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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Message of Greetings sent by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of NRPC on occasion of commemoration ceremony held at Mongla Special Region (4) (30 June 2019)

(13th Waning day of Nayon ME 1381)

On the auspicious occasion of the commemorative ceremony held at the Mongla Special Region (4) on the 13th Waning Day of Nayon ME 1381, Christian Era 30th June 2019, I wish to first of all send good wishes for the good health and happiness of the Mongla Special Region (4) leaders together with all ethnic brothers and sisters and their families.

Beginning from the past 30 years up to the present date, the Mongla Special Region (4) has joined hands with the Union Government to observe a ceasefire by walking on the path of peace. By mutual respect this region has maintained stability and peace. It gives me great pleasure to observe the ethnic people enjoying the fruits of regional development being the direct result of stability and peace. I am happy to see the sincere good will of the Mongla Special Region (4) leaders and the ethnic people with regard to peace and regional development.

SEE PAGE-3

PSDC, businesspersons discuss trade sector development at 28th regular meeting in Yangon

Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the 28th regular monthly meeting between businesspersons and Private Sector Development Committee in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

VICE President U Myint Swe, Chairman of the Private Sector Development Committee (PSDC) addressed the 28th regular monthly meeting between businesspersons and PSDC held at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) in Yangon yesterday morning.

In addressing the meeting Vice President U Myint Swe said that after forming the PSDC to effectively implement matters in private sector development framework it had been meeting with businesses in UMFCCI starting from December 2016 to resolve difficulties faced by the businesses and this was the 28th meeting. Up to 27th meeting 349 issues and suggestions raised and

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Union Minister attends Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019, Straits Digital Exchange

Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung attends the APT Asia- Pacific Ministerial Meeting 2019 in Singapore. **PHOTO : MNA**

UNION Minister of Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung returned after attending Asia- Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019 organized by Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) on June 25th- 26th in Singapore.

At the meeting, the ICT ministers discussed collaboration in the matters of Digital Transformation, Digital Innovation and Creativity, Digital trust, Digital Capacity Building and Partnership and future work. The ministers also exchanged views and discussed future work.

The Union Minister gave his presentation titled "Digital Transformation and Creativity" focusing on developments and challenges in Myanmar.

This meeting is held every five years and this year is coincided with 40th anniversary of APT.

The meeting was attended by ICT minister and deputy ministers from APT member countries, General Secretary of ITU and officials of UNESCAP.

It followed-up on the development of telecommunication/ ICT in APT member countries towards achieving the objectives of the Brunei Darussalam Statement made in 2014, 5 year plan of co-creating and connect digital future in Asia-Pacific. It also provides a platform for the ministers to have a free and open discussion on the pressing and challenging topics of the telecommunication/ICT among themselves.

The meeting 2019 adopted a Singapore Statement of the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministers on Co-creating a Connected Digital Future in the Asia-Pacific.

On June 27th, U Than Sin Maung attended a minister ial-level meeting on Straits Digital Exchange with ICT ministers and deputy ministers of member countries and invited guest. He also visited to Remanufacturing and Technology Center (ARTC).

The Union Minister returned Yangon on 28 June. — MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Purified drinking water supply facility benefits over 23,300 residents in Pinlaung

Shan State Chief Minister Dr. Lin Htut and officials inaugurate the drinking water supply facility in Pinlaung, Shan State. **PHOTO : MNA**

A purified drinking water supply project jointly implemented by the Department of National Races Development Affairs under the Ministry of Border Affairs and a Japanese Non-Governmental Organization, Terra People Association (TPA) was inaugurated on 28 June at the Myatheintan Monastery in PaO Self-Administered Zone, Pinlaung Township, Southern Shan State.

The event was attended by Shan State Chief Minister Dr. Lin Htut, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Than Htut, Patron of the Pa-O National Organization U Aung Kham Hti, Chairman of the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone leading body U Khun San Lwin, the Shan State government ministers, representatives from Japanese Embassy and the TPA, officials from the Ministry of Border Affairs and local people.

First, Chief Minister of Shan State, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Border Affairs, Chairman of the PaO Self-Administered Zone leading body, representatives from the Japanese Embassy and the TPA unveiled the stone inscription of the water supply facility.

Then the State Chief Minister and party opened the ceremony and observed the process of joining electrical cables, water pumping machines from the reservoirs and utilization of water.

At the second session of the ceremony, Patron of the PaO National Organization U Aung Khan Hti, the State Chief Minister, Deputy Minister of Border Affairs Ministry, Chairman of the PaO Self-Administered Zone leading body and an official from the Japanese Embassy delivered speeches.

Next, the representative from the TPA explained about the donation made at the event. Following this, a town dignitary extended his gratitude on behalf of the local people.

The project can be provided to the nine water storage tanks that can hold some 7600 gallons with the use of water pumping machines from two reservoirs holding 86000 gallons of water.

As a result, some 23389 people from 2336 villages, including Yinhme ward, Sintaung village, Hteetali village, Tinhtat village, War Pyone village and Taunglay village in Pinlaung Township facilities the water supply.

Then, the Deputy Minister and party inspected the road construction projects of Payar Phyu-Teekwal-Paw Inn Myay road covering ¼ miles, two 50-feet-long concrete bridges on Htiyway Htiyine roads, construction of a 3-mile-long concrete Htiye-Htiyepaung-Paungpyone road. He also gave guidance to the officials.—MNA ■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Security upgraded smart card driving licenses to be issued starting 1 July

SECURITY upgraded smart card driving licenses will be issued beginning 1 July, under the supervision of the Ministry of Transport and Communication, Road Transport Administration Department,.

The Road Transport Administration Department said 17 suspects were apprehended in 2018, along with fake driving licence machines that manufacture counterfeit driving licenses.

Upgraded smart card driving licenses cannot be faked, and information about license holders can be checked by a Chip Reader or QR Code Scanner, said an official.

Security upgraded smart card driving licenses will be issued for new driving licenses, renewal of old driving licenses, or replacements for lost driving licenses, according to the Road Transport Administration Department.—MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Message of Greetings sent by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of NRPC on occasion of commemoration ceremony held at Mongla Special Region (4) (30 June 2019)

(13th Waning day of Nayon ME 1381)

FROM PAGE-1

As we build a Democratic Federal Republic which guarantees in full measure rights for democracy, equality of national races and self-determination, it is necessary to convene the national level political dialogues which will enable us to firmly maintain durable peace and stability already achieved and the rights of ethnic races and their needs. I invite the Mongla Special Region (4) to sign the NCA as the national level political dialogues are being conducted in accordance with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement in order to exert our efforts for the establishment of the Democratic Federal Republic in line with the results of the political dialogues. The time has come for us to transform the voices emerging out of the hearts of the ethnic people of Mongla Special Region (4) as well as their views and opinions, into the fundamental federal principles at the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong via the national level political dialogues. The Union Government has always left the door open for the Mongla Special Region (4) and the other remaining armed ethnic groups to join the talks at the peace conference. I solemnly urge that we should all move from the level of a ceasefire agreement to the level of a nationwide ceasefire agreement while both sides observe mutual restraint; thus let us exert our efforts to work for sustainable and eternal peace.

In conclusion, I send this Message of Greetings as I solemnly request all the leaders and ethnic brothers and sisters of Mongla Special Region (4) to join hands and work with concerted efforts to realize the dream of genuine peace and the Democratic Federal Republic.

I send these good wishes with Metta for peace, prosperity, good health and happiness to all ethnic people of Mongla Speical Region (4).

Aung San Suu Kyi
Chairperson
National Reconciliation and Peace Centre

PSDC, businesspersons discuss trade sector development at 28th …

FROM PAGE-1

submitted by the businesses were responded to relevant businesses through the UMFCCI. Some matters were fully resolved while there were also matters that were still being resolved as it needed time.

For such matters, officials from the five works committees made arrangements for public-private dialogues among private businesses and relevant ministries to resolve the matters in stages, said the Vice President.

The trade sector played an important role in the development of a country's economy. Private and public sectors were cooperating towards increasing annual trade volume and during fiscal year 2018-2019 (as of 31 May) trade volume reached US$ 23.49 billion which was US$ 0.464 billion more than the same period of the last fiscal year. Private sector participation in this was US$ 19.501 billion or 83 per cent.

Illegal imports through the border were threatening the existence of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and PSDC have formed illegal trade control and prevention groups in nine regions and states. As of May 2019 there were 594 arrests of an estimated K 10.371 billion worth of illegal imports were made. 50 per cent of the proceeds from the sale of the confiscated illegal imports went into the Union Government fund. Informants and arresting organizations were rewarded with 20 and 30 per cent respectively. If the arrests were made under the arrangement of the State/Region government, 30 per cent of the sales proceeds went into the State/Region government fund, 20 per cent to Union government fund, 20 per cent to informants and 30 per cent to the arresting organizations.

Union Minister U Thaung Tun.

Union Minister Dr Than Myint.

Union Minister U Soe Win.

For a sustainable development of local businesses in the Myanmar's national investment sector, they needed to seek out not only the local market but also the international market too. They needed to internationalize. Just as foreign investors were investing in Myanmar now, Myanmar businesses were urged to do business in other countries. The government had appointed commercial attaches in nine countries – China, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong, Belgium, United States of America, South Korea, Japan and India. Businesses can contact these commercial attaches to conduct businesses or obtain news and information through the Ministry of Commerce.

The World Bank and Asian Development Bank had estimated that Myanmar's economic development was likely to rise in 2019 and 2020. While inviting foreign investment for the country's development, efforts were being made for the convenience of local businesses. For the public to know the services provided by the government and for transparency, everyone's participation was required.

Associations and entities participating in today's meeting were urged to discuss openly the difficulties they faced with the relevant Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers and officials who were in attendance, said the Vice President.

Yongon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein.

U Zaw Min Win, the Chairman of UMFCCI.

Next, PSDC Vice Chairman and Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint explained about Myanmar's current trade status, arrangements made to increase export, restrict and prevent illegal import.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win explained about creating good economic environment for public sector development, status of loan made to agriculture and livestock sectors, status of establishing Public Private Partnership Center (PPP Center) to successfully implement work on the Project Bank.

Following this, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun explained about Corporate Governance arrangements made to create good environment for investors and status of investments.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein then explained about arrangements made for agriculture and livestock sector development in the Region and arrangements made to increase export.

UMFCCI President U Zaw Min Win also explained about the status of implementing decisions made at the past meetings, public-private discussions held for private sector development, increasing export and status of sector wise works.

Later, Myanmar Fisheries Federation Vice Chairperson Dr Daw Toe Nanda Tin and General Secretary U Win Kyaing, Myanmar Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticides Entrepreneurs Association Joint Secretary U Maung Maung Khaing, Palaung Self-Administered Region Leading Body Chairman U Win Kyaw and UMFCCI Vice President U Ye Min Aung explained about sector wise difficulties faced and provided discussions and suggestions.

Next, the Vice President, Union Ministers, Yangon Region Chief Minister, Deputy Ministers and officials gave comments and suggestions to ensure coordination based on the suggestions made.

The meeting came to close after a concluding speech by the Vice President.

The following senior officials attended the meeting:

Vice-Chairman of PSDC and Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint, Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Deputy Ministers U Aung Htoo, U Win Maw Tun and U Maung Maung Win, Yangon Region government ministers, UMFCCI President, Vice Presidents and members, Shan State Palaung Self-Administered Region Leading Body Chairman, officials from 5 work committees, departmental heads, officials from Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Myanmar Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticides Entrepreneurs Association and departmental officials. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

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

Over 23,000 tourists arrive within one week via Tachilek

WITH tourists visiting Myanmar daily through the Tachilek border boder gate, a total of 23,762 tourists, including Thai citizens, visited Myanmar in overnight trips and day return trips from 21 June to 27 June, according to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism. Further, from January to June 596,337 tourists visited Myanmar, according to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

Tourists are continuously entering Myanmar through international gateways and cross-border gateways, in order to tour Myanmar's natural beauty of landscapes, scenery, and places of tourist attractions.

Also, there is now a culture-based tourism in which tourists can observe the traditions and cultures of the ethnic people.

There were 22,451 visitors from Thailand, as well as from other countries who entered Myanmar via Tachilek border gate in day return trips, while there were 216 tourists who visited Maing Phyat and Kengtung during overnight trips, and 1,095 tourists who visited with visas.

