUNMING				KUNMING TO YANGON				MANDALAY TO DON MUEANG				DON MUEANG TO MANDALAY			
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
8M711	8:40	13:15	2,4,5,7	CZ3055	8:35	10:25	3,6	CA416	13:00	16:30	Daily	MU2011	8:20	12:10	3,7	FD245	12:55	15:20	Daily	FD244	11:10	12:25	Daily
CZ3056	11:35	15:55	3,6	8M712	14:15	15:50	2,4,5,7	MU2012	13:10	20:05	3	CA415	11:20	12:00	Daily								
CZ8472	17:40	22:20	1,5	CZ8471	14:35	16:40	1,5	MU2032	16:00	19:50	Daily	MU2031	14:30	15:10	Daily								

YANGON TO SINGAPORE				SINGAPORE TO YANGON				YANGON TO BEIJING				BEIJING TO YANGON				MANDALAY TO KUNMING				KUNMING TO MANDALAY			
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
UB001	7:15	11:45	Daily	SQ998	7:55	09:20	Daily	CA906	23:50	5:50+1	1,3,5	CA905	19:30	22:50	1,3,5	MU2568	10:20	13:25	1,3,5,7	MU2567	8:55	9:20	1,3,5,7
8M-231	8:20	12:40	Daily	3K581	9:10	10:35	1,3,4,5,7									MU2030	16:10	19:25	Daily	MU2029	14:55	15:10	Daily
SQ997	10:25	15:10	Daily	MI510	10:15	14:10	6																
3K582	11:30	16:05	1,3,4,5,7	MI533	10:15	11:40	2																
MI533	12:30	19:30	2	UB002	13:00	14:30	Daily																
MI510	14:55	19:30	6	8M232	13:45	15:15	Daily																
UB003	16:00	20:30	Daily	MI518	15:15	16:40	Daily																
MI519	17:35	22:10	Daily	MI520	16:10	17:35	3,5,7																
MI521	18:30	22:55	3,5,7	3K583	17:30	18:55	1,2,3,5,6,7																
3K584	19:35	0:10	1,2,3,5,6,7	UB004	21:15	22:45	Daily																

YANGON TO HONG KONG				HONG KONG TO YANGON				YANGON TO HANOI				HANOI TO YANGON				NAY PYI TAW TO BANGKOK				BANGKOK TO NAY PYI TAW			
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
KA275	17:20	21:45	5	UB8028	12:45	14:15	1,3,5,7	VN956	18:55	21:15	Daily	VN957	16:30	18:00	Daily	PG722	20:00	22:50	1,2,3,4,5,7	PG721	17:25	19:20	1,2,3,4,5,7
KA251	1:5	5:25	1,2,3,4,6,7	KA250	21:50	23:45	1,2,3,5,6,7	VJ918	18:55	21:20	2,4,5,6,7	VJ917	16:30	17:55	2,4,5,6,7								
UB8027	7:15	11:45	1,3,5,7	KA252	22:20	00:10+1	4																

YANGON TO CHIANG MAI				CHIANG MAI TO YANGON				AIR LINES CODES			
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE				
PG724	13:40	15:30	Daily	PG723	12:05	12:55	Daily	3K = Jet Star	MI = Malaysia Airlines		

DATE	4 = Thursday	5 = Friday	6 = Saturday	7 = Sunday
1 = Monday				
2 = Tuesday				
3 = Wednesday				

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