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NATIONAL

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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VP U Henry Van Thio issues farmland use permits to 355 farmers for 1,410 acres in Ayeyawady Region

VICE President U Henry Van Thio, Chairman of the Central Committee for Scrutinizing Confiscated Farmlands and Other Lands addressed the 2019 Peasants Day ceremony held in Taungsu Village, Ywathit Village Tract, Einme Township, Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

First a message sent by President U Win Myint to the 2019 Peasants Day ceremony was read by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung.

Next Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivered an opening speech and said Myanmar was an agriculture based country that relied on the agriculture sector and the majority of the country's population were peasants and farmers. Ayeyawady Region where about 11 per cent of the country's population resides depended their livelihoods on the agriculture sector and were mostly peasants and farmers. The Region was considered as a rice bowl of the country and supported the economy of the country like a vital life blood artery. The Government was establishing a long term agriculture production system that supported the socio-economic development of rural peoples and the country's economic development through increasing production of agriculture products that could compete internationally.



Vice President U Henry Van Thio looks at agricultural products in commemoration of the 2019 Peasants Day at Taungsu Village in Eainme Township yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

In order to develop the economic benefit of the 70 per cent of the population of the agriculture based country according to the aims of the Law of Protection of the Farmer Rights and Enhancement of their Benefits assistance has been provided for farmers whose land had been confiscated and the security and rights of the peasants and farmers to work on their farm lands were being protected.

SEE PAGE-3



5th Myanmar Cardiac Society Conference held in Yangon

THE opening ceremony of the 5th Myanmar Cardiac Society Conference was held at the Lotte Hotel in Yangon yesterday morning. At the ceremony, Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe said the conference was an opportunity for young doctors from Myanmar to share and learn from the experiences of local and foreign cardiologists as the forum will cover a wide range of matters in the field of cardiovascular medicine, which, as everyone is aware, has seen wide ranging and rapid advances. "The most important point is to view and conduct the forum from the standpoint of public health. The public health sector needs to strategically support treatment to reduce problems related to cardiac health. Only when the public health sector and the treatment sector have discussed and agreed upon a framework of processes, and experts from both sectors work closely and enthusiastically can there be success in reducing the incidence of cardiovascular disease," said the Union Minister.



Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe and officials open the Myanmar Cardiac Society Conference in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO : MNA**

The theme of the conference 'Marching towards Comprehensive Heart Health' is a meaningful one, and it must be implemented and not forgotten once the conference is over, he added.

"Let us strive to put an end to the saying that cardiovascular disease is the most widely occurring health problem, with the highest rate of hospitalization, and is the leading cause of death in Myanmar," said the Union Minister. Afterwards, Myanmar Medical Association (MMA) Vice President Prof. Dr. Aye Aung and Prof. Dr. Win Win Kyaw delivered opening addresses, and the chairman of the organizing committee of the conference, Prof. Dr. Nwe Nwe, gave words of thanks.

Then, the Union Minister, MMA Vice President Prof. Dr. Aye Aung, and Prof. Dr. U Aung cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the conference and exhibition.

Thereafter, the Union Minister and his team observed the cardiac medical papers and exhibits on display. The conference will be held for two days on 2 and 3 March, with 28 experts from Singapore, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, Brunei, the Philippines, Italy, UK, Korea, Australia, Japan, Bangladesh, and host Myanmar conducting talks and discussions.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win attends the ADF 12 Midterm Review Meeting

DEPUTY Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win attended the Asian Development Fund 12 (ADF 12) Midterm Review Meeting in Manila, the Philippines.The meeting was held on 28-29 February 2019.

At the ADF 12 Midterm Review Meeting, matters relating to a mid-term review of the ADF 12 (2017-2020), development effectiveness of the fund, disaster risk management and regional health security, on-going process for providing the allotment of fund as a special concessional assistance for Myanmar and Afghanistan, visions for the future and pre-arrangements for ADF 13 were discussed.

Under the ADF 12 programmes, low interest loans have been granted to Myanmar and Afghanistan as Special Allocation due to the status of resolving conflicts and less development conditions.



Representing Myanmar, Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win (Left)at the Asian Development Fund 12 (ADF 12) Midterm Review Meeting in Manila, Philippines. **PHOTO : MNA**

Myanmar and Afghanistan clarified the implementation, effectiveness of the loan schemes, and the ADF meeting has decided to grant the Special Allocation to Myanmar and Afghanistan in accordance with the recommendation of the ADF meeting.

Under the 12 ADF programme, implementation processes are being conducted to improve electric power distribution system, Maubin-Pyapon road sector upgrading, Ain Nu-Kaukayeik road upgrading, the Mandalay Urban Services Improvement Project, Yangon Region 230 kV Transmission Line, all-round agricultural development project, conducting vocational training programmes for youths, Mekong Sub-region Health Security project, highway upgrading project for Mawlamyine, Hpa-An and Myawaddy as of the Greater Mekong Subregion, Yangon-Mandalay highway road upgrade, electricity network development and agriculture improvement projects. —MNA

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Constitutional Tribunal member, team leave for South Africa

CONSTITUTIONAL Tribunal of Myanmar member U Kyaw Hsan and a team of officials left for Johannesburg by air yesterday afternoon to study South Africa's democratic transition, its work for drawing up the Constitution, and the role of constitutional courts. They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by officials. The visit will take nine days from 2 to 10 March. U Kyaw Hsan is accompanied by another Constitutional Tribunal member, U Tin Maung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw representative Daw Mi Kun Chan, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Hla Oo, and Constitutional Tribunal of Myanmar director U Nyi Nyi Lwin. —MNA ■

Media persons can attend 56th Myanma Gems Emporium from 11-14 Mar

THE 56th Myanma Gems Emporium will be held from 11 to 20 March at the Mani Yadana Jade Hall.

Staff from local and foreign news media organizations can attend the event from 11 to 14 March, and a detailed list of items on sale and other particulars will be made available at the Nawarat Koe Thwe Gate ofthe Mani Yadana Jade Hall on the evening of 20 March.

Media persons interested in attending the event need to submit application forms by 7 March to the News and Periodical Enterprise (NPE), Ministry of Information.

Application forms can be obtained at the Copyright and Registration sub-department, Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club.

For further details, the NPE can be contacted on 067-412125 and 412126, and the 2019 56th Myanma Gem Emporium management committee on 067-414497.—MNA ■

VP U Henry Van Thio issues farmland use permits …

FROM PAGE-1

The Union Government had formed the Central Committee for Scrutinizing Confiscated Farmlands and Other Lands and through committees formed at state, region, district, township, ward and village levels were scrutinizing farmlands confiscated for various reasons and were returning to the original owner peasants and farmers according to law, rules and procedures.

The happy outcome of such efforts was the return of 1,410 acres of farm lands to 355 farmers in Ayeyawday Region Pantanaw, Myaungmya, Kyangin and Yekyi townships in today's ceremony.

Furthermore efforts were being made for small plot farmers to have legal ownership of their lands and to enable landless farmers and peasants to obtain rights easily to conduct agriculture and livestock breeding works on lands. The 2012 Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Land Law was amended in 11 September 2018 to prevent assigning of lands designated for ethnic national traditions and cultures, public and ethnic nationals' religion, social, education, health and road as vacant, fallow and virgin lands.

The Government had also enacted on 18 December 2018 the second amendment Law of Protection of the Farmer Rights and Enhancement of their Benefits that provide assistance and benefits to the farmer and peasants in the form of agriculture loan, obtaining firm markets and technical support and provided assistance and support in time of natural disasters.

The Government had permitted farmers to produce crops that were appropriate for the region and were marketable while consistently studying the requirements of the farmers to provide support where necessary. Obtaining markets for the destabilized international prices of Matpe and other pulses, creating new export products and discussions to make sales through government to government were being conducted. Encouragement and support were provided to use modern processing and packaging technologies to produce value added products instead of exporting primary products.

In the same way as countries improving their capabilities to respond and overcome food scarcity in the face of natural disasters caused by climate change, Myanmar was also making preparations to collect and store reserve seeds in cooperation between government and private organizations. Basic foundations were being laid firmly towards improving the quality and reducing chemical residues in crops, fruits and vegetables, reducing post-harvesting losses and issuing of GAP certification to assure food safety for the public.

Farmer Channel program was being widely broadcasted so that farmers acquire timely price, weather and market information and new technologies and methods. Ayeyawady Region was a region blessed with natural environment and weather conditions that supports agriculture and livestock breeding. Now was the time when those assets were combined with the simple and hard-working farmers to achieve all round development of the national economy including the agriculture sector.



Vice President presents the award to outsanding farmer U Shwe Pwar. **PHOTO: MNA**

The government and the people were to work together and implement towards long term national benefits. Challenges and obstacles faced were to be overcome through technology, investment and cooperation so that the ultimate goal was reached, said the Vice President.

After the Vice President's speech, Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung explained about works conducted for development of agriculture, livestock breeding and the fishery sector in Ayeyawady Region.

Following this the Vice President presented prizes to U Tin Aung Than, U Tin Soe, U Shwe Pwa, U Ohn Kyaw and U Nay Soe who had worked in an outstanding manner for agriculture sector development.

Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw and Region minister for agriculture, livestock, natural resources and environmental conservation U Tin Aung Win also presented awards to outstanding farmers and public servants and a document of honor to Advanced Agriculture Engineering (AEE) Company for assisting in conducting aerial spraying of pesticides to counter pest infection in Hinthada District.

Later Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, Deputy Minister for Defence Rear Admiral Myint Nwe, Deputy Minister for Office of the Union Government U Tin Myint, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw presented land work permit forms for released lands to representatives of farmers. 636 acres of lands in Pantanaw Township were released to 103 farmers by Yuzana Company, 209 acres of lands in Myaungmya Township were released to 66 farmers by Light Infantry Regiment 93, 481 acres of lands in Kyangin Township were released to 157 farmers by a Methanol Plant and 84 acres of lands in Yekyi Township were released to 29 farmers by Light Infantry Regiment 36.

Farmer U Tun Tun Win spoke words of thanks on behalf of the farmers on receiving back the lands and land work permits.

After the event the Vice President, Region Chief Minister, Region Hluttaw Speaker, Region High Court Chief Judge and Deputy Minister took commemorative group photos with prize winners.

The Vice President and officials then observed the agriculture products, agriculture machineries and technologies and departmental exhibits displayed in the Peasants Day exhibition. About 3,000 farmers attended the 2019 Peasant Day ceremony and visited the exhibition where 55 exhibits were displayed.

Later in the afternoon the Vice President U Henry Van Thio accompanied by officials went to Ngwe Saung Town Yacht Club Hotel and inspected the maintenance works conducted on Lovers Island and Ngwe Saung Beach.

Afterwards the Vice President and party arrived at the i-Green Housing Project where officials from i-Green Development & Engineering Group explained about the project.

The Vice President commented on creating job opportunities for the local people not only during but also after the project period, to put up dams and dikes to store water required for greenery works of the surrounding areas, upgrade the Pathein-Ngwe Saung/Chaungtha road foreseeing the development in travel business, arrange a waste disposal system in order not to affect the natural environment, place emphasis towards providing satisfactory service to visitors, make arrangements for providing electricity to Ngwe Saung and Chaungtha hotel zones from the national power grid, to strive towards completing i-Green house project on time and relevant ministerial departments, Region Government and zone wise responsible business persons to cooperate towards development of travel business. He then inspected the construction status of the i-Green housing project.

A total of 176,879 local and foreign visitors visited Ngwe Saung Beach situated 29 miles 4 furlong west of Pathein it is learnt.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Zaw Min)*



Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung presents the award to an outstanding staff. **PHOTO : MNA**



Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw presents the award to an outstanding staff. **PHOTO : MNA**

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR
Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT
Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS
Zaw Min
Zaw Htet Oo
Win Ko Ko Aung

INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR
Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

LOCAL NEWS EDITORS
Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com

TRANSLATORS
Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun

REPORTER
Nyein Nyein Ei,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

PHOTOGRAPHER
Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAM
Tun Zaw, Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe

EDITORIAL SECTION
(+95) (01)8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114

ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
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Legal workshop held in Rakhine State

A seminar titled "How to Handle New Types of Evidence," organized by Office of the Union Supreme Court and Japan International Cooperation Agency in collaboration with High Court of Rakhine State, was held at the Royal Sittwe Resort in Sittway Town yesterday.

Rakhine State High Court Chief Judge U Kyauk delivered the opening address at the workshop.

The two-day workshop is being attended by 35 State Law Officers and will cover basic legal principles and ideas on handling new forms of evidence and cyber-crimes, peculiarities of digital evidence, and court-led mediation. —Tin Tun (IPRD) ■ *(Translated by Zaw Min)*



Seminar titled "How to Handle New Types of Evidence," held at Royal Sittwe Resort in Sittway yesterday. **PHOTO : MNA**

FDA to crack down on false, misleading food labels

By Aye Yamon Oo

ACTION will be taken against those who describe ingredients in packaged food in a manner that is false or misleading, according to the Ministry of Health and Sports' Food and Drug Administration Department (FDA).

The FDA has already made a draft law to set down provisions for putting brand names on packaged food.

"After the FDA's draft law is passed by the parliament, we will issue a notification, requiring displaying of brand names on food products, and describing ingredients correctly. Action will be taken against importers whose brands do not provide accurate information about the ratio of ingredients," said Dr. Htein Lin, the Deputy Director of the FDA.

Dr. Htein Lin urged consumers to check the ingredient labels on edible oils before purchasing them at a workshop on distribution and sale of safe and quality cooking oil, held on 1 March at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

"We should not use chemical essences in food because use of chemical essences means that producers are cheating consumers. Producers have to show if the oil they are selling is mixed with other oils and by what percentage on the label. As per international norms, manufacturers are not allowed to mix oil with chemical essences when it comes to food products," said U Sann Linn, the vice chairman of the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association.

"There is no problem if mixed cooking oil is properly labelled. But, it is unacceptable if an oil to which peanut flavor has been added is sold as groundnut oil. The same applies to sesame oil," he said.

"The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has already passed the Consumer Protection Law. Oil is one of the staple foods of Myanmar people. We have to import oil from other countries because production in our country is not sufficient," said U Myint Lwin, the Director-General of the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce.

Discussions are on for showing the correct percentage of ingredients on labels of mixed cooking oil and blended oil, allowing oil to be sold in the local market only after proper labelling, and obtaining permission from related organisations for distribution and sale of edible oil in the domestic market, he said. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

123,681 students in Mandalay register for matriculation exam

A total of 123,681 students from the Mandalay Region will take the national matriculation examination for the 2018-2019 academic year, scheduled from 6 to 15 March, according to the Mandalay Region Education Office.

The number of Registered students in the Region has increased by nearly 7,000 compared with the 2017-2018 academic year, when a total of 116,819 students sat for the exam.