From 1 January to 27 June, 596,337 tourists visited Myanmar, coming on 547,663 day trips, along with overnight Thai tourists who entered via the Tachilek border gate, 6,848 third country visitors, 195 Thai tourists who visited Lam Taung pagoda in day return trips, 113 Thai tourists who visited Mai Phone in day return trips, 6553 tourists who traveled Maing Phat and participated in Kengtung trips, and 34, 965 tourists who visited with visas.—Wai Yan Lin (IPRD) ■ *(Translated by Hay Mar)*

Tourists visit Myanmar every day through the Tachilek border gate. **PHOTO : WAI YAN LIN (IPRD)**

Feasibility study being conducted to operate electric train along Mandalay-Lashio-Muse

MYANMAR Railways (MR) is now conducting a feasibility study, including an environmental impact assessment (EIA) and Social Impact Assessment (SIA), to build a tram road to operate an electronic train along the Mandalay-Lashio-Muse route starting on 25 June.

Upon completion of the project, the electric train is expected to operate at 100 miles per hour, with the journey taking only three hours.

Based upon the result of the EIA and SIA, China is likely to provide its cost to construct the tram road linking Myanmar and China.

U Myo Win, General Manager of the MR (Upper Myanmar), said the feasibility study has been completed, focusing on six points included in the project area.

It remains uncertain about the project, which is awaiting the EIA/SIA results. For the time being, the 385-mile Mandalay-Yangon journey takes 14 hours by train. Upon completion of the Muse railroad project, it is expected to take only three hours and both countries anticipate the rapid transport of commodities.

The Myanma Railways and China Railway Eryuan Engineering Group Co Ltd inked a memorandum of understanding to conduct out a feasibility study in the project area on 22 October 2018. The preliminary study to search for an axis road was made between 5 and 12 December. The study estimates that 12 railway stations will be required.

U Aung Zaw Myint, a Pyithu Hluttaw MP of Amarapura Constituency, said the project is worth implementing, through a transparent process, as it will positively impact the country.

The Mandalay-Muse railroad is expected to include 124 bridges, 60 tunnels and 36 railway stations. The geological survey will include soil and other testing.—Khine Hsat Wai ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Myanmar receives 23 trafficking victims through Kawthoung border gate

OFFICIALS with Thailand's Ranong Immigration Department handed over 23 Myanmar trafficking victims to the Kawthoung Township Relief and Resettlement Department on 27 June.

They were apprehended by Thai authorities after they were involved in a car accident on No 4 Asia Road in Chumphon District of southern Thailand. In the mishap, four more workers who had been trafficked to Thailand for work with them were killed in the mishap. The 23 workers were sent to the Ranong Social Development and Human Security Centre. Their brokers were arrested with the help of Thai authorities and the workers were handed over to Myanmar.

The workers were received by officials from the General Administration Department, District Police Force, Labour, Immigration, and Population Department, Anti-Trafficking Police, Labour Department, Natural Disaster Department, and Resettlement Department and provided the necessary healthcare. Then, officials from the concerned departments helped the 23 workers return to their homes.—Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Transformers repaired in NyaungU Township

THE electrical engineering office of NyaungU Township, Mandalay Region, carried out repairs and maintenance of transformers as part of a project to ensure sufficient and safe supply of electricity to residents.

A team led by electrical manager U Win Htain began the project on 23 June. Officials were planning to repair one transformer per day in the current fiscal year. "But, they have finished transformer repairs in the township within six days," said U Win Htain.

"The electrical engineering office has provided transformer repair and maintenance services in six wards of the township.

The aim of this project is to reduce the incidence of wire shock by providing safe and sufficient power to residents.

The electric engineering office conducts transformer repairs annually. We repaired 18 transformers last year," he said. — Ye Win Naing (NyaungU) ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

Green peas, chick peas to be temporarily imported

By Aye Yamon Oo

GREEN peas and chick peas, which cannot be grown to meet the local demand, are to be temporarily imported from other countries, according to Dr Than Myint, the Union Minister for Commerce.

He made this statement at the 28th regular meeting held on 29 June at the Office of The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI). Vice President 1 U Myint Swe and entrepreneurs were present at the meeting.

"We will grow more beans, which are in high demand by India, Japan, Korea and China. We have the market. At that time, the prices of the locally consumed beans, such as green peas and chick peas, will decline and local farmers will only grow those beans in high demand. So, we could not grow enough green peas and chick peas to meet the market demand. Therefore, we are planning to temporarily import green peas and chick peas from other countries. We are holding discussions with local farmers, traders and the government," said Union Minister Dr Than Myint.

With the growing of beans in high demand by foreign countries, such as Mung beans, Pigeon peas and Green grams, local companies have applied for licenses to import green peas and chick peas for local consumption. The Ministry of Commerce has also been planning to import locally demanded beans from other countries.

"I heard that they have been planning to conduct a survey to import green peas. There are only a few local farmers who grow green peas, because they do not make high profits. We have urged the import of green peas and chick peas on behalf of local farmers, because these two beans are scarce in the local market," said U Htay Myint, a Bayint Naung market trader.

Farmers growing green peas in a farm in Magwe Region. **PHOTO : SOE LIN NAING**

Currently, Myanmar is mainly growing beans, such as Mung beans, pigeon peas and green grams. Mung beans are mainly purchased by India, while green gram is chiefly purchased by China and European countries. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Viet Nam eyes contract farming for chili

By Aye Yamon Oo

A Vietnamese company is negotiating to grow Myanmar chili under a contract farming system agreement, according to the Chili Market and Technology Development Association. Their offer includes providing assistance with seeds.

In order to carry out a contract farming system, officials from the Vietnamese company will visit Myanmar for the second time to tour chili plantations during the first week of July.

"The region has not been designated yet. We need to first check their chili species to find out which species suits what kinds of land. So, we have to let them tour our chili plantations when they visit Myanmar. Their chili seed is a Vietnamese species. They want to purchase 20 containers of chili daily. They will import the chili to their country through border gates. Therefore, we need more farms. Currently, they are studying our chili farmlands in detail," said Daw Ohnmar Kyaw, chairman of the Chili Market and Technology Development Association.

Myanmar mainly exports 692 chili species to foreign countries.

"We are worried about rising chili prices. For example, chili is being sold in the market for K 8,000 per viss today, and it can increase to K 10,000 per viss tomorrow. We are worried about the local farmers' concerns. But the huge chili farming owners are not worried about it and they welcome us", she added.

"If chili is produced by local farmers under the contract farming system, we need to negotiate the purchasing price of chili," she noted. Myanmar chili is mainly grown in Ayeyawady region, Mandalay region and Kyaukse Township. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

A farmer harvests chillies at the field in Kangyidauk, Ayeyawady Region. **PHOTO : PHOE KHWAR**

Bilateral trade with Indonesia up 8% in April

MYANMAR-Indonesia trade topped US$80.9 million in April, registering a slight increase of $6 million, or 8 per cent, in value compared to the same month in the previous fiscal, according to the latest monthly trade report issued by the Ministry of Commerce.

In the month of April, Myanmar's exports to Indonesia, an ASEAN member state, stood at nearly $6.9 million, while imports were registered at $74.1 million. During the same month in the previous FY, bilateral trade between the countries totalled $74.85 million, with exports worth $10.8 million and imports valued at $63.9 million.

Myanmar's imports always outperform exports in bilateral trade with Indonesia. Compared with last April, the value of exports has decreased slightly by $4 million, or 36 per cent, but imports have increased by $10.1 million, or 15.7 per cent, in April this year.

The two countries trade medicines, paper, palm oil, steel, tobacco, rubber, agro, and marine products.

According to the Commerce Ministry's annual statistical report, Myanmar-Indonesia trade in the 2018 mini-budget period (April-September) was $520 million, an increase of $62 million from the corresponding period in the previous year.

Myanmar-Indonesia trade reached a peak of over $1 billion in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

The bilateral trade was pegged at $827 million in the 2016-2017FY, $741 million in the 2015-2016FY, $636 million in the 2014-2015FY, over $490 million in the 2013-2014FY, $226 million in the 2012-2013FY, and $472 million in the 2011-2012FY.

According to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, investments of $9.86 million flowed from Indonesia into Myanmar in the 2017-2018FY, and $0.95 million in the 2018 mini-budget period. There have been no fresh investments from Indonesia as on April in the current 2018-2019 Financial Year.—Swe Nyein ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun awards the first prize to the News and Periodicals Enterprise team. **PHOTO : MNA**

MOI Monsoon Football Competition final and prize awarding ceremony held in Nay Pyi Taw

A final match of the 2019 Ministry of Information (MOI) Monsoon Football Competition was held at Nay Pyi Taw Zabuthiri Township Wunna Theikdi Sports Practice Ground yesterday afternoon. Prizes were presented after the match.

The final match was between Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) team and News and Periodicals Enterprise (NPE) team.

After scoring one goal each, both teams went all out for the winning goal but the match remains scoreless after the first two goals. After a penalty shoot-out NPE team came out the winner with 7-6 to clinch the Union Minister's Cup.

After the final match a prize presenting ceremony was held where officials first presented consolation prizes to the Ministry Office team and Printing and Publishing Enterprise team. Third prize was presented to Information and Public Relations Department team.

Next, Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung presented Ks 300,000 to the second placed MRTV team and the most supporting prize to MRTV personnel.

Afterwards on behalf of the Union Minister, Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun presented the first placed NPE team Ks 500,000 and the Cup.

2019 MOI Monsoon Football Competition, the third time it was being held, starts on 15 June and five teams from the Ministry participated in it.

NPE had won the Union Minister's Cup for three times in a row since the competition was started in 2017 it is learnt.

The final match and prize presenting ceremony was attended by Ministry of Information personnel, families and football enthusiasts.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Mingalar Advanced Cinema opens in Dagon Myothit (South)

Mingalar Cinema Group opened its advanced cinema at the corner of Hlawgaw and Myeik Raods, Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Region, yesterday.

The newly-opened Mingalar Cinema (South Dagon) is the 28th of its kinds operated by the Mingalar Cinema Co., Ltd. and which has a seating capacity of 460.

Moreover, the cinema has offered the peoplw with Hollywood films and others films produced by China, India and Asia and Myanmar films. Also, movie-goers can be able to enjoy the Myanmar films titled "Sein-gawli-ma-yauk-kyar" and "Thadi-An-da-yae-shi-thi" at the cinema starting June 27.

The event was attended by Yangon Region Minister for Rakhine Ethnic Affairs U Zaw Aye Maung, Yangon Reigon Hluttaw Speaker U Lin Naing Myint, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Nyi Nyi, Urban and Housing Development Director General U Min Htein, Patron of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization Sithu Bogalay Tint Aung, Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization U Zin Wine, Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Naing, Deputy Director-General of Urban and Housing Development U Myint Naing and Chairman of Mingalar Co.,Ltd. U Zaw Min and they graced the inaugural event by cutting the ceremonial ribbons.

Then Patron of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization Sithu Bogalay Tint Aung, Yangon Region Minister for Rakhine Ethnic Affairs U Zaw Aye Maung, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Nyi Nyi, Director-General U Ye Naing, Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization U Zin Wine and Chairman of Mingalar Co.,Ltd. U Zaw Min extended their congratulatory remarks at the event.

Yangon Region Minister for Rakhine Ethnic Affairs U Zaw Aye Maung and officials open the new Mingalar Cinema in Yangon yesterday. **PHTOT : YE HTUT**

The cinema times are scheduled to open at 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 3:30 pm, 6:00 pm and 9:30 pm and prices of cinema tickets are ranging from K 1500, K 2500, K 3000, K 4500 and K 5000 respectively.

For the convenience of the film lovers, tickets can be purchased from the box office in advance of the film's opening.

Currently, the Mingalar Cinema Co., Ltd. has opened 31 cinemas among 15 places in Yangon, eight cinemas among five places in Mandalay, each of the three cinemas among the two places in Bago and Monywa, three cinemas in Pyay, and each of the cinema in Mawlamyine, Magway and Toungoo, totalling 51 nationwide.

With the opening of the two new cinemas yesterday, the number of the cinemas nationwide has reached 142 together with some 163 screens.—Ye Ye Myint ■ *(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)*

Field trip members of University of Veterinary Science provides free vaccination for the cattle in Meiktila Township, yesterday.
PHOTO: CHAN THA (MEIKTILA)

Veterinary Science University students continues field trip, give free vaccination to cattle in Meiktila

STUDENTS from the University of Veterinary Science provided free medication and vaccination to cattle in Meiktila Township, Mandalay Region yesterday.

