

SUNDAY
SPECIAL

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NATIONAL

Families of Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) Offices celebrate Buddha Day in Nay Pyi Taw

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Buddha Day, Full Moon Day of Kason celebrated across Myanmar



Buddhist devotees water the Bo Tree at the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon to mark Buddha Day which falls on the Full Moon Day of Kason yesterday. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

THE Buddha's Day, the Full Moon of the month of Kason fell on 18th May in 2019 and pagodas across Myanmar crowded with the people.

Buddhists across the country took part in the celebration of Buddha's Day, the Full Moon day of the month of Kason because the Buddha was born on

the day of the Full Moon of the month of Kason, upon which He attained Enlightenment at the age of thirty-five and also upon which He entered Parin-

ibbana (passed away) at the age of eighty.

In commemoration of these three significant and holy events associated with the pre-

cious life of the Lord Buddha, Buddhists celebrate Buddha Day, the Full Moon of the month of Kason every year.

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MYANMAR FIRST WIND GAME

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Buddhists observe Full Moon Day of Kason in Nay Pyi Taw

THE Full Moon Day of Kason (Buddha Day) is of religious traditions for the Buddhists across the world. A ceremony to pour water at the Bo tree marking the Buddha Day was held at the Bo tree in the precinct of the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Devotees and pilgrims paid homage to the Buddha Images in the cave of the pagoda, performed acts of merits and kept Sabbaths at the religious edifices.

Similarly, water pouring ceremony at the Bo Trees was held at the Buddha Gaya, the Maha

That Kya Yan Thi Image, the Yan Aung Myin Shwe Lat Hla, the Lat Lote Taung and the Koe Na Win Pagodas in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

In the late afternoon, the 11th anniversary of Kason Festival was celebrated in the precincts of the Uppatasanti Pagoda with



Buddhist devotees pour water at the Bodhi Tree on the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



People visit the Upaatasanti Pagoda on the Full Moon Day of Kason (Buddha Day) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

the pouring of scented water on the Bo Trees where devotees performed their meritorious deeds.

The event was attended by Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo and wife, Chairman of

Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr. Myo Aung and wife, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council, members of the Nay Pyi Taw Development committees and departmental heads. —MNA (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung) ■

Buddha Day, Full Moon Day of Kason celebrated across Myanmar

FROM PAGE-1

The water pouring at the Bo Trees in the month of Kason is one the 12 traditional festivals of the Myanmar.

Buddhist devotees across the Myanmar celebrate the annual festival water the Bo trees at pagodas and monasteries.

The Board of Trustees of the Shwedagon Pagoda celebrated the 36th anniversary of

Kason Festival at the pagoda pagoda, where donors offered "Soon" to the members of the Sangha early morning. In the afternoon, Members of the Sangha consecrated the Bo Trees. The congregation led by Members of the Sangha, members of the pagoda board of trustees, religious associations and those present poured water on the Maha Bodhi tree, while reciting religious verses to celebrate the

Buddha Day.

Then members of the Board of the Shwedagon Pagoda and religious organizations observed nine precepts from the Shwedagon Pagoda Ovadacariya Sayadaw of Yangon Region Yankin Township Mahadhammikaryone Monastery Kyaikpikyaung Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamajotika Bhantanta Gunaysana

and donated offertories to the members of the Sangha. Next, the congregation listened to the sermon administered by Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tilawka Bhivamsa, Ovadacariya of Insein Township Ywama Pariyatti Monastery and shared their merits thus gained. Afterwards, they celebrated Buddha Day by pouring water on Bodhi Trees at the pagoda.

Similarly, the Board of

Trustees of the Maha Wizaya Pagoda celebrated the 33rd anniversary of Kason Festival at the pagoda yesterday and the religious associations poured water on the Bo Trees. Similar ceremonies were held at the Botahtaung, the Kaba Aye, the Kyaik Wine, the Sacred Tooth Relic and other famous pagodas in Yangon Region. — Ye Ye Myint, (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung) ■



Buddhist devotees donate flower and water to the Buddha images under the Bodhi Tree at Maha Wizaya Pagoda in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**



People visit the Botahtaung Pagoda in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air Force) Office families mark Buddha Day

FAMILIES of Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air Force) led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla marked the full moon day of Kason in 1381 Myanmar Era by pouring water on the Bodhi trees at the Lawkachantha Hsutaungpyae Pagoda in Zeyathiri Township in Nay Pyi

Taw yesterday.

First, the Senior General and wife offered flowers, water and oil lamps to the Buddha image at the pagoda and then watered the Bodhi trees together with other devotees, according to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla pouring water on the Bodhi tree at the Lawkachantha Hsutaungpyae Pagoda in Zeyathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw on the full moon day of Kason, yesterday. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

Meeting held on organizing centenary celebration of Myanmar Motion Picture

THE first meeting to discuss the centenary celebration of the Myanmar Motion Picture industry was held at Sky Star Hotel in Tamwe, Yangon, yesterday.

In his opening address at the meeting, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint said that the centenary celebration of Myanmar's motion picture industry is a matter of pride for the film community and the country, as well, expressing his delight at the preparations for the event and in his meeting the attendees.

Also, U Phyo Min Thein,

the Chief Minister of Yangon spoke of the support his office will provide, and the Chairman of the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, U Zin Wine, explained the purpose of the celebration and proposed some suggestions.

Pro-Rector of the Nation University of Art and Culture, U Myat Thu Ya, President of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization U Aung Myint Myat, guests and participants also discussed their contributions to the celebration.

U Zin Wine expressed

words of thanks for the suggestions offered by the attendees, and called on the youths of the community to actively take part in celebrating the centenary of Myanmar's motion picture industry.

He also suggested holding a workshop on developing programmes for TV, as well as to prepare movies related to the Tatmadaw in 100 years as part of the celebrations.

In his remarks, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint said both the Ministry of Information and the State Counsellor took much in-

terest in the development of the Myanmar film industry, adding that he hoped all would be satisfied as the Ministry of Information and other ministries take part in holding the event.

However, as it is the centenary of Myanmar's film industry, the film community is mainly responsible for preparing the celebration of the centenary event, he said.

On behalf of the Ministry of Information, the Union minister offered the ministry's full help in those sectors which are concerned with the ministry, so that members of the film community can celebrate the event.

He also expressed his opinion that programs related to film art at the event should be excellent and stressed the need to hold the event with the full participation of all people from different sectors related to film.

He also suggested that the film community develop the idea of how to celebrate a modern centenary, rather than modeling the event after the silver, gold and diamond anniversaries of the past. He further said that ideas for holding the celebration can come from previous silver jubilee, golden jubilee and diamond jubilees of the Myanmar

Motion Picture, and he urged the film community to review international celebrations that were similar to this event.

The Union Minister urged the representatives of the film community to make efforts to hold a grand celebration.

The centenary celebrations of the Myanmar Motion Picture will be held on 13 October, 2020, with the aim of portraying the significance that the Myanmar motion picture achieved, along with efforts to gain independence, to honour artistes and technicians who were diligent in successive eras of the film industry, and to bring about the development of the future film industry through the unity of the film community, including the old and new generations, and to pay back the gratitude owned by the film community to the people who supported the film industry for 100 years.

The meeting was attended by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information and departmental officials, patrons of the Myanmar Movie Organization, artistes, partnership organizations and invited guests from different realms of the film community.—MNA ■



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint delivers the speech at the first meeting to discuss organizing the centenary celebration of the Myanmar Motion Picture industry in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Sagaing Region Agriculture Department issues GAP certificates to 14 mango farmers

FOURTEEN mango farmers, cultivating 659.25 acres in Kantbalu and Ayadaw townships in Sagaing Region, received Good Agriculture Practice (GAP) certificates yesterday at the Sagaing Region Agriculture Department office in Monywa Town, Sagaing Region.

"To grant GAP certificates to the farmers in Sagaing Region the department officials went on an inspection tour and checked whether the farms are meeting GAP guidelines.

After screening stages, 14 out of 18 farm owners were accredited GAP certificates", said the Sagaing Region Minister

for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

"The growers were united in seeking GAP certificates, with a view to prioritizing food safety for consumers. It also guarantees the livelihood of the workers, as well as the farm owners.

The farmers expect to

develop firm market shares", said U Kyaw Yin, manager of Aye Mya Soe Foundation's 1,000-acre-mango farm.

Sagaing Region Agriculture Department issued GAP certificates to seven mango farmers in 2017, 19 mango farmers and one muskmelon grower in 2018, as well as 14 mango farmers in

2019, according to data from the department.

Additionally, the department has been raising awareness about GAP by offering courses and distributing pamphlets, said officials at the Sagaing Region Agriculture Department.—Win Oo / Myo Win Tun ■

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.comPrinted and published at the Global New
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edited.

Yangon-Mandalay railway upgrading project launches

Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung and officials attend the Ground Breaking Ceremony at the Central Yangon railway station yesterday. **PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG SOE**

A ceremony to mark the start of the upgrading of the Yangon-Mandalay railway and installation of the signaling systems was held at the central Yangon railway station on 18 May 2019.

The ceremony was attended by U Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister for Transport and Communications, U Phyo Min Thein, Chief Minister of Yangon Region, the Regional Ministers, U Win Khant, Permanent Secretary, U Ba Myint, managing director of Myanma Railways (MR) and officials from MR, Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, Japa-

nese Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr. Masayuki Karazawa, Chief Representative from JICA and officials, Mr. Yasushi Nakagawa from Tekken –RN JV company, Mr. Tsuneo Lizuka from Tokyu Construction Co.Ltd, among others.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung said, "Today's ceremony is to launch the upgrading of railway and flyovers, and installation of signaling systems covered by the Yangon-Mandalay railway upgrading project phase-1. During the project period, only one

railway will remain available, thereby keeping the trains in as time of waiting to proceed with thier journey. Some of the level crossings are in danger, and so we need to have some cooperation. Upon completion of the project, the trains will be allowed to run at speeds of 100 kilometers per hour.

Yangon Regional Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Ichiro Maruyama also delivered speeches. Afterwards, Chief Representative from JICA Mr. Masayuki Karazawa, TekkenRN JV company Mr. Yasushi

Nakagawa, and Yokyu Construction Co. Ltd Mr. Tsuneo Lizuka spoke words of thanks.

Yangon-Mandalay railway is 385.5 miles long. So, the upgrading of the railway will be conducted in two phases: the 166-mile-long Yangon-Toungoo section and the 219.5-mile-long Toungoo-Mandalay section. The Yangon-Toungoo section is subdivided into three parts–Yangon-Bago (CP-101) 46.5 miles, Bago-Nyaunglaybin (CP-102) 46.25 miles and Nyaunglebin-Toungoo (CP-103) 73.25 miles.

— MNA ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Myanmar Awba to produce high-quality seeds with local farmers

By Aye Yamon Oo

WITH an aim to develop the pulses and oilseeds sector, Myanmar Awba will produce high-quality seeds, in cooperation with local farmers, according to the Myanmar Awba business group.

With the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the seeds project will be carried out in cooperation with Myanmar Awba and the Livelihood and Food Security Fund (LIFT).

"Local seed production businesses are not successful and face many difficulties, such as technical issues and other investment problems, along with low profitability. Now, LIFT will invest in the seed production business for local farmers. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation also provides support,

supplying high quality seeds from the seed bank. Therefore, we can upgrade the seed production industry for the sake of local farmers," said U Thadde Hein, the managing director of Myanmar Awba.

The cultivation sector will start to operate in the rainy season, while the sales sector will be operational in winter. To provide the seeds, 5,000 acres of local farmland in Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing regions will be put under cultivation. During the initial operation period, about 2,500 tons of seeds are expected to be cultivated within one year.

Through collaborative efforts of the government, the private company and local farmers, high-quality seeds will be produced, which can resist the country's erratic weather.

Moreover, the first seed production company was es-

tablished by Myanmar Awba, in cooperation with 2,500 local farmers, and divided into 51 per cent shares for Myanmar Awba and 49 per cent shares for local farmers' groups.

"LIFT supports the first investment on behalf of 2,500 local farmers, while Myanmar Awba invested more than US\$ 3 million. The seed cleaning machine will also be operational within 12 months," said U Thadde Hein.

Local farmers have to produce pedigree seeds. Then, Myanmar Awba will purchase those seeds at superior prices. Local farmers participating in the seed production project will gain profits, depending on the volume and the value of seed production.

"With the implementation of this initiative, we expect to see a total increase of USD 500 million in income for 1.3 million

farmers across Myanmar over five years," said Katy Webley, LIFT Fund Director.

"This initiative, under LIFT's financial inclusion programme, also fits with the Government's Agricultural Development Strategy, which stresses the importance of smallholder farmers being at the core of Myanmar's agri-food systems transformation and ensures broad-based and inclusive agricultural growth," said U Kyaw Swe Lin, the Director-General of the Planning Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

This public-private partnership (PPP) will ensure that smallholder farmers have access to the quality pulses and oil seeds that are both sustainable and resilient to climate change. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

FDI totals \$2.56 bln as of 11 May in current fiscal year

OVER the past seven-month period (Oct-May), overall foreign direct investments of \$2.56 billion flowed into the country, including expansion of capitals by existing enterprises and investments of over \$134 million in Thilawa Special Economic Zone, according to press release of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

From 1 October, 2018 to 11 May, 2019, a total of 155 foreign enterprises were received permits and endorsements, bringing in capital of \$1.7 billion. Singapore-listed enterprises pulled the largest investments during Oct-May period, followed by China and Hong Kong.