Students from Basic Education High Schools, branches and schools affiliated with BEHSs, as well as private schools have registered for the exam. Inmates and students with disabilities will also take the examination.

The education authorities plan to open 203 examination centres in 28 townships, which is 11 more centres than the previous academic year.

The Department of Myanmar Board of Examinations issued matriculation cards to registered students on 15 February. Students will take the Myanmar language test on the first day of the exam.—Than Zaw Min (IPRD) ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Motorcyclist dies in road tragedy near Kawhmu

A motorcyclist died after his bike was reportedly dragged by another vehicle in Magyi Kan Village, Kawhmu Township, Yangon Region, on 2 March.

According to the police, a FAW vehicle driven by Thet Min Naing, 47, and a motorbike driven by U Myaing Aye were involved in a tragedy at Milepost 0/1 on the Kyaukhtaw-Kawhmu Road. U Myaing Aye's wife Daw Khin Than Nu was riding pillion.

U Myaing Aye and Daw Khin Than Nu were rushed to Kawhmu hospital, where U Myaing Aye was pronounced dead. Daw Khin Than Nu was transferred to the Yangon General Hospital.

Both the motorcyclist and the driver have been charged by traffic police under Sections 304(A)/337/279 of the Penal Code for reckless driving.—Kyaw Thura (Kawhmu) ■ *(Translated by Hay Mar)*

Merchants allowed to sell amber at Mandalay Yadana Mall free of charge

MERCHANTS have been allowed to sell amber jewelry and products at the Mandalay Yadana Mall, free of charge, from this month, according to merchants.

The move is aimed at helping amber products made in Taning Township, Kachin State, penetrate the gems market and to allow foreign merchants to purchase them at a reasonable price.

Ruby and sapphire produced in Mogok, a town in Mandalay, are on sale at the international gems market at the Mandalay Yadana Mall, which is held every Month, from the 3rd to the 7th day of the first week.

The market is teeming with local and foreign gem lovers. A wide variety of finished gem products with different designs are being sold every day. In addition, finished jade chains, jade beads, and jade sculptures are also being sold in a bid to help develop the market.—Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay) ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)



Gem lovers check the quality of the gems at the Mandalay Yadana Mall. **PHOTO : MAUNG PYI THU (MANDALAY)**

Myanmar spends $917 mln importing CMP raw materials

MYANMAR imported US$917 million worth of CMP raw materials between 1 October and 22 February, increasing by $147 million or 19.23 per cent, as against the same period in the last 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

From this time last FY, the country's CMP imports were $769 million. Also, during the week between 16 and 22 January, private importers bought CMP products were valued at $31.5 million, which went down by nearly $40 million in comparison with the corresponding period last FY, when the import of CMP raw materials was $70.7 million.

CMP is one of four major groups of import products. The country also imports capital goods, intermediate products and consumer goods from countries in Southeast Asia, Asia, Africa, Europe and America.

Between 1 October and 22 February this FY, Myanmar's total imports were valued at almost $7.2 billion, including capital goods worth $2.3 billion, intermediate goods worth $2.6 billion and consumer products worth $1.3 billion. This year saw a continuous decrease in imports of capital goods, intermediate goods, and consumer products. Compared with last FY, the current import value of the three products declined by over $530 million.—Swe Nyein ■ *(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)*



Trading focus : Domestic gold prices likely to continue decline

By Nyein Nyein

AFTER touching a record of K1,080,000 per tical in February due to the rise in global gold prices, the price of domestic gold dropped to K1,058,000 on 2 March, said traders. The current decline has been attributed to weakness in the global gold market. (1 tial = 0.0164 Kilogram)

"Currently, the domestic gold price is on the decline and it is likely to continue its slide," said U Myo Myint, the chairman of the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

The global gold price fell by $14 in a single day from $1,307 on 1 March to touch $1,293 on 2 March.

"The global gold price declined by $14-15. Actually, we expected the global gold prices would decline to $1,297 per ounce. However, they plunged to $1,292, which was more than what we expected. We are not sure whether the price of global gold will continue to decline or not," said U Tin Tun, the chairman of the Mandalay region's Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

The price of domestic gold fell tracking the decline in global gold prices. Meanwhile, the US dollar fluctuates against the Kyat. The dollar exchange rate was K1,500 at the end of February. On 2 March, the exchange rate was K1,510.

"The dollar has depreciated because of the negative outcome of the US-North Korea summit. The central bank has bought US dollars at a higher rate than the price prevailing in the market," said U Myo Myint, the chairman of the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

With the rise in global gold rates, the price of domestic gold touched a peak of over K1,050,000 per tical from 17-29 January. It rose to K1,060,000 from 30 January to 7 February, climbed over K1,070,000 from 8 February to 18 February, breached K1,080,000 from 19-21 February, and then fell to 1,050,000 on 2 March, according to traders.

The price of domestic gold declined to K1,027,100 per tical on 30 November from K1,044,500 on 2 November. It increased to K1,043,000 on 29 December from K987,000 on 4 December. In 2019, the price reached a record high of K1,061,000 on 31 January from K1,043,400 recorded on 1 January, according to a gold dealer.

Starting 21 July, 2017, the domestic gold price has remained above K900,000 per tical. With the rise in global gold prices, the domestic price also peaked at K1,047,700 on 20 September, 2017, after touching a high of K989,000 in August the same year. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Export of forest products decreases 8% this FY

AS of 22 February in the current 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, Myanmar's export of forest-based products stood at US$72 million, including $3.7 million by the private sector and $68.4 million by the private sector, the Ministry of Commerce reported this Friday.

This year saw a slight decrease in value of export of forest products from both sectors. When compared with the corresponding period last 2017-2018 FY, the current figures decreased by $6.3 million or 8.04 per cent.

At this time last FY, the public sector exported forest products amounted to $7.141 million while the private exporters sold the same worth $71.187 million, totalling $78.328 million.

According to the yearly report of the ministry, exports of forest products by the two sectors were $641.9 million in the 2011-2012 FY, $595.6 million in the 2012-2013 FY, $948 million in the 2013-2014 FY, $94.4 million in the 2014-2015 FY, $212.9 million in the 2015-2016 FY, and $212 million in the 2017-2018 FY.

During the six-month mini-budget period (April-September), the country's export of forest products totalled $95 million.

Myanmar regularly exports seven major groups of domestic commodities—agriculture, animal, aquaculture and forest products, minerals, manufactured goods and other miscellaneous products. This 2018-19 FY, the country earned almost $2.7 billion through the export of those groups.

To get a healthy export, trade authorities are putting continuous efforts to boost production of value-added bamboo and other non-wood products. For the time being, domestically-produced bamboos and bamboo-based products are being exported predominately to Bangladesh, Pakistan, South Korea and Singapore.—Shwe Khine ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Stakedriving ceremony held for Bago River (Myo Oo Kin) Bridge



Union Minister U Han Zaw and officials open the stake driving ceremony for the construction of the bridge on Bago River. **PHOTO:MNA**

A stake driving ceremony was held for the construction of a bridge on the Bago River (Myo Oo Kin) at the project site in Bago on the Thamein Baran Road side of the river bank, yesterday morning. The project is being implemented by the Special Bridge 9 team, Bridge Construction Group 3 of the Department of Bridge under the Ministry of Construction.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw said his ministry is building and maintaining basic infrastructure such as roads and bridges, buildings, and housing for urban development.

"Countrywide, the Ministry of Construction has upgraded 330 miles of concrete roads, 385 miles of asphalt roads, and 1,030 miles of nylon-asphalt roads, covering 144 union roads.

The Department of Roads has laid and maintained more than 26,000 miles of roads, of which 1,336 miles are in Bago Region. The Yangon-Mandalay and Yangon-Pyay roads — the two main roads passing through Bago Region — are being upgraded to four-laneroads through BOT (build, operate, transfer) companies," said the minister.

"The Department of Bridge has constructed and maintained more than 560 bridges, measuring 180 ft. and above in length, across the country, of which 43 have beenbuilt in Bago Region, while 11 are still under construction," he said.

"The Bago River (Myo Oo Kin) Bridge, for which stakes are being driven today, is located on the Sein Tha Lyaung and Thamein Baran bypass roads, which allow vehicles to avoid downtown Bago. It will be a two-lane reinforced concrete bridge measuring 158 meters, or 518 ft. in length.

Once the bridge is completed, locals residing in areas around the Bago bypass road can be reached easily via the Yangon-Mandalay old road, and their education, health, social, and economic status will improve," said the Union Minister.

Afterwards, Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein spoke about the improvement in road transportation due to construction of roads and bridges and regional development status.

Later, Bago Region's Minister for Security and Border Affairs, Col. Hla Myo Shwe, Minister for Planning and Finance U Nyunt Shwe, Minister for Industry and Transport U Than Win, and Minister for Natural Resources and Environment Dr. Saw Nyo Win, Bago Region Hluttaw representatives U Nyunt Swe and U Kyaw Min San, and Amyotha Hluttaw representative Dr. San Maung Maung took their positions for the stake-driving ceremony and sprinkled scented water. Union Minister U Han Zaw, Bago Region Chief Minister, and Bago Region Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Maung Yin then pressed a button to drive a Stand Pipe with Vibro Hammer into the ground and sprinkled scented water on it.

After the ceremony, the Union Minister and his team went to inspect the section-wise concrete laying of the 4-mile long Bago-Shan Ywa Gyi-Papinchaung village road. Once it is completed, The road will directly benefit 7,953 people from 1,730 households in 6 villages of 3 villagetracts.

The Union Minister and his team also inspected the laying of an asphalt concrete on the Bago Town bypass road by Max Highway Co. Ltd, and road-widening work being conducted on the No. 2 and No. 4 roads that connect Bago and Yangon regions. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin inspects road construction sites in Rakhine State

Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin, together with officials, inspected the construction of concrete road along the Angu Maw-Maungtaw road in Maungtaw yesterday afternoon. The road is being conducted by the Asia World Co.Ltd as part of UEHRD project in Rakhine State.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin inspected the work progress achieved in the construction along the Kyauk Pannu-Inn Din-Zedipyin road, which is being constructed by Road Special Team 17, the construction of 90 ft. wide concrete road between milepost 0/2 and 0/3, the construction of 18 ft. wide concrete road near the milepost 1/2 and the construction of 100 ft. wide concrete road near the milepost 7/5 while urging the officials to carry out the works with systematic approach so as to improve the performance at work.



Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin and officials inspect Angue Maw-Maungtaw road construction site in Maungtaw yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

Next, Deputy Director (Civil) of Road Special Team 17 and Director-General of the Department of Roads and Bridges reported the completion of road construction projects, construction arrangements for the public roads and bridges. Following inspection, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin said that the road construction area fell off beyond the Mayu Mountain, thus it will necessitate to warn beware of wild elephants.

The construction of the Kyauk Pannu-Inn Din-Zedipyin Road is 10 miles and 7 furlongs long. So far, gravel road construction measuring 9 miles, 18 ft. wide concrete road construction measuring 2 miles and 4 furlongs, 7 Box Culverts and two bridges have been completed, and the Deputy Minister urged that efforts would be made to span the Bailey bridges so as to use the rainy seasons.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister and party inspected the Buthidaung-Nyaungchaung-Zedipyin-Angue Maw (Nyaungchaung-Zedipyin section), U Daung-Nyaung Chaung road and the work progress of the earthen road using road machines between milepost 2/3 and 2/4. — MNA

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Union Attorney General Office, USAID hold workshop on improvement of justice system, pilot law offices

THE workshop on improvement of the justice system and implementation process of opening pilot law offices was held, on 1 March, in the meeting hall of the Union Attorney General's Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

The workshop began with opening remarks by Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo. The workshop is aimed at improving the justice system and pilot law offices through reviewing the current cooperation between the Union Attorney General's Office and USAID.

During the workshop, participants discussed matters relating to case management being carried out in accordance with the strategic plan of the Union Attorney General's Office, cooperation with USAID, work management, conditions which can bring justice through good management, improving the case management at the pilot law offices in Pyin Oo Lwin, Chan Aye Thar Zan and Mawlamyine Townships, opening pilot law offices at Mawlamyine, Yangon (East), Pathein, Dawei and Taunggyi District law offices, Pretrial Interviews by law officers, capacity building of the law officers, practicing legal standard, on-going process of the reviewing weak and strong points of the law offices and setting up management projects.



Union Attorney General U Tun Tun Oo addresses the workshop on the improvement of justice system in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Also present at the event were the Permanent Secretary of the UAG's Office Daw Nu Nu Yin, Director-General Daw Khin Cho Ohn, officials and chief of the USAID mission Mr. Robert C La Mont. —MNA ■ *(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)*

Rakhine State GAD holds press conference on resignation of 86 village/ward administrators in MraukU Township

THE Rakhine State General Administration Department held a press conference in Sittway yesterday to report on the resignation of 86 ward/village administrators, as well as efforts to increase security in the State.

At the press conference, Deputy Director U Htay Aung of Rakhine State General Administration Department said officials were meeting with the media to refute reports that governmental departments had not followed proper procedures regarding the resignation of 86 administrators from wards and villages in MraukU Township.

He further said that the government was making all efforts to focus on maintaining peace and stability in the state. He noted that incidents, including mine explosions, fatal shootings, cases in which civilians were abducted by unidentified armed men, and people displaced by armed conflicts, had occured in the state.

Regarding the resignation of 86 administrators from wards and villages in MraukU Township, he said security forces and officials had to gather information to prevent unnecessary incidents in areas they were assigned to.

All the people, including village administrators, must abide by the law, he said, adding that those people or organizations who were outside the framework of the law might face investigations. The ward and village administrators were elected by the local people and they have to work based upon existing rules, regulations and directives, he said. Also, the people elected officials who can play a role in the development of wards and villagers, and they are provided with salaries and assistance by the State in which they were elected.



Rakhine State General Administration Department holds a press conference in Sittway yesterday on the resignation of 86 ward/village administrators. **PHOTO: KAN TUN**

They had to take on the duty of a ward/village administer and work based upon the ethics and rules of the administrators, and are prohibited from having relations with armed or illegal organizations.

He continued, noting that law enforcement bodies had to prevent, and take actions against activities, including having relations with armed organizations, since it broke the law.

Rakhine State DAD has instructed the district and township DADs to explain this issue to ward/village administrators and to outline measures to be taken by the authorities, according to the Rakhine State DAD.

He urged the media to report this situation, as he had outlined a true picture of the situation and measures taken, in accordance with existing rules. Following his statement, Deputy Police Col Maung Maung Soe of the Rakhine State Police Office reviewed the measures taken by the police force to ensure that there is security in the state. The press conference came to an end after a question and answer session.—Tin Tun, Han Lin Htet ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)*

Tamil Hindu Foundation holds 19th festival of harvest



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein attends 19th festival of harvest of Tamil Hindu Foundation yesterday. **PHOTO : ZAW MIN LATT**

ALL Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (Central)-AMTHF held 19th festival of harvest and to honour farmers at Thuwunna Bumi Event Park in Yangon yesterday.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon Mayor U Muang Maung Soe, Director-General U Moe Zaw Shwe of the Department for the Promotion And Propagation of Sasana, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar and officials from AMTHF first cut the ribbons to open the ceremony, and lighted oil lamps.