Dr. Khin Khin Lay, the Associate Professor of University of Veterinary Science said that the university's field trip team comprised of supervision teachers and students led by Dr. Saw Po Po, the Pro-rector of the university was grouped into nine. The nine groups gave free medication and vaccination to the cattle in nine villages of Meiktila Township. They also educated the local people with cattle nutrition and breeding knowledge. The field trip members are giving free medications and vaccinations to cattle, collecting data related to breeding and educating the local people with breeding knowledge in nine villages of Selkone, Hmontine, Thatyatpin, Mway, Yaywae, Shanmange, Minywar, Nyaungkine and Nyaungmyint in Meiktila Township from 28 to 30 June, in cooperation with Meiktila Township General Administration Department and the Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.—Chan Tha (Meiktila) ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*

Union Minister U Ohn Win inspects mangrove conservation in Kungyangon, Yangon Region

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win inspected a mangrove forest conservation near Latkokkon Village in Kungyangon Township, Yangon Region, yesterday.

The conservation is jointly carried out by the Forest Department of the ministry and Norway-based Worldview International Foundation.

Before visiting to the site, the Union minister met with officials and experts of the project and discussed the conservation activities including planting mangrove trees in the township and future plans in Mon State, and Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions.

At the meeting, Union Minister U Ohn Win gave advises on planting species which are suitable to the nature of mangrove forests, stressing the need of mangrove conservation at the coastal areas of Myanmar. Following the meeting, he visited the mangrove forest reserve. —MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

African Swine Fever identified as serious disease for pigs: Director of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Dept

THERE has been an outbreak of African Swine fever in many places around the world. In China, one of the adjacent countries of Myanmar, saw the outbreak in in August 2018 and it spread as for as Mongolia. Then, the virus was found Hang Kong. Myanmar is one of the country with high potential of the outbreak.

To know more about the fever, we contacted Dr Min Thein Maw, Director of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

Dr Min Thein Maw, Director of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

Q. What kind of disease is African Swine Fever?

A. As it appears in its name, it started in African countries. It affects only pigs. Blood sucking flies and insect on African boar spread virus among them. Now, it is evolving in Asia. This will impact pig farming.

Q. What are the symptoms of African Swine fever?

A. The symptoms are high fever, vomiting, blood in stool, constipation followed by diarrhea, high respiratory rate, and trembling. There will be cyanosis of skin due to high fever. There will also be swollen joints. Infected pigs usually died. The disease contagious only to pigs. The rate of infection is 30 out of 100 pigs. It is high likely the pig would die if infected.

> This is a big issue for pig farming. If the pigs are infected it will have huge impact on pig farming. So it is considered a serious disease.

Q. Can it affect human?

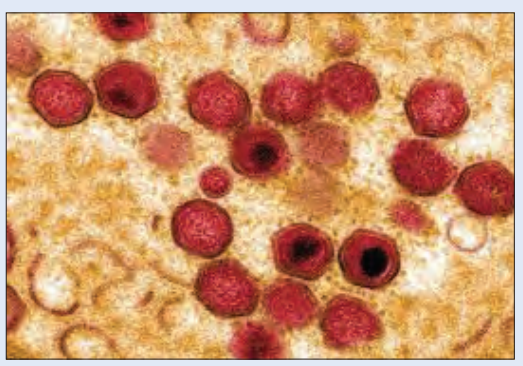
A. African Swine fever is a DNA virus and it only affects pigs. it is not contagious to human. It mainly affects boars and domestic pigs. This is a big issue for pig farming. If the pigs are infected it will have huge impact on pig farming. So it is considered a serious disease.

Q. What are the preventions?

A. so far, there has not been vaccine or cure which is why the mortality rate is high. Biosecurity is needed. Treating left over to them must be avoided. Disinfect the piggery. Tending pigs in the forest can get them infected easily. It is also important to keep the pigs systematically in piggery to have them avoid contact with boar. Concreate floors and sufficient shelters of the sty will prevent the pigs from virus to a certain degree.

Q. What do you want to add?

A. Treat the pig enough and heed the announcements form the departments. As prevention is better than cure, biosecurity should be focused. If a pig is suspected of infection, contact Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and follow its instruction. —MNA ■



The African swine fever virus causes a haemorrhagic fever with high mortality rates in domestic pigs.

Announcement on road closure on Martyrs' Day

Some Yangon roads will be closed on 19 July, 2019, during the 72nd Martyrs' Day ceremony at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Bahan Township, from 4 am to a completion of the ceremony.

While roads are closed, bypass routes will be used passing through West Shwegondine Road to the Link Junction, Dhammazedi Road and Inya Road junction, Dhammazedi Road and U Wisara Junction, West Shwegondaing Road and U Wisara Junction.

Arzarni Road, the eastern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda, the western archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda, the southern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda, Arzarni Street, the northern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda (Thwaysaykan Road) will be closed on that day.

The Yangon Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee

Announcement on closure of Bogyoke Aung San Museum Road on Martyrs' Day

For the convenience of visitors to the Bogyoke Aung San Museum on the Martyrs' Day which falls on 19 July, the Bogyoke Aung San Museum Road will be closed on that day starting at 5 am until the closing time. Road users are advised to use other routes while the road temporarily closed.

Yangon Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee

Landmine blast injures woman in Inndawgyi

A 33-year old woman got injured in a mine blast while picking vegetables in the woods in Inndawgyi, Moehnyin Township, Kachin State, on 28 July.

The victim identified as Daw San May from Mongnaung Village, got injures on her left head and was taken to Nanmon Station Hospital on the same day. The victim went to the forest together with two other villagers to collect vegetables and the blast happened around 1.30 pm.

Her two colleagues heard the blast at the site which is about 100 yards from them and where Daw San May was picking vegetables. They found the victim unconscious with injures on left part of her hard. The victims is undergoing treatment at the hospital.—Ni Toe ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Basic price for rice a guarantee to rights and interests of farmers

For farmers, significant profits can only be expected when they see success in production and a good price for their crops.

This shows that announcing a basic price for crops is sine qua non between traders and farmers, while the government must strive towards ensuring that prices do not fall below the base price.

Basic prices for crops, especially for rice, should always ensure the rights and interests of our farmers. In March 2018, the Myanmar Rice Federation announced the basic price for rice, at the request of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, setting the price for full quality rice at K500,000 per 100 baskets. That price was fixed for 2018, after taking into consideration the market situation and costs for growing rice.

Basic prices for crops, especially for rice, should always ensure the rights and interests of our farmers.

It was found that the price for rice in 2018 was not helpful for farmers in the following year, and it caused concern for farmers, though they harvested a high yield. Basic prices must be announced every season.

At a meeting with local farmers in Ayeyawady Delta on 28 June, the State Counsellor heard of challenges farmers face and urged authorities to announce the basic price for rice every season, as the processes are not for a single season or even one year.

A price for a crop is calculated based upon basic factors, such as market and production prices. Yet these prices remain fluid, season by season and year by year.

In other countries, basic prices for crops are announced before the planting season, after studying local and foreign market situations. Based upon basic prices, farmers choose the crop which is expected to be profitable for them when they harvest.

In our country, too, even if basic prices are not announced for all crops, they should be announced for the main crops, such as peanut, sesame, corn and others that are widely grown by farmers.

Further, weaknesses and strengths of the basic price must be studied and reviewed year after year.

Every time there is a good harvest of rice, farmers should not have to brace themselves for a shock due to a fall in the price. The high yield was predictable and it is the ministry's concern to protect the interests of both the farmers, as well as consumers.

Only when farmers earn profits in the agriculture sector, can they pass along the integrity and value of agriculture to their children, as the agriculture sector continues to play a large part in the development of the country.

■■■

Collective prevention against hazards of disposables

By Naing Oo (DOCA)

The other day I attended a meeting at a hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. As it is well-known, hospitality, friendliness, and care for consumers should not be ignored. When served with lime juice, the normal plastic straw was replaced with a heavy bamboo pipe, knowing upon an inquiry from the employees. I could not help giving due respect to the managers from the hotel. I also could not help praising the employees who serve with great care and goodwill on such a small matter of using a normal plastic pipe. I also thank the employers in consideration of consumers, knowing that they would get less profit for using bamboo pipes instead of normal plastic ones. Bamboo pipes are expensive and need craftsmanship whereas plastic ones take thousands of years to decay and dissolve in the earth whereas the bamboo pipes can be dissolved within a period of three to four years to serve as soil. Split bamboo can be used for roasting or toasting; they can be split into toothpicks or table decorations in the restaurants.

Disposable cups and dinner plates are made of the leaves of betel nut (Areca catechu) trees. **PHOTO : KHAING HTOO (MYEIK)**

The ditch-clearing groups in the Yangon Region risked to climb down into the ditches in the darkness without oxygen; spiders, rats, and snakes are there ready to strike or bite the members.

Discarding over six million tons of disposables

Over six million tons of disposables are discarded daily in the world; 42% of them are reused and the rest 58% have been burnt into the earth, the sea, rivers, streams, and the lakes, flying into the atmosphere as toxic smokes. One cannot dare think of how much will there be in the atmosphere within a period of a month or a year.

Nowadays, time is money. That is why people are working against the time; they have not much time for their livelihood. Then they have to exchange money for the time. As the time and livelihood have changed, the businessmen have sold the disposables abundantly. The disposables are produced extensively for huge profits. The results can be observed as scattered plastic pipes, bags, coffee sachets and cans in villages, towns, and cities as well as highland regions and the plains. The disposables cause ugliness on either side of the roads, but they are increasing more and more. The disposables create ecological damage between inanimate objects and animals and plants.

The leaders and authorities concerned set an example of collecting refuse so that people would follow for the sake of keeping some villages clean. But the whole country is wholly covered with disposables. Volunteers, sympathizers and ecologists made an unhesitating response for collecting, removing and picking these disposables from the earth. They have been educating the public for collecting the rubbish, citing as an example. Departments concerned could do as much as they can, even though there is a heavy load for them.

Removing disposables for the public

The ditch-clearing groups in the Yangon Region risked to climb down into the ditches in the darkness without oxygen; spiders, rats, and snakes are there ready to strike or bite the members. They have been doing to prevent flooding by removing the disposables from the ditches. Their activities are described in the media. We have to thank these groups for clearing disposables such as plastic materials, beer, and soft drinks cans.

In Myanmar, the plastic pipes are replaced with bamboo pipes and several kinds of plates, replacing cork bottles plates are made of plam fronds, and lunch boxes. Disposables such as coffee sachets are made for hand bags, baskets, tablecloth and mats sold at a cheap price somewhere around. Particularly, the pictures of lions and pheasants and the natural scenery are made of multicolored coffee sachets. Disposed cork bottles, purified water bottles, soft drinks and beer cans are used for decorations in houses, shops and showrooms.

Those materials are used fully in the cultivation of chilly, garlic, onion and flowering plants. As these disposables are dangerous to the earth, they must be encouraged to replace with natural materials to prevent the polluted earth, water and air. The disposables should not be useless, rather they should be used advantageously. That would set a good example for future generations ,thus giving fertile soils, fresh air and safe water to them.

As these disposables are dangerous to the earth, they must be encouraged to replace with natural materials to prevent the polluted earth, water and air.

Avoiding to buy disposables

Recently a town in neighboring India, thousands of acres of disposables and other waste materials are thrown daily, by considering to put that town in the dirtiest lists by the United Nations. Myanmar is not likely to be viewed as throwing disposables recklessly and 51 million people won't accept the situation either. Regardless of race and religion, culture and customs, we have lived in Myanmar through wills and woes. Most of our people would listen to the good news of our country. In order to avoid using disposables and reduce them; things should be used effectively.

Once I happened to have a chance of meeting an environmentalist. He discussed for our daily consumption of rice, vegetables, fruits and cereals were mixed with disposables, chemicals and plastics. The habits of maintaining sound environments must be established. Disposables must be reduced ; they must be replaced with natural produce, enriching my knowledge.

Greening the earth and reducing disposables

Young charity made beautiful table lampshades, wall lampshades and ceiling lamps are put for sale. Upon enquiry, the proceeds will assist the poor children. Greening the earth and reducing the disposables are advantageous for needy people, the rubbish would become money.

Disposables are easily got and used to ruin the beauty of the environments. The ecological systems of living animals and plant species are damaged. Erosion of soils ensues and we tend to breathe in bad smells. It is hard to get purified water. Recklessly doing for the long run, it would create a bad consequence. Up to now, how many disposables would be thrown away is our guessing game. Beneficial use of disposables cannot be known up until now. But the disposables must be reduced as much as we can. The disposables should be replaced with natural products. That is why we should reduce the disposables as much as we can as they are threatening the ecological systems between living animals and plant species and polluting the earth, waters and atmosphere. Avoid throwing the refuse recklessly, reuse as cultivating materials, encourage the natural produce, leaving a good heritage for young generations, greening our country must be carried out by collective efforts.