Transport and Communication absorbed over \$1.15 billion of FDI, topping in the investment sector line-up, followed by manufacturing sector.

MIC targets to attain \$5.8 billion of FDIs in the current fiscal year 2018-2019, according to the DICA.

According to the Myanmar Investment Law, the Regions and States Investment Committees are allowed to grant permissions to local and foreign proposals, where the initial investment does not exceed K6 billion, or \$5 million with an aim to facilitate the verification process of investment projects. — GNLM ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



Thilawa Special Economic Zone has now attracted investments. PHOTO: PHO HTAUNG

MRF calls for government intervention to regulate rice market

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) called for government intervention, including regulation with policy and laws, subsidies and exploration of markets, in a bid to promote the rights and benefits of farmers, according to a recent press release from MRF.

To tackle problems being faced by farmers by the recent price drop and difficulties, MRF members have been traveling to farms to purchase summer paddy. However, they are limited by storage capacities to dry the rice, as well as by logistics problems, coupled with power cuts.

As exports through border gates are plummeting, the private sector's sole efforts cannot deal with this. Government intervention is needed, and MRF has already forwarded requests to the government.

Last month, Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) declared it would purchase long-grain rice with 90-day yields which have no demand in the market at the set price of K19,500 per bag starting from 8 April.

The MRF had urged merchants, millers, agents, private companies, and MRF members to buy paddy at the basic rate, if the paddy met the prescribed criteria of having 14-per-cent moisture content and a fixed percentage of impurities, such as sand, weed, and small stones. Members were also urged to purchase paddy if the market price falls below the basic price, the federation stated in a press release. Rice trade to China through the Sino-Myanmar border trade channels was halted in October, 2018 as China began cracking

down on illegal goods, leading to steep drops in rice exports to China and a stockpile of some 500,000 tons of rice at Muse gate.

The drastic plunge in rice exports through the border trade resulted in some 2 million tons of rice being stockpiled in the market, according to the Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association. Over 1.3 million tons of rice and broken rice were exported to foreign countries during the seven months of the current fiscal year, which is a significant drop of 800,000 tons, compared with the corresponding period in the last FY, according to MRF.

Myanmar shipped 3.68 million tons of rice to foreign countries during the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, which was a record amount for the past 50 years. — GNLM ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



Farmers plant Myanmar's main staple crop – rice. PHOTO: CHAN THA (MEIKHTILA)

91 domestic enterprises pull in investments of K689.23 bln in current FY

A total of 91 domestic enterprises were allowed to invest for the amount of K689.23 billion from 1 October, 2018 to 11 May, 2019, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

Overall domestic investments made by Myanmar citizens exceeded K906.9 billion in the current fiscal year, including capital expansion by the existing enterprises. The domestic investments flow into real estate, manufacturing, hotels and tourism, construction, industrial estate energy, mining, livestock and fisheries, agriculture and other service sectors, according to the DICA.

Under the Myanmar Investment Law, region and state investment committees are authorized to endorse investment proposals

with a capital of not more than \$5 million (K6,000 million), in order to simplify the verification of investment projects. While some projects no longer need MIC's approval, businesses that are strategic to the government require an MIC permit. Businesses with large capital investments exceeding \$5 million and projects which can impact the environment and the local community need to get a nod from the DICA proposal assessment team. Such projects usually involve State-owned land, or are designated by the Government. In order to fast-track setting up of businesses in Myanmar, the government is now allowing investors to apply to the MIC or the State and Regional investment committees for endorsing their investment proposals, depending on the business type. — GNLM ■

Border trade via Kawthoung increases by nearly \$10 mln

TRADE between Myanmar and Thailand via Kawthoung border gate as of 10 May this Fiscal Year exceeded US\$160 million, which showed a slight increase in value of almost \$10 million matched against the same period in the last FY, according to the commerce ministry. The total figures cover \$139.72 million in exports, an increase in value of \$22.07 million over the last FY. This time last year, the value of export/import between the two countries from this border point was \$152

million in total. Products from Thailand flow into the country via seven border points of entry, including Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese. Myanmar principally imports a wide range of consumer products, food, soft drinks, cooking oil, plastic ware and cosmetics, while exporting marine products, agricultural commodities and other items to the neighbouring country. — Shwe Khine ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Buddha images of Eternal Peace Pagoda consecrated at Uppatasanti Pagoda

TWO marble Buddha images, diamond bud, vane and golden umbrella crown that are meant for the Eternal Peace Pagoda were consecrated at the eastern entrance of the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday along with a parittas reciting ceremony.

Members of the Sangha led by Lewe Pauk Myaing Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharatttha Guru Bhaddanta Zaninanda consecrated the two marble Buddha images, diamond bud, vane and golden umbrella crown.

Afterwards, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung and wife Daw Khin Saw Mu, Nay Pyi Taw Council members Colonel Min Naung, U Aung Myin Tun and U Aye Maung Sein, departmental heads and officials, members of board of trustees of the Uppatasanti Pagoda, donors and merit organizations received the Nine Precepts from Lewe Pauk



Parittas reciting ceremony held at the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday in front of the marble Buddha Image that is to be housed at the Eternal Peace Pagoda. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myaing Monastery Sayadaw.

Metta Sutta was then recited by Members of the Sangha, and Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and wife, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council and officials do-

nated offertories to the Members of the Sangha.

The ceremony came to a conclusion after Pauk Myaing Monastery Sayadaw delivered a sermon and merits gained were

shared. Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and wife, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council and officials then conveyed the two marble Buddha images, diamond bud, vane and golden umbrella crown

to the Eternal Peace Pagoda in Dekkhinathiri Township from the eastern entrance of the Uppatasanti Pagoda.—Han Lin Naing ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Devotees throng famous pagodas in Mandalay to observe Full Moon Day of Kason



People clad in ceremonial dress as they take part in the Buddha Day celebrations in Mandalay yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

FULL Moon Day of Kason (the Buddha Day) is widely known as a day of religious significance for Buddhists around the world and which fell on 18th May 2019 this year. In commemoration of the holy event associated with the religion and traditions in Myanmar, the Buddhists observe the Buddha Day or the Full Moon Day of Kason every year. It is a day on which the Lord Buddha was born, attained enlightenment and passed away.

Therefore the sacred Bodhi Tree is of signified image of worship as a worthy shrine

in Buddhist countries. It goes without saying that Buddhists across the world revered the sacred Bodhi Tree very much and they thronged famous pagodas and other religious places to participate in the celebration of Buddha Day or Full Moon Day of Kason on a grand scale.

A ceremony to pour sacred water on the Bo tree was held at the Bo tree in the precinct of the Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay Region yesterday.

The event was attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, Chief

Justice of Mandalay, regional ministers, members of the Maha Muni Buddha Image's board of trustees, religious associations and devotees.

Likewise, water pouring ceremony at the Bo Tree was also held at the Shwekyeemyin, the Payani, the Hsutaung-pyae Hsutaungya, the Warkingone, the Aungdawmu, the Maha Bawdibin, the Mandalaytaung and other pagodas in Mandalay.—Mandkopwar ■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Deputy Minister U Soe Aung attends 6th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction



Deputy Minister U Soe Aung delivers the speech at 6th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, Switzerland. **PHOTO: MNA**

DEPUTY Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, U Soe Aung, permanent representative of Myanmar to UN U Kyaw Moe Tun, Director

general of Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, U Kyaw Moe Oo and official from department of disaster management attended Global Platform for

Disaster Risk Reduction held from 13th to 17th May in Geneva, Switzerland.

It was reported that the event was held in member states of the UN every two year and over 4000 representatives from 128 countries attended it.

The Myanmar delegation participated in opening and closing ceremonies, Ministerial level closed door meeting, High level dialogues, workshops and side events.

They also discussed current situation of disaster risk reduction in Myanmar and international assistance, cooperation with international community in disaster risk reduction.

On the second day of the

Platform, the Deputy Minister delivered speech regarding the progress of Myanmar disaster risk management.

In the Ministerial level meeting, he spoke of success and failure of 32 prioritized sectors of the 2017 Disaster Risk Reduction project, the assessment of it, reduction of climate change, disaster risk reduction headed by Vice Presidents, and priorities in developing the country in right balance. He also took part in discussion with other countries.

As Myanmar is the chairman of Asean committee on disaster management, Union Minister read a letter concerning disaster management on

behalf of Asean.

Thanks to the participation in the 6th Global Platform, Myanmar will gain benefits such as working more closely with international community, resolving climate change problems together, working together with international community to reduce disaster risk making the best use of experiences and advices of the foreign countries, being able to inform Myanmar policy on reducing disaster risk and how they are being systematically steered and meeting with countries willing to provide technical assistance and energy support.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

As bitcoin gyrates, less euphoria in evidence at blockchain gathering

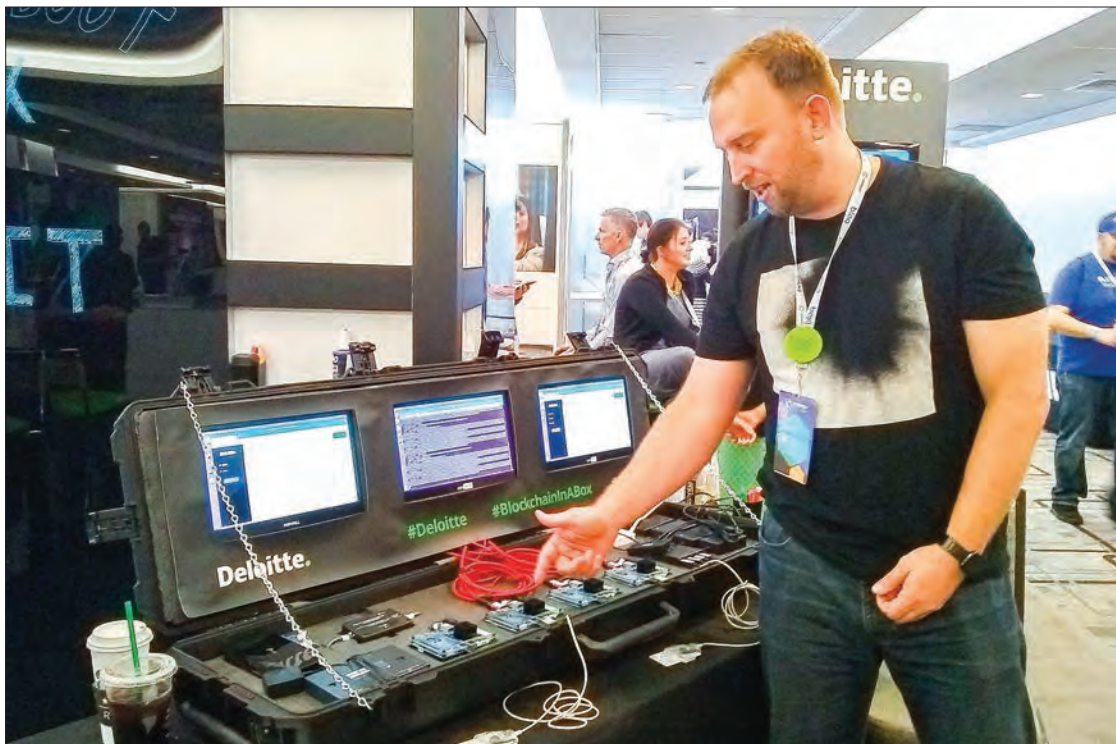
NEW YORK (United States) — The vibe at a gathering this week for blockchain enthusiasts felt decidedly less exuberant than its predecessor a year ago after dizzying swings in bitcoin.

Last year's Consensus blockchain conference took place just four months after the virtual currency hit almost \$20,000, spawning a legion of bitcoin millionaires who rode in swanky luxury cars and partied in over-the-top soirees. Despite bitcoin's latest bounce, this year's gathering, again held at a hotel in New York, featured less ostentatious displays of wealth and a more sober sensibility.

The shift is partly a reflection of bitcoin's dramatic price swings, as well as a sign of the evolution of blockchain technology into more real-life, less trendy applications.

"It's definitely less buzz, less show," said Wes Fuldord, chief executive at Bitfarms Technologies, a cryptomining operation based in Quebec. "But it's reflecting signs of a more mature market."

Blockchain is a digital ledger that is the underlying technology of bitcoin with broad applications in finance and many industries



Deloitte demonstrated blockchain-based cybersecurity technology at the Consensus 2019 conference in New York on 15 May 2019. PHOTO: AFP

that permit multiple users to share data and information in real time. The technology is considered secure because the data cannot be altered.

"In 2018, we just had a lot of powerpoint presentations," recalled Francois-Xavier Thoores, founder of blockchain company Ark. "This year, we have real

products." Display stands at the event included a Deloitte product of three screens that employs blockchain for cybersecurity, and an application from startup Riddle & Code that authenticates expensive watches.

Speakers included representatives of Pfizer and AstraZeneca, who discussed

blockchain applications in pharmaceutical research, and Microsoft, which is marketing a blockchain-based "decentralized identity" to secure personal data.