Afterwards, Chairman U Thein Lwin of All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (Central)-AMTHF delivered a greeting speech, and followed by a congratulatory speech of Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thien.

Director-General U Moe Zaw Shwe of the Department for the Promotion And Propagation of Sasana also delivered a speech, and general secretary U Chit Win of AMTHF explained the foundation's works with Tamil language.

The ceremony was also attended by embassies in Myanmar's ambassadors and officials, members of the AMTHF and the Interfaith Group, invited guests and Tamils. The attendees were entertained with Myanmar traditional dances and the performances of artists from India.—Min Thit ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*

3 MARCH 2019
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Constructive role essential in seeking sustainable resolution of Rakhine issue

MYANMAR is still facing several challenges in its delicate democratic transition, which needs continued support from the international community.

The international community must play a constructive role in seeking a sustainable resolution that would lead to peace, stability, and development in Rakhine State, rather than laying the blame on Myanmar.

Sadly, some groups and countries in the UN are continuing to exploit UN agencies to exert discriminatory and illegitimate political pressure, with malicious intent for Myanmar.

One clear example is the establishment of the Independent Investigative Mechanism (IIM) on Myanmar by the Human Rights Council. This action is yet another step in a series of unprecedented and discriminatory scrutinizations of a member State.

We strongly objected to the establishment of the IIM, as it was set up beyond the Council's mandate. It represents selectivity, discriminatory attitudes, and double standards by the UN human rights body. It will only serve the political purpose of those who wish to exploit the HRC for their political agenda.

> The Government of Myanmar is committed to accountability in addressing the issue. Therefore, we strongly reject any move to bring the issue before the international judicial system.

Some members of the Council have just made a reference to the report of the HRC's Fact Finding Mission (FFM), which was totally biased and one-sided. Its investigation targeted only Myanmar security forces and excluded violations committed by the ARSA. The report fully adheres to the stories of displaced persons, while rejecting any contradicting evidence.

The FFM ignored reports revealing massacres by the ARSA and discounted atrocities committed by it. Regarding the alleged human rights violations, the government of Myanmar has repeatedly stated that it will act against perpetrators according to law, if the allegations are supported by sufficient evidence.

To investigate all allegations of human rights violations in Rakhine State, the Union Government has established an Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICoE).

The Commission is carrying out its mandate with independence, impartiality, and objectivity, and is investigating allegations of human rights violations based on hard evidence. The Commission is also requesting access to refugee camps in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh to meet with the alleged victims of abuse. The Commission's work will be evidence-based. Therefore, the international community must support the work of the Commission.

The Government of Myanmar is committed to accountability in addressing the issue. Therefore, we strongly reject any move to bring the issue before the international judicial system.

The international community must stop focusing narrowly on the negative aspects of the Rakhine issue.

■■■

Roundtable discussion on upgrading Yangon University

> "Yangon University is a historic institution and while we are maintaining it as a historical heritage, we are simultaneously working towards transforming it into a clean, picturesque and vibrant learning environment befitting international standards."
>
> Dr. Poe Kaung, Rector of Yangon University

By News Team

The following is an education roundtable on upgrading and potentially renovating Yangon University, broadcasted on MRTV. The participants include Dr. Maung Maung Wint, Chairman of the Software Committee and former Director-General of the Medical Science Department under the Ministry of Health and Sports, Dr. Poe Kaung, Rector of Yangon University, and Dr. Aung Min, Vice Chairman of tbe Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science.



Facilitator: Dr. Maung Maung Wint, could you first tell us how the upgrading project was conceived and what processes are included in it?

Dr. Maung Maung Wint: For a time, Yangon University was a prominent academia renowned for its quality of education and standards throughout Southeast Asia since its establishment in 1920.

And now, to meet the educational needs and socioeconomic requirements of modern society, a motion was put forward during the First Pyithu Hluttaw by then MP Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, to renovate the university and facilitate better cooperation with regional and international learning institutions. The Hluttaw apporved the motion after a majority voted in favour.

Drafting a Master Plan

Now, this was a national level task which required a sound Master Plan to guide it through. We formed think tanks and committees as necessary and began a draft in 2017. The Steering Committee for this undertaking is chaired by the Union Minister for Education and includes domestic and foreign experts. We have onboard Professor Matei amd Sasha from the Hungarian Central European University, the Irrawaddy Policy Exchange, and UK-based Kilburn Nightingale Construction.

As for local experts, we have individuals with a strong background in education, two MPs from Hluttaw Education Committees, and senior officials from MoE in the relevant committees. We have working committees, a Hardware Committee, Master Plan Drafting Committee, and a University Charter Committee, all working togehter to accomplish this grand project.

> ... The second component is fulfilling the requirements of an autonomous university, which YU falls under in accordance with the National Education Law 2015.

Facilitator: Could you elaborate on some of the major components of the Master Plan?

Dr. Maung Maung Tint: The first thing is that the upgraded university will vary greatly from the preexisting one. We will have to refine and reform the administration, management systems, the setup, organizations and policies of the university. The discussions for that are ongoing.

The second component is fulfilling the requirements of an autonomous university, which YU falls under in accordance with the National Education Law 2015.

The third compoment is managing educational changes, establishing faculty systems, and departments for major subjects. We also have to plan expanding existing departments to accomodate the new centres we will build for them. Another thing to consider is reassessing our existing curriculum to make necessary reviews, revisions, or drafting mew ones.

Changes are necessary

The curriculum policies must also be amended to suit the quality of education, develop the national socioeconomics, and ensure smoother student mobility.

Another major component of any university is setting up an internal quality assurance system, which YU sorely needs and is working with topmost priority. We will also increase applied research activities for the students.

We're looking to implement collaboration programmes with external universities, namely Yangon University of Foreign Languages, Yangon University of Education, Yangon University of Economics, Yangon Technological University, and the Information and Technology University. Thus, we will be pooling our resources, sharing resources and academic activities, research activities, and training activities.

The library will also be upgraded

The YU's library will also be developed into an e-Library to match the needs of the modern era. The Open Society Foundation, Central European University, and Kyoto University are providing invaluable support in this regard.

Another important component is proliferating English proficiency. All of the aforementioned tasks and collaborations will require a certain mastery of the English language to achieve substantial results.

Facilitator: Could you explain the physical infrastructure and hardware aspects of the project, Dr. Poe Kaung?

Dr. Poe Kaung: The Master Plan is divided into two distinct categories, which are upgrading the education software, and renovating the infrastructure and hardware. Upgrading the education system relies on having the necessary infrastructure and hardware to accommodate them.

Yangon University is a historic institution and while we are maintaining it as a historical heritage, we are simultaneously working towards transforming it into a clean, picturesque and vibrant learning environment befitting of international standards.

Facilitator: Could you continue to elaborate on the important sectors for upgrading the university?

Dr. Poe Kaung: The existing organizational structure and policies of the university need to be reassessed for its ingrained advantages to reform the university's education, administration and management systems so that our Yangon University will be organized as an autonomous university as prescribed in the National Education Law.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

(Translated by Pen Dali)



CONVOCATION HALL OF UNIVERSITY OF YANGON. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 2nd March, 2019)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 3rd March, 2019: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (60%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing Region,Shan and Chin States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3 - 5) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3rd March, 2019: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3rd March, 2019: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3rd March, 2019: Generally fair weather.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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

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Saudi Arabia to put detained women activists on trial

RIYADH (Saudi Arabia)— Saudi women activists detained last year in a sweeping crackdown on campaigners will be put on trial, state media said on Friday.

"The public prosecution would like to announce that it has concluded its investigation and prepared the indictment list against the defendants... and will refer the case to the relevant court," the Saudi Press Agency said.The brief statement did not directly identify the defendants as women activists nor give a date for court proceedings.



The activists still detained include Aziza al-Yousef, a retired professor at Riyadh's King Saud University. **PHOTO: AFP**

More than a dozen activists were arrested in May last year —just before the historic lifting of a decades-long ban on women drivers the following month.

Many of them were accused of undermining security and aiding enemies of the state. Some were subsequently released.

Some of those detained have faced sexual harassment and torture during interrogation, rights groups and their family members say. The Saudi government has rejected the allegation.

"The public prosecutor would like to affirm that all detainees in this case enjoy all rights preserved by the laws in the kingdom," the SPA statement on Friday said.

But the statement drew sharp criticism from rights group Amnesty International.

"These women's rights activists should be released from detention for their peaceful activism not referred to trial," said Samah Hadid, the organisation's Middle East campaigns director.

"The Saudi Arabian authorities continue their signature repression."

Those still detained include Aziza al-Yousef, a retired professor at Riyadh's King Saud University, and Loujain al-Hathloul —who was held in 2014 for more than 70 days for attempting to drive from neighbouring United Arab Emirates to Saudi Arabia.

Following their arrest, state-backed newspapers published front-page pictures of some of the activists with the word "traitor" stamped across them in red. —AFP

Over 2 million children currently out of school in Syria

UNITED NATIONS —More than two million boys and girls are currently out of school in Syria, people's resources are depleting, and more than eight in ten people live below the poverty line, the UN Humanitarian Needs Overview for Syria said on Friday.

Stephane Dujarric, spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, told reporters at a regular briefing that the 2019 overview is a reminder that the crisis is far from over for millions of people in Syria who have lived through eight years of war.

More than 11 million people remain in need of some form of assistance, including for food, health care, shelter, water, sanitation, hygiene and even their livelihood, Dujarric said."The UN and its partners are appealing for continued donor support to support the critical life-saving, protection and livelihood needs of over 11 million people," Dujarric said.

"Displacement continues to be a defining feature of the crisis, with an estimated 6.2 million people who are internally displaced," Dujarric said. —Xinhua ■

US, Turkey negotiate Patriot missile sale: Turkish FM

ANKARA—Turkey is negotiating with the United States about the purchase of US Patriot missile defense systems, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said on Friday.

During an interview with local broadcaster, Cavusoglu said that Ankara had received a positive response from Washington to its last letter sent nearly two years ago about the purchase.Turkey has important considerations about the cost, delivery schedule and technology transfer in the future, the minister said.

"While Turkey hopes to secure the purchase of the Patriot systems, it can also turn to other options if negotiations with the US do not turn out in its favour," he added.

US officials warned earlier that if Turkey proceeds with the Russia's S-400 purchase, Washington would withdraw its offer to sell a 3.5-billion-US-dollar Patriot missile package, and could block the sale of fighter jets to Turkey and impose sanctions.

Cavusoglu reiterated that the S-400 deal is a done deal and the system would be delivered in the fall.—Xinhua ■

At least 23 Afghan security forces killed in Taliban attack on US-Afghan base

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan) —At least 23 Afghan security forces were killed in a Taliban attack on a joint US-Afghan base in southwestern Afghanistan, officials said Friday, as fighting continued during a pause in peace talks between the insurgents and American negotiators.

Details of the heavy toll from the hours-long assault on Shorab military base—one of the largest military installations in the country —followed earlier claims by local and US officials that Afghan forces had successfully repelled the attack, killing four militants.

The pre-dawn assault, claimed by the Taliban, saw militants enter the base in Helmand province and engage in firefights with Afghan forces.Hours later, Ghafoor Ahmad Jawed, a spokesman with the Ministry of Defence, said: "The operation is over—23 security forces killed, 15 injured and 20 insurgents killed."

Omar Zwak—a spokesman for the provincial governor—also confirmed the toll, saying the Taliban deployed at least seven suicide bombers who were killed during the fighting. A US official told AFP that no Americans were killed or wounded in the attack.

The Taliban control or contest more than half of Helmand's districts and regularly deliver sharp blows to Afghan forces, who have been struggling to hold off insurgents across the war-torn country since taking the lead from NATO forces in late 2014.

The assault on Shorab comes as US and Taliban negotiators in Doha have temporarily halted peace talks, which are set to restart over the weekend.



The Shorab military base is one of the largest military installations in the country. **PHOTO: AFP**

US special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad earlier this week called the latest meetings in the months-long diplomatic push "productive", saying the two sides "will take the next two days for internal deliberations, with plans to regroup on Saturday".

Fighting season approaches

Negotiations are believed to be progressing after high-level talks last month ended with a "draft framework" on the potential withdrawal of US troops and a pact to prevent Afghanistan from harbouring terrorists.

A New York Times report published Thursday hinted that US forces could leave Afghanistan within five years under a Pentagon plan offered as part of a potential deal with the Taliban to end the nearly 18-year war.

The US has also pushed for a ceasefire and the opening of a dialogue between the Taliban and the Kabul government -- demands that have been repeatedly rejected by the insurgents.The Taliban were quick to dismiss the existence of the plan, saying they were unaware of any such proposals made during the negotiations."No talks have been held in the meetings regarding an interim government and elections, nor has the US side proposed anything regarding staying in Afghanistan for four or five more years," the insurgents said in a statement Friday.

The Afghan government and civil society groups have voiced repeated concerns that an abrupt US withdrawal could spark an even bloodier civil war or a return to hardline Taliban rule.

Heavy snowfall across large swathes of Afghanistan has led to a sharp reduction in violence this winter, but warmer weather in the country's south will likely spark an increase in bloodshed with the arrival of the spring fighting season. Analysts have warned that the Taliban are likely to ramp up attacks in the coming months as they seek to maintain momentum on the battlefield and leverage at the negotiating table. —AFP ■

Trump urges China to remove tariffs on US agricultural products



US President Donald Trump (l) is expected to meet soon with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping (r). **PHOTO: AFP**

WASHINGTON (United States)—US President Donald Trump on Friday urged China to abolish tariffs on agricultural products imported from the United States—adding that trade talks between the rival powers were going well.

"I have asked China to immediately remove all Tariffs on our agricultural products (including beef, pork, etc.)," the president wrote on Twitter.

He said his request was based on the fact that negotiations with China were "moving along nicely"—and his delay last week of a planned tariff increase on Chinese exports."This is very important for our great farmers - and me!" he added. After months of trade war, the US and China agreed to a 90-day truce to work out their differences. It was scheduled to end Friday, but Trump eventually lifted the ultimatum to increase tariffs, satisfied by progress made in several rounds of talks in Beijing and Washington.Top White House economic official Larry Kudlow said Thursday the two countries were on the brink of a "historic" trade agreement. A meeting between Trump and his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, is also expected this month.