Translated by Arakan Sein

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Saturday 29th June, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 30th June, 2019: Rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kayah State, scattered in Naypyitaw, Mandalay Region and Chin State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and (Northern and Eastern) Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavyfalls in Ayeyarwaddy Region and Rakhine State and isolated heavyfalls in Bago, Yangon and Tanintharyi Regions, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (9 -13)feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of strong monsoon.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30thJune, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30th June, 2019: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30th June, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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

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Trade deal with EU huge boost for South American bloc. **PHOTO: AFP**

Trade deal with EU huge boost for South American bloc

MONTEVIDEO — The historic trade agreement signed Friday in Brussels is a massive shot in the arm for the four-nation South American bloc known as Mercosur.

The trade alliance grouping Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay has struggled for momentum since it was set up in 1991.

Though the agreement eliminates tariffs against the EU in key sectors, the bloc still has to get its own house in order, according to analyst Nicolas Albertoni of the University of Southern California.

"Nearly 30 years after its creation the idea of a customs union within Mercosur hasn't been achieved," said Albertoni.

"Mercosur hasn't consolidated either its customs union or its common market," according to Ignacio Bartesaghi of Montevideo's Catholic University.

Mercosur operates a Common External Tariff within the zone, but members struggle with rules they see as too restrictive, holding back progress in bilateral agreements because they need the consent of other members.

"It has a precarious free trade zone, since it has exceptions, for example, as regards the auto industry and sugar," said Bartesaghi.

"It still has a very high level of non-tariff barriers that affect the growth of intra-regional trade," he said.

Mercosur, headquartered near a popular city beach in Montevideo, has a population of 264 million with a GDP equivalent to almost one-eighth that of the EU.

The agreement sealed Friday creates a market of 780 million people with the EU.

Bartesaghi said that after 20 years of negotiations, both sides were coming out "winners — one more in the agricultural sphere and the other for industrial products and services." Beyond trade, experts point to the benefits of a deal of such magnitude at a time when protectionism is gaining ground, particularly given the trade war between China and the United States.

The EU-Mercosur agreement "will help improve Mercosur's cohesion, support its modernization and make it a more attractive market for Japan, South Korea and even the United States," said Bartesaghi.

"The dynamic effects of this type of agreement have to be taken into account: the progress that can bring to Mercosur in terms of competitiveness, efficiency, institutional quality and attracting investment," he said.

Added Albertoni: "Beyond access to markets, this agreement can become a huge signal for global trade, today anchored in a protectionist rhetoric."—AFP ■

Toyota to invest 210 bil.yen in Indonesia to develop hybrid cars

NAGOYA — Toyota Motor Corp. will invest about 210 billion yen ($1.9 billion) through 2023 in Indonesia mainly to develop hybrid cars, people close to the matter said Saturday.

The planned investment in one of the largest auto markets in Southeast Asia is also meant to prepare the Japanese automaker for future growth in full-electric car demand, they said.

Toyota President Akio Toyoda explained his company's investment plan for the country to Indonesian government officials in their meeting earlier in the week, the sources said.In 2018, Toyota produced about 200,000 cars in Indonesia.The company said earlier in the month it will move up its target to achieve annual global sales of 5.5 million units of electric and other eco-friendly vehicles by five years to 2025.

The announcement came after Toyota said in late 2017 it would aim for EVs to account for more than half its global sales by around 2030 — or about 5.5 million units, including 1 million EVs and vehicles using fuel cell technology, which generates electricity from hydrogen and oxygen. —Kyodo New ■

US slaps sanctions on son of Venezuelan leader Maduro

WASHINGTON — The United States on Friday imposed sanctions on the son of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro for serving in his father's "illegitimate regime."

"Maduro relies on his son Nicolasito and others close to his authoritarian regime to maintain a stranglehold on the economy and suppress the people of Venezuela," US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said in announcing the action. "Treasury will continue to target complicit relatives of illegitimate regime insiders profiting off of Maduro?s corruption," he said.

The action freezes any assets Nicolas Ernesto Maduro Guerra has in the United States and bars American individuals or institutions from doing business with him.

The latest US action comes as Maduro moves to consolidate his hold on power after a failed coup attempt by opposition leader Juan Guaido.

Guaido, the leader of the opposition-controlled National Assembly, is recognized by the United States and more than 50 other countries as Venezuela's acting president.

In targeting Maduro's son, the Treasury noted that he was a member of the pro-government Constituent Assembly, which Maduro has used to sideline the National Assembly.

It also said that Maduro Guerra "has profited from Venezuelan mines along with Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores," and engaged in propaganda and censorship efforts on behalf of his father's government.— AFP ■

In this 2013 photo, Venezuelan acting President Nicolas Maduro (C) embraces his wife Cilia Flores (R) and son Nicolas Maduro during a campaign rally. **PHOTO: AFP**

Apple to shift Mac Pro production to China: report

NEW YORK — Apple Inc. is manufacturing its new Mac Pro computers in China, moving production abroad for what was its only major device assembled in the United States, The Wall Street Journal reported Friday in its online edition.

Citing people familiar with the plans, the US business daily said Apple has chosen Taiwanese contractor Quanta Computer Inc. to manufacture the $6,000 desktop computer and is boosting production at a factory near Shanghai.

The move will allow Apple to save on shipping costs for components, as many of its suppliers are located in close proximity to Shanghai.

Apple's reliance on manufacturing facilities in China has been an issue especially under President Donald Trump, who has pressed the US tech giant and other companies to produce more in the United States, which makes the decision consequential even though the Mac Pro is not one of Apple's higher-volume products, the report said.

Apple emphasized its US production plans when it rolled out the previous Mac Pro model in 2013. But it did not mention the production site for the latest model upon unveiling it in June.

The Trump administration has pressured Apple to make some of its products in the United States amid the prolonged trade war with China.—Kyodo New ■

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‘Say hello’: Trump invites Kim to DMZ meeting

OSAKA (Japan)— US President Donald Trump on Saturday invited North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to meet for a historic handshake at the demilitarised zone that divides the Korean peninsula, and said he would have “no problem” stepping over the border.

The invitation issued on Twitter caught observers by surprise. If Kim accepts, it would be the third meeting between the leaders of the two wartime enemies amid efforts to contain North Korea’s nuclear ambitions.

The North’s official KCNA news agency quoted Vice Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui as saying the offer was “a very interesting suggestion” but that no official request had been received. Trump lobbed the shock invitation on Twitter from the G20 summit in Osaka, saying: “if Chairman Kim of North Korea sees this, I would meet him at the Border/DMZ just to shake his hand and say Hello(?)!”

He later said he would have “no problem” stepping into the North with Kim — in what would be a dramatic gesture re-enacting an extraordinary 2018 scene when the young leader invited South Korean President Moon Jae-in to walk over the Military Demarcation Line that forms the border between the Koreas.

“Sure I would, I would. I’d feel very comfortable doing that. I’d have no problem,” Trump told reporters. The US leader said the invitation was spontaneous, but it comes amid a recent flurry of diplomacy over North Korea’s nuclear programme after a Trump-Kim summit in Hanoi collapsed without an agreement.

Speculation grew that something was afoot when US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo skipped a G20 dinner Friday without giving a reason. “We’ll see. If he is there, we will see each other for two minutes,” said Trump. “We seem to get along... That’s a good thing, not a bad thing,” he added.

North Korea’s Choe said if a meeting took place it would be “another meaningful occasion in further deepening the personal relations between the two leaders and advancing the bilateral relations”.

The border village of Panmunjom in the Demilitarised Zone divides the two Koreas. **PHOTO: AFP**

The North’s speedy response to Trump’s offer, and from such a senior figure, was seen by analysts as an indication that Kim would agree to the meeting as soon as Washington followed up with an official proposal. Cheong Seong-chang, a senior researcher at the private Sejong Institute in Seoul, said Kim had “practically accepted” Trump’s invitation.

“If he (Kim) isn’t interested he would not release such a statement to begin with.” Twitter is not available to ordinary North Korean citizens, who have no access to the global internet, but Trump told reporters that Kim “follows” his account and that a “quick” response had been received to his offer.

Later, at a dinner with the South’s President Moon Jae-in after he flew to Seoul, he was asked about the meeting and said: “We’re gonna see. They’re working things out right now.”— AFP ■

Sudan generals say AU, Ethiopian plan basis for talks with protesters

KHARTOUM — Sudan’s ruling generals said Friday that a new, joint proposal drafted by Ethiopia and the African Union could be a base to resume negotiations with protesters on forming a transitional administration.

The African Union and Ethiopia have come up with a blueprint for a transitional rule in Sudan after the ruling generals last week called on the two to unify their efforts to draft a proposal for Sudan’s shift to a civilian rule.

The new proposal drafted by the two calls for a civilian-majority ruling council as demanded by protesters, but it fails to mention the make-up of a new transitional parliament. “Although the transitional military council has some observations, the joint proposal from the African Union and Ethiopia can be a base for starting negotiations to form an interim authority,” General ShamseddineKabbashi, spokesman of the ruling military council said in a brief statement broadcast on state television.

“The Transitional Military Council is ready to negotiate to have an interim authority.”

The generals seized power after the army ousted longtime ruler Omar al-Bashir on 11 April following months of nationwide protests against his ironfisted rule of three decades.

But since then the generals have resisted calls from demonstrators and Western nations to hand power to a civilian administration. The joint proposal entails creating a 15-member, civilian-majority governing body for a three-year transitional period. But it makes no mention of the composition of a legislative body.

An earlier proposal drafted by Ethiopia had stipulated a transitional parliament of 300 lawmakers, with 67 per cent of them from the umbrella protest movement, the Alliance for Freedom and Change. The remaining 33 per cent were to be from other political groups, excluding ousted longtime ruler Bashir’s defunct National Congress Party.

On Saturday, the alliance had announced its acceptance of Ethiopia’s earlier proposal but Sudan’s military council expressed reservations, urging Addis Ababa and the African Union to come up with a joint proposal.—AFP ■

Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitaries have been patrolling the streets since a 3 June crackdown on protests. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

US deploys F-22 stealth fighters to Qatar amid Iran tensions

WASHINGTON (United States) – The US has deployed F-22 stealth fighters to Qatar for the first time, its military said Friday, adding to a buildup of US forces in the Gulf amid tensions with Iran.

The Air Force F-22 Raptor stealth fighters have been deployed “to defend American forces and interests,” the US Air Forces Central Military Command said in a statement that did not specify how many of the hi-tech planes had been sent.— AFP ■

Lady Gaga crashes Stonewall rally in New York

NEW YORK (United States) – Lady Gaga delighted crowds in New York Friday with a surprise appearance at a rally marking the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots, as the city gears up to welcome millions to its Gay Pride event that will feature concerts from Madonna and Grace Jones.

Stonewall Day commemorates the June 1969 riots sparked by repeated police raids on the Stonewall Inn – a well-known gay bar in New York’s Greenwich Village – that proved to be a turning point in the LGBTQ community’s struggle for civil rights. —AFP ■

Abe, Putin make little progress on territorial row

OSAKA – Japan and Russia remain far from resolving a long-standing dispute over the sovereignty of a set of islands after their leaders met in Osaka on Saturday, further delaying the signing of a formal peace treaty more than 70 years after World War II.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Russian President Vladimir Putin said their governments will continue negotiations on the fate of the islands in line with a 1956 joint declaration. – Kyodo News ■

'Back on track': Trump, Xi seal trade war truce

OSAKA (Japan) — US President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping struck a trade war truce on Saturday, as Washington vowed to hold off on further tariffs and declared negotiations with China "back on track".

The ceasefire that halts damaging trade frictions came in a hotly anticipated meeting between the leaders of the world's top two economies on the sidelines of the G20 summit.

Trump hailed the meeting in the Japanese city of Osaka as "excellent".

"We are right back on track," he added.

There was little in the way of concrete details on what was agreed, but Trump confirmed Washington had committed not to impose any new tariffs on Beijing's exports and that the two sides would continue talks.

Trump said he was ready for a "historic" deal with China as the leaders kicked off their meeting and Xi told him "dialogue" was better than confrontation. **PHOTO: AFP**

"We won't be adding an additional tremendous amount of $350 billion left which could be taxed or could be tariffed. We're not doing that, we are going to work with China on where we left off to see if we can make a deal," Trump said at a press conference.

"We will be continuing to negotiate." The outcome was likely to be seen as a win for avoiding any new tariffs. "The base case scenario was met at G20 and while we are no worse for wear, let's see what the G20 hangover brings," said Stephen Innes, market analyst at Vanguard Markets.

'Down the tubes'

Trump struck a conciliatory tone from his arrival in Japan for the summit, despite saying China's economy was going "down the tubes" before he set out for Osaka.

He said he was ready for a "historic" deal with China as the leaders kicked off their meeting, and Xi told him that dialogue was better than confrontation.