Attendees also discussed solutions to manage the ownership of digital assets and the various legal and regulatory issues that have surfaced. —AFP ■

New Zealand joins Chile, Singapore in talks on digital economy partnership

WELLINGTON—New Zealand will join Chile and Singapore in talks to establish new trade rules and best practice for the digital era. "The future of international trade is digital. Our three countries have a strong record of working together on the rules and best practice for international trade policy," Trade and Export Growth Minister David Parker said in a statement on Saturday.

Parker, together with Chile's Minister of Foreign Affairs Roberto Ampuero and Singapore's Minister of Trade and Industry Chan Chun Sing, announced the start of the negotiations on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting of Ministers Responsible for Trade in Vina del Mar, Chile.

The unprecedented growth of digital trade has led to a lag in the development of relevant international trade rules and norms, Parker said, adding these talks are an opportunity for New Zealand to help shape the international rules in this area to ensure they make it easier for businesses and consumers to take advantage of digital trade opportunities, while protecting public and private interests.

"We will ensure that issues of importance to New Zealanders such as personal privacy, consumer protection, data management, transparency and openness are appropriately protected," the minister said.

To a trade-dependent country distant from key markets, digital trade can help businesses, particularly small and medium sized enterprises, overcome the challenges of scale and distance, he said. "Digital technologies can also potentially support the increased participation in trade by women, Maori and rural communities, helping spread the benefits of trade across our communities and regions -- a key aim of our Trade for All policy," Parker added. The negotiation with Chile and Singapore on a new digital trade agreement will also complement and support the ongoing WTO negotiations on e-commerce, as well as digital economy work streams within APEC and the OECD, he said. —AFP ■

Going down: Brazil economic woes hit stocks, currency

RIO DE JANEIRO (Brazil)—Atrophying growth forecasts and waning confidence in President Jair Bolsonaro sent Brazil's stocks and currency to their lowest level of the year this week, as analysts warned of further falls.

Since touching a record 100,000 points in mid-March, the Bovespa has fallen 10 percent and wiped out gains made since far-right Bolsonaro took power on January 1 on a promise to revive Latin America's biggest economy.

The benchmark index closed just below 90,000 on Friday, while Brazil's currency

traded at its lowest level against the dollar in eight months, breaking through four reals.

The sharp declines have been fanned by uncertainty over US-China trade talks that has pummelled stocks and currencies in emerging markets, which are perceived as riskier bets.

But the "external headwinds" have been compounded by concerns over Brazil's feeble economy, which has struggled to grow since emerging from the devastating 2015-2016 recession, said William Jackson of London-based Capital Economics.

"There was a lot of hope when Bolsonaro came to power that the economy would turnaround, but we have seen no evidence of this," Jackson told AFP.

This week's massive nationwide protests over education spending freezes, money laundering accusations against Bolsonaro's eldest son and the slow pace of economic reforms were adding to the general malaise.

"The economy is really flirting with recession," Jackson added.

The bleak outlook was underscored by economy minis-

ter Paulo Guedes, who warned this week that Brazil was "at the bottom of the well" as he slashed the government's forecast for 2019 economic growth to 1.5 percent from 2.2 percent.

That was followed by central bank chief Roberto Campos Neto, who flagged a likely contraction in the economy in the first quarter following a slowdown at the end of 2018.

Market analysts have pared their full-year growth forecasts 11 weeks in a row and now expect the economy to expand by an anemic 1.45 percent, according to the latest central bank survey. —AFP ■

U.S. approves sale to Japan of 160 air-to-air missiles

WASHINGTON—The U.S. State Department has approved a planned sale to Japan of 160 advanced medium-range air-to-air missiles and support equipment for \$317 million, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency said Friday.

The agency under the Defense Department said it notified Congress of the planned sale of the AIM-120C-7 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles, an AIM-

120C-7 AMRAAM guidance section and other equipment.

The sale will provide Japan with "a critical air defense capability to assist in defending the Japanese homeland and U.S. personnel stationed there," according to the agency.

"It is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Japan in developing and maintaining a strong and effective self-defense capabil-

ity," it said.

Similarly, the agency said the department has approved a planned sale to South Korea of 94 rounds of SM-2 Block IIB Standard missiles and support equipment for \$313.9 million.

The sale will allow South Korea to boost its defensive capability and interoperability with U.S. and other allied forces, the agency added. —Kyodo News ■

Increased awareness a necessity to reduce Myanmar's rate of cancer

ASIA accounts for 60 per cent of the world's population and half the global burden of cancer.

The incidences of cancer cases are estimated to have increased globally from 18.1 million in 2018, while 9.6 million died of the disease.

Myanmar faced an estimated 69554 new cancer cases, as 51,059 died of cancer in 2018. Since that time, the figure has steadily increased. Cancer deaths are predicted to increase by over two-thirds by 2030.

Awareness for the people of Myanmar includes understanding the dangers of tobacco and betel, early signs of cancers and the need to seek proper medical advice early.

Awareness for the people of Myanmar includes understanding the dangers of tobacco and betel, early signs of cancers and the need to seek proper medical advice early.

If you do not know about early warning signs, the value of early intervention or the risks of smoking or chewing betel behaviour will not change.

For Myanmar men, the most prevalent cancer is lung or oral cancer, which is linked to smoking and the chewing of betel nut. For the female population of Myanmar, the largest cancer risks are cervical and breast cancer. Testing, annual screenings and early intervention for both types of cancers are currently inadequate.

Health education activities regarding risk factors and early warning signs of these cancers still need to be promoted.

Cancer research and treatment has progressed and survival has doubled in the last 40 years. We need to have a close collaboration with all partners, both national and international, concerning prevention, creating awareness, early diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

However, low socio-economic status, communication difficulties because of rough geographical terrains in remote areas, language barriers among ethnic groups (there are more than 100 ethnic groups, each with their own dialect), insufficient media access, traditional taboos and stigmas are hampering the efforts at providing oncological health education to all communities across the country.

This leads to a lack of awareness, late detection of the disease, and failure to seek proper treatment.

■ ■ ■

Urgency to boost export-oriented production through modern fish farming

By Than Htike

WHILE the nation is striving more for the development of fish and fishery production sector, the Department of Fisheries and the Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) are trying their best as a means of earning foreign currencies annually through export.

Recently, two fish processing plants have been granted licences to export fish products to the European Union. Over the years, export demand from Saudi Arabia has tumbled since the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) suspended temporarily fish and prawn imports from Vietnam, Myanmar, Bangladesh, and India.

After inspections are carried out by Saudi Arabia, Myanmar will be able to resume its fish export which had been suspended. Saudi Arabia has sent the necessary checklists to Myanmar Fisheries Department in April to allow farmed fishes export from Myanmar.

Based as agricultural economy, the country is opening up and inviting investment in the industrial sector; and that the opportune time has come as foreign countries are willing to buy Myanmar's fish and fishery products, indicating socio-economic development of the people in the fishing industry.

Awareness Talks

Just days before, the Myanmar Fisheries Federation had come to its 20th annual meeting which was held on 12 and 13 May 2019 at Myanmar Fisheries Federation in Insein Township. The meeting was attended by the Union

Minister for the ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Irrigation and several other related officials from both government and private sectors. To improve fishery industry, the meeting undertook steps to modernize the industry and spread the awareness on fisheries products to the public and the federation also organized displaying of fishery products and other related products.

Modern Fish Farming

In most countries of the world, the population consumes fish through slicing and cutting rather than the whole fish, and that the packaging of the fish meat is well prepared in advanced using better methods for commercial purpose. Therefore, in catching up in line with the world standard, Myanmar needs to transform the old traditional fish farming system into modern paradigm.

Farming ponds should be deep, not shallow, with more number of fish breeding through easy water drainage and also replacing with new water. In place of old customary rice and bran fish feeds, modern method should be changed by providing them with feed pellets and water-floating meals.

In the development of modern aquaculture, starting in the 1970s, fishmeal and fish oil were key components of the feeds for these species. They are combined with other ingredients such as vegetable proteins, cereal grains, vitamins and minerals and formed into feed pellets.

Reform and change of fish farming methods are needed to catch up and compete with other countries, and therefore, in



Fishermen catch fishes in the breeding pond. PHOTO: MNA

boosting fish and fishery products, modern and harmonized system should be introduced in the country.

Production of modern fish feeds

In many countries exporting fish and fishery products, including Vietnam, the floating fish feed pellets are used for fish. In fresh water fish breeding, floating fish feed pellets bring advantages to the fish farmers.

Commercial fish diets can be classified into floating (extruded) or traditional sinking (pressure-pelleted) pellets. Both floating and sinking feeds are in use.

With a view to exporting fish in the international market, the fish feed pellets are very much vital in fish farming, and that fish breeders are necessary to consider seriously in this regard. Despite

the demand is high, however, in Myanmar, the number of fish feed pellet producing mills and factories is very few. Modern machinery is required in the production of fish feed pellets, and therefore, mills and factories in Yangon imported related parts from abroad and running the production of fish diet.

Some European countries have established factories in Thailand and produced fish feeds and exported to Myanmar market. Meanwhile, Myanmar industrialists are functioning factories in the industrial zones and producing fish feed pellets, but the products are still inadequate.

Chemical free fish feeds

Since 2005, a pilot project of fish feeds production was established in Yangon and that in 2016, the production capacity had turned out 10 tons in three lines and 5 tons in one line, with 35 tons of production in one hour, amassing in 500 tons in one day.

In Hline Thayar Industrial Zone and Shwe Pyi Thar Industrial Zone, the fish feeds are rolling out by the factories owned by nationals and also by foreign owned factories. The feeds are supplying daily to the fish farms in Yangon Region, Ayeyarwady Region, Bago Region, Tanintharyi Region, and Rakhine State.

The majority of the fish farmers are feeding the tradition old types of fish diet, resulting with poor quality and making the sales down. Therefore, chemical free fish feeds are required to use in the farming.

Fish quality might slide down
U Zaw Lin, Factory Director

of Htoo Thit Fish Feed Pellet Industry said that their factory is producing floating fish feeds 500 tons each day according to needs, however, 15 more factories are needed to construct.

The main need of the fish feed factory are raw materials such as that of the rice and the bran to produce oil. In the backdrop of high price of raw materials year on year, it is needed to import 65 per cent of oil from foreign market.

In many countries, modern fish feeds are made by grinding and mixing together ingredients such as fishmeal, vegetable proteins and binding agents such as wheat. Water is added and the resulting paste is extruded through holes in a metal plate.

For the development fish farming, the fish feeds played a vital role of 70 per cent, and therefore, fine raw stuff are vital for the industry, making a true necessary alliance and partnership between the Department of Agriculture and the fish breeders.

Gradually as the quality control is being maintained, the production of fish feeds is successful, and it is advisable to establish and expand more factories in this regards. The breeders should shift from old traditional fish feeds made of rice and bran to modern fish feeds namely floating feeds or sinking feeds. Despite the potential success in farming is quite possible, the inevitable task to reduce the cost of overall operation is unavoidable, resulting with the poor quality of fish.

Could export at any time

The writer of this article wishes for the entire success of the

fisheries industry including fish feed production. With the assistance and aid of the government, combined with the skills and labor of the professionals, the fisheries business people, and the fish breeders must work together so as to catch up with other countries.

In Myanmar, there are 5 factories producing fish feed pellets, and that more mills and factories are needed. Despite the fish breeding sphere is large, the number and functioning of fish feed factories is small.

The old traditional fish feeding habits must be overcome, and that is why awareness raising and knowledge sharing programs are impacted and provided.

The instability of fish market, compounded with the imbalance production of fish feeds and the instable trends are pushing away the modern system and culture of feeding pellet diets. The fish farming industry needs investment and time, and therefore, all the stakeholders must come together and lend hands to the fish breeders so as to make the nation to be able to export fish and fishery products to foreign countries.

Sharing information

U Zaw Lin added that the feeding of floating feed pellets bring the advantages such as that of the water to be more stable and more durable in the breeding pond, that of reducing the cost of changing water in the pond, that of the less wastage of fish feeds, that of the finer transformation of meat from diet, (Feed Conversion Ratio), that of finer health of the fish, that of bringing more advantages to the fish breeders, and that all these developments depend mainly on the fish feed manner by supporting 70 per cent in this industry.

Offering good Prospects

Beginning 2018, the export of fish and fishery products is moving in the upswing, and that the existing trend is to be maintained in keeping that of fine operational cold storages; that of the better packaging; and that of fine quality fish. The best way to keep fine quality fish is to feed them with appropriate fish feeds, and it is therefore, advisable in establishing more fish feed factories in the country similar to other neighboring countries, with a view to strive more exports on fish and fishery products through modern fish farming methods.

Translated by UMT (Ahlon)

■ ■ ■

MOI, MoNREC, MoHT to hold one-year review press conference in Nay Pyi Taw

Press Conference for one year performance of Ministry of Information, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and Ministry of Hotels and Tourism will be held at office No.7 of Ministry of Information at 1pm, 21 May in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 18 May, 2019)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 19 May, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Chin, Kayin and Mon states and isolated in the remaining regions and states. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4 - 6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Region and Mon State. **FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 May, 2019:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 May, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19 May, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Trump lifts steel, aluminum tariffs on Canada, Mexico

WASHINGTON (United States) — President Donald Trump on Friday announced a deal to lift US tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico that had created friction between the neighbors and blocked a new North American free trade agreement.