After the latest round of talks in February, US Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue tweeted that China had committed to buying "an additional" 10 million metric tons of soybeans as a "show of good faith." US farmers rely greatly on such trade with China: in 2017, around a third of US soybean production—worth $14 billion—was exported there, where it is used to feed pigs. Those exports plummeted last summer, when China imposed tariffs on US soybeans and other agricultural products. Previously, in a gesture of goodwill at the start of the countries' truce, China in December resumed soybean purchases.But Chinese tariffs had already hit America's farming regions hard—areas where Trump has enjoyed plentiful support.— AFP ■

Wikileaks source Chelsea Manning fights grand jury subpoena

WASHINGTON (United States)—Chelsea Manning, the former US military officer jailed for a massive leak of US secrets to Wikileaks, has been ordered to appear before a grand jury, her lawyer said Friday.

Moira Meltzer-Cohen said she had not been told what the grand jury was investigating, but US media have speculated that it might involve the criminal case against WikiLeaks being developed by federal prosecutors in Virginia. Meltzer-Cohen said Manning had filed a motion to challenge the subpoena, which was immediately put under seal in the mysterious case."I object strenuously to this subpoena, and to the grand jury process in general," Manning, 31, said in a statement.



File Photo of Chelsea Manning, the former US military officer . **PHOTO: AFP**

Grand juries, only used in the US and Liberia, are groups of citizens operating separately from courts who investigate whether to bring criminal charges. They can compel witnesses and suspects to testify."We've seen this power abused countless times to target political speech," added Manning."I have nothing to contribute to this case and I resent being forced to endanger myself by participating in this predatory practice."Manning, a former army intelligence analyst, was jailed for 35 years in 2013 for giving WikiLeaks more than 700,000 classified documents related to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.The revelations by Manning, who is transgender and was then known as Bradley Manning, exposed covered-up misdeeds and possible crimes by US troops and allies.

Her actions made her a hero to anti-war and anti-secrecy activists, but US establishment figures branded her a traitor. They also made WikiLeaks a force in the global anti-secrecy movement.

Then-president Barack Obama commuted her sentence, leading to her release in May 2017. Manning is scheduled to appear in front of the grand jury on Tuesday. — AFP ■

Mexico's president opens archives on 'dirty war period

MEXICO CITY (Mexico)—Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said Friday that he will open up national archives showing how intelligence agencies targeted activists and opposition groups during the country's "dirty war." "They will be opened up so that citizens can have access to them, above all investigators. It is a part of our program to strength our national historic memory," said the president, commonly known as AMLO.

The documents belong to the National Center for Investigation and Security (CISEN) and are housed in the Lecumberri national archive, a former prison in the capital where numerous opposition figures, including members of the 1968 student movement, were once incarcerated.They will be open to the public starting from Monday, Lopez Obrador said.One of the first things the Mexican leader said after he took office on 1 December was to announce that CISEN would be disbanded, while keeping intact the National Intelligence Center. — AFP ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

US slaps new sanctions on Venezuela regime as Russia ups support

WASHINGTON (United States) —The United States and Russia clashed Friday over how to assist crisis-wracked Venezuela, with Moscow pledging new relief channeled through President Nicolas Maduro and Washington slapping sanctions over the blocking of US aid it tried to push through the border.A day after Russia and China vetoed a US and European resolution at the UN Security Council that called for unimpeded aid deliveries, Washington said it was targeting six Venezuelan military officers for stopping last weekend's US-led convoy. — AFP ■

Bandits kill 32 vigilantes in northern Nigeria: witnesses

KANO (Nigeria)—At least 32 local vigilantes have been killed in northwestern Nigeria in the latest attack by criminal gangs that terrorise the region, witnesses told AFP on Friday. Gunmen on motorcycles opened fire on a group of militia manning an anti-bandit checkpoint late on Thursday near Kware village in Shinkafi district, Zamfara state."We recovered 32 bodies of the vigilantes after the attack by the bandits," Sukaiman Shuaibu, a local chief in the area said."The death toll may rise because many people are still unaccounted for and search teams are combing the bush for more bodies," Shuaibu added.— AFP ■

11 killed, one injured in far western Nepal jeep accident

KATHMANDU—At least 11 persons were killed and one person injured when a jeep met with an accident in Darchula district of Far Western Nepal on Friday evening, local police authorities said.The incident occurred when the jeep skidded off the highway and plunged onto Mahakali River bank in Duhu Rural Municipality in Darchula district, according to local police officer Rabindra Kadayat."We recovered 11 dead bodies from the crash site and the rescue operation is underway in coordination with local authorities and residents," the police officer told Xinhua from the crash site on Friday evening. —Xinhua ■

Anger over 'forced' video of Indian pilot amid new Kashmir deaths

NEW DELHI (India)—A furious backlash erupted in India Saturday over a video of an Indian pilot shot down by Pakistan praising his captors, as deadly tensions simmered between the neighbours with fierce shelling across their Kashmir frontier.

Media reports said Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman's return to India had been held up because the pilot was forced to make the video before his release.

Abhinandan, whose MiG fighter was shot down Wednesday as he chased Pakistani jets over disputed Kashmir, crossed at the Wagah frontier late Friday several hours after the scheduled ceremony.The pilot's capture had become the centrepiece of hostilities between the arch-rivals since a suicide bombing in Kashmir last month killed 40 Indian paramilitaries.

Abhinandan, who ejected to safety but was set upon by a crowd on the Pakistani side of the ceasefire line that divides Kashmir, had a noticeable black eye and was immediately taken for a medical checkup and a debriefing by military and intelligence agencies.



Protests in Kashmir where violence continues to rage, with both India and Pakistan firing mortars and artillery over the Line of Control (LoC) frontier. **PHOTO: AFP**

In the heavily edited video distributed by the Pakistani military just before his release, he praised the professionalism of the Pakistani army and criticised Indian media for creating war hysteria."The army personnel saved me from the mob. The Pakistani army is very professional and I am impressed by it," he said.Omar Abdullah, a former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir state, said the video tainted Pakistan's gesture to return the pilot so quickly."Sadly the image you paint for us is marred terribly by the video he's forced to record just before you sent him back," Abdullah said on Twitter.

"That high moral ground you had bequeathed to yourselves slipped at the end."

Indian media slammed the video as "distasteful" and said it breached international norms for prisoners of war.

"There is no peace without dignity and Pakistan just forgot that basic lesson in violation of Geneva convention," wrote Rajdeep Sardesai, a top editor with the India Today group. —AFP ■

N. Korea's Kim pays tribute to Ho Chi Minh on Viet Nam visit

HANOI (Viet Nam)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un paid tribute to Viet Nam's late revolutionary leader Ho Chi Minh on Saturday before starting his long journey home through China, after his Hanoi summit with US President Donald Trump ended without a nuclear deal.

Kim boarded his olive green armoured train at the Dong Dang border station in Viet Nam before it rolled northward toward China en route to Pyongyang, kicking off a marathon 4,000-kilometre (2,500-mile) journey expected to take two and a half days.

Earlier Kim made a highly unusual stop at the stark concrete monument where the body of Viet Nam's independence hero is on display.

On historic North Korean anniversaries Kim regularly pays tribute—with the "humblest reverence", according to the official KCNA news agency—to his predecessors, his father Kim Jong Il and grandfather Kim Il Sung, at the sprawling memorial palace on the outskirts of Pyongyang where their preserved remains lie in state.But he is not known to have previously done anything similar for a foreign leader.



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un visits the Ho Chi Minh mausoleum in Hanoi. **PHOTO: AFP**

The North Korean adjusted the ribbons on a large wreath emblazoned with his name and the message "Cherishing the memory of President Ho Chi Minh" before bowing his head for no less than 48 seconds.

Kim has visited China, the North's key diplomatic protector and main provider of trade and aid, four times but there have been no reports in either country's state media of him going to Mao Zedong's mausoleum in Beijing.

But Kim's grandfather was a close friend of Ho Chi Minh and supplied him with fighter pilots and psychological warfare specialists during his war against the US-backed regime in South Viet Nam. —AFP ■

Eight dead in Indonesia mine collapse as excavator digs for survivors

BOLAANG MONGONDOW (Indonesia)—Rescuers at a collapsed Indonesian gold mine brought in a heavy excavator to the perilous site Friday as they ramped up efforts to reach more than 30 miners still trapped underground.

Search teams had been forced to use spades and even bare hands following the collapse at the remote site on Sulawesi island that has killed at least eight, fearing that a wrong move involving heavy equipment could make the situation worse.But three days after the Tuesday night collapse, authorities said they had decided to use an excavator to haul away debris, as they try to get food and water to the miners believed to still be alive."We were afraid to use it because it might trigger another landslide or send debris tumbling onto the trapped miners," local disaster official Abdul Muin Paputungan told AFP. "But now we've got the permission from their family members to use it, despite the risks," he added.

More than three dozen people are believed to be trapped at the mine.Rescuers have communicated with a handful of victims who have cried for help from the depths of the mine.The death toll rose to eight on Friday, the disaster agency said, but offered no details on the latest victim.A miner died of blood loss Thursday after his leg, pinned under rock, was amputated at the scene.

Army and disaster agency personnel have relied on ropes to navigate the steep, muddy area as survivors were carried away in makeshift stretchers to waiting vehicles.Some 20 people have been hauled out of the mine alive since the accident, including the amputee who later died.Victims have been treated for cuts and broken bones at a local hospital in the Bolaang Mongondow region of North Sulawesi, where five miners were killed in December after an illegal gold mine accident.The mineral-rich Southeast Asian nation has scores of unlicensed mining sites and safety regulations are routinely flouted. —AFP ■

Swedish teen climate activist rallies German students

HAMBURG (Germany)—Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg who has sparked school strikes worldwide against global warming joined thousands of students in Hamburg Friday, urging them to stay angry and fight for change.

"Yes, we are angry. We are angry because the older generations are continuing to steal our future right now," the 16-year-old activist told a cheering crowd from a stage in Hamburg.

"For way too long the politicians and the people in power have gotten away with not doing anything to fight the climate crisis," she said."But we will make sure that they will not get away with it any longer. We will continue to school-strike until they do something."

Her short speech drew loud applause in the northern port city, where police say some 4,000 demonstrators hit the streets, carrying signs that read "No more excuses, it's time to save our world" and "The climate is changing, why aren't we?".



Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg holds a placard bearing the number of signatures of a petition to support her during a demonstration by German students calling for action against global warming in Hamburg. **PHOTO: AFP**

Other placards paid tribute to the Swedish teenager with slogans like "Make the world Greta again" and "Team Greta", adorned with a drawing of her trademark braids. With the "Fridays for Future" school strikes, Thunberg has inspired a global movement that began with her solitary protest outside the Swedish Parliament in Stockholm last August.

Since then, tens of thousands of pupils in cities across Europe and as far away as Australia, Uganda, Mexico and the United States have walked out of their Friday classes to push for more ambitious carbon-cutting targets.

Now the face of her generation's climate activism, Thunberg has used her current school holidays to join protests elsewhere, marching in Paris, Brussels and Antwerp.She has also taken her message to world leaders directly in recent months, including at an EU conference last week where she urged the bloc to double its ambitions for greenhouse gas cuts.

Under the 2015 Paris deal to cap the rise in global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, the European Union has pledged to cut emissions by at least 40 percent by 2030, compared to 1990. —AFP ■

Targeting climate change, Washington governor joins Democratic race

WASHINGTON (United States)—Washington state Governor Jay Inslee joined a crowded field on Friday of candidates seeking the Democratic White House nomination, saying he would make climate change the central theme of his campaign.

The 68-year-old Inslee is the first governor of a US state to join the race to take on Republican Donald Trump—a well-known climate skeptic—in November 2020."Our country's next mission must be to rise up to the most urgent challenge of our time: defeating climate change," Inslee said in a video announcing his candidacy.

Inslee, a former member of the US House of Representatives who was elected governor in 2012 and re-elected in 2016, said he is "the only candidate who will make defeating climate change our nation's number one priority."


Washington state Governor Jay Inslee is the latest entrant in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination. **PHOTO: AFP**

A national survey carried out last year for Yale and George Mason universities found that increasing numbers of Americans believe global warming is happening.

Seventy-three per cent of those polled by Ipsos said they think global warming is occurring, up 10 percentage points from three years earlier.

But there is a big partisan divide between Democrats and Republicans over the issue and Trump—who withdrew the United States from the Paris climate accord shortly after taking office—rarely misses a chance to voice his skepticism.

When Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar announced recently that she was seeking the Democratic nomination, Trump mocked her on Twitter for "talking proudly of fighting global warming while standing in a virtual blizzard of snow, ice and freezing temperatures."

With much of the country gripped by a cold spell in January, Trump tweeted "wouldn't be bad to have a little of that good old fashioned Global Warming right now!"Inslee, a native of Seattle, home to Amazon and Microsoft, compared the fight against climate change to the 1960s challenge of president John F. Kennedy to send a man to the moon. —AFP ■

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1098 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1098 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 03-03-2019 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.

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
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Bombshell film reignites Michael Jackson abuse firestorm

NEW YORK (United States)—An unflinching new documentary on pedophilia accusations against Michael Jackson has shattered the glittering veneer around the late King of Pop, presenting in lurid detail the stories of two men who say he sexually abused them for years as minors."Leaving Neverland," a four-hour film by British director Dan Reed, is considered so potentially devastating that counseling was made available at its Sundance Film Festival premiere in January.US cable network HBO will air it in two parts, starting on Sunday.

Reed said he tried to include "sexual detail in a very measured way, so it wasn't done for shock value.""We tried to make it graphic enough to be eye-opening and for people to be confronted with what it means for a little child to be seduced and raped by an adult pedophile," Reed told AFP. "Of course it's shocking. It's a very serious crime. And it shouldn't be glossed over." It's not the first public airing of abuse claims against Jackson but the release marks the scandal's first major explosion since his fatal overdose at age 50, almost 10 years ago. The documentary centers on James Safechuck, 41, and Wade Robson, 36, who recount separate but consistent accounts of how their idol molested them as boys.



Michael Jackson, pictured at a news conference in 1996, faced major abuse allegations before his death. **PHOTO: AFP**

Both describe the childlike Jackson wooing them: inviting them into his fairytale existence, gaining their families' trust and manipulating them into keeping their sexual relations secret."You and I were brought together by God," Robson said Jackson told him. Their mothers also offer narratives of seduction into the cult of Jackson—and the ensuing guilt that haunts them.Robson first met Jackson as a five-year-old after winning a dance competition. The megastar invited the boy to his Neverland Ranch, where Robson, by then seven, said the abuse began. He describes how their sexual relationship "escalated rapidly," with Jackson telling him: "This is us showing each other that we love each other." Safechuck, who said his abuse began at age 10, tells a similar tale, saying Jackson told him if anyone found out their lives "would be over."

Decades of denial

Jackson's estate has vehemently defended the late star, suing HBO for $100 million over a "posthumous character assassination" it says breaches an agreement made not to disparage the icon, a condition for airing one of his concerts. Jackson faced accusations in 1993 of sexually abusing a 13-year-old boy and settled out of court, with Robson and Safechuck saying at the time that Jackson hadn't touched them.