In their final statement, the G20 leaders admitted that "most importantly, trade and geopolitical tensions have intensified," echoing hard-won language from their finance ministers at a meeting earlier this month.

There were few more concrete details about the closed-door discussions but Trump suggested a potentially softer position on the Chinese telecoms firm Huawei, which has been a sticking point in the trade war.—AFP ■

Indian health minister bans biscuits in ministry meetings

NEW DELHI — Indian federal Health Minister Harsh Vardhan has directed its ministry to stop offering biscuits in the departmental meetings, officials said Saturday.

A circular issued by the ministry urged officials to provide participants with healthy alternatives such as roasted channa, almonds, dates and walnuts during departmental meetings of the health ministry.

"The health and family welfare minister has desired that healthy snacks only to be served in official meeting and biscuits are to be avoided." reads the circular. "Henceforth, therefore, biscuits shall not be dispensed through the departmental canteen and healthy snacks like lahiya channa, khajoor (dates), bhuna channa (roasted channa), badam (almond) and akhrot (walnuts) will be served in the official meetings in the department."

Earlier, biscuits and cookies were offered during official meetings in the ministry. The ministry also reiterated its earlier order of not using the drinking water in plastic bottles.

"The order issued earlier by the administration division for not using plastic water bottles shall also be implemented in letter and spirit," the order reads. —Xinhua ■

8 militants killed in southern Somalia

MOGADISHU — Somali security forces on Thursday night killed 8 militants in southern Somali, officials said on Friday.

According to a spokesman from the Somali security ministry and internal affairs of Jubbaland, the militants were killed in a joint offensive launched by Jubbaland and the Somali Special Forces in Jamame town in Somalia's southern region of Lower Juba.

"Our forces inflicted heavy casualties on the militants in the operation," the spokesman said, adding that the security forces destroyed the militants' base in Jamame town where the militants used to plan attacks on government forces.

Local residents confirmed that there was confrontation in the town. "Government forces launched an attack on the extremists' hideout. There was heavy fighting and the militants fled the town," Yahye Ahmed, a local resident told Xinhua by phone.

Recently, Somali forces backed by African Union Mission in Somalia have stepped up operations on al-Qaida affiliated extremists in some central and southern regions. About three weeks ago, Somali forces killed three al-Shabab militants in an operation in the country's southern region of Gedo. —Xinhua ■

Sea-Watch captain arrested after entering Italy port

LAMPEDUSA (Italy) — The Sea-Watch 3 ship carrying dozens of rescued migrants forced its way into the Italian port of Lampedusa after a lengthy standoff and its captain has been arrested, the charity running the boat said Saturday.

Sea-Watch spokesman Ruben Neugebauer told AFP German captain Carola Rackete, 31, had been arrested after manoeuvring the ship into port without permission on Friday night.

Rackete — a hero to some but a "pain in the neck" to Italy's far-right Interior Minister Matteo Salvini — was detained for refusing to obey a military vessel, a crime punishable by between three and 10 years in jail.

Offering no resistance, she was escorted off the vessel without handcuffs and taken away in a car.The 40 migrants still on board were eventually allowed to disembark early on Saturday and taken to the island's reception centre, some smiling, others in tears.

The Italian coastguard then took control of the boat, moved it out of the port again and anchored it just off the coast.

The ship docked despite a coastguard boat trying to prevent her from doing so by sailing back and forth between the vessel and the pier, according to the Repubblica daily.

"We put ourselves in the way to prevent (the ship) from entering the port. If we had stayed there, (the vessel) would have destroyed our speedboat," one of the police officers said in video footage posted on social media.

Sea-Watch captain Carola Rackete was detained for refusing to obey a military vessel, a crime by up to 10 years in jail. **PHOTO: AFP**

Residents and activists had gathered on the pier to watch the Sea-Watch 3 dock. While a group of supporters applauded the ship and its captain, others hailed Rackete's arrest, shouting "handcuff her", "shame" and "get lost!".

'Proud of our captain'

The dreadlocked woman has become a symbol of defiance and a leftwing hero in Italy for challenging Salvini's "closed-ports" policy.

The NGO's head, Johannes Bayer, said Sea-Watch was "proud of our captain".

"She did exactly the right thing. She upheld the law of the sea and brought people to safety," he tweeted.

Salvini, who heads the far-right League party, welcomed the arrest of the captain of the Dutch-flagged vessel.

"Mission accomplished," he tweeted. "Law-breaking captain arrested. Pirate ship seized, maximum fine for foreign NGO."

Salvini has seen his popularity inch steadily upwards on his hardline anti-immigrant platform.

Italian Prime Minster Giuseppe Conte, speaking on the sidelines of the G20 meeting in Osaka, Japan, said: "I don't want to take the place of the judiciary... But the laws exist, whether we like it or not."

'No-one listened'

Prosecutors in Sicily have launched a probe into Rackete on suspicion of aiding illegal immigration. The captain, however, was unrepentant.

After announcing she would be investigated, "the prosecution... notified us that they will not help to bring the rescued off the ship," Rackete had said in a video statement on Twitter.

"I have decided to enter the harbour, which is free at night, on my own," she added.

Rackete had previously warned she was worried about the psychological condition of those rescued off crisis-hit Libya.—AFP ■

Guardians of Apollo: the curators preserving the Moon mission's legacy

CHANTILLY (United States)— Lying on a workshop counter that is closed to the public at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum's annex near Washington Dulles airport, Neil Armstrong's gloves look almost as good as new.

You can hardly tell they made a trip to the Moon and back 50 years ago. To their side is the slightly yellowed "Snoopy Cap" (formally known as a "communications carrier") worn by crewmate Buzz Aldrin.

The space suit worn by Michael Collins, Apollo 11's third astronaut, is in near mint condition.

But the blue silicon fingertips of Armstrong's gloves have begun to degrade — a process that for now remains invisible to the naked eye — as has Collins' suit. "After 50 years, we do know that the rubber is breaking down, and becoming a little bit stiff and brittle," says Lisa Young, an objects conservator for the museum.

"It is inevitable. These were made for one time use, get to the moon and back," added Young, who was only a child when Armstrong and Aldrin touched down on lunar soil on 20 July, 1969. "We know the rubber bladders were only supposed to last six months, and they've lasted now 50 years."

When AFP visited this workshop on Friday, Young and her colleagues explained their work to delay the degradation of these objects, venerated by generations of space enthusiasts.

Young is intimately familiar with Armstrong's spacesuit. After touring the United States in the wake of the mission, it remained on display at the main branch of this museum, in Washington proper, until 2006, but has been undergoing restoration work since then.

It will be back on display from 16 July onward, the anniversary of Apollo 11's departure from Earth. "I'm sad, but I'm kind of relieved," admitted Young. "It's been a long time and a lot of projects and I'm happy for the public to see it again." The suits are made from 21 distinct layers and it's not possible to cut or separate them.

The outer layer is made from Teflon-coated fiberglass known as "beta cloth" that was built to protect its wearer from micrometeorites and radiation, though it yellows over time with exposure to light. Nevertheless, Young is confident of being able to keep it in near pristine condition.

The blue silicon fingertips of Armstrong's glove have begun to degrade – a process that for now remains invisible to the naked eye. **PHOTO: AFP**

Aggressive lunar dust

The adhesive materials between layers are trickier.

Using X-rays and CT-scans, the team realized they were degrading. There is also a chemical reaction between the copper alloy of the zipper and the rubber lining, catalyzing the decomposition process.

The restorers use solvents to clean the metal parts, lay down stitches to stabilize the outer fabric (but not if the damage dates to the mission). And they vacuum up the dust that has settled from the museum.

Armstrong's suit will be housed in a display case that is kept at a low temperature and humidity and protected from harmful light. Finally, tailor-made mannequins support the fibers from within.

NASA engineers at the time believed they had chosen the best materials possible for the mission, though they did not really know the composition of the lunar soil.

"Lunar dirt is much more aggressive than we had anticipated," said Cathleen Lewis, the museum's curator of space suits.—AFP ■

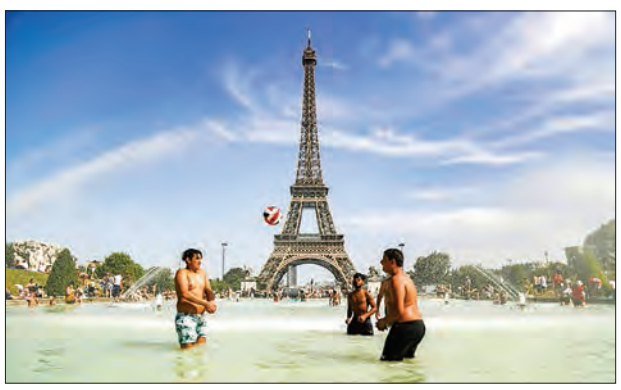
Europe set to sizzle again as deadly heatwave continues

PARIS (France)— Europe was bracing itself for a sweltering Saturday as a deadly heatwave across the continent has sparked record-breaking temperatures, large blazes and pollution peaks.

The Meteo-France weather service lifted its red warning but forecast a "very hot day" across a large central band of the country, with the mercury expected to rise to 42 degrees Celsius (108 degrees Fahrenheit) in some parts.

With France, Spain, Italy and parts of central Europe hard hit by all-time highest temperatures, officials pleaded with people to take precautions. France's new record temperature of 45.9 degrees C was registered on Friday in Gallargues-le-Montueux, a village in the southern department of Gard near Montpellier, breaking successive records set earlier in the day, Meteo-France told AFP.

This is the same area where the previous high of 44.1 degrees C was set in August 2003 since records began at the turn of the 20th century. The weather service said the new high was comparable to August temperatures in California's Death Valley.—AFP ■



The French weather service has forecast a "very hot day" across a large central band of the country. **PHOTO: AFP**

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (036 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (036 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30-06-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTER ASIA LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO. (1104 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO. (1104 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30-06-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION ENTERPRISE
Invitation to Bid for purchasing of 1040 MW from Gas Engine Power Plant/ Power Barge/ Power Ship on Independent Power Producer and Build-Operate-Own Basis

1. Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE) seeks to invite tender for the purchasing of electricity 1040 MW from the **Gas Engine Power Plant/Power Barge/Power Ship** on Independent Power Producer and Build-Operate-Own (IPP/BOO) basis as follow.

		Location	Size(MW)	Remark
Lot 1	Package-1	Kyun Chaung	20	Gas (Pass Through basis)
	Package-2	Ahlone	120	
		Location	**Size(MW)**	
Lot-2	Package-3	Kyauk Phyu	150	LNG to Power
	Package-4	Thanlyin	350	
	Package-5	Tharketa	400	

2. The concession period shall be **5 years (five)** years from commercial operation date (COD).
3. The Tender Form for each package can be purchased at Procurement Department, Electric Power Generation Enterprise, Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw, and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar within office hour from the tender announced date. The Tender Form fees for each package is as follow;
   - Package -1 Myanmar Kyat **300,000**/- (Myanmar Kyat three hundred thousand only)
   - Package -2 and 3 Myanmar Kyat **400,000**/- (Myanmar Kyat four hundred thousand only)
   - Package - 4 and 5 Myanmar Kyat **500,000**/- (Myanmar Kyat five hundred thousand only)
4. Site Visit will be conducted for package 2,3,4 and 5. The tentative date for site visit is July 6 and 7, 2019.
5. The bid submission date is 29th July, 2019 at [14:00] hr. Myanmar Standard Time.
6. The bidders shall make the proposals in accordance with the **Invitation for Bid and Supplemental Request for Proposal (SRFP)**. Bidder's Proposals must be submitted at the address on time. Any late proposal shall be rejected.
7. The necessary information of this tender can be inquired within office hour.

Electric Power Generation Enterprise
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw
Ph +95 67 8104282

Union Minister U Han Zaw (left) and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein (Right) launch the work on construction of Lanthit Housing Project in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Emergence of **new Lanthit** Public Housing Estate in Yangon

By Zin Lin Myint

NOW is the time when all round efforts were being made toward making Yangon a modern economic city. New town projects, industrial zone projects, housing and apartment projects were being implemented. In addition to all of these, public housing estates developed 50 years ago were also being rebuilt or being planned to be rebuilt into a new public housing estates. One such public housing estate is Lanthit Public Housing Estate in Yangon.

Lanthit Public Housing Estate was situated in Lanmadaw Township between Bogyoke Aung San Road and Anawrahta Road on 4.7 acres of land. The initial Lanthit Housing Estate was built in 1958.

A tender was called in September 2016 to rebuild this housing estate. Five companies bid for the project and after selection and assessment in stages Say Paing Development Ltd. came out as the tender winner. The project was jointly organized by Department of Urban and Housing Development Ministry of Construction and Yangon Region government.