“I’m pleased to announce that we’ve just reached an agreement with Canada and Mexico and will be selling our product into those countries, without the imposition of tariffs,” Trump said at an event in the US capital.

His statement came moments after Canada released the text of the agreement between Ottawa and Washington in which they agreed to eliminate US tariffs on steel and aluminum, and Canada’s retaliatory measures, within no more than two days.

Mexico confirmed it had reached a similar agreement with the United States. “Trump’s strategy has worked,” US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said in a statement, crediting the tariffs with reviving US steel and aluminum manufacturers.

The steep US tariffs imposed last year — 25 per cent on steel and 10 per cent on aluminum — became a major



President Donald Trump announced a deal to end US tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico that had created friction between the neighbors. **PHOTO: AFP**

stumbling block to ratifying a new North American trade pact negotiated last year by the three countries. Canada and Mexico initially were exempted from the tariffs Trump enforced using a national security argument, as part of his hardline trade tactics. Once America’s neighbors were included, the levies drew retaliation with tariffs on a host of US products.

Even after the governments agreed to a revised free trade deal — the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA — the tariffs remained in place, but officials in Ottawa and Mexico City said they would not sign unless Washington removed the metals duties.

Not making sense

Speaking to reporters in Ot-

tawa, Canada’s Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said there was a shared recognition that “these tariffs were harming workers and consumers on both sides of the border” and “didn’t make a lot of sense” in the context of a new free trade deal.

“Obviously these continued tariffs on steel and aluminum and our countermeasures represented significant barriers to

moving forward with the new NAFTA agreement,” he said, referring to the 24-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement.

“Now that we’ve had a full lift on these tariffs we are going to work with the United States on timing for ratification but we’re very optimistic we are going to be able to move forward well in the coming weeks,” Trudeau said. Mexican chief trade negotiator Jesus Seade likewise tweeted that the lifting of tariffs “clears the way towards ratification of USMCA.”

Some key members of the US Congress had said they would not agree to vote for the three-country free trade pact unless the Trump’s metals tariffs ended.

“Hopefully Congress will approve it quickly,” said Trump.

Democratic US Senator Chuck Schumer applauded the decision to remove the metals tariffs, but said there are other concerns about the USMCA.

“It is a good thing these tariffs will be lifted, and we should urge our allies to join us in preventing China’s predatory practices,” Schumer said in a statement. — AFP ■

Sudan protesters tear down roadblocks, want army to resume talks

KHARTOUM (Sudan)—Hundreds of demonstrators worked to clear away bricks and debris Friday, after military rulers demanded that roadblocks which have paralysed parts of Khartoum be dismantled before talks on a new transitional body can resume.

Key international players voiced alarm and urged an immediate resumption of negotiations, which the ruling military council on Wednesday suspended with the protesters for 72 hours.

The council, which said that security in the capital had deteriorated, froze talks that were due to finalise the make-up of a new body that would govern Sudan for a transitional period of three years. The issue is the thorniest to have come up in ongoing talks on installing civilian rule after the generals took over following the ouster of autocratic presi-

dent Omar al-Bashir last month.

But for the final talks to happen the military council chief, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, demanded that protesters dismantle roadblocks, open bridges and railway lines connecting the capital and “stop provoking security forces”.

In the early hours of Friday, hundreds of demonstrators chanting revolutionary slogans tore down roadblocks on Nile Street, a key avenue, that had paralysed downtown Khartoum this week.

“We have removed the bricks... but if they do not respond to our demands then we will bring the bricks again,” protester SumeyaAbdrahman told AFP while demonstrators cleared the debris.

Later on Friday, an AFP correspondent who toured the area saw car traffic resume normally on Nile Street. — AFP ■

Austrian far-right leader resigns over ‘Ibiza affair’

VIENNA (Austria)—Austrian Vice-Chancellor Heinz-Christian Strache, a key figure of the European far-right, resigned Saturday after explosive revelations from a hidden camera sting, just days before key EU elections.

“I tendered my resignation as vice-chancellor of Austria to Chancellor Kurz, and he accepted this decision,” an emotional Strache said in a televised statement which almost certainly marks the end of his career. Media reports emerged on Friday alleging that Strache promised public contracts in return for campaign help from a fake Russian backer he met on the island of Ibiza a few months before 2017’s parliamentary elections in Austria. Germany’s Der Spiegel and SueddeutscheZeitung published hidden-camera recordings of the sophisticated sting operation at a luxury villa.

On Saturday Strache, 49, insisted he was the “victim of a targeted political attack”, which had used illegal means to entrap him, but that he was leaving in order to avoid further damage to the government. Chancellor



Austria’s Vice-Chancellor and chairman of the Freedom Party FPÖ Heinz-Christian Strache said he was considering legal action. **PHOTO: AFP**

Sebastian Kurz was due to give his reaction to the scandal on Saturday, with rumours rife that he may push for early elections.

About a thousand demonstrators gathered in front of the chancellery building on Saturday, demanding the resignation of the government as a whole. Some held signs that read: “Sebastian, your government, your responsibility.”

‘Stupid, irresponsible’

In the recordings Strache and his party’s group leader in

parliament, Johann Gudenus, are seen discussing with a woman purporting to be the niece of a Russian oligarch how she can invest in Austria. Strache insisted on Saturday that he had not met the woman again after the meeting in the villa, nor did his party receive any funds from her. “What I said, seen from a sober point of view, was a catastrophe,” he admitted. “Yes, it was stupid. Yes, it was irresponsible. Yes, it was a mistake,” he said, describing what he did as “alcohol-influenced macho behaviour”. — AFP ■

Polls open in climate-dominated Aussie election

SYDNEY (Australia)— Polls opened Saturday in Australia's nail-biter election, a race that may be the first anywhere decided on climate policy.

Just under 17 million people are expected to cast their ballots across the vast island-continent, as final surveys predicted a centre-left Labor victory.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison's conservative Liberals had closed a yawning gap on the opposition, but differences over climate may prove the difference. In one Sydney suburb, early rising voters trickled into a beachside surf club to cast their ballots, as volunteers wearing bright orange "I'm a climate voter" t-shirts handed out pamphlets.

"I'm worried about the climate and that Australia is not doing enough," the volunteer Catherine Willis told AFP.

A season of record floods, wildfires and droughts has



Environmental campaigners protesting recently against the development of the India-backed Adani coal mine near Bowen in Queensland; climate change is a key issue in Australia's election. **PHOTO: AFP**

brought the issue front and centre in the campaign.

In rural areas, climate-hit farmers are demanding action. And in several rich suburbs, eco-minded centre-right independents are running Liberal party luminaries close.

Labor has pledged ambi-

tious targets for renewable energy, while the Liberals said they would not risk the coal-fuelled economy's health to make the air cleaner. The Liberal message has been pitched at older and wealthier voters who may see higher taxes under Labor.

Final polls show the vote is

going down to the wire, with Labor ahead roughly 51-49. But compulsory voting and a complex system of ranking candidates mean an upset is possible.

"This will be the closest election we've seen in many, many years," Morrison predicted while making a final pitch to voters in north Queensland.

Weeks ago, the contest looked like it might be a rout for Labor. But a final survey by Ipsos Friday showed Morrison's coalition trailing Shorten's Labor 49 to 51 per cent, from 48 to 52 per cent two weeks ago.

In some battleground seats, the race is even tighter, with the electorate split 50-50.

"I don't think anyone... thought this is where the election would be the day before," Morrison said.— AFP ■

Salvini seeks European nationalist unity at Milan rally

MILAN (Italy)— Italian populist leader Matteo Salvini on Saturday gathers Europe's disparate nationalists for a unifying rally overshadowed by a major corruption scandal shaking Austria's far-right coalition.

The Milan rally hopes to see leaders of 12 far-right parties marching towards their conquest of Brussels after next week's European parliamentary elections. Headliners Salvini of the anti-migrant League and Marine Le Pen of France's Islamophobic National Rally (RN) want their Europe of Nations and Freedom (ENF) group to become the third largest in Brussels.

But explosive graft allegations against the leader of Austria's far-right Freedom Party (FPÖ) and Vice-Chancellor Heinz-Christian Strache meant the party's top candidate in next week's elections pulled out of the Milan rally.

German media published hidden camera footage filmed two years ago in Ibiza appearing to show Strache promising a fake Russian backer public contracts in return for positive coverage in Austrian media.

Despite Strache's denials of wrongdoing, Austrian commentators have declared that Strache's career is over, putting the coalition with Chancellor Sebastian Kurz's centre-right People's Party (ÖVP) on the brink.

Relations with Moscow

Despite their shared dislike of immigration, multiculturalism, the left and the EU, Europe's populists remain divided on many other key issues, including budgetary discipline, migrant distribution and relations with Moscow, as highlighted by the Austrian scandal. In Milan, Le Pen was forced to say that her party obeys French party finance rules, which she called "strict" and "questionable" as they prevented the RN from borrowing money outside

Europe. French lawmakers recently called for a probe into links between the RN and Donald Trump's former strategist Steve Bannon after he discussed paying back a Russian loan to Le Pen's party in a documentary.

Most of Europe's rightwing nationalists are currently divided into three blocs and a tangled web of alliances in the European Parliament, which Salvini and Le Pen would like to overhaul if not destroy. The ENF includes Austria's Freedom Party, Belgium's

Vlaams Belang and the Netherlands' Party for Freedom, whose head Geert Wilders will be in Milan. Thousands of League supporters will march towards Milan's Duomo (cathedral) square where leaders will make their speeches from 1430 GMT.

Notably absent from the rally is Hungary Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's Fidesz party and Poland's governing PiS (Law and Justice party).— AFP ■



Italy's far-right leader Matteo Salvini is keen for Europe's nationalist parties to form a united front in the EU parliamentary elections next week. **PHOTO: AFP**

WORLD BRIEFS

Pope accepts resignation of Brazilian bishop

SAO PAULO (Brazil)— Pope Francis on Friday accepted the resignation of a Brazilian bishop reportedly suspected of extorting priests and covering up sexual abuse, the Vatican said in a statement. The announcement comes after Pope Francis last week passed a landmark new measure to oblige those who know about sex abuse in the Catholic Church to report it to their superiors, in a move which could bring countless new cases to light. Vilson Dias de Oliveira, 60, confessed to Brazilian police in April that he had swiped \$4,000 from parish funds for personal use, telling them he did so because he was having financial difficulties, local media said.—AFP ■

Abe, Trump unlikely to issue joint statement talks in late May

TOKYO — Japan and the United States are unlikely to issue a joint statement when their leaders meet in Tokyo later this month, apparently to avoid exposing their differing views on bilateral trade and North Korea issues, Japanese government sources said Saturday. The talks between Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and U.S. President Donald Trump are being arranged for 27 May upon Trump's visit to Japan as the first state guest to meet with the country's new Emperor Naruhito.— Kyodo News ■

US border city eager to expand economic relations with China

HOUSTON—Laredo, a US city bordering Mexico, is eager to expand its economic relations with China, said Olivia Varela, president and CEO of the Laredo Economic Development Corporation. Setting up a booth at the fourth US-China Innovation and Investment Summit that kicked off Thursday here, Varela said her organization has been actively following the summit for years.

Commenting on US-China trade relations, Varela said people in Laredo are strong believers of collaboration. — Xinhua ■

N. Korea demands UN action over ship seizure by ‘gangster’ US

SEOUL (South Korea)—North Korea has demanded the United Nations take “urgent measures” to help return a cargo ship taken by the United States, calling the seizure a “heinous” act. Washington announced last week it had taken possession of the North Korean-registered bulk carrier M/V Wise Honest—a year after it was detained in Indonesia—citing sanctions-violating activities.

The seizure came amid heightened tensions after Pyongyang conducted weapons drills involving short-range missiles in re-



US-North Korean tensions have heightened after Pyongyang held weapons drills and the collapse of the Hanoi summit between President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. **PHOTO: AFP**

cent weeks, and with nuclear talks deadlocked since the collapse of the Hanoi summit between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim

tonio Guterres, Kim Song -- Pyongyang's permanent representative at the UN -- said the incident was “an unlawful and outrageous act”, according to North Korea’s state news agency KCNA.

“This act of dispossession has clearly indicated that the United States is indeed a gangster country that does not care at all about international laws,” the letter said.

The North Korean representative asked Guterres to “take urgent measures as a way of contributing to the stability of the Korean peninsula and proving the impartiality of the UN”.

Earlier this week, Pyongyang had slammed the seizure as an “outright denial” of the spirit of a statement signed by Kim and Trump at their first summit in Singapore last year.