In 2003 more accusations triggered a dramatic trial: that time, Safechuck kept a distance, but Robson testified for Jackson, who was acquitted. Neither man reversed their stories until recently, after becoming fathers themselves. Both filed their own lawsuits that were dismissed over statutes of limitations. —AFP ■

Slimane shocks Paris catwalk by going posh

PARIS (France)—Hedi Slimane turned his back on black Friday in one of the biggest about-turns in years on the Paris catwalk.

The superstar French designer, famed for his love of black, was dubbed the "Trump of fashion" after trashing the legacy of his much-loved feminist predecessor at Celine, Phoebe Philo, in his first women's show for the brand in October.But in his second show Friday the reclusive trendsetter threw out the "crotch-skimming cocktail dresses" for wafer-thin vamps that had so infuriated the critics the first time round. Rather than the too-cool-for-school night owls of his "Paris at night" debut, Slimane went all bourgeois as he tried to double track back towards Celine's more romantic roots.His new cool gang are a glammy 1980s horsey set, with pleated riding skirts in earthy browns, greens and taupes worn with long shiny boots.

"Hedi Slimane's Celine woman just got ladylike," Dazed magazine tweeted dryly. But the really big takeaway was the comeback of the culotte, with a whole cavalry charge of them galloping down the catwalk.Surprising as that was, no one had predicted the return of silky pussy bow blouses worn under sensible coats and cardigans. The man they once called the "Sultan of skinny"—and for whom Karl Lagerfeld lost 42 kilograms (92 lbs) to squeeze into his black jeans—even got a few frilly blouses in too. All that was lacking was the pearls.There was a kind of prim suppressed school-marmy sexiness about the whole enterprise with long Victorian print dresses. But here and there the ultra respectable look was undercut with a glittering gold blouson jacket, leather trousers or some other touch of decadent Slimane urban glam.

'Joke's on who?'

This embrace of romantic, comfortable country glamour, of the type that Hermes and others do rather well, left critics scratching their heads, with the New York Times' Vanessa Friedman asking, "(The) joke's on who?"But for the fact that every model wore black sunglasses, it hardly looked like a Slimane show.It also seemed strangely at odds with Slimane's first media campaign for the house, which he released this week, featuring 17-year-old British model Hannah Motler. Shot by Slimane itself, it was full of the dark rock 'n' roll glamour he is famous for.Friedman, however, had no doubt that the oxblood shearling-edged thigh-high boots that Slimane teamed with jeans and camel coats and capes in the show were a winner. "Betcha Celine is going to sell a lot of these boots," she tweeted.

While there was some slight nods to the Philo's legion of grieving followers—who have made her past Celine collections collector's items—Slimane leapfrogged over her minimalism to go deep into the brand's archives in search of inspiration.

His slash and burn attitude to the brand—getting rid of the French accent on its logo, calling his first show "Celine 01" as if the 70 years before his arrival at the label had not existed, and erasing Philo's clothes from the label's Instagram account, irritated many. —AFP ■



Hedi Slimane. **PHOTO: AFP**

Star Hollywood composer sets personal loss to music

PARIS (France)—Composer Alexandre Desplat has two Oscars under his belt and has been nominated for eight more for his scores for such films as "The Shape of Water", "The Queen" and "The King's Speech".

But none of the music he has written for dozens of Hollywood movies from the Harry Potter films to "Girl with a Pearl Earring" comes from such a personal place as his latest work, which will get its French premiere this weekend.

The story of "Silence", which is adapted from a short story by the Nobel prize-winning Japanese novelist Yasunari Kawabata about a paralysed writer who can no longer write or speak, mirrors that of his wife, the star violinist Solrey, whose concert career was ended by brain surgery.

A child prodigy, Solrey—whose real name is Dominique Lemonnier—lost the power in her left arm after the operation in 2010.

Despite battling for five years to try to perform again, Solrey finally had to give up.

"In spite of all the suffering and her extremely hard work with two fingers, Solrey decided three years ago to put her violin back in its case," Desplat, 57, told AFP in his hometown Paris.

"However, it will be heard in the show with recorded improvisations," he said.

'Act of resilience'

The opera, Desplat's first, was written by the couple together as "an act of resilience", he said, with Solrey also directing.

"We have always collaborated," the composer said, "even when she was a violinist, which she still is even if it is only in her soul.

"She has always been my first ear," the person who has heard everything first, "our artistic connection and collaboration has always existed," said Desplat, who the film website IndieWire described as "one of the greatest composers of the 21st century".

Solrey herself said the opera poses a question that became all too real for her: "How can a creative individual survive being deprived of their means of artistic expression?" —AFP ■

Dragon capsule successfully separates from rocket: SpaceX



The launch of SpaceX's new Crew Dragon astronaut capsule was a dress rehearsal for the first manned test flight. **PHOTO: AFP**

CAPE CANAVERAL (United States)—SpaceX's new Crew Dragon astronaut capsule was on its way to the International Space Station Saturday after it successfully launched from Florida on board a Falcon 9 rocket.

With only a dummy named Ripley on board, the launch was a dress rehearsal for the first manned test flight—scheduled for later this year with two NASA astronauts.

The rocket blasted off without incident at 2:49 am (0749 GMT) from the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, lighting up Florida's coastline.

Eleven minutes later, the confirmation came from SpaceX mission control: "Dragon separation confirmed."

That triggered cheers at the firm's headquarters and at the Kennedy Space Center.

The capsule is scheduled to reach the ISS by Sunday at around 1100 GMT, with a return to Earth next on Friday.

It will splash down in the Atlantic Ocean, from where it will be brought back to Cape Canaveral.

In another success, the rocket's first stage returned to Earth, landing on a platform 500 kilometers off the Florida coast in the Atlantic. It marks the 35th such recovery by SpaceX.

After its shuttle program was shuttered in July 2011 after a 30-year run, NASA's manned flights came to an end.

Since then, it has been buying seats in Russian Soyuz rockets—the only ones capable of transporting humans there.

Keeping its options open, the US space agency in 2014 awarded contracts to both SpaceX and Boeing for them to take over this task.

Boeing's Starliner capsule will be tested in April, at the earliest.—AFP ■

Expression of Thanks

THE bereaved family of Dr. Katherine Ba Thike, Retired Scientist, (WHO Geneva), who passed away at 9:35 am on the 27th of February 2019, wishes to express their thanks to all family friends, professional colleagues and acquaintances, including those from different departments and local and international organizations who sent their messages of condolences as well as helped with the funeral arrangements.

Spider silk twisting in humidity can be used as robotic muscles: study

WASHINGTON —An international research team led by Chinese scientists found spider silk could contract and twist in humidity which can be used to make artificial muscles or robotic actuators. The study published on Friday in the journal Science Advances showed that the slender spider fibers could suddenly shrink in response to changes in moisture, resulting in a strong torsional force.

The researchers from Huazhong University of Science and Technology and Massachusetts Institute of Technology suspended a weight from the silk to make a kind of pendulum, and then enclosed it in a chamber where they could control the relative humidity inside."When we increased the humidity, the pendulum started to rotate. It was out of our expectation," said the paper's co-author Liu Dabiao, associate professor at Huazhong.The researchers identified a protein building block called "proline" in the spider's dragline silk, which is crucial to the twisting reaction. When water molecules interact with the proline, the proline's hydrogen bonds are disrupted in an asymmetrical way that leads to the rotation.

The rotation only goes in one direction, and it takes place at a threshold of about 70 percent relative humidity, according to the study.

This particular proline structure makes the twisting happen, but without it there was no twisting. The team tested a number of other materials, including human hair, but found no such motions.

Spider fiber's ability of contraction in response to moisture may be a way to make sure a web is pulled tight in response to morning dew, protecting it from damage and maximizing its responsiveness to vibration for the spider to sense its prey, according to the researchers.They said that the property had diverse potential applications. It can be explored as actuators, devices that move to perform some activity such as controlling a valve. It can also be used as humidity-driven soft robots, humidity sensors and smart textiles, according to the study. —Xinhua ■



Spider silk twisting in humidity can be used as robotic muscles. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Nanotechnology gives humans potential for super vision

HEFEI— A Sino-U.S. joint research project has enhanced the vision of mice by using nanotechnology to make them see infrared light as well as visible light, which could lead to applications for humans to have infrared vision in the future.

The research was led by Xue Tian and Bao Jin of the University of Science and Technology of China and Han Gang of the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

The results were published in the international science journal of Cell on Thursday.

According to Bao, humans and other mammals are limited to seeing a visible light range, but infrared radiation with wavelengths shorter or longer than the range of visible light cannot be perceived by human eyes.

The scientists injected nanoparticles into mice's eyes, giving them infrared vision for up to 10 weeks, as the nanoparticles can absorb infrared light and convert it into green colored visible light.

Bao said the researchers believe they can fine tune the bio-integrated technology so that it suits human eyes, and the injection process has little side effects. The technology can not only generate super vision but also provide a therapeutic solution in human red color vision deficits.

Currently, infrared technology relies on detectors and cameras with outside power sources to obtain infrared images, as people, animals and objects emit infrared light as they give off heat. The new nanotechnology has potential application in a number of fields including security and military operations, according to the scientists.—Xinhua ■



A player from Shwe Myawady (black) tries to score a goal in yesterday's futsal league match at the Thuwunna Indoor Stadium. **PHOTO : MFF FUTSAL**

MIC,VUC teams score big in MFF Futsal League

THE Week 20 matches for the Myanmar Futsal League, organized by the Myanmar Football Federation, were held at the National Indoor Stadium I in Yangon yesterday, with the MIC and VUC teams scoring big wins.

All the matches played yesterday were packed with futsal fans, and proved to be quite thrilling, with the teams going all out to advance in the tournament.

MIC F.C. claimed a huge victory over Pyay United F.C., beating them by a huge score of 19-1.

In another match, VUC F.C. trounced Comrade F.C. 11-1.

Titan XII F.C. and AMM F.C. were equally matched in play, with Titan XII F.C. winning by a margin of just two goals, with a final score of 6-4.

In later matches, GV Athletic F.C. cut out UPT F.C. by 4-0, while White Colour F.C. beat the MFF U-19 Futsal team by 4-3.

The final match for the day saw Shwe Myawady F.C. pitted against Myoma YTD F.C. with Myawady F.C. netting a 3-2 win.

Week 21 matches will take place at the National Indoor stadium in Yangon on 13 May.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

Hong Kong's Lee sprints to women's world title

PRUSZKOW (Poland)— Sarah Lee of Hong Kong won her first world sprint title when she edged perennial runner-up Stephanie Morton on Friday in Pruszkow. Earlier, Frenchman Quentin Lafargue won his first World Championship gold in the men's one kilometre time trial.

In the best-of-three final, the 31-year-old Lee won the first two sprints to condemn her Australian opponent to a third silver medal since 2017.

"Now I want to do the same at the Olympics in Tokyo next year," said Lee.

French teen Mathilde Gros edged German Lea Sophie Friedrich to take silver.

Morton had twice finished second at the worlds to Kristina Vogel, the German double Olympic champion who became paraplegic following a training crash last year.

In Friday's final, Morton launched a late sprint in the first leg but Lee caught her.

In the second leg, the Australian tried to surprise Lee by attacking on the penultimate lap but could not hold onto her lead.

Lee won the 500m world title in 2013 but her best showing in the event that crowns cycling's speed queen had been two bronzes, in 2013 and 2017.

In the men's time trial from a standing start, Lafargue covered the kilometre in 1min 0.029sec at an average speed of 59.971 kph. The 35-year-old Dutchman Theo Bos, who won the first of his five track world titles in 2004, was second, 0.359 seconds behind. Another Frenchman Michael d'Almeida was third in an event that was dropped from the Olympics in 2004.

The 28-year-old Lafargue won three junior world titles in 2008 and already had a small collection of podium places at the World Championships: a bronze in 2016 a silver in 2017 and a silver on Wednesday in the team sprint.

In qualification on Friday, Lafargue was the only rider to break a minute, recording a best time of 59.845sec.—AFP ■

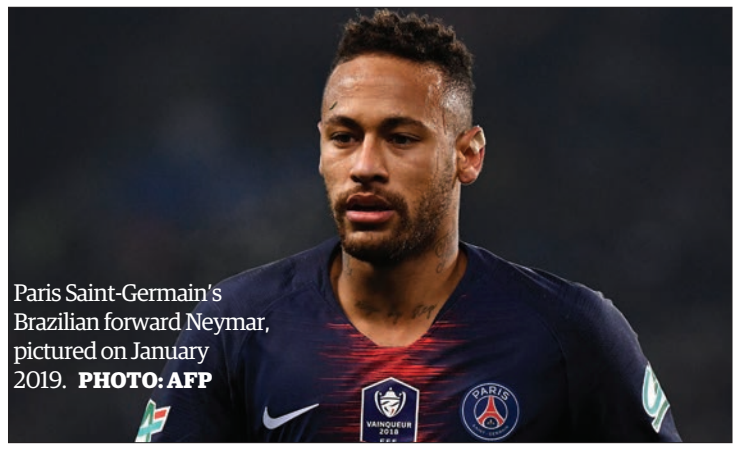
Spanish La Liga eyes partnership with Yangon United

REPRESENTATIVES from La Liga visited the headquarters of the Yangon United F.C. in Yangon on Friday, according to a statement from the Myanmar football club. Prior to their visit, Yangon United's Chief Operating Officer U Yazar Htwe and team officials held a discussion with the Managing Director of La Liga, Mr. Ivan Codina, and the Delegate for Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos, Mr. Jose Maria.

During the talks, both sides focused on possible assistance from and partnership with La Liga to develop Myanmar football with focus on improving youth football. The talks also revolved around a partnership between La Liga and Yangon United, according to the statement from Yangon United. During their visit, La Liga officials took a tour of Yangon United's home ground, Futsal courts and gym, said a source with the football club. La Liga is the top men's professional football division of the Spanish football league. It is administered by the Liga Nacional de Fútbol Profesional.

La Liga is contested by 20 teams, with the three lowest-placed teams relegated to the Segunda División, and replaced by the top two teams in that division, plus the winner of a play-off. Well-known football clubs Real Madrid and Barcelona have participated in La Liga.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Neymar reveals double injury blow hit World Cup hopes



Paris Saint-Germain's Brazilian forward Neymar, pictured on January 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

SAO PAULO (Brazil)— Brazilian superstar Neymar revealed Friday that he suffered major two injuries last season with a previously undisclosed angle ligament strain accompanying the broken foot which badly affected his role at the World Cup.The fragile Paris Saint German star picked up another foot injury in January this year which will sideline him until April.Last year, the first injury kept him out of action for three months and he returned just in time for the World Cup in Russia, where Brazil was eliminated in the quarter-finals by Belgium.