A ceremony to launch the construction work was held on 18 November 2018 and was attended by Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein.

At the launching ceremony Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw said the project will fulfil the basic housing requirements of the public and noted that the ministry is cooperating with the private sector to build modern housing residences and increase home ownership in Yangon, Mandalay and throughout the entire country. He also said this project is a practical implementation of the public-private partnership model, adding that the process for selecting the developer from the private sector was conducted with transparency and followed national policy.

Additionally, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein said a master plan for urban development projects in the entire Yangon city was being developed.

The earlier Lanthit Public Housing Estate provided 264 households with 264 apartments. These earlier apartments were not more than 600 sq. ft. in area. The new apartments will have bigger area than this and once the construction is completed the households that had lived in the earlier housing estate will be given back their respective apartments. During the construction period arrangements were also made to provide temporary residents for these former residences of the earlier housing estate. In addition to allocating back new apartments to the former residences, more apartments will also be available at a reasonable rate for new residences once the new Lanthit Public Housing Estate is completed.

The new Lanthit Public Housing Estate will have 4 main phases that includes two 25-story buildings, twenty-eight 6-story shop houses, a bus interchange and a taxi stand. This will be the first housing estate in Yangon that had incorporated a bus interchange in its area. Construction was started on 19 November 2018 and is expected to be completed in 2021.

Yangon Region Hluttaw representatives were also reported to be providing the public's requirements to the public housing projects implemented in Yangon Region so these projects are expected to fulfill almost all the requirements of the public.

In commenting on the project Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein said raising the living standard of the people is also raising the development of the country.

Sales centers, office spaces, shop houses and apartments in the two high-rise buildings and shop houses of the project were being constructed to an international standard and a development image of modern design will appear in one of Yangon's major location.

Government had constructed 11 public housings back in 1958 and all had come of age passing 50 years. The last government started the plan to rebuild those public housings with high rise buildings. Two were built in 52nd Street Public Housing and Link Road Public Housing. Lanthit Public Housing Estate is the third of its kind and the first to be conducted by the incumbent government.

Translated by Handytips

DWIR to upgrade Mandalay Port, undertake riverbank protection tasks along Ayeyawady River

By Kyaw Htike Soe

JAPAN has agreed to support Myanmar a ¥ 6.033 billion (US$ 53 million) grant to help modernize Mandalay Port and improvements are expected to begin in July, said Mandalay Regional Minister for Planning and Finance U Myat Thu.

The upgrades for the port will be executed by the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems (DWIR) under the Ministry of Transport and Communications with financial and technical assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under the guidance of the Union government. "The JICA submitted a proposal to the regional government to lease land plots to construct warehouses for development of the port. The chief minister also pledged to lease land plots to be used in port improvement," the regional minister said. Under the project, a 300-meter road with three weighbridges, a container yard, jetty, cranes and warehouses will be developed.

The project site is located on the Mandalay-Sagaing circular road between Mahaaungmyay and Amarapura Townships. The aim of the project is to modernize Mandalay Port in Myanmar's second largest city. The project is expected to greatly improve the efficiency of inland transportation and goods distribution by water in Myanmar by making it possible to mechanize 200,000 tons of cargo-handling per year out of 800,000 tons, as well as increasing the cargo-handling efficiency per hour by approximately six times, shortening the ship mooring time by 90 percent or more and in other ways. In addition, it is one of the major goals under the National Transport Master Plan drafted with the help of JICA in 2014.

The Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems under the Ministry of Transport and Communications will carry out river bank protection tasks along the Ayeyawady River in Mandalay Region. Ks. 5.3 billion have been earmarked for implementation of riverbank erosion prevention works in the Mandalay Region in the current fiscal year, according to a source from the DWIR. Approximately Ks. 5.3 billion will be spent on construction of the retaining walls in Mandalay Region to solve the problem with the riverbank erosion along the Ayeyawady River.

The river bank protection tasks will be undertaken in Amarapura, Madaya, Singu, Nganzun, Myingyan, TadaU and NyaungU Townships by spending Ks. 5.3 billion and the whole project is expected to be fully completed by next month, said U Toe Aung Lin, a director from the department. "The erosion prevention project will begin when the river is at its lowest point. The planned projects will be implemented with the regional government's funds," he said. The twenty two river bank protection projects will be impleented in the current fiscal year with the allotted funds from Mandalay Regional government.

The DWIR chose five areas in Singu Township, four in Madaya, Ngazun and NyaungU Townships, one each in Myingyan, Patheingyi and Amarapura Townships and two in Singaing Township totaling 22 sites in the region to build the retaining walls. Riverbank erosion prevention works and waterway improvements have been carried out in Singu, Madaya, and Myingyan Townships in Mandalay Region in the financial year 2018-2019 by using Ks. 5.2 billion allotted by the regional government. "The river bank protection task is beneficial to the local people because it can prevent the farmlands, homes and pagodas from river bank erosion," the director explained.

The DWIR also focuses on not only river bank protection but also river bank stabilization. The DWIR will carry out the tasks in cooperation with local lawmakers and people," he added. Deforestation, soil degradation, illegal gold mining at watershed areas, climate change and rapid rise in river water levels can cause river bank erosion.

Than Paing's goal gives Yangon United win over Hantharwady

A single goal by Than Paing gave Yangon United a 1-0 victory over Hantharwady United in the Week-14 match of the Myanmar National League at Grand Royal Stadium in Bago yesterday.

The win lifts Yangon United atop the standing table with a two point difference over Hantharwady.

Host team Hantharwady United made a fast attack from the start, and Yangon United was also reliable on their counter attacks, with their usual 4-4-2 format.

All of Hantharwady's efforts were blurred under the careful clearance of Yangon United's defenders.

Again, Yangon United counter attacked, providing opportunities for goals, but they were missed.

Yangon United had an opportunity at 13 minutes, but was lost due to a weak kick by Yangon's Sylla. The team also missed chances to score at 20 minutes by Mg Mg Lwin and 44 minutes by Than Paing.The first half finished 0-0.

Yangon United's Nan Wai Min (balck) vies for the ball against Hantharwady's Hein Htet Aung(red) during yesterday's national league match at Grand Royal Stadium in Bago. **PHOTO:MNL**

In the second half, Yangon United gained the first and winning goal at the 47 minute mark, which was scored by Than Paing over a right side assist by Nan Wai Min.

Yangon's keeper Sann Sat Naing maintained his concentration throughout the match, and he blocked numerous shots by Hantharwady strikers.

After to and fro play, the match was time up and at the final whistle, Yangon United had a 1-0 victory over Hantharwady United.

Yangon United now leads the table with 27 points from 14 plays, while Hantharwady United is following Yangon with a two point difference.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Yadanabon's Ye Ko Oo to miss match against Ayeyawady United

YADANABON United's Captain Ye Ko Oo will miss the match against Ayeyawady United, which will be played today at Ayeyawady United's home stadium in Pathein, according to a statement from the Myanmar National League.

Ye Ko Oo was issued a red card during a previous national league match against Sagaing United and is to be banned for one match. A reliable player, Captain Ye Ko Oo showed his all-around skills for his team, Yadanabon FC, during the previous match, playing to a 1-1 draw against Ayeyawady United.

After playing thirteen matches, Ayeyawady United is standing in fifth place, winning five matches, drawing six matches and losing two, while garnering 21 points. Yadanabon FC follows Ayeyawady United, winning six matches, drawing three matches and losing four, with 21 points, which is the same number of points as Ayeyawady, but with a difference in goals.

The match between Yadanabon FC and Ayeyawady United will be broadcast live on MRTV and MRTV-4.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Yadanabon United's Captain Ye Ko Oo. **PHOTO:MNL**

Pliskova dominates Kerber to take Eastbourne title

EASTBOURNE (United Kingdom)— World number three Karolina Pliskova cruised to her second Eastbourne International title with a 6-1, 6-4 destruction of Wimbledon champion Angelique Kerber on Saturday.

The Czech did not drop a set all week and raced through the final in little over an hour on court to claim her third title of the year. "All week I was playing quite perfect," said Pliskova. "But not all the matches were as easy the score says, especially today." Kerber will head to London for the defence of her Wimbledon title next week as one of the favourites, but on this form it is Pliskova who looks capable of ending her long wait for a Grand Slam victory. "I tried my best but you deserved to win today," said Kerber. "Going back as a defending champion it will be a special moment stepping onto centre court again.

"I'm feeling good, I'm playing good at the moment and hopefully I can continue on my play from last year."— AFP ■

Karolina Pliskova dominated Angelique Kerber to win the Eastbourne International on Saturday. **PHOTO: AFP**

Chile beat Colombia on penalties to reach Copa semis

SAO PAULO (Brazil)—Champions Chile maintained their hopes of a third straight Copa America victory after beating Colombia on penalties on Friday to reach the semi-finals.

Chile could have won the game in normal time but had two goals ruled out for marginal decisions in a scoreless draw, before Alexis Sanchez stroked home the winning spot-kick.

It was just rewards for the champions after dominating a match in which Colombia held on thanks to a couple of tight VAR calls.

Charles Aranguiz had a goal ruled out in the first half for a marginal offside against Sanchez in the build up to the move.

And After Arturo Vidal shot low into the far corner on 70 minutes, that was chalked off for a handball against Guillermo Maripan, who had teed up the Barcelona midfielder.

After eight successful penalties, William Tesillo casually put his effort wide for Colombia, leaving Sanchez to be the hero, as the Manchester United forward continues to make up for a dreadful club season.

The first half was dominated by Chile's 16th minute goal being controversially disallowed.

Jean Beausejour made a surging, overlapping run down the left and his inviting cross was spilled by Arsenal goalkeeper David Ospina after Davinson Sanchez got in his way, allowing Aranguiz to nip in and slot home from a tight angle.

But much to the bemusement of many watching, the referee consulted VAR and the goal was chalked off for the most marginal of offsides. Until then, Colombia had been the better side. On five minutes, a Radamel-Falcao cushioned header found Roger Martinez but the forward wanted an extra touch and his goal-bound volley was charged down. James Rodriguez then had a free-kick in a dangerous position but failed to clear the defensive wall.

Ospina made an incredible one-handed save on 12 minutes to keep out an Eduardo Vargas header from a Jose Fuenzalida cross, but it wouldn't have counted anyway as the ball was deemed to have been out of play.

Soon after the disallowed goal tempers flared as Sanchez squared up to Wilmar Barrios, only to then find himself face-to-face with Colombia's giant centerback Yerry Mina.

Chile were by now in control of proceedings and Maripan headed over from a Beausejour cross. The champions were buzzing and Mauricio Isla threaded a through ball to Vargas, whose shot was blocked by a sliding Mina. Chile were looking increasingly threatening as Sanchez fired wide, Fuenzalida had a shot blocked and Vidal went closest yet with a curler from 18 yards.

VAR saves Colombia again

Colombia made a bright opening to the second period as Rodriguez curled a free-kick into the side-netting and Juan Cuadrado sliced well wide on a rapier counter-attack.— AFP ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

Patience and persistence inspired by a Chinese bamboo tree

By Aung Kaung Sett Hein
3rd year medical student

AT some point in our lives, after working vigorously for things we aspire to yet seeing no (quick) rewards of our effort, we often ask ourselves in doubt and deterred, "Are we doing it all right? How many more days or years will this take?". We may be spending countless hours learning a new skill, working on a project, or building a business, just only to see no significant improvement, or below average results, which is of course discouraging and can lead us to feel doubts about our own aspirations. It does not end there; people around us might openly judge us, with or without good intentions, why we still keep trying on things that do not seem to work out and that it is a waste of time doing so. Deep in our minds, we know we do all what it takes, but nothing happens.

Something that has really stuck with me since reading about it is the powerful parable of the Chinese Bamboo Tree, whose growth requires, like any other plants, water, fertile soil and sunshine. Then what is special about this plant? Well this plant needs a lengthy duration of nurturing for five years - five consecutive years, for its growth. The process starts with its little seed being planted in the ground, waters being provided, and fertilizers added daily. A year passes by, we see no growth or manifestation above the soil at all. After two years, no growth still happens. Three to four years on, there is still a lack of sign of improvement. Nothing as a proof of our years long efforts! But in the fifth year, something unique happens – the tree breaks through the ground and with vigor grows up as an 80-feet plant within a six-week period.

If you are someone who has no idea whatsoever about the fact that the seed has been planted inside the soil, or just lack a general understanding of how long these trees take to grow, you would be very much perplexed by the sight of farmers watering and fertilising daily on the soil with no visible or a minimal germination for all those long years. But the growers of this plant certainly are best aware they had planted the seed, and more importantly they hold onto the faith that the tree will eventually break through due to constant nurturing. I believe this is the kind and level of faith we all need, with regards to our life bamboo trees, whether that be about running a successful enterprise, mastering a new language, or as parents, raising well-rounded children.