North Korea is sanctioned under multiple UN Security Council resolutions for its nuclear and missile programmes, and lifting of some of the measures was a key demand from Pyongyang at the second Trump-Kim summit in February that ultimately broke down without a deal. —AFP ■

Victims of Chile Nazi sect says German compensation not enough

SANTIAGO (Chile) — VICTIMS of a Chile-based Nazi pedophile sect said compensation offered by Germany was not enough



The scale of the atrocities committed at the fenced-in mountain commune came to light only after the end of Pinochet's regime. **PHOTO: AFP**

to make up for decades of slavery and abuse. Germany said Friday it would pay up to 10,000 euros (\$11,000) each to victims of the “Colonia Dignidad” commune founded by a former Nazi soldier. “It’s a help, yes, but it does not solve the problem. We are a lost generation,” Horst Schaffrick, a

German who arrived at the enclave with his family at the age of three, told AFP. Schaffrick suffered sexual abuse by former Wehrmacht soldier Paul Schaefer, who founded the sect in southern Chile in 1961. The commune was presented as an idyllic German family village but in reality, Schaefer, a convicted pedophile, abused, drugged and indoctrinated the few hundred residents and kept them as virtual slaves. His

group had close ties to the 1973-1990 dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet and would torture and “disappear” regime critics.

Germany said Friday it would pay up to 10,000 euros to victims of the sect. The compensation “covers very little, if you compare it to the 40 years of work without pay,” said Schaffrick, who also referred to “the suffering caused by slavery, beatings, drugs and sexual abuse for 20 years.” “How am I going to continue in my old age, how am I going to live? It cannot be solved, that’s what is serious about this situation,” he said.

Violence and abuse

Winfried Hempel, who was born in the commune and lived there until the age of 20, also felt the proposed compensation “is a step forward, but certainly not enough.” —AFP ■

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INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports for the supply of Medical Equipments to New Yangon Specialist Hospital in the (2018-2019) Budget year.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the Procurement and Supplying Division, Department of Medical Services office No (4), Ministry of Health and Sports Commencing from (21.5.2019).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office, not later than (20-6-2019), 15:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/telex proposal will be accepted.

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

Procurement and Supply Division
Ministry of Health and Sports

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
Ministry of Construction
INVITATION FOR BID

- The Government of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of “ Regional Development Project for Poverty Reduction Phase 2 MY-P17” .It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the Contracts for the construction of the projects listed below for “Regional Development Project for Poverty Reduction Phase 2(MY-P17).”
- The Department of Highway (DoH), Ministry of Construction now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the construction and completion of the work below:

IFB No	Project ID	Works
DOH-05A	Mandalay-Dagaung-Bamaw-Myitkyina Road in Sagaing Region {Lot 1: 141.920 km - 160.108 km}	18.188 km x 5.5 m wide Penetration Macadam Pavement Road, RC Bridge, Drainage structures and other miscellaneous structures
DOH-05B	Mandalay-Dagaung-Bamaw-Myitkyina Road in Sagaing Region {Lot 2: 163.22 km - 190.840 km}	27.62 km x 5.5 m wide Penetration Macadam Pavement Road, Drainage structures and other miscellaneous structures
DOH-06	Gangaw-Aika Road in Magway Region {Lot 3: 9.000 km - 21.345 km}	12.345 km x 5.5 m wide Penetration Macadam Pavement Road, RC Bridge, Drainage structures and other miscellaneous structures
DOH-07A	Hanmyintmo-Myogyi-Ywarngan-Aungpan Road in Southern Shan State {Lot 4: 33.420 km - 51.820 km}	18.400 km x 5.5 m wide Penetration Macadam Pavement Road, RC Bridge, Drainage structures and other miscellaneous structures
DOH-07B	Hanmyintmo-Myogyi-Ywarngan-Aungpan Road in Southern Shan State {Lot 5: 51.820 km - 63.440 km}	11.620 km x 5.5 m wide Penetration Macadam Pavement Road, Drainage structures and other miscellaneous structures

- Selling of Bid Documents: (20.5.2019) to (27.5.2019)
- Submission of Bids: (12:00) noon on (11.7.2019)
- Opening of Preliminary Examination (13:30) hours on (11.7.2019)
Check for Bids:
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidder at the address below and upon payment of a non- refundable fee of: Fifty Thousands Myanmar Kyat (ks. 50,000/-)
- Interested eligible Bidder may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of Project Inspection and Quality Control Department (Construction), Department of Highways, Ministry of construction, Building No.(11),NayPyiTaw.
Contact Person: DAW KHIN SAN NYUNT OO
Phone No: 09-5084576 / 09257728844 / 09450330580
E-mail address: pwhqairfield@gmail.com, dohjica.sector@gmail.com
aungthurawin.thipaw@gmail.com

UN chief's call to 'save the Pacific to save the world'

PORT VILA (Vanuatu)—UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said it was vital “to save the Pacific to save the world” as he wrapped up his brief South Pacific tour in Vanuatu on Saturday.

Guterres has spent the past week in the region pushing for urgent action ahead of a UN summit in September billed as a last chance to prevent irreversible climate change.

According to the UN, Vanuatu is the world's most at-risk country from natural hazards, but Guterres said it was also “leading the way” with its resilience. At a joint press conference with Vanuatu's Prime Minister Charlot Salwai, Guterres praised the way the country had bounced back from the catastrophic Cyclone Pam which lashed the archipelago in 2015.

It claimed at least 15 lives, flattened villages and impacted nearly half the 300,000 population. “It is clear that the Pacific is on the frontline of climate change even though they don't



According to the UN, Vanuatu is the world's most at-risk country for natural hazards, but UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said it was also “leading the way” with its resilience. **PHOTO: AFP**

contribute to climate change,” Guterres told AFP, referring to low-lying Pacific islands which are threatened by rising sea levels. “So the Pacific has the moral authority to offer a lesson for the rest of the world. We absolutely need to save the Pacific to save the world.”

The UN target is to limit it rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial revolution levels and Guterres urged governments “to understand that we

need transformative measures, in industry, in agriculture and in relation to the oceans”.

“I believe it is time to recognise that we need to shift taxation away from people to carbon and pollution instead,” he said.

“We need to stop subsidies for fossil fuels. It doesn't make any sense that taxpayers' money is contributing to increased storms, the spread of drought, glaciers melting, corals bleaching and putting these islands in danger.”—AFP ■

Residents split on future of Romania's trash heap 'time-bomb'

CLUJ-NAPOCA (Romania) — The towering heap of rubbish at the Pata-Rat landfill in western Romania has been condemned as an “environmental time bomb”, but for many of its neighbours this putrid mountain of refuse is a livelihood — one they want to protect from closure.

Looming on the hills near Romania's fifth-biggest city Cluj-Napoca, the trash heap rises to five storeys high in places, emitting a noxious odour and oozing substances that environmentalists say are poisoning the soil.

Children play among the mounds of debris. In fact, they

live in a container with no sanitation.

She has since managed to find accommodation elsewhere in Cluj and is now an activist for Demos, a new leftist party. Zsiga has made the closure of the site and the rehousing of those who live alongside it a key priority. “No one should have to live here, in such inhuman conditions,” she says. The European Commission has demanded the closure of Pata-Rat and has set aside funding for new waste disposal systems to eliminate the need for the site.

City authorities say they are cooperating although a definitive solution has so far eluded them.



Whole families subsist from the income they make from recyclable waste that they pick from the rubbish heap. **PHOTO: AFP**

live here. Dozens of families—mostly from the country's Roma minority—have made homes in makeshift shacks on the edge of the landfill site, sometimes after being expelled from illegal dwellings elsewhere. While environmentalists and some locals want the site cleaned up, others depend on it for a living, with whole families subsisting on the income they make from recyclable waste that they pick from the heap with their bare hands.

Linda Zsiga, 37, and her family were relocated to the site by the city authorities in 2010 to live

'Dallas' in the debris

Many inhabitants of Pata-Rat are fearful of losing their meagre livelihood if the site closes. Claudia and her husband have lived for around 40 years in a part of the site that residents call “Dallas”. With their two children they scrape a living by reselling cardboard, plastic bottles and metal cans. “We live how we can, just surviving from day to day. But what are we going to do in the future?” says the 68-year-old, expressing her fears over a possible closure. —AFP ■

Life goes on under cloud of smog in Mexico City

MEXICO CITY (Mexico) —Scientists say breathing the heavily polluted air in Mexico City these days is like smoking somewhere between a quarter- and a half-pack of cigarettes a day.

But that has not stopped Oscar Chong from going out for his daily workout, despite four days of warnings from the authorities to avoid strenuous physical activity outside.

“I'm addicted to exercise. If I don't work out on a daily basis, I don't feel well. It actually helps re-

lease my creativity, among many other things. If I just stayed home, I'd be staring at the walls, staring at my computer screen, and ideas are never born that way,” Chong, a graphic designer, told AFP.

The trim 51-year-old was taking a break from his interval workout in the capital's largest park, the Bosque de Chapultepec — which the authorities actually closed at one point this week, to hammer home the message that running or cycling in the middle of an air pollution alert was not

a good idea.

The sprawling city — a metropolitan area of more than 20 million people — has been blanketed in a thick cloud of smog since last weekend.

Authorities blame the problem on dozens of wildfires that have broken out across central Mexico in recent weeks, and the lack of wind or rain to disperse the resulting particles.

However, experts agree the city's chronic pollution problems are also at fault.—AFP ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (032 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (032 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S INTER ASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO. (1102 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO. (1102 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA

SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V TROUNG MINH STAR VOY. NO. (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TROUNG MINH STAR VOY. NO. (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMT 1 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES

(SINGAPORE) PTE, LTD

Phone No: 2301928



Jetties of Yangon Port

By Zin Lin Myint

YANGON, a commercial hub of Myanmar is a major city operating main maritime trade ports to export and import commodities. Strenuous efforts were made to improve the ports and jetties and the city has built eight new jetties for its ports within three years.

Thanks to these new jetties, Myanma Port Authority stated that it handled more than three million containers during this period. Number of jetties in Yangon increased to 41, up from 33.

Trade development

Yangon port plays an important role because it handled more than 90 per cent of the country's international maritime trade. New jetties were built in Yangon port while maintenance was carried out to handle cargo ships that came into the port. There can be trade development only when numbers of ports and jetties were increased and improved. Without this, any increase in demand and supply could be choked off with lack of ports and jetties through which the goods flow through.

Myanmar with 1,385 miles long coast line has only nine sea ports and before better ports can be built at better locations, efforts must be made toward building new jetties.





Construction of new jetties

Jetties built and in use at Yangon Port, Green Asia jetty, Wilma International jetty, Elite Petro Chemical jetty and Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa were 200 meters long.

New jetties were also built to tackle increasing import to and export from Yangon Thilawa Special Economic Zone. A 135 meter long jetty was built at Puma Energy Asia Sun Jetty while two jetties each with a length of 400 meters had been constructed with ODA loan from Japan.

As more factories and businesses start operating at Thilawa SEZ, there'll be more flow of export and import goods requiring more jetties and container yards.

Local and foreign investment at Thilawa SEZ amounted to some US\$ 1.5 billion until January 2019. These investments were made by 103 companies from 18 countries. To date Thilawa SEZ had been hosting 63 factories with more than 7,000 workers in addition to some 1,500 construction workers at construction sites.

To attract more investments, infrastructures and services need to be improved. Having more jetties is thus an improvement in the infrastructure.

During the more than three-year terms of the present government, eight new jetties were built at Yangon Port. According to statistics of Myanmar Port Authority, Yangon Port handled more than three million containers or 76,323,581 tons of commodities during this period.

A steel jacket type main jetty measuring 400 meters long and 40 meters wide and three 80 x 20 meter approach bridges were built at Thilawa SEZ with \$ 300 million. This was part of the port development arrangement for easy loading and unloading of vessels as well as reducing the loading and unloading time.

The jetties at Ahlon Port, Myanmar Industrial Port, Bo Aung Kyaw Port and Thilawa Port of Yangon play a key role for both local and international maritime trade of Myanmar. In face development of jetties at Yangon Port contribute greatly toward the economic growth of the nation.

(Translated by Than Tun Aung)



Green disposable consumer products hope to protect the environment



A LOCAL disposable consumer product producer hopes to have a great impact on protecting the environment from the ravage of non-biodegradable plastic products.

U Kyaw Moe, a producer of disposable plates, spoons, bowls and trays from areca palm in Mandalay had seen the ugly sites of such single use non-biodegradable plastic spoons and polystyrene packages littering picnic sites and parks. He began trial production of areca palm based disposable plates, spoons, bowls and trays in 2016 with an aim of minimizing environmental impact from disposed single use products. Commercial distribution of his products to the local market was started in financial year 2018-2019.

A huge impact had been made to our environment from single-use plastic and polystyrene packages that just stay around forever or ended up in land fill or in the ocean. There's been news about plastics littering the deepest depth of our ocean and it had even entered into our food chain with fishes mistakenly eating plastics which end up in our stomach.

That was why U Kyaw Moe decided to produce single-use products with areca palm from areca plant. As it was a natural product that was bio-degradable that becomes a fertilizer as it degrades biologically there wouldn't



PHOTOS: MIN HTET AUNG (MANDALAY SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)

have any impact on the environment.

U Kyaw Moe said his products are heat resistant up to 140 degree Celsius and can be reused for up to ten times. Once it was discarded, it'll become a natural fertilizer in three days so there wouldn't be an ungainly site of his products littering the environment like the non-perishable plastic products.