"My injury before the World Cup was different, I also broke an ankle ligament and had a hard time getting better because of it," Neymar told TV Globo in an excerpt from an interview to be broadcast in full on Sunday. "The ankle is always annoying as it takes longer to get back to normal."According to the Globoesporte.com website, part of the same media group as TV Globo, the first examinations carried out after the injury of 26 February, 2018 had already revealed the rupture of an ankle ligament. He was then operated on 3 March, in Brazil, by the doctor of the Brazilian national team. After his latest injury suffered on 23 January this year, the medical chiefs favoured "conservative treatment" rather than another operation. In another excerpt from the TV Globo interview, Neymar said he had "cried for two days" after his latest injury setback. PSG hope to have him for a possible quarter-final Champions League in April which they are favourites to reach as they have a 2-0 first leg lead over Manchester United in their last-16 clash.—AFP ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

Intimacy among youths of ethnic brethren can open the bright future



By May Thu Htay
2nd year Honours Student,
English Specialization,
University of Yangon

CURRENTLY, the incumbent government is attempting to achieve "national reconciliation and internal peace" as one of the national objectives. It is undeniable that this is mainly to be carried out as armed conflicts have strained Myanmar to lag in development. Our country, Myanmar is named as Union because many ethnic people dwell on the land of Myanmar together. Especially, ethnic people reside in the states which are close to the border, such as Kachin in the northern part, Shan in the eastern part, Rakhine in the western part. This is the main reason why to have the peace matters most in Myanmar. For example, as an obvious fact, for the security of Myanmar, like in preventing illegal goods from entering into Myanmar from neighbouring countries, in stopping the human trafficking, in conserving the natural resources, in preventing the illegal immigration and emigration, having internal peace can assist the government a lot to handle these cases well. Simply, if we can build up inner collective strength through peace, it is sure that the country will develop equally and no nation can harm the sovereignty of our country and the welfare of our ethnic people.

Signing the Nationwide ceasefire agreement is the action of peace of process at the state level. In my perspective, at this time, while carrying out the peace process and development, it will be better if the government takes action to have intimacy among youths of ethnic brethren. Nowadays, due to globalization, the youths seem more familiar with Chinese, Japanese, Korean through watching their movies and consuming their foods. Due to the impacts of globalization, and as the traditional food, the culture of our ethnic brethren do not have enough background, they cannot satisfy the demands of today's youths. Thus, supportive actions to modify the traditional foods of our ethnic brethren to firstly penetrate the local market, organizing some extracurricular activities to create a chance to let the youths of ethnic brethren meet together and do some innovations for Myanmar will be the effective ways. If trust, intimacy, mutual respect, cooperative spirit can be built among the youths of our ethnic brethren, I believe this will lead to success in making our country develop and powerful again in the future.

■

Design: BT

PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR



(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

(လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းလုပ်ကြည့်ပါ။)

Exercise:

1. Every fisherman knows how to swim.
2. Every student in our class will visit the exhibition. (ပြဿဲ)
3. Every country in the world has a university.
4. All the nurses in this hospital wear uniforms.
5. Every tall building in Hong Kong has a lift. (ခါတ်လေ့ခါး)
6. Every village in Myanmar has a pagoda.

Answers

1. There is no fisherman that does not know how to swim.
2. There is no student in our class that will not visit the exhibition.
3. There is no country in the world that does not have a university.
4. There is no nurse in this hospital that does not wear a uniform.
5. There is no tall building in Hong Kong that does not have a lift.
6. There is no village in Myanmar that does not have a pagoda.

(B)

Noun in Apposition

(a) နာမ်တစ်လုံးနောက်တွင် ကြိယာမပါဘဲ အခြားနာမ် ဝါကျပြတ်ကပ်ထည့်၍ ရှေ့မှ နာမ်ကို ဝိသေသပြုသော ပုံစံဖြစ်သည်။

(b) နာမ်နှစ်ခုကြားတွင် Comma ခံရသည်။ရှေ့နာမ်နောက်မှဆက်သော ဝါကျပြတ် (phrase) နောက်တွင်လည်း Comma ထည့်ပေးရသည်။

အောက်တွင် လေ့လာပါ။

1. U Hla Moe is good at English.
   ဦးလှမိုးသည် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာတော်သည်။
   U Hla Moe is our headmaster.
   ဦးလှမိုးသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့၏ ကျောင်းအုပ်ဆရာကြီးဖြစ်သည်။
   (ပထမစာကြောင်းမှ U Hla Moe နောက်ကပ်၍ our headmaster ကိုထည့်ရသည်။)
   U Hla Moe, our headmaster, is good at English.
   ကျွန်တော်တို့၏ ကျောင်းအုပ်ဆရာကြီးဖြစ်သော ဦးလှမိုးသည် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာတော်သည်။
   (Our headmaster ဟူသော နာမ်သည် ရှေ့မှ ကပ်နေသော U Hla Moe ဟူသော နာမ်ကို ဝိသေသပြုသည်။ ကြိယာလုံးဝမပါသည်ကို သတိပြုပါ။)
   Relative Pronoun (စာကြောင်းဆက်နာမ်စား)ဖြင့် ဆက်လျှင် အောက်ပါကဲ့သို့ရသည်။
   U Hla Moe, who is our headmaster, is good at English.
   အထက်ပါ စာကြောင်းမှ who is ကိုဖြုတ်လိုက်လျှင် Noun in Apposition ရသည်။
2. Yangon lies on the mouth of the Hlaing River.
   Yangon is the capital of Myanmar.
   Yangon, the capital of Myanmar, lies on the mouth of the Hlaing River.
   မြန်မာပြည်၏မြို့တော်ဖြစ်သော ရန်ကုန်သည် လှိုင်မြစ်ဝပေါ်မှာ တည်ရှိသည်။
3. We visited Zeebyubin.
   Zeebyubin is a village at the foot of the Pegu Yoma.
   We visited Zeebyubin, a village at the foot of the Pegu Yoma.
   ကျွန်တော်တို့သည် ပဲခူးရိုးမတောင်ခြေရင်းမှ ရွာတစ်ရွာဖြစ်သော ဇီးဖြူပင်သို့ သွားရောက်လည်ပတ်ခဲ့သည်။
4. U Shwe Ni is talking with U Kyaw Soe, U Shwe Ni is a distributor. U Kyaw Soe is a publisher.
   U Shwe Ni, a distributor, is talking with U Kyaw Soe, a publisher.
   ဖြန့်ဝေသူ ဦးရွှေနီသည် ထုတ်ဝေသူ ဦးကျော်စိုးနှင့် စကားပြောနေသည်။
5. Ko Than is a well-known writer.
   Ko Than has written many novels and short stories.
   Ko Than, a well-known writer, has written many novels and short stories.
   ကျော်ကြားသော စာရေးဆရာတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည့် ကိုသန်းသည် ဝတ္ထုတိုရှည်များစွာ ရေးပြီးပြီ။
   (အထက်ပါ စာကြောင်းနှစ်ကြောင်းတွင် a well known writer ဟူသော နာမ်ဝါကျပြတ် (noun phrase) မှာ ပထမစာကြောင်းတွင် ပါသည်။
   ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းတွင် noun phrase မရှိသဖြင့် ပထမစာကြောင်းမှ a well-known writer ကိုပင် Ko Than နောက်ကပ်ထည့်ထားခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။)
   အောက်ပါလေ့ကျင့်ခန်းများလုပ်ကြည့်ပါ။
   (အဖြေကို အောက်တွင် ပေးထားပါသည်။)
   1. Daw Khin Aye Myaing visited Japan last month.
      Daw Khin Aye Myaing is our class teacher.
   2. The Irrawaddy flows from north to south. The Irrawaddy is the most useful river in our country.
   3. My brother married Daw Aye Mu. She is an economist.
   4. Have you ever been to Mt. Popa? It is an extinct volcano in central Myanmar.
   5. Kyaw Zaw Aung was injured in the last match. He is the goal-keeper of our team.
   6. The Shwedagon is the most famous pagoda in Myanmar.
      The Shwedagon stands in the centre of Yangon.
   7. Maymyo is also called Pyin Oo Lwin.
      Maymyo is a lovely town about 40 miles from Mandalay.

(Answers)

1. Daw Khin Aye Myaing, our class teacher, visited Japan last month.
2. The Irrawaddy, the most useful river in our country, flowws from north to south.
3. My brother married Daw Aye Mu, an economist.
4. Have you ever been to Mt. Popa, an extinct volcano in central Myanmar?
5. Kyaw Zaw Aung, the goal-keeper of our team, was injured in the last match. (ဒဏ်ရာရသည်)
6. The Shwedagon, the most famous pagoda in Burma, stands in the centre of Yangon.
7. Maymyo, a lovely town about 40 miles from Mandalay, is also called Pyin Oo Lwin.

C Without နှင့် After

(a) Without နှင့် စာကြောင်းဆက်ရာတွင် ပေးထားသော ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းသည် active voice ဖြစ်လျှင် verb ကို ing ထည့်၍ without နောက်ကပ်ဆက်ရသည်။

ဥပမာ

1. He went out.
   He did not tell me anything. He went out without telling me anything.
   သူကျွန်တော်ကို ဘာမှမပြောဘဲ (ပြောကြားခြင်းမရှိဘဲ) အပြင်ထွက်သွားသည်။
   (၎င်းနေရာ၌ telling မှာ verbal noun (ကြိယာနာမ် ဖြစ်သည်။) ပြောခြင်းဟု မြန်မာလိုအဓိပ္ပါယ်ရ သည်။
   ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းသည် အငြင်းဝါကျဖြစ်သည်။ ထို့ကြောင့် without နှင့်ဆက်ခြင်းဖြစ်သည်ကို သတိပြုပါ။)
2. She went to bed.
   She did not have her dinner.
   She went to bed without having her dinner.
   သူမ ညစာမစားဘဲ အိပ်ရာဝင်သွားသည်။
3. He came in.
   He did not knock on the door.
   He came in without knocking on the door.
   သူ တံခါးမခေါက်ဘဲ ဝင်လာသည်။
4. He passed the examination.
   He did not work hard.
   He passed the examination without working hard.
   ပြင်းထန်စွာ မကြိုးစားဘဲ သူစာမေးပွဲအောင်ခဲ့သည်။

(b) ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းသည် Passive Voice ဖြစ်လျှင် without နောက်တွင် being ထည့်၍ being နောက်တွင် Past participate (V 3) လိုက်ရသည်။

1. She cried.
   သူမ ငိုခဲ့သည်။
   She was not beaten.
   သူမ အရိုက်မခံရပါ။
   She cried without being beaten.
   သူမ အရိုက်မခံရဘဲ ငိုခဲ့သည်။
2. He attended the meeting.
   သူ အစည်းအဝေးတက်ခဲ့သည်။
   He was not invited.
   သူ့ကို မဖိတ်ခဲ့ပါ။ (သူ ဖိတ်ကြားခြင်း မခံရပါ။)
   He attended the meetting without being invited.
   သူဖိတ်ကြားခြင်း မခံရဘဲ အစည်းအဝေးတက်ခဲ့သည်။

(c) ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းကို active နှင့် နေ့ထားသော်လည်း Nobody, No one စသည်တို့ဖြင့် စသည့်ဝါကျ ဖြစ်လျှင် Passive Voice ပုံစံဖြစ်သော without being + V3 သို့ပြောင်း၍ ဆက်ရသည်။

ဥပမာ -

3. He attended the meeting. Nobody invited him.
   He attended the meeting without being invited.
   သူဖိတ်ကြားခြင်း မခံရဘဲ အစည်းအဝေးတက်ခဲ့သည်။
4. Some animals know how to swim.
   Nobody taught them.
   Some animals know how to swim without being taught.
   အချို့တိရစ္ဆာန်များသည် သင်ကြားပေးခြင်း မခံရဘဲ ရေကူးတတ်ကြသည်။

After

(a) ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းရှေ့တွင် then ပါပါက after နှင့်ဆက်ရသည်။ 'ပြီးနောက်' ဟုအဓိပ္ပာယ်ရသည်။

(b) ပထမစာကြောင်းသည် Active voice ဖြစ်ပါက after နောက်ကပ်၍ ပထမစာကြောင်းမှ verb ကို ing ပြောင်းဆက်ရသည်။ then ကို ဖြုတ်ပစ်ရသည်။

after နောက် verbal noun (ကြိယာနာမ်) လိုက်ထားသော ဝါကျပြတ် (phrase) နောက်ကပ်၍ (Comma) ထည့်ရသည်။

ဥပမာ

1. He read the letter twice. Then, he tore it.
   သူစာကို နှစ်ခေါက်ဖတ်ခဲ့သည်။
   ထို့နောက် (သူ) ဆုတ်ပစ်ခဲ့သည်။
   After reading the letter twice, he tore it.
   သူစာကို နှစ်ခေါက်ဖတ်ပြီးနောက် ဆုတ်ပစ်ခဲ့သည်။
   (ဒုတိယစာကြောင်းကို ပြောင်းရန်မလို။ then ကိုသာဖြုတ်ရသည်ကို သတိပြုပါ။)
2. She sold the car. Then, she bought a house.
   After selling the car, she bought a house.
   ကားရောင်းပြီးနောက် သူမ အိမ်တစ်လုံးဝယ်ခဲ့သည်။
3. Ko Ko studied lessons for two hours.
   Then, he went to bed.
   After studying his lessons for two hours, Ko Ko went to bed.
   သင်ခန်းစာများကို နှစ်နာရီလေ့လာပြီးနောက် ကိုကိုအိပ်ရာဝင်သွားသည်။

(c) ပထမစာကြောင်းသည် Passive Voice ဖြစ်လျှင် After being + V3 (Past participle) ပုံစံသုံးရသည်။

4. The players were selected.
   ကစားသမားများကို ရွေးချယ်ခဲ့သည်။ (အရွေးခံရသည်။)
   Then, they were given training.
   ထို့နောက် သူတို့ကို လေ့ကျင့်ပေးခဲ့သည်။
   After being selected, the players were given training.
   ရွေးချယ်ပြီးနောက် ကစားသမားများကို လေ့ကျင့်ပေးခဲ့သည်။
5. He was punished. Then he no longer teased the girls.
   After being punished, he no longer teased the girls.
   အပြစ်ပေးခံရပြီးနောက် သူ မိန်းကလေးများကို နောက်ထပ်မစတော့ပါ။

(d) တစ်ခါတစ်ရံတွင် ပထမစာကြောင်းမှာ Active voice ဖြစ်သော်လည်း passive voice ပုံစံဖြင့် ဆက်မှသာရမည့် ဝါကျမျိုးရှိတတ်သည်။ ထိုအခါမျိုးတွင် ပထမစာကြောင်းကို passive voice ပုံစံပြောင်း၍ ဆက်ရသည်။

6. The teacher punished Ko Ko.
   ဆရာသည် ကိုကို့ကို အပြစ်ပေးခဲ့သည်။
   Then, Ko Ko did his homework regularly.
   ထို့နောက် ကိုကိုသည် အိမ်စာကို မှန်မှန်လုပ်ခဲ့သည်။
   After being punished by the teacher, Ko Ko did his homework regularly.
   ဆရာ၏ အပြစ်ပေးခံရပြီးနောက် ကိုကိုသည်အိမ်စာကို မှန်မှန်လုပ်ခဲ့သည်။
   (active voice နှင့်ဆက်လျှင် မရသောကြောင့် after being punished by the teacher ဟု passive voice အဖြစ်သို့ ပြောင်းခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။)

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

May everyone accept that all are the same?