Here, we have an important question for ourselves, "Did this plant just grow exponentially within 6 weeks, or has it been growing gradually over the past 5 years?" The answer could not be any more obvious; it did grow up as a result of nurture for 5 successive years, during which its potentials for growth have been accumulated slowly but regularly. For the first 4 years, it is said to be growing underground and developing a root system as a foundation that is strong enough to support its capability of sustainable outward growth in the 5th year and beyond. This was definitely not visible to the grower and the patience of the person has certainly been tested, because if he/she at some point quit, either within a few weeks into planting or after

SEE PAGE- S-3

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

(C) Complex Sentence မှ Simple Sentence သို့ ပြောင်းခြင်း။

1. She did not know when she should begin the work. (CX)
   She did not know when to begin the work. (S)
2. She is a girl who has a kind heart. (CX)
   She is a kind-hearted girl. (S)
3. He knows how long Khin Khin stayed in Mandalay. (CX)
   ခင်ခင် မန္တလေးမြို့တွင် မည်မျှကြာရှည်စွာ နေထိုင်ခဲ့သည်ကို သူသိသည်။
   He knows the duration of Khin Khin's stay in Mandalay.
4. He told me that. I should give up smoking. (CX)
   ကျွန်တော် ဆေးလိပ်သောက်ခြင်းကို စွန့်သင့်သည်ဟု သူက ကျွန်တော့်ကို ပြောခဲ့သည်။
   He told me to give up smoking.
   သူက ကျွန်တော့်ကို ဆေးလိပ်သောက်ခြင်းကို စွန့်ရန် ပြောခဲ့သည်။
5. He missed the train because he came late. (CX)
   သူ နောက်ကျရောက်လာသောကြောင့် ရထားလွတ်သွားသည်။
   He missed the train because of his coming late.
   သူနောက်ကျရောက်လာခြင်းကြောင့် ရထားလွတ်ခဲ့သည်။ (S)
6. Although he failed the examination, he was not sad. (CX)
   သူ စာမေးပွဲကျခဲ့သော်လည်း သူ ဝမ်းမနည်းခဲ့ပါ။
   In spite of his failure in the examination, he was not sad. (S)
7. The new shirt was so small that he could not wear it. (CX)
   ရှပ်အင်္ကျီအသစ်သည် သေးလွန်းသည့်အတွက် သူ မဝတ်နိုင်ခဲ့ပါ။
   The new shirt was too small for him to wear. (S)
   ရှပ်အင်္ကျီအသစ်သည် သူ မဝတ်နိုင်လောက်အောင် သေးသည်။
8. It was Ko Ko who saved her life. (CX)
   သူမ၏ အသက်ကို ကယ်ခဲ့သူမှာ ကိုကိုဖြစ်သည်။
   Ko Ko saved her life. (S)
   ကိုကို သူမအသက်ကို ကယ်ခဲ့သည်။
9. I was very sad when I heard the news of his death. (CX)
   သူသေသွားသည်ဟူသော သတင်းကို ကြားသောအခါ ကျွန်တော်အလွန်ဝမ်းနည်းခဲ့သည်။
   I was very sad to hear the news of his death. (S)
   သူ သေသွားသည်ဟူသော သတင်းကို ကြားရ၍ ကျွန်တော်အလွန်ဝမ်းနည်းခဲ့သည်။
   I was very sad to hear the news of his death. (S)
   သူ သေသွားသည်ဟူသော သတင်းကို ကြားရ၍ ကျွန်တော်အလွန်ဝမ်းနည်းခဲ့သည်။
10. If one is not a citizen, one has no right to stand for an election. (CX)
    တစ်စုံတစ်ယောက်သည် နိုင်ငံသားတစ်ယောက်မဟုတ်ခဲ့လျှင် ရွေးချယ်တင်မြှောက်ပွဲဝင်နိုင်ခွင့်မရှိ။
    Only citizens have the right to stand for elections. (S)
    နိုင်ငံသားများသာလျှင် ရွေးချယ်တင်မြှောက်ပွဲ ဝင်နိုင်ခွင့်ရှိသည်။
11. My teacher U Ko Ko suggested that I (should) go abroad for further study. (CX)
    ကျွန်တော့်ဆရာ ဦးကိုကိုက ပညာဆက်လက်ဆည်းပူးရန် ကျွန်တော်ကို နိုင်ငံခြားကို သွားသင့်သည်ဟု အကြံပြုခဲ့သည်။
    My teacher U Ko Ko advised me to go abroad for further study. (S)
    ကျွန်တော့်ဆရာ ဦးကိုကိုက ပညာဆက်လက်ဆည်းပူးဖို့အတွက် နိုင်ငံခြားသွားရန်အကြံပေးခဲ့သည်။
12. She was warmly welcomed when she arrived at the airport. (CX)
    သူမ လေဆိပ်သို့ ရောက်သောအခါ သူမကို လှိုက်လှဲစွာ ကြိုဆိုခဲ့သည်။
    She was warmly welcomed on her arrival at the airport.
    လေဆိပ်သို့ ဆိုက်ရောက်ခြင်း၌ သူမကို လှိုက်လှဲစွာ ကြိုဆိုခဲ့ကြသည်။

Simple, Compound နှင့် Complex Sentences များ တည်ဆောက်ပုံ၊ တစ်ခုနှင့်တစ်ခု ပြောင်းလဲပုံကို ပိုင်နိုင်စွာ တတ်ကျွမ်းအောင် လေ့လာခြင်းဖြင့် အကြောင်း အရာတစ်ရပ်ကိုပင် စာကြောင်းပုံသဏ္ဌာန်အမျိုးမျိုးဖြင့် ဖော်ပြတတ်လာပါလိမ့်မည်။

ဥပမာ

ကျွန်တော်နှာန်ကြိုက်သည်ဟု သာမန်ဖော်ပြလိုလျှင် Simple Sentence ဖြစ်သော I like milk ကို သုံးရန်ဖြစ်သည်။ သို့ရာတွင် "ကျွန်တော်ကြိုက်သည်မှာ နွားနို့ဖြစ်သည်။" စသည်ဖြင့် လေးနက်အောင် ဖော်ပြလိုလျှင် Complex Sentence ဖြစ်သော "It is milk that I like". ဟု ရေးရန်ဖြစ်သည်။

မည်သည့်နေရာတွင် မည်သည့်စာကြောင်းပုံသဏ္ဌာန်သုံးသင့်သည်ဆိုသည်ကို တတ်အောင်မူ စာများများဖတ်ရန် လိုပါသည်။

Verb Form

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာတွင် Tense များကို ပိုင်နိုင်ဖို့ လိုပါသည်။ လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းများလုပ်ခြင်းဖြင့် ထပ်မံလေ့လာပါ။ ပြည့်ပြည့်စုံစုံ ပေးထားပါသည်။

(A) Simple Present Tense :-

1. Ko Ko (take) physical exercises every morning.
2. Swe Swe (sometimes borrow) novels from me.
3. Whenever he (go) to town, he buys a book.
4. This road (repair) every three years.
5. European dishes (serve) in this hotel.
6. The convocation (hold) every year.
7. Flowers (usually pick) in the morning.

(B) Present Continuous Tense.

1. She (pound) pepper now.
2. Look! The birds (look) for nests.
3. At the moment Ma Ma (iron) the clothes.
4. Listen! The piano (play).
5. The lots (draw) now.
6. Tea for the guests (make) now.

(C) Simple Past Tense:-

1. He (pretend) to be ill yesterday morning.
2. She (pay) a visit to Maymyo last summer.
3. Ko Ko (not take) the examination last year.
4. (he make) a speech at the conference?
5. Her new book (publish) last month.
6. She (operate) on three days ago.
7. This reading club (found) in 1957.
8. (they punish) yesterday?

(D) Present Perfect Tense (Simple)

1. They (just drink) their morning tea.
2. She (already graduate) from the YangonUniversity.
3. They (not buy) the tickets yet.
4. He (visit) London twice.
5. (you ever drive) a tractor before?
6. She (never wear) a shirt before.
7. He (not smoke) a pipe for two years.
8. She (not buy) a new longyi since 1981.
9. His book (publish) again and again.
10. A new lesson (not teach) for three weeks.

(E) Present Perfect Continuous Tense:

1. He (study) Economics since 1980.
2. She (learn) German for two years.
3. He (court) her for over two years.
4. They (play) football since noon.
5. Ko Ko (practise) boxing since morning.
6. She (work) in this factory for five years.

Future Tense:

1. They (go) on a picnic next Sunday.
2. She (return) to Burma next year.
3. The players (give) training next week.
4. These rules (must observe).
5. Some of the planets (can see) in the sky at night.
6. She (leave) for Prome tomorrow morning.

(G) Future Continuous Tense:

1. They (play) football at this time tomorrow.
2. She (work) in the garden between 4 and 5 pm tomorrow.
3. Please go back home; Mother (wait) for you.
4. She (study) her lessons between 6 and 9 pm this evening.

(H) Future Perfect Tense:

1. He (get) his degree by 1987.
2. He (finish) his work by coming Sunday.
3. The new house (build) by the end of this year.
4. The examination (hold) by March 22.

(I) Past Perfect Tense:-

1. She told me her name after I (ask) her twice.
2. Mother (already go) to bed when Father came home last night.
3. She said that she (be) to a number of countries.
4. He told her that he (already take) his share.
5. Ko Ko said that he (pay) for the work.
6. Although he (fail) again and again, he was not disappointed.
   He (go) to bed after he had done the homework.
7. When she came back, the clothes (already wash.)

Past Continuous Tense:

1. He slipped and fell while he (go) up the stairs.
2. He got bitten by a dog while he (stand) at the bus stop.
3. He waited while his shoes (polish).
4. She (take) my money while I was sleeping.
5. The fire (still burn) at 6 this morning.
6. He (work) in the garden all day yesterday.
7. The plane (fly) over the mountain when one of the engines went out of action.
8. His car (still repair) when he came back four hours later.

Answers (အဖြေများ)

(A) Simple Present Tense:-

1. Ko Ko takes physical exercises every morning.
   ကိုကိုနံနက်တိုင်း ကျန်းမာရေးလေ့ကျင့်ခန်း ယူလေ့ရှိသည်။
2. Swe Swe sometimes borrows novels from me.
   ဆွေဆွေသည် တစ်ခါတစ်ရံ ကျွန်တော့်ထံမှ ဝတ္ထုများ ငှားလေ့ရှိသည်။
3. Whenever he goes to town, he buys a book.
   သူမြို့ထဲသွားသောအခါတိုင်း၊ စာအုပ်တစ်အုပ် ဝယ်လာတတ်သည်။
4. This road is repaired every three years.
   ဤလမ်းကို သုံးနှစ်တစ်ခါ ပြင်လေ့ရှိသည်။
5. European dishes are served in this hotel.
   ဥရောပအစားအစာများကို ဤဟိုတယ်တွင် ရနိုင်သည်။
6. The convocation is held every year.
   ဘွဲ့နှင်းသဘင်ကို နှစ်စဉ်ကျင်းပသည်။
7. Flowers are usually picked in the morning.
   ပန်းများကို များသောအားဖြင့် နံနက်ခင်းတွင် ဆွေလေ့ရှိသည်။

(B) Present Continuous Tense:

1. She is pounding pepper now.
   သူမ ယခုငရုပ်ကောင်းထောင်းနေသည်။
2. Look! the birds are looking for nests.
   ကြည့်စမ်း၊ ငှက်များအသိုက်ရှာနေကြသည်။
3. At the moment Ma Ma is ironing the clothes.
   ယခုအခိုက်အတန့်တွင် မမအဝတ်များကို မီးပူတိုက်နေသည်။
4. Listen! The piano is being played.
   နားထောင်စမ်း၊ စန္ဒယားတီးနေသည်။
5. The lots are being drawn now.
   မဲများကို ယခုနှိုက်နေကြသည်။
6. Coffee for the guests is being made now.
   ည့်သည်များအတွက် ကော်ဖီကို ယခုဖျော်နေသည်။

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

The importance of developing Reading habits

By Phyu Min
BA (English); Dip in ELTM; Dip in English.

READING is one thing that can give us general knowledge and pleasure as well as the glimpse of the whole world without even moving an inch from our place. We can get a lot of benefits from it. Reading is a good habit. Encouraging reading habits in children and adolescents is important. A habit that is learned in childhood is more likely to stay with the child into adulthood. Thus, we should keep and develop reading habits because of its importance.