At present 16 types of products including plate, bowl, spoon and tray were produced from areca palm and his production was unable to meet the demand from the local market. He had also exported his products to Singapore in February. His production facilities were also being tested by relevant ministries for being free from any harmful chemical inclusion in the finished products.

A plate and spoon made from areca palm was sold for Ks 100 and Ks 15 respectively. This may cost more than compara-

ble products made from plastic but both the consumer and the government need to consider the long term cost and benefit issue. What is the benefit of using cheaper products when you end up in a world filled with plastic or non-biodegradable rubbish? Will the plastic products still be cheaper if we consider the cost of cleaning it up? So should we as a consumer encourage and support this product? On the government side, it could support by taxing the non-biodegradable products to cover for the cost of cleaning it up and to prevent people from using it. This will be in the same principal of taxing tobacco and liquor at a higher rate to prevent people from using it as well as to cover for the medical support the government had to provide for people affected by tobacco and liquor.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House) (Translated by GNLM)





K-League's Pohang Steelers FC to play friendly matches in Myanmar

POHANG Steelers FC of the Republic of Korea's League (K-League) will play two friendly matches in Myanmar, according to the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF).

The K-League team will play a friendly match against Myanmar National League Club team on 28 May at 5pm, and U-22 national football team on 30 May at 5pm at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

The friendly matches are

highlighting the friendship between Myanmar and the Republic of Korea. Myanmar Posco Industrial Company is primarily sponsoring the matches, along with the MFF.

A Korean cultural entertainments programme will be performed during the friendly matches, and a lucky draw programme will also be held for football fans.

Football fans can attend the friendly matches free of charge,

said the MFF officials.

Looking back at the history of the team, on 28 February in 1994 the K-League Club, with its former name Pohang Atom, played their first friendly match against Myanmar Football Federation's selected team at Aung San Stadium in Yangon.

At that time, the K-League Club defeated the MFF's selected team 3-1.

The MFF selected team was lined up with national foot-

ball stars, including goal keeper Aung Kyaw Kyaw, defenders Soe Naing, Saw Ba Myint, and Tin Myo Aung, and midfielders Soe Moe Kyaw, Nyunt Win, Kyi Lwin, Than Toe Aung, and Mg Mg Oo, and strikers Win Aung and Myo Hlain Win. The winning goals for the K-League team were scored by Korean national team star players, and substitute midfielder Kyaw Min scored a consolation goal for the Myanmar team.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

De Bruyne has no sympathy for Liverpool over narrow title miss

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Manchester City star Kevin De Bruyne understands Liverpool players being disappointed at falling just short of winning the Premier League title but he does not have any sympathy for them.

The 27-year-old Belgian midfielder says simply his side were better than Liverpool.

City, who face Watford in the FA Cup final on Saturday chasing a historic domestic treble, retained their title by a point from Liverpool.

De Bruyne says no one would have felt sorry for City when they lost to Tottenham Hotspur in the Champions League quarter-final.

"No," he said this week when asked did he have sympathy for Liverpool. "It's a remarkable effort but it means that we were just better than them in the end."

"I don't feel sorry for them because I don't think they'd feel sorry for us. "I don't think anybody felt sorry about the way we went out of the Champions



Kevin De Bruyne has no sympathy for Liverpool losing out to Manchester City on the Premier League title by a point. **PHOTO: AFP**

League." He played a less influential role than in City's 2017/18 title triumph, starting just 11 league matches with bit parts in eight others due to two serious knee injuries and then a hamstring problem.

De Bruyne, who had a superb 2018 being named City's player of the 2017/18 season and then sparkled for Belgium as they

finished a best ever third in the World Cup, says Liverpool feeling sore is understandable.

"I know how they feel because you're going to feel disappointed," said De Bruyne, who is fit for selection for the Cup final.

"We'd feel the same if it happened to us. But we're still competitors. We want to win as much as they do but I can understand

the feelings they have."

De Bruyne, whose high point in what he admits has "not been the most fun season" has come off the pitch with his second son being born, is a great believer in football being played through emotions.

However, he says the introduction of VAR — it was that which cost City victory over Spurs in the Champions League as Raheem Sterling's late goal was ruled out for offside — is removing that ingredient from the game.

"For me football is still a game of emotions," he said.

"I don't like how people try to take emotions out of the game, because what it's about is having fun, enjoying. "If you win you're happy, if you lose you are sad. And that's what it's all about."

"That's why I also don't like the new things like VAR because it takes, for me, all the passion out and it becomes more — you need be more like a robot these days."—AFP ■

Shan United signs three expat players for next half season

IN preparation for General Aung San Shield 2019, as well as for the next half of the MPT Myanmar National League 2019 season, Shan United has signed half-season contracts with three foreign players, including centre-back player William, Midfielder Maximin and Striker Emmanuel, according to Shan United FC.

The three are described as experienced expatriate players from the Myanmar National League, said a Shan United official.

William and Maximin previously played in Shan United, whereas Emmanuel scored 13 goals for Yangon United in the last season, Shan United officials stated.

The 29 year old Cameroonian Defender, William was once a key player for Shan United.

The 26 years old Ivorian Midfielder Maximin played for the Cyprus club Kucuk Kaymakli in 2018, Shan United in 2016 and 2017, Yadanarbon FC in 2014 and 2015, and BEC Tero in 2013.

The 22 years old Nigerian Striker Emmanuel played for Yangon United in 2018 and GFA FC in 2017.

He also played for Yadanarbon FC in 2016 and 2017.

"Football is a team game. I'll give my best for my old team. I'm glad to be back here again. I feel like I'm home, as I have been playing here since 2016. I'll do all I can for this team," said William.

The newly-signed players are ready to take the challenge and Head Coach Aung Naing said he will decide to let them play depending on the team's needs and their fitness.

Shan United will play against Hantharwady United in the quarter final match of General Aung San Shield on 19 May.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

19 MAY 2019

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

SOME people never take notice that the earth on which we live is the unevaluated treasure. It provided us our all necessities in the past and in the present moment, it is providing them to us all. However, it is not sure that it is going to provide them in the future. The staple food including rice, wheat and other vegetables, especially, can be grown only on the earth. Therefore, it can be said that the earth serves the most important duty in order to keep our lives alive. However, many people neglect it not knowing to admire our mother earth and what is more they are committing the evil task that leads to ruin the earth. Who can deny it?

At the turning point, we are encountering the really serious problems because people are destroying the earth in their unconsciousness. The evil effects in which humans wrongly committed to the earth are now being suffered by humans themselves. Due to the deforestation that humans has already done, we encounter the problems of the global warming, abnormality in weather and increasing temperature year by year. Moreover, we meet the rising of sea levels, the destructive storms and savage earthquakes.

Among the most critically impactful ways that humans have affected the earth is our extraction and consumption of fossil fuels and their attendant carbon gas emissions. Recent studies indicate that carbon gas emissions contribute to the deterioration of the earth's ozone layer, which may in turn contribute to global climate change; this is especially true when emissions are combined with the loss of the carbon-sink effect of forest lands (due to deforestation) and existing particulate matter in the air. Though the scale and impact of such climate change is up for debate, the scientific community has reached a consensus that human activity

When is the most important juncture to love our earth?



By Edu Lin
B.Ed, S.I.O.E

does have some degree of impact on the global climate.

Extremely exploring and utilizing aboveground and underground natural resources, emitting the carbon gas from the plants, factories, vehicles etc., and discarding the toxic waste materials into the sea water and fresh water make the earth's water, atmosphere and land polluted. These consequences affect the ecosystem and it leads to the extinction of some animals in the wild.

Humans can change the nature more than the animals and so the perpetrators of all sources of the problems on the earth are humans only. Therefore, it is the moment in which everyone has to think how to go on living on earth in safety protecting the nature not to be destroyed anymore and trying to recover from its feeble situation. In fact, the earth is like not only the home but also the parents of the humans.

Every individual has the responsibility to protect the earth each. Everyone has to repay the gratitude of the earth on which he or she lives. Even though one cannot implement his duty much, he or she should serve as much as he or she could. For instance, one should throw away the waste systematically; one should save and utilize the water resources; one should nurture the new plants for the greener environment on earth etc.

All in all, this very moment is the one that everyone has to preserve our loving earth again. Everyone should understand the main factor of suffering from more and more intense heat year after year. Everyone should take care of and avoid the extremely utilizing the natural resources of the earth.

Furthermore, it is essential that everyone has to understand and treasure a sense of gratitude towards the loving earth that can be regarded as a benefactor of humans.





(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

ထူးခြားသော ကြိယာများ

(A) ကျောင်းသားများသည် ကြိယာအကြောင်းအတော်အတန်လေ့လာပြီးဖြစ်သည်။
Verb Form တွင်လည်း မှန်ကန်အောင် ထည့်သွင်းသုံးစွဲတတ်ကြသည်။
သို့ရာတွင် အချို့သော ကြိယာများနှင့် ပတ်သက်၍ သုံးစွဲရာတွင် မှားမြဲမှားနေသည်ကို တွေ့ရသည်။ ထို့ကြောင့် ဤကဏ္ဍကို ထည့်သွင်းခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။ သာမန်ကြိယာများကို သုံးရာတွင် -

(1) သူ သရက်သီးစားသည်။
He eats mangoes.
(He နောက်မှ ကြိယာ **eats** ထည့်လိုက်ရုံပင် ဖြစ်သည်။)

(2) သူမ သီချင်း သီဆိုလေ့ရှိသည်။
She sings.
(She နောက်မှ **sings** ထည့်လိုက်ရုံပင်ဖြစ်သည်။)

(3) သူတို့ ကကြသည်။
They dance.
(They နောက်မှ **dance** ထည့်လိုက်ရုံပင် ဖြစ်သည်။)

(4) သို့ရာတွင် ?ဟူသော ကြိယာနှင့် ထိုကဲ့သို့သုံး၍ မရပေ။
interest(V) ed. ed
စိတ်ဝင်စားစေသည်။
မြန်မာလို နားလည်အောင် စဉ်းစားရင် “စေ”ပါသော ကြိယာ ဖြစ်သည်။
ထို့ကြောင့် **They dance.** (သူတို့ကကြသည်။) ဟု အခြားကြိယာများကို သုံးသကဲ့သို့-
They interest သူတို့ စိတ်ဝင်စားကြသည်ဟု သုံး၍မရ။
“စေ”ပါသော ကြိယာဖြစ်သောကြောင့်-
(1) **The book interests the girl.**
စာအုပ်သည် မိန်းကလေးကို စိတ်ဝင်စားစေသည်။
မိန်းကလေးက စာအုပ်ကို စိတ်ဝင်စားသည်ဟု ဖော်ပြလိုလျှင် အထက် ပါ စာကြောင်းကို **Passive Voice** သို့ပြောင်းရန် ဖြစ်သည်။
The girl is interested by the book. (Passive Voice)
သို့ရာတွင် **interested** ဟူသော**Verb** နောက်တွင် **in**သာ သုံးရသဖြင့်-
The girl is interested in the book.
ဤကဲ့သို့ ထူးခြားစွာ သုံးရသည့်ကြိယာများသည် “စိတ်”နှင့်ပတ်သက်သော စကားလုံးများဖြစ်သည်။

excite	d	d	စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားစေသည်
bore	d	d	ငြီးငွေ့စေသည်
disappoint	ed	ed	စိတ်ပျက်စေသည်
please	d	d	နှစ်သက်စေသည်
satisfy	satisfied	satisfied	ကျေနပ်စေသည်
shock	ed	ed	ထိတ်လန့်တုန်လှုပ်စေသည်
frighten	ed	ed	ခြောက်လန့်သည်၊ ကြောက်ရွံ့စေသည်၊
delight	ed	ed	စိတ်ရွှင်မြူးစေသည်
bewilder	ed	ed	စိတ်ရှုပ်ထွေးစေသည်
puzzle	d	d	ရှုပ်ထွေးစေသည်

(အချို့ကိုသာ ပေးထားခြင်းဖြစ်ပါသည်။)

ဆက်လက်လေ့လာပါ။

(2) **Her arrival pleased them.**
သူမ ဆိုက်ရောက်လာခြင်းသည် သူတို့ကို နှစ်သက်စေသည်။ **Passive Voice** ပြောင်းလိုက်လျှင် အောက်ပါကဲ့သို့ရသည်။
They were pleased with her arrival.
သူမ ဆိုက်ရောက်လာခြင်းကို သူတို့နှစ်သက်အားရဖြစ်သည်။
(by အစား with သုံးရသည်။)

(3) **His success satisfied the parents.**
သူ့အောင်မြင်မှုသည် မိဘများကို ကျေနပ်စေသည်။
The parents were satisfied with his success.

သူ့မိဘများသည် သူ၏အောင်မြင်မှုကို ကျေနပ်သည်။

(4) **The news will disappoint her.**
သတင်းသည် သူမကို စိတ်ပျက်စေလိမ့်မည်။
She will be disappointed by the news.