Ms. Moon
Final year Honours (English)
Dagon University

ACCORDING to The OALD dictionary, disabled means unable to use a part of one's body completely or easily because of a physical condition, illness, injury, etc.

Many people want to regard those who are blind; who lack some parts of their limbs and who are less intelligent as the disabled ones. Those words are often heard in our surroundings. I think it is the usage that is really rude and insulting. Those who are blind; those who are deaf and those who lack the parts of the limbs are called like this. Whenever they are called so, they happen to be deeply affected in their bosom. Do those who call so know it? Do those who called so happen to be aware of it?

It will probably be some people who want to be against saying what will happen as they call them so. It is right that they have got some weaknesses and defects. However, is there anyone who has got no defect in the world? If such defects are termed as 'the disabled', all the people in the world will be called as 'the disabled ones' since there is a saying everyone has ever heard 'No man is perfect.'

Is the opinion in which if one is disabled, he or she will not be able to do anything right or wrong?

As for me, I think such opinion is out-of-date in the current era. Although they are disabled, we can see many able ones among them emerge in our surroundings. They can prove that they are able ones. One of the disabled persons has said to me, "We are not the disabled persons but we are just Differently Able Persons."

As they are the people who are in the human society, they have got a strong wish to move and struggle in the atmosphere like other people. They have also got a wish of having education like other people. They have also got a wish of working among other people. They have got the potential each to perform their wishes. If people around them accept that phenomenon, they will forget their defects and they can remove their inferior complex.

A researcher said, "The inferior complex the disabled persons have is not due to their defects but it is due to the misjudge and underestimate upon them from their surrounding people." This make them a barrier to absorb among the ordinary people and social activities. Therefore, we can assume how important the atmosphere of the disabled persons is.

Some people look down their nose at the disabled persons. They often treat them haughtily. To say the truth, even the animals do not like such way of treat. Therefore, it is clear that the disabled persons who are also the human beings will not like it. This can be understood with one's sympathy. If so, there will be a query that people have to treat them tenderly and fondly. The answer will be 'No'. The utmost hope of the disabled persons is just to be treated like the other ordinary people.

In fact, the disabled persons are slightly different from the other ordinary people in appearance. However, their abilities to perform a task is the same as the other ordinary ones. The disabled person who do not have vigour in hands can perform a task with his legs. The blind and the deaf can see and hear with their very hearts. Who deny that they have the brain to think and contemplate and the heart to feel something like other ordinary people?

Nowadays, the public measurements association with the disabled persons and concert efforts on the rights and benefits including the protection of rights, provisions of medical care, education, training, employment and rehabilitation which will be educated to the people get wider and wider in the society. Therefore, I guess the full understanding upon the disable persons will be accomplished in near future. I would like to urge the able people to help joining hands in order to be beautiful and flourish future lives of the ones who are disabled but able. ■

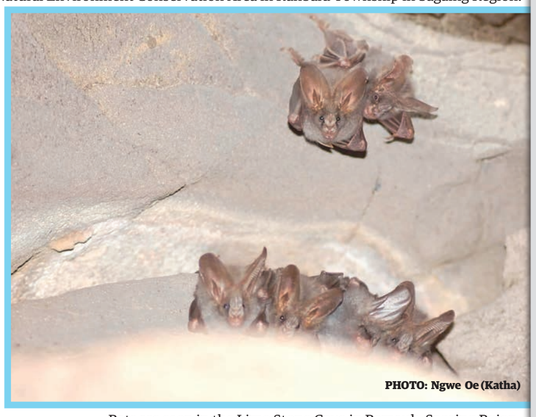
3 MARCH 2019
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR


PHOTO: Ngwe Oe (Katha)

PHOTO: Nyi Tu

Bat Cave Natural Environment Conservation Area in Kanbalu Township in Sagaing Region.


PHOTO: Ngwe Oe (Katha)


PHOTO: Ngwe Oe (Katha)

Bats are seen in the Lime Stone Cave in Bamauk, Sagaing Reion.

Bats face extinction

By Gyaw Orwell

A LARGE portion of Southeast Asia's bat population is currently at risk of extinction, a conservation expert announced at the 4th annual Southeast Asia Bat Conference hosted in the Philippines last year.

According the Southeast Asian Bat Conservation Research Unit, Southeast Asia is home to 379 of the 1370 bat species in the entire world – and yet rapid forest destruction threatens to wipe out 23% of the region's bat population in the near future.

One quarter of Southeast Asian bats are in trouble. A huge problem is 23% threatened or near threatened. They will go extinct unless we change what's happening to them now.

The loss of bats across Southeast Asia could have a more impactful effect on everyday life than most realise, as they play an important role in pollination and pest control.

Bird Cave in Kanbalu

A team carried out survey at a bird cave in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region, and disclosed that an estimated 1.1 million bats and 99 species of birds have been registered in the bat cave conservation area. The count was conducted between 16 and 19 January.

The Forest Department teamed up with the Wildlife Conservation Society (Myanmar Program) to carry out research on the population size of bats dwelling in the bat cave conservation area.

Additionally, 99 species of birds, including rare and endangered species, have also been recorded in the area.

The Sagaing Region Government has opened a bat cave natural conservation area in Kanbalu Township on 26 December. To conserve the cave area, which is mainly inhabited by bats, the government has already earmarked a total of 30,308 acres of land for bat cave conservation, including 3,674 acres of land in Mandalay Region's Thabeikkyin Township, since 2016.

Bat Cave in Bamauk

It is found that about three species of bats are living in natural lime caves in Bamauk, Sagaing Region.

The bats population in the area is decreasing due to deforestation.

But conservation efforts for endangered species remain at a low in the region. Deforestation has been defined as a "modern day plague" in Southeast Asia, with the region having already lost more than 50% of its original forest cover.

Bats generally eat insects, while some can eat flowers and fruits.

They play a significant role in controlling insect populations and contribute to the ecosystem.


PHOTO: Nyi Tu

Flying foxes leave the cave for hunting in Kanbalu.

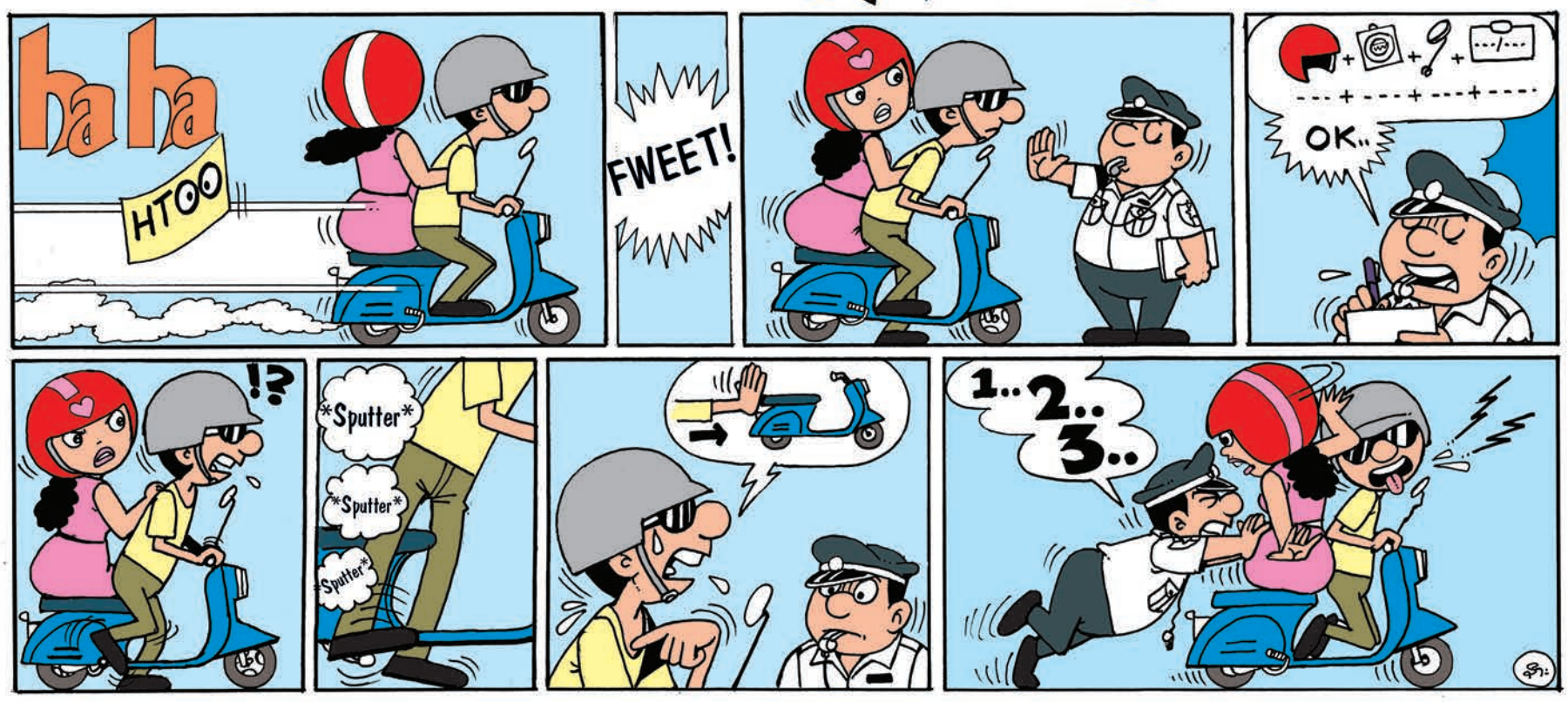

PHOTO: Nyi Tu

The Bat Cave Natural Environment Conservation Area in Kanbalu.


PHOTO: Nyi Tu

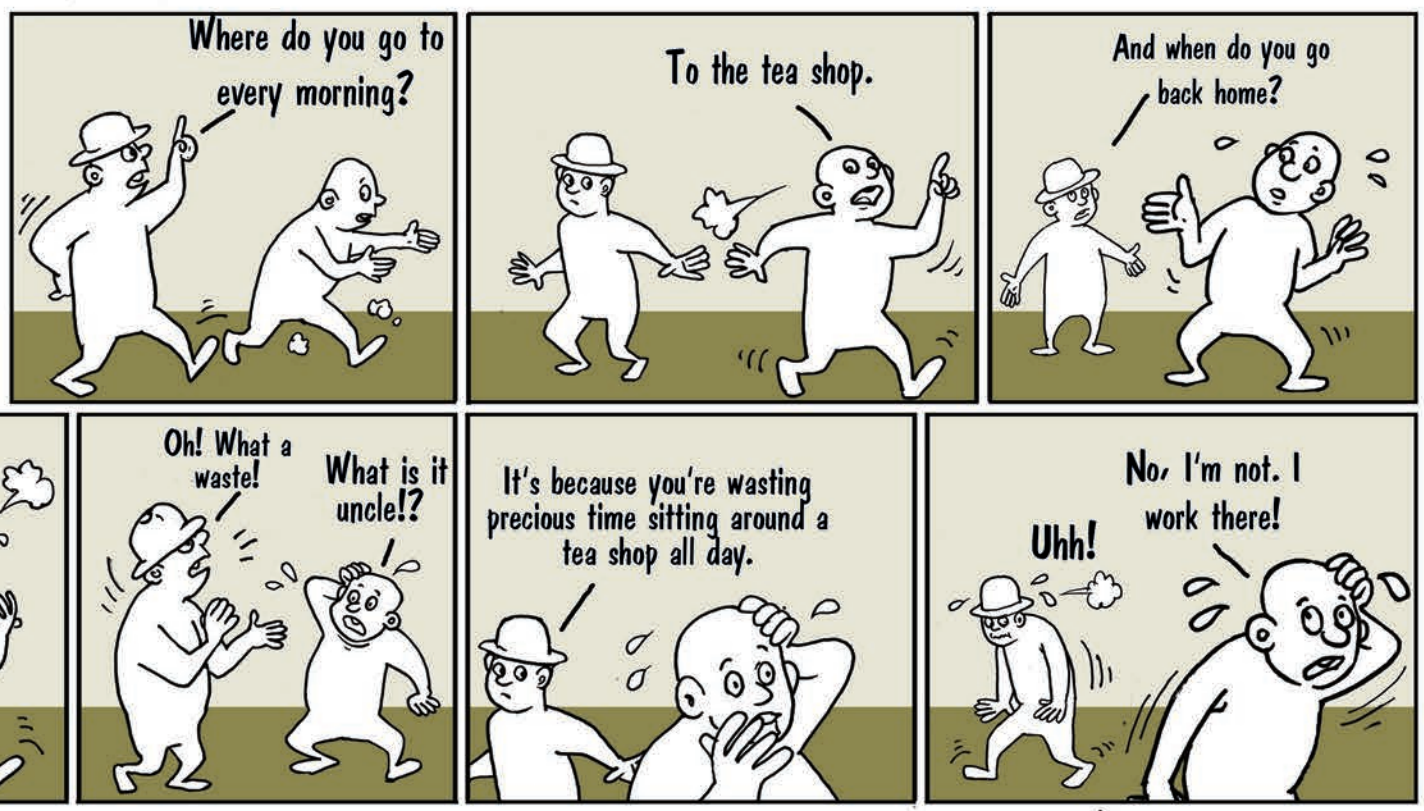
The Bat Cave in Kanbalu.