(B) ထို့ကြောင့် အထက်ပါ ကြိယာများကို နာမဝိသေသန (**adj**) နှစ်မျိုးအဖြစ်သို့ ပြောင်းနိုင်သည်။
(ထို **adj** များကိုလည်း မှားယွင်းသုံးစွဲလေ့ရှိသဖြင့် လေ့လာရန် လိုအပ်သည်။)

interested	စိတ်ဝင်စားသော
interesting	စိတ်ဝင်စားဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
excited	စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားသော
exciting	စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
bored	ငြီးငွေ့သော
boring	ငြီးငွေ့ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
disappointed	စိတ်ပျက်သော
disappointing	စိတ်ပျက်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
pleased	နှစ်သက်သော
pleasing	နှစ်သက်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
satisfied	ကျေနပ်သော
satisfactory	ကျေနပ်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
surprised	အံ့အားသင့်သော
surprising	အံ့အားသင့်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
amazed	အလွန်အံ့အားသင့်သော
amazing	အလွန်အံ့အားသင့်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
shocked	ထိတ်လန့်တုန်လှုပ်သော
shocking	ထိတ်လန့်တုန်လှုပ်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
frightened	ကြောက်ရွံ့သော
frightening	ကြောက်ရွံ့ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
bewildered	စိတ်ရှုပ်ထွေးသော
bewildering	စိတ်ရှုပ်ထွေးဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
amused	စိတ်ရွှင်မြူးစေသော
amusing	စိတ်ရွှင်မြူးဖွယ်ကောင်းသော

(C) အသုံးပြုရာတွင် ဂရုပြုသင့်သည်မှာ... လူပုဂ္ဂိုလ်များကို ရည်ညွှန်းအသုံးပြုလျှင် ပထမစာလုံးများကို **Passive Voice** ပုံသဏ္ဌာန်သုံးလေ့ရှိသည်။

ဥပမာ-

(1) သူသိပ္ပံပညာ၌ စိတ်ဝင်စားသည်။
He is interested in science.

(2) သူမသည် ကျွန်တော့်အဖြေကို ကျေနပ်ခဲ့သည်။
She was satisfied with my answers.

(3) သူတို့ ငြီးငွေ့ခဲ့သည်။
They were bored.

(4) သူမ မမျှော်လင့်ဘဲ ရောက်လာသောအခါ သူ စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားစေခဲ့သည်။
He was excited when she arrived unexpectedly.

(5) သူမ၏ မီးလောင်ထားသော မျက်နှာကိုမြင်သောအခါ သူတို့ ထိတ်လန့်တုန်လှုပ်ခဲ့သည်။
They were shocked when they saw her burnt face.

(6) ထူးဆန်းသော အသံကြီးကို ကြားသောအခါ သူမ ကြောက်ရွံ့ခဲ့သည်။
She was frightened when she heard the strange noise.

(7) ကျွန်တော် ပန်းချီဆွဲခြင်း၌ စိတ်ဝင်စားသည်။
I am interested in painting.
She was puzzled when she did not find the money under the pillow.
ခေါင်းအုံးအောက်တွင် ငွေကို မတွေ့သောအခါ သူမ စိတ်ရှုပ်ထွေးခဲ့သည်။

(D) ယေဘုယျသဘောမျိုး သုံးလျှင် ဒုတိယစာလုံးများ (ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော)နှင့်

အဆုံးသတ်သည့် **adj** များကို သုံးလေ့ရှိသည်။

ဥပမာ-

1. သူမ၏ဝတ္ထုသည် စိတ်ဝင်စားဖွယ်ကောင်းသည်။
Her story is interesting.
သူမသည် စိတ်ဝင်စားဖွယ်ကောင်းသော အဆိုတော် တစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။
She is an interesting vocalist.

2. မနေ့က ဘောလုံးပွဲသည် အလွန်စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားဖွယ် ကောင်းသည်။
The football match yesterday was very exciting.

3. ဤအလုပ်အမျိုးအစားသည် အလွန်ငြီးငွေ့ဖွယ်ကောင်းသည်။
This kind of work is very boring.

4. သူ ရုတ်တရက် သေဆုံးသွားသောသတင်းသည် ထိတ်လန့်တုန်လှုပ်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသည်။
The news of his sudden death was shocking.

5. သူ၏ တိုးတက်မှုသည် ကျေနပ်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသည်။
His improvement is satisfactory.

6. ဤကားတွင် သူ၏ သရုပ်ဆောင်မှုမှာရွှင်မြူးဖွယ်ကောင်းသည်။
His acting in this film is amusing.

7. လူ၏ လက်အောင်နိုင်ခြင်းသည် အလွန်အံ့ဩဖွယ်ကောင်းသည်။
Man's conquest of the moon was amazing.

(E) “ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော” ဟု အဓိပ္ပာယ်ရရှိသည်။**adjectives**များကို ယေဘုယျသဘောအသုံးများသည်ဟုအထက်တွင် တင်ပြခဲ့ပါသည်။နမူနာများလည်း ပေးခဲ့ပါသည်။
ယေဘုယျအတွေးများကို ဖော်ပြရန်အတွက်**Impersonal Pronoun** ဟုခေါ်သော **It** နာမ်စားနှင့်တွဲ၍ သုံးလေ့ရှိသည်။

လေ့လာပါ။

1. **It is interesting to watch children playing among themselves.**
ကလေးများ သူတို့အချင်းချင်း ကစားနေကြသည်ကို စောင့်ကြည့်ရသည်မှာ စိတ်ဝင်စားဖွယ်ကောင်းသည်။
"If" ကို ဖြုတ်လိုက်လျှင် အောက်ပါကဲ့သို့လည်း ရေးနိုင်သည်။
To watch children playing among themselves is interesting.
(ဤရေးသားပုံကို **Noun Phrase** နှင့် **Noun Clause**များ) တင်ပြသောအခါ ရှင်းပြပါမည်။

2. **It is exciting to watch a football match.**
ဘောလုံးပွဲတစ်ပွဲ ကြည့်ရသည်မှာ စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားဖွယ် ကောင်းသည်။

3. **It is boring to do the same thing day in and day out.**
ထိုအရာတစ်ခုတည်းကိုပင် တစ်နေ့ပြီးတစ်နေ့လုပ်နေရသည်မှာ ငြီးငွေ့ဖွယ် ကောင်းသည်။

4. **It is disappointing to see buses always crowded.**
ဘတ်(စ်)ကားများ ကြည့်တိုင်းကြပ်နေသည်ကို တွေ့ရသည်မှာ စိတ်ပျက်ဖွယ် ကောင်းသည်။

5. **It is surprising to see ladies drinking beer at restaurants.**
စားသောက်ဆိုင်များတွင် အမျိုးသမီးများ ဘီယာသောက်နေသည်ကို မြင်ရသည်မှာ အံ့ဩဖွယ် ကောင်းသည်။

6. **It is frightening to pass by a cemetery at night.**
ညအခါ သုသာန်တစ်ခုအနီးမှ ကပ်ဖြတ်သွားရသည်မှာ ကြောက်မက်ဖွယ် ကောင်းသည်။

7. **It is shocking to see a man eating a snake alive.**
လူတစ်ယောက် မြွေတစ်ကောင်ကို အရှင်လတ်လတ် ကိုက်စားနေသည်ကို တွေ့ရသည်မှာ ထိတ်လန့်တုန်လှုပ်ဖွယ် ကောင်းသည်။

LESSON 23

Adverb phrases (ကြိယာဝိသေသန ဝါကျပြတ်), Adverb clause (ကြိယာဝိသေသနပုဒ်စု), Noun phrases (နာမ်ဝါကျပြတ်) နှင့် Noun clauses (နာမ်ပုဒ်စု) များကို တင်ပြပါမည်။
Clauses(ပုဒ်စု)များကို ပိုင်နိုင်အောင် လေ့လာထားပါက Simple, Compoundနှင့် Complex Sentences များကို လေ့လာရာတွင် များစွာ လွယ်ကူသွားပါလိမ့်မည်။

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

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“YOU have a message”, a sound was heard from my friend’s phone. “Dear, is it from the one who is sending you message every day”, asked I. “Yes”, she answered my question. “Why are you sending him message back?”, I asked to her. “He sends me lovely and honey-like words. He cannot be the evil-minded one. Are you worried about me?” she said to me texting on the phone. “Of course, I do worry about you because you don’t know who he is and you don’t know what he does and where he’s from”, I said to her in loud voice. Even though I was talking to her, she said nothing except chit-chatting with the unknown man.

On one day, she said to me that the man had sent “Love Emojis” and he had proposed to her. “So, what did you sent him back?”, asked I. “I sent him love emoji back”, she said. “What? Are you insane? You shouldn’t do like this. Do you believe that unknown man who just sent love emoji?”, I shouted at her what she doing. “Yes, I believe. So what?”, she said. Actually, I was really angry with her as she did not listen to me whenever I gave her good advice. I did not know how I should give advice to her. So, I just gave her silent treatment.

On the next day, she did not come to school so I went to her house to see her. But, I did not see her except her parents. Her parents told me that she had eloped with someone who they did not know. I noticed “someone” is meant the one who sent her message every day. I was speechless at that time. Actually, I did not know my friend was a person who believed everyone easily. I could not do anything for her as she chose her own way.

Some months later, she came back to me crying. She said “He lied to me. He is a married man. He has a wife and a child”. I could not speak out any streams of words. “It’s Okay. It’s Okay. You can see the light now. You have enough time to change your life now.” I consoled her as I could. But she said “I could not change my life. I am pregnant”, she talked to me crying. I just said that “You know women are not underdogs and women are not the ones who can do only crying. You have to face the difficulties you encounter.” She looked at me with the eyes full of tears after she heard those words.

Now, she is standing in the world as a single mother and brave lady who does not believe everyone easily. She reveals everyone that we should not believe everyone easily and women can be alive in the world without the help of men. Whenever I meet with her, I ask “Do you still believe love emoji on the phone?” At that time, she answers nothing except one word “No”. Eventually, she realizes that only love emoji icon on the phone cannot represent true love and true love has to be built with mutual understanding and mutual respect.



By Khin Moh Moh Aung
Yadanabon University

Love Emoji



The Art of Carving Statues from Marble Stones in Mandalay



Workers putting finishing touches on a Buddha statue.

By Than Zaw Min,
Wai Phyo Aung, Linn Thu

THE art of carving statues from marble stones is one of the 10 Myanmar traditional art professions.

This traditional art, carried out at 75 workshops at Kyauk Sit Tan Street in the Chanmyathazi in Mandalay, which sells curving Buddha statues, has become a tourist attraction. The workshops are also found in Pyigyitagon Township.

Many unfinished statues from Sakyin (Marble Mountain) near Madaya Township, Mandalay Region, are displayed at the workshops, where artisans curve the shape out of solid blocks of white marble, where they receive instructions on faces and postures from their customers. Some of the statues are only a few feet tall. Others will tower 8 to 10 feet in solid marble.

With the use of angle grinders and applying remarkable artisan skills, the workers curved the statues from the marble. In the next step, women and children polish the statues to a smooth finish. The tools they use today are machines. Their forefathers used traditional handmade grinders made by blacksmiths. Yet, the art is the same.

The workshops rely on the local market, as about 90 per cent of the country's population practices Buddhism. The finished products are shipped to retailers across the country, as well as to temples and monasteries, which also place orders.

Tourists visit workshops and purchase small statues as souvenirs.

The art of curving statues from marble stones is a mark of pride for Mandalay.

Another area where visitors can see the art of marble curving is the Sakyin (Marble) Village near the Sakyin (Marble) Mountain in Madaya Township.

On the way to Mogok, there is a



Two women polishing a statue.



Unfinish marble statues at the Kyauk Sit Tan in Mandalay.

junction leading to Sakyin Village, following a five mile drive.

The marble mountains are called the birthplace of statues. A factory producing marble slabs is also located at the foot of the mountain. Visitors can hear sounds of explosions from mining the mountains to extract marble, as well as view artisans undertaking the dusty and backbreaking work of carving statues of Buddha made out of marble.

Villagers at the foot of the mountains have carved a life out of marble stone for centuries. There are seven marble hills surrounding the village. Most of the families there live at the subsistence level by making Buddha stat-



Tourists visit Kyauk Sit Tan in Mandalay.



Marble stones at the Sakyin Village in Madaya.



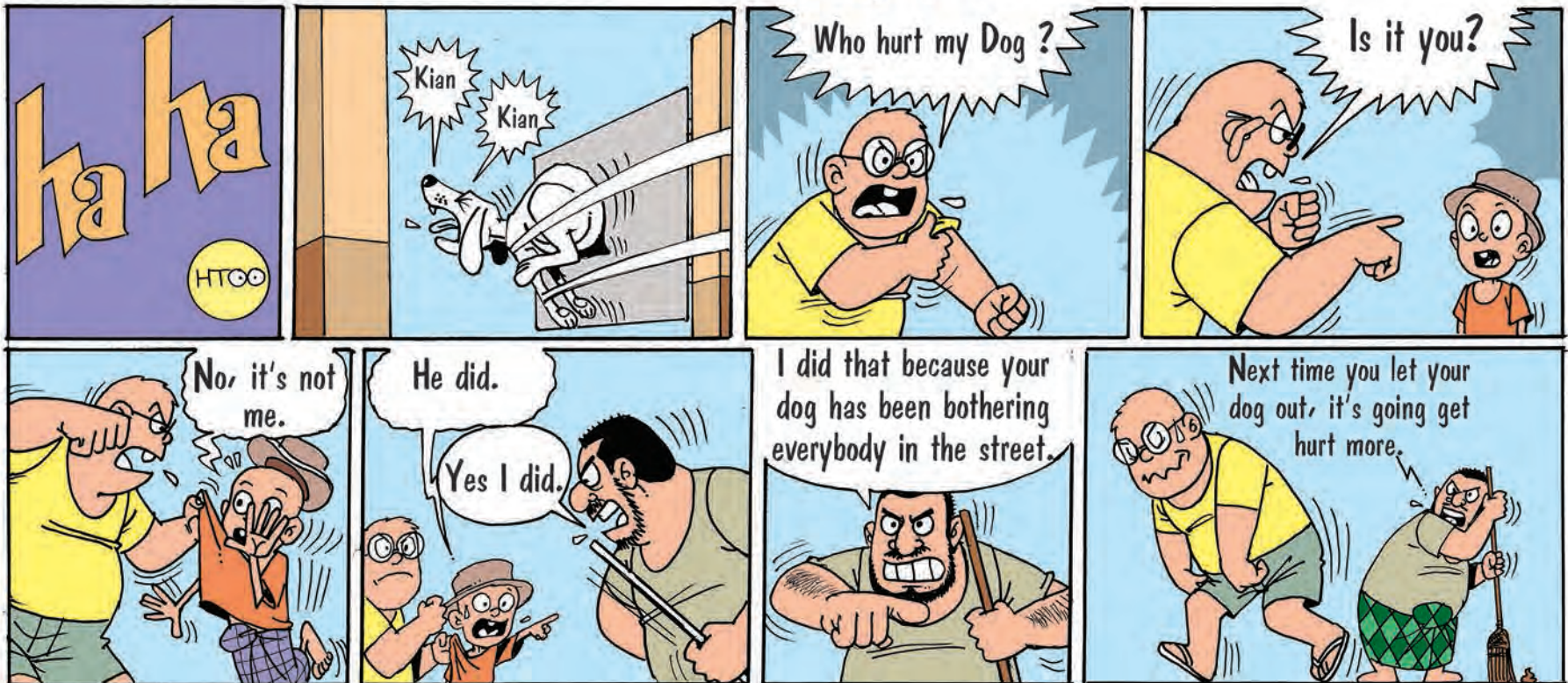
ues. Their main customers are marble merchants from Mandalay, where they buy unfinished statues.

There is considerable demand for these statues, as Buddhism is the dominant religion in Myanmar.

Visitors to Mandalay should not overlook to visit the Marble Carving Street in the Chanmyathazi township of Mandalay near the Maha Muni Pagoda.

(Translated by KZH)

SUNDAY COMICS



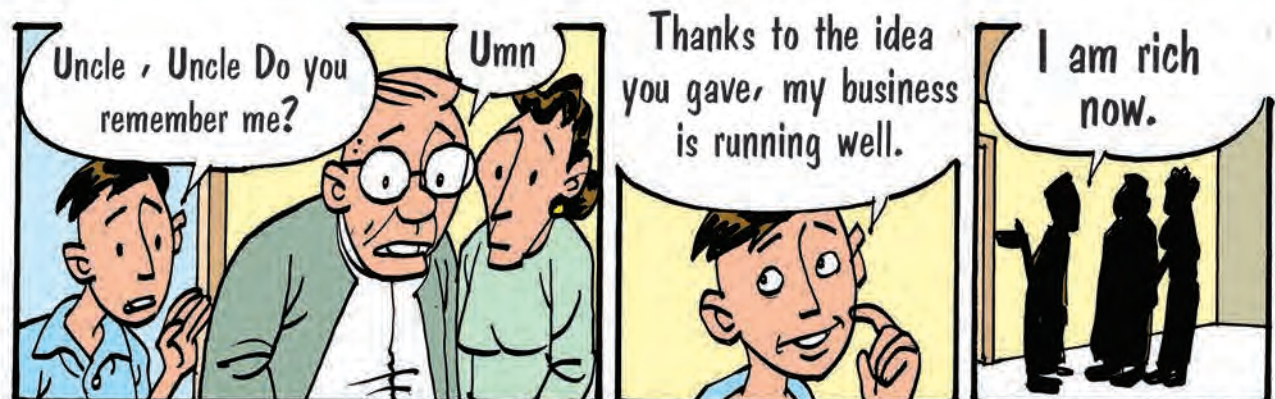
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Aung
2019



A Gold Medal



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

ONE of the occasions that Myanmar National Flag is hoisted and Myanmar national anthem is broadcasted is when Myanmar athletes win the gold medal. Regardless of where the competitions host in Myanmar or in other countries, when it comes to winning the gold medal, this is the time when the patriotism arouses and the country is overvalued amidst other countries. Undeniably, sports can raise the dignity and value of the country and the citizenry in the eyes of the international community.

Here, we all can sense how sweet the victory of winning the gold medal. At the same time, the triumph "A gold medal" is not something that can be gained easily, it is the real hard battle. Only when the athlete's stamina, perseverance, will, hard work, the technique, a good trainer, practice can meet together, the athlete can overcome so many steps of competition and he or she can be eligible to win the battle for the gold medal.

When I am selected as a liaison officer for the 19th ASEAN University Games, I have the chance to see how the athletes had to strive to be a gold medalist. They could not lose even one point, one minute to surpass the rivals. Then, I can more understand this quote "Hard work beats talent." For someone who have an intrinsic talent, he or she can be a silver medalist or bronze medalist, nevertheless, a gold medalist cannot be only with his talent, his talent must be complemented with his hard work and struggle. In the 19th ASEAN University Games, among various kinds of sports, some sports are very accustomed to Myanmar athletes but some sports are not in touch with Myanmar athletes. The stadium where Myanmar national flag is hoisted frequently is Chinlone & Sepaktakraw which is the traditional, national sport of Myanmar. The best rivals for Myanmar Chinlone team are Thailand team and Laos team whose countries have very similar cultures. When our team wins the gold medal, the scene of the populace and Myanmar athletes celebrating this triumph is joyous. In other stadiums, I am sure Myanmar audiences are willing to sing the national anthem in chorus proudly and frequently.

As we all know, the value of a gold medal on the athletes, the nation, the populace outweigh an inanimate gold metal. Thus, at secondary and high schools, introducing the basic practice to the sports such as karate, Judo, badminton, etc can encourage the students to take up some sports in their free time. This is also a good way that can keep the students from taking up most of their time by playing games, watching television. When Myanmar youths become accustomed to various sports with the systematic technique, as the saying goes "Practice makes Perfect, I am certain Myanmar prospective athletes can win the victory in every competition.

To conclude, I salute all the gold medalists who can build a touchstone for the country. I encourage Myanmar youths and Myanmar athletes to try our best to overwhelm any stadium by continuous claps on behalf of the Myanmar citizens. Currently, a Kachin, Aung La Nsang (Burmese Python) is supported by everyone, regardless of race, age, and everyone is proud of what he achieved over the years in defending his title. This is the evidence how the dignity of a brilliant sportsman is recognized in the heart of Myanmar populace. I sincerely look forward to the emergence of heroic sportsmen and sportswomen for our motherland.





My Mother

May my mother be a plain woman
Nursing her children and man.
But I am here to think
That she handles things in a blink.

She is a superhuman I believe,
And has many tricks up in her sleeves.
She would always run here and there
That I am not certainly aware.

She would tolerate my cries
And pacify me with many tries.
This is why I think my mother
Stands out among the others.

She has made me
And given me the world to see,
To feel and to heal
Those left to be.

She taught me what is right
With intent to make me bright.
She told me off at times
But this only made me fine.

My mother is one-of-a-kind
And mothers like her are hard to find!



By Moe Myint Maung
Grade - 8
MLA International School

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INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT SCHEDULE



YANGON TO BANGKOK				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG706	5:50	8:10	Daily	
8M335	7:40	9:25	Daily	
UB-019	7:45	9:40	Daily	
TG2304	9:50	11:45	Daily	
PG702	10:30	12:30	Daily	
TG2302	11:30	13:25	3,4,5,7	
PG708	15:20	17:20	Daily	
8M331	16:30	18:15	Daily	
UB-017	17:25	19:20	Daily	
PG704	18:20	20:20	Daily	
TG306	19:45	21:40	Daily	

YANGON TO DON MUEANG				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
DD4231	8:05	9:50	Daily	
FD252	8:30	10:15	Daily	
SL201	9:25	11:15	Daily	
FD256	13:25	15:15	1,2,3,5,6,7	
FD254	17:30	19:15	Daily	
FD258	19:25	21:15	Daily	
SL207	20:45	22:45	Daily	
DD4239	21:00	22:45	Daily	

YANGON TO GUANGZHOU				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
8M711	8:40	13:15	2,4,5,7	
CZ3056	11:25	15:55	3,6	
CZ8472	17:30	22:00	1,5	

YANGON TO SINGAPORE				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
UB001	7:30	12:00	Daily	
8M-231	8:20	12:50	Daily	
SQ997	10:35	15:10	Daily	
3K582	11:15	15:50	1,3,4,5,7	
UB003	16:15	20:45	Daily	
MI519	17:35	22:10	1,2,3,4	
SQ995	17:35	22:10	5,6,7	
MI521	18:30	22:55	3,4	
3K584	19:15	23:50	1,2,5,6,7	

YANGON TO HONG KONG				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
KA251	1:05	5:25	1,2,3,4,6,7	
UB8027	7:25	12:05	3,5,7	
KA275	17:20	21:45	5	

BANGKOK TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
TG2303	7:55	8:50	Daily	
PG701	8:50	9:40	Daily	
TG2301	9:35	10:30	3,4,5,7	
8M336	10:40	11:25	Daily	
UB020	11:00	11:55	1,3,5,6,7	
PG707	13:45	14:45	Daily	
PG703	16:45	17:35	Daily	
TG305	17:50	18:45	Daily	
8M332	19:15	20:00	Daily	
PG705	20:40	22:00	Daily	
UB018	20:20	21:15	Daily	

DON MUEANG TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
DD4230	6:20	7:05	Daily	
FD251	7:15	8:00	Daily	
SL200	7:35	8:25	Daily	
FD253	16:10	17:00	Daily	
FD257	18:05	18:55	Daily	
SL206	18:55	19:45	Daily	
DD4238	19:30	20:15	Daily	

GUANGZHOU TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CZ3055	8:30	10:20	3,6	
8M712	14:15	15:50	2,4,5,7	
CZ8471	14:40	16:30	1,5	

SINGAPORE TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
SQ998	7:55	09:20	Daily	
3K581	8:55	10:25	1,2,5,6,7	
UB002	13:15	14:45	Daily	
8M232	13:50	15:20	Daily	
MI518	15:15	16:40	1,2,3,4	
SQ996	15:15	16:40	5,6,7	
MI520	16:10	17:35	3,4	
3K583	16:55	18:35	1,3,4,5,7	
UB004	21:45	23:15	Daily	

HONG KONG TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
UB8028	13:05	14:50	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	8:25	12:40	Daily	
MH741	11:30	15:50	Daily	
OD551	12:25	16:45	1,4,7	
MH743	16:15	20:30	1,4,6,7	
AK503	19:30	23:45	1,5,6,7	
OD553	23:55	4:20+1	2,3,5,6	

YANGON TO SEOUL INCHEON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
KE472	23:30	7:15	Daily	

YANGON TO TAIPEI				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CI7916	10:45	16:15	Daily	

YANGON TO KUNMING				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CA416	12:15	15:45	Daily	
MU2012	13:10	20:05	3	
MU2032	16:00	19:50	Daily	

YANGON TO BEIJING				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CA906	23:50	5:50+1	1,3,5,7	

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

YANGON TO HO CHI MINH				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
VN942	12:10	15:05	Daily	

YANGON TO TOKYO				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
NH814	21:45	6:50+1	Daily	

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

YANGON TO CHIANG MAI				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG724	13:10	15:05	Daily	

KUALA LUMPUR TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
AK504	6:45	7:55	Daily	
MH740	9:10	10:25	Daily	
OD550	10:15	11:30	1,4,7	
MH742	13:55	15:05	1,4,6,7	
AK502	17:50	19:00	1,5,6,7	
OD552	21:45	22:55	2,3,5,6	

SEOUL INCHEON TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
KE471	18:15	22:10	Daily	

TAIPEI TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CI7915	7:00	9:45	Daily	

KUNMING TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
MU2011	8:20	12:10	3,7	
CA415	10:45	11:15	Daily	
MU2031	14:30	15:10	Daily	

BEIJING TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
CA905	19:30	22:50	1,3,5,7	

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

HO CHI MINH TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
VN943	7:20	9:55	Daily	

TOKYO TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
NH813	11:15	16:05	Daily	

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

CHIANG MAI TO YANGON				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG723	10:40	12:35	Daily	

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

YANGON TO DUBAI				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
EK389	2:20	5:40	1,4,5,7	

MANDALAY TO BANGKOK				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
PG710	14:05	16:30	1,7	
PG714	19:10	21:35	1,3,5,7	

MANDALAY TO DON MUEONG				
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE	
FD245	12:45	15:00	Daily	

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

NAY PYI TAW TO BANGKOK			
FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG722	19:35	22:30	1,2,3,4,5,7