SUNDAY COMICS



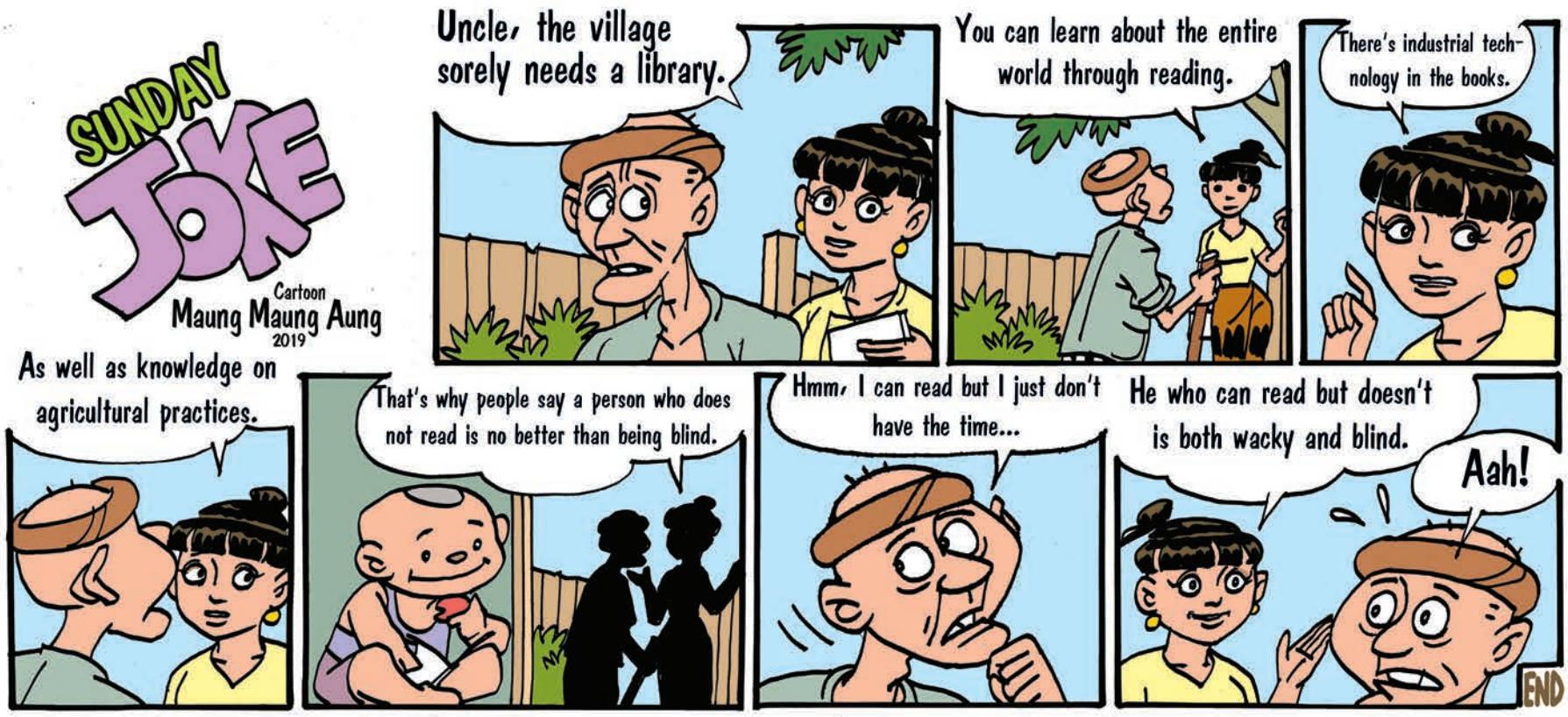
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2019





READ BROADLY



By Thu Naung Kyaw
(Hledan)
Dip. in English (YUFL)

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies; the man who never reads lives only one." Think of what is meant by this sentence.

It means that although everybody lives a single life, those who read many different books of assorted literature have greater knowledge of diverse life experiences, which are attributed to the books, than those who never read.

So, may I urge every youth to cultivate the habit of reading.

School lessons are not enough for living a life. Read widely, read broadly. Read the books written in both Myanmar and English, not for fun but for the profound awareness of how to make life a progress. Be selective. Moreover, when you read, you should not only pursue superficial, casual reading, but it is also good to do critical reading, where reading is accompanied by mentally raising the questions, and judging or considering the contents critically.

I'd suggest interpretation and reading between the lines, i.e. reading until you arrive at the underlying meaning or the intended meaning behind the texts. The greater the reading experience, the better all these reading skills become. All those skills are useful for reading both school textbooks and other literature.

Read the books written in Myanmar as well as English. Here, I would like to jot down the list of Myanmar writers whose works have been greatly impressive and influential to me: Mya Than Tint, Maung Htin, Thawtar Swe, Journal Kyaw Ma Ma Lay, Htin Gyi, Win Tin, Aung Thin, Ludu Sein Win, Maung Thaw Ka, Pe Myint, Thu Maung, Min Lu, to name a few. There may still be many others.

Youths of today's IT age have free access to e-book, pdf, online reading materials and, thus, it can be said that compared to years back in our childhood, they are now provided with the larger resource-rich. What matters most is to do them practically.

Next Generation
POEM

Mind Your Forefingers

Pointing forefingers at each other
As an attempt to shake off the matter
Two people shouting and yelling
"Who has the responsibility?!!!"

When putting the blame on someone else's shoulder
People use their forefingers
By laying them flat in horizontal position
To keep themselves from a terrible condition

Instead of a step back to turn away
Why not come out and say
"It's me" or "I'm responsible for that"
By raising our forefingers straight up

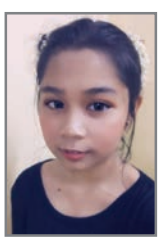
Simply shift the direction of the forefinger
We have the responsibility for what we are
If every finger pointing at one another
How can we stand up for the younger?

If you do care about the future
Please mind your own forefingers!

By Honey Soe

SUNDAY FEVER





By AW Khin Myat Phone
Grade 11 A, BEHS 4, Botahtaung

IT is such a feeling. The feeling that I completely cannot explain. The feeling that is somehow strange, though. It usually comes on Sundays. Every Sunday. True that I always say time flies so fast. But time seems to be a bit slow in this case. I have to wait for a whole week to reach this day called, "Sunday".Because it is unique. It is special.

To say, maybe it may sound a little bit crazy, I usually think about it on Saturday nights whether my article will be submitted or not. Then, sleep does not come. Being one those who are writing in **Next Generation Platform** in *The Global New Light of Myanmar* on Sunday, I feel so over the moon whenever my work is submitted in the paper. If my article is in the paper, that Sunday morning becomes so fresh. So glad. So beautiful like that song, "Beautiful Sunday".However, if it does not turn out like I have imagined or if I don't see mine in the newspaper, my mood comes out in a different way. Like the rain cloud is raining only over my head.

I do know that I have to give others a turn but I can't help myself. I still want my article to be published too. The feeling is so astonishing when you see your words printed in those beautiful bold letters and your title in colours and background pictures on one of the page of the paper, isn't it?

Who is getting excited too? Totally, my mum of course. And when Sunday morning comes, I jump out of bed, clean myself, then rush down to fetch the paper. The newspaper man is sometimes late. When I get the newspaper, I fight off ninjas, and nosed back to upstairs again. On my way, my hands turn the pages while my eyes search for my article. If I see it, a Burmese morning smile comes onto my face.

I can still remember that time when I was first submitted in the paper a year ago. Mum came and told me while I was having a lie in on my bed. Immediately, I sat up, grabbed the paper and looked. When my eyes met the article in the paper, I could feel butterflies fluttering in my stomach. That such feeling never leaves me that it stays with me till now. It was like yesterday. Thanks to editor and the editorial crew for making my articles look pleasing.

There were times when teachers told me to focus on my studies only. I do concentrate on my studies but this is a kind of one thing that I do for pleasure, my passion somehow. So I can escape from the heavy stress for a while. Dad didn't use to look forward a year ago but now he is the one who always buys the papers whenever he sees my photo and article in it.

Oh,Sunday. It used to be an ordinary day among 7 days a week. But now it gives me the feeling that I cannot describe yet or maybe it is a kind of,like "Sunday Fever" which I will never get enough even in the future.



YANGON TO BANGKOK

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG706	5:45	8:10	Daily
8M335	7:30	9:15	Daily
UB-019	7:50	9:20	1,3,5,6,7
TG304	9:50	11:45	Daily
PG702	10:30	12:30	Daily
TG2302	11:45	13:40	2,3,5,7
PG708	15:30	17:30	5,6,7
8M331	16:30	18:15	Daily
UB-017	18:00	19:30	Daily
PG704	18:35	20:35	Daily
TG306	19:50	21:45	Daily

BANGKOK TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
TG303	8:00	8:45	Daily
PG701	8:45	9:40	Daily
TG2301	10:00	10:55	2,3,5,7
8M336	10:15	11:00	Daily
UB020	10:20	10:50	1,3,5,6,7
PG707	13:45	14:40	5,6,7
PG703	16:50	17:45	Daily
TG305	18:05	18:50	Daily
8M332	19:20	20:05	Daily
PG705	20:30	21:50	Daily
UB018	20:30	21:00	Daily

YANGON TO DON MUEANG

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
DD4231	8:00	9:50	Daily
FD252	8:45	10:30	Daily
SL201	9:00	10:50	Daily
DD4235	11:55	13:40	Daily
FD254	17:35	19:25	Daily
SL207	19:00	20:55	Daily
DD4239	21:00	22:45	Daily
FD258	21:40	23:30	Daily

DON MUEANG TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
DD4230	6:30	7:15	Daily
FD251	7:30	8:15	Daily
SL200	7:35	8:25	Daily
DD4234	10:35	11:20	Daily
FD253	16:10	17:05	Daily
SL206	18:55	19:45	Daily
DD4238	19:25	20:15	Daily
FD257	20:30	21:10	Daily

YANGON TO GUANGZHOU

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
8M711	8:40	13:15	2,4,5,7
CZ3056	11:35	15:55	3,6
CZ8472	17:40	22:20	1,5

GUANGZHOU TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CZ3055	8:35	10:25	3,6
8M712	14:15	15:50	2,4,5,7
CZ8471	14:35	16:40	1,5

YANGON TO SINGAPORE

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
UB001	7:15	11:45	Daily
8M-231	8:20	12:40	Daily
SQ997	10:25	15:10	Daily
3K582	11:30	16:05	Daily
MI533	12:30	19:30	2
MI510	14:55	19:30	4,6
UB003	16:00	20:30	Daily
MI519	17:35	22:10	Daily
MI521	18:30	22:55	3,7
3K584	19:35	0:10	1,2,3,4,5,7

SINGAPORE TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
SQ998	7:55	09:20	Daily
3K581	9:10	10:35	Daily
MI510	10:15	14:10	4,6
MI533	10:15	11:40	2
UB002	13:00	14:30	Daily
8M232	13:45	15:15	Daily
MI518	15:15	16:40	Daily
MI520	16:10	17:35	3,5,7
3K583	17:30	18:55	1,2,3,4,5,7
UB004	21:15	22:45	Daily

YANGON TO HONG KONG

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
KA275	17:20	21:45	5
KA251	1:5	5:25	1,2,3,4,6,7
UB8027	7:15	11:45	1,3,5,7

HONG KONG TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
UB8028	12:45	14:15	1,3,5,7
KA250	21:50	23:45	1,2,3,5,6,7
KA252	22:20	00:10+1	4

YANGON TO KUALA LUMPUR

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
AK505	8:30	12:45	Daily
MH741	11:20	15:45	Daily
OD551	12:25	16:45	1,4,7
MH743	16:10	20:30	1,4,6,7
AK503	19:10	23:30	1,5,6,7
OD553	23:55	4:20+1	2,3,5,6

KUALA LUMPUR TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
AK504	6:50	8:00	Daily
MH740	9:10	10:15	Daily
OD550	10:15	11:30	1,4,7
MH742	13:55	15:05	1,4,6,7
AK502	17:20	18:30	1,5,6,7
OD552	21:45	22:55	2,3,5,6

YANGON TO SEOUL INCHEON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
KE472	23:30	7:15	Daily

SEOUL INCHEON TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
KE471	18:15	22:10	Daily

YANGON TO TAIPEI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CI7916	10:50	16:10	1,2,3,4,6

TAIPEI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CI7915	7:00	9:50	1,2,3,4,6

YANGON TO KUNMING

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CA416	13:00	16:30	Daily
MU2012	13:10	20:05	3
MU2032	16:00	19:50	Daily

KUNMING TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
MU2011	8:20	12:10	3,7
CA415	11:20	12:00	Daily
MU2031	14:30	15:10	Daily

YANGON TO BEIJING

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CA906	23:50	5:50+1	1,3,5

BEIJING TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CA905	19:30	22:50	1,3,5

YANGON TO HANIO

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN956	18:55	21:15	Daily
VJ918	18:55	21:20	2,4,5,6,7

HANOI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN957	16:30	18:00	Daily
VJ917	16:30	17:55	2,4,5,6,7

YANGON TO HO CHI MINH

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN942	12:10	15:05	Daily

HO CHI MINH TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN943	7:20	9:55	Daily

YANGON TO TOKYO

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
NH814	21:10	6:45+1	Daily

TOKYO TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
NH813	11:00	16:30	Daily

YANGON TO DOHA

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
QR919	7:40	11:55	1,3,4,6,7

DOHA TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
QR918	20:00	5:30	2,3,5,6,7

YANGON TO CHIANG MAI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG724	13:40	15:30	Daily

CHIANG MAI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG723	12:05	12:55	Daily

YANGON TO DHAKA

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
BG061	14:15	16:00	1,3,6

DHAKA TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
BG060	10:45	13:30	1,3,6

YANGON TO DUBAI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
EK389	2:10	5:55	Daily

DUBAI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
EK388	9:10	16:55	Daily

MANDALAY TO BANGKOK

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG710	14:30	16:55	Daily
PG714	19:15	21:40	Daily

BANGKOK TO MANDALAY

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG709	12:15	13:40	Daily
PG713	17:00	18:25	Daily

MANDALAY TO DON MUEONG

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
FD245	12:55	15:20	Daily

DON MUEONG TO MANDALAY

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
FD244	11:10	12:25	Daily

MANDALAY TO KUNMING

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
MU2568	10:20	13:25	1,3,5,7
MU2030	16:10	19:25	Daily

KUNMING TO MANDALAY

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
MU2567	8:55	9:20	1,3,5,7
MU2029	14:55	15:10	Daily

NAY PYI TAW TO BANGKOK

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG722	20:00	22:50	1,2,3,4,5,7

BANGKOK TO NAY PYI TAW

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG721	17:25	19:20	1,2,3,4,5,7

AIR LINES CODES

3K = Jet Star	MH = Malaysia Airlines
8M = Myanmar Airways International	MI = Silk Air
AI = Air India	MU = China Easten Airlines
AK = Air Asia	NH = All Nippon Airways
BG = Biman Bangladesh Airlines	PG = Bangkok Airways
CA = Air China	QR = Qatar Airways
CI = China Airlines	SL = Thai Lion Air
CZ = China Southern	SQ = Singapore Airways
DD = Nok Airline	TG = Thai Airways
FD = Air Asia	TR = Tiger Airlines
KA = Dragonair	UB = Myanmar National Airlines
KE = Korea Airlines	VN = Vietnam Airlines

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

Subjected to change by repesctive airlines.
Hotline - (951) 229245