Developing reading habits is of vital importance for our everyday life. Reading is one of the most fundamental skills everyone needs to learn to succeed in life. Thus, we should develop reading habits young to support our daily lives.

Reading habits can helps us in different ways. Nowadays, it is not easy for us to get a job if we have enough knowlege about a particular job. Many well paying jobs require reading as a part job of performance. There are memos and reports that must be read and responded to. Poor reading skill increase the amount of time it takes to absorb and reacts in workplace. A person is limited in what they can accomplish without good reading and comprehension skills. So, we should develop reading habits since our childhood so that we can overcome everyday difficulties in our job.

Besides, reading habits keep us stay away from bad habits such as drinking, smoking, gambling. As a saying goes: 'The devil maks work for idle hands'. This means people who do not have enough to do start to do wrong. If we have a habit of reading, we will not do such bad habits. Thus, we should develop reading habits.

Moreover, reading habits discover new things keeping your mind active through learning new things. Books, magazines and even the Internet are great learning tools which require the ability to read and understand what is read.A person who knows how to read can educate themselves in any area of life they are interested in. We live in an age where we overflow with information, but reading is the main way to take advantage of it.

Furthermore, reading habits develops the imagination of a person. With reading, they can go anywhere in the world or even out of it. They can be a president, or commander in chief, or a business icon or an employer or an employee or a farmer or a begger or...The possibilities are endless. Non-readers never experience these joys to some extent. At that time, we can feel sympathy for other peole. Not only that, developing reading habits can improve the creative thinking of a person.

In a nutshell, developing reading habits is vital importance for a person's future not just academically, but in everyday life as well.If we develop reading habits, we can get a lot of benefits such as well paying jobs, knowing what is right and what is wrong, controlling ourselves by avoiding bad habits,discovering new things, thinking based on information, critical thinking, having sympathy for other people.These are the importance of developing reading habits. For these reasons, we should develop our reading habits to support our daily lives.

FROM PAGE- S-1

four years of seeing no results yet, the plant would experience none other than death.

This principle can be applied in real life to themselves by teachers tutoring their students who keep scoring low grades, or a businessman not making expected profits after a multitude of business deal attempts. One of the greatest scientists Thomas Edison, who was once remarked by his teacher as too stupid to learn anything, evolved into an inventor of light bulbs after 1,000 unsuccessful attempts, while of course never letting go of the indispensible persistence all along. Had he slowed down because of self-doubts, he would not have made a successful invention, the same way the tree's growth would have been stunted if the Chinese Bamboo Tree grower dug up the little seed every year to see if it was growing. People who achieve things through actual hard work coupled with strong faith and patience while pushing through adversities are the ones with the most robust foundation to handle and sustain success, like great tension against muscles from regular exercise strengthens them.

Thus it is our sole responsibility to consistently keep our plants of dream alive with faith, watering and nurturing them every day, no matter how long it will take to see the results. If we stay focused and trust that we will get rewarded for sure at some point for our strenuous efforts, we will not think of giving up! In this current age where we tend to seek out for quick fixes and instant gratification, no matter how slow it is to show any progress in what we do, how frustrating it is at times, if we keep pushing through and never lose faith in our potentials even when we lose other things, we would have a chance to see our plans come to fruition in the end and realise that it is worth all our sweats of persistence!

30 JUNE 2019
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

A rural health clinic provides access to primary care services for patients in rural communities.

An area carrying out mining activities.

Lives of tin miners in Mawchi in Kayah State

By Mal Lun

PHOTOS: www.hiburma.net

IT is 8pm in the evening; yet the town is bustling with activities. Located on the side of the mountain's edge, the town is quite eventful at this time of the day as people are coming back from work, some having dinner at home or drinking with work buddies at the local beer station while the sounds of rocks escape from the temporary tents as women break them apart.

"I earn enough money here to feed my whole family. In middle Myanmar, it's not easy to survive on 2-3 thousand Kyats per day. I have to think about their future too and right now, I can't support them," declares Ma Aye, an artisan miner who earns money from separating the tin/tungsten from rocks. Ma Aye (names have been changed to protect the identity of the interviewee) used ot be a school teacher in Kyaut Town in middle Myanmar.

Mawchi Mine, Hpasawng Township, Bawlake District, Kayah State is known to be one of Myanmar's largest tin and tungsten mine. It is also one of the biggest revenue-generating ventures in the remote area of Middle Myanmar where unemployment runs high.

From the residential town, you can see the view of the mountain range with one demolished next to the ever intimidating one that stands. At night, among its remains, are small miners visible with their headlamps contrasting the brown earth beneath.

"I'm scared. I don't sleep well at night since I have to have my ears open -especially when it rains," says the frail 40 year old Ma Aye.

Mawchi area was blacklisted until 2012 due to conflicts between the insurgents and the Myanmar Tatmadaw. Most of the local residents are from the Karen minority group. After the peace and reconciliation agreements between the Karenni National Progressive Party and the Tatmadaw, migrants came flooding into the area in hopes of finding employment and business in the area inviting entrepreneurship and labor.

The main source of income for the residents (both migrants and local) has been mining. There are up 700 acres with over 100 adits spread out over the area. Even though the law prohibits women in mining grounds, this does not prohibit the women of Mawchi from earning their living in the mines.

Women in Mawchi

There currently six tin-tungsten mine under the Department of Mines with others under joint ventures between foreign and local governments. Among the privately owned ines, Ye Htut Kyaw company have the most acres under their license. There are over 100 adits over the area operated either by the companies themselves or companies in collaboration with the locals. Most are daily artisan miners who go into the mine area every day and earn around 10,000 Kyats per day while other are contractors. For women who are prohibited from mining, they work outside of the mine by separating tin/tungsten from the material and/or breaking apart rocks. Women prefer to sift for minerals from the soil bought illegally from the daily workers. "Go really early in the morning to get some soil to work with and in the evenings, you can try to get the scraps from other people's carriers. You can even earn around 20,000-30,000 Kyat per day. The work days usually go from 4am to 9pm non-stop though. Sometimes, you get more minerals and sometimes, you get so little so you lose money. But it's free if you're getting the scraps from other people's carriers," explains Ma Aye. It seems women are the main bread winners in the area. However, it is not always smooth sailing as some are only able to earn 20,000 -30,000 per week for the whole family.

A Land of Widows?

Men generally are able to earn more, especially if they are able to work in the drilling areas where they are paid on how much they are able to drill with a small minig drill. Earnings can go from 80,000 Kyats per day. Unfortunately, most earnings are spent on alcohol and gambling as well as medical bills for treating liver diseases. Earlier deaths from high alcohol consumption are not often uncommon in the area. Another cause of death is usually from lung failure among the small mining drill machine operators also known as "gunning" amongst the locals, says the local women villages. Often times, the recoil from the drill machines hit the rib cage area and destroy the lungs slowly. Most deaths are from the "gunners", leaving their widows struggling with the remaining family. "When he passed away, we weren't able to get back on your feet until around 7 months later as we have to pay back the loans taken for the medical bills," says Ma Aye. "When we were treating him in Loikaw for his lungs, medical bills come up to 40,000-50,000 Kyats per day. I had to take the children out of school because we couldn't afford their education and treat their father at the same time."

The story isn't an isolated incident. Ms. Naw Pay Tu, a Karen lady, also lost her husband to lung failure 20 years ago and has been raising her 5 children alone -her youngest was 3 months old with the eldest not older than 10. She recalls her toughest days where she had to be a porter for the army during the fighting. "I was scared but I had to work. How would my family eat otherwise?" comments Ms. Naw Pay Tu.

There are also lives lost due to mining accidents. Local authorities are working with the mining companies for compensation and responsibility for the worker's safety. A documentary by Democratic Voice of Myanmar's Close Up program interviewed Ye Htut Kyaw Company Director Daw Ei Su Kyaw where she claims that her company does take care of the worker's safety as well as the responsibility that arises from accidents such as compensation and hospital fees. The Women's Group Leader, Daw Margerat Sein, have an alternative view, "Since there isn't really a worker's union in the area, when there is a death in the mines, some companies pay accordingly. However, there are still some that don't." There is still a long way for the companies to take responsibility in such matters, especially for the widows left behind with the children. "There is no separate program for widows for the government. So we have to really talk to the company since there is really no support system for the single mothers and their living when their husband dies," states Representative Nan Htwe Thu, from the Par Saung and Mawchi district in the Pyithu Hluttaw. Some residents would like the focus to be on worker's safety instead of the compensation process. A Karen women suggests "Why not have programs that tell people the dangers and precautions workers can take so that the effect is lessen for the workers so we don't have that many causalities. Why not focus on prevention?"

Uncertain Future

The main worry for the residents is "How do we survive?". As technology gets more advanced and are able to cover more area, residents fear that the mine will get depleted sooner and leave the residents/migrants unemployed. There are also worries about landslides and the future generations. "How can my children live? If the mines run out of minerals, how will they eat?" says 60-year-old Karen woman that has been working on the mines as long as she can remember. The government still have a long way to go creating social security blankets for marginalized societies such as the widows of Mawchi. How will it take care of the children that have been raised in the mines with absent, alcoholic and/or sick fathers?

Translated by Myat Thu
(The original story in Myanmar is from www.hiburma.net)

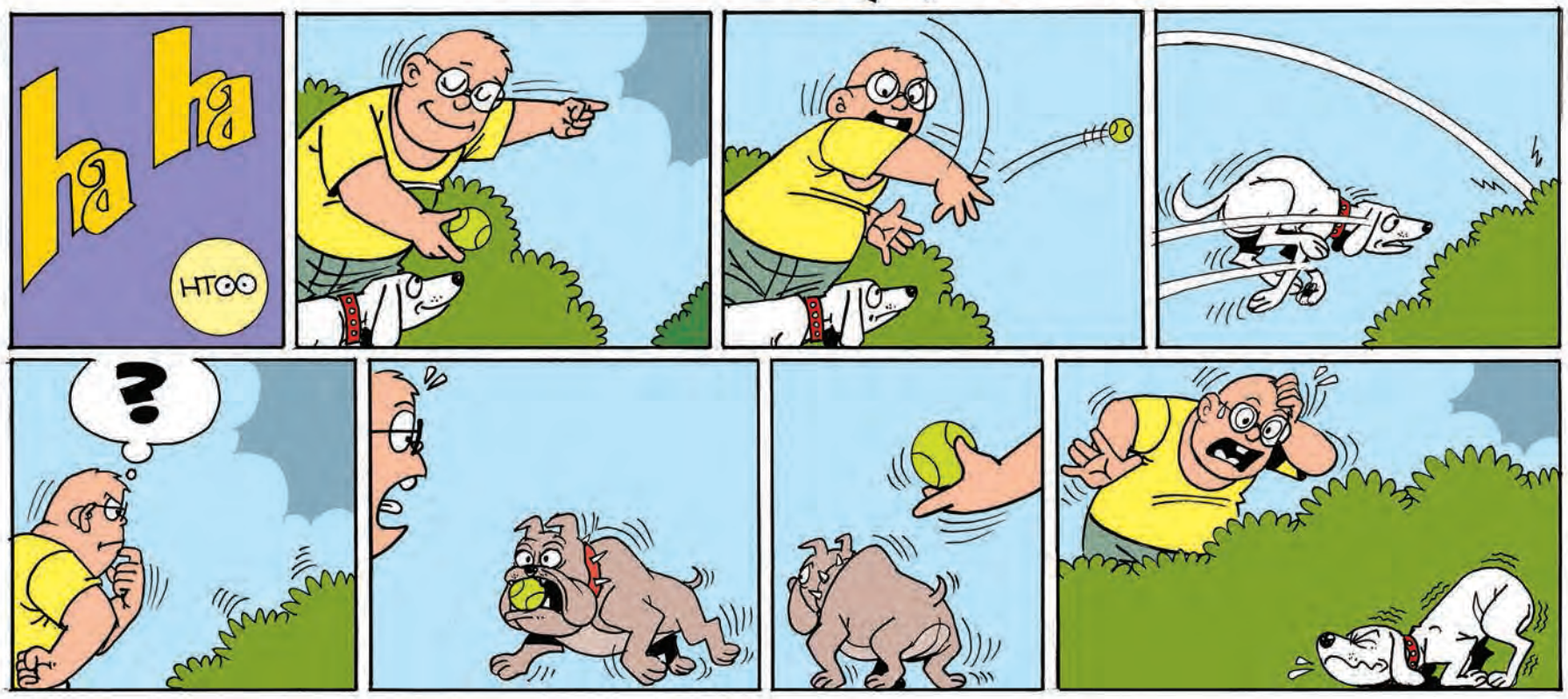
A place where the landslide took place in the region last year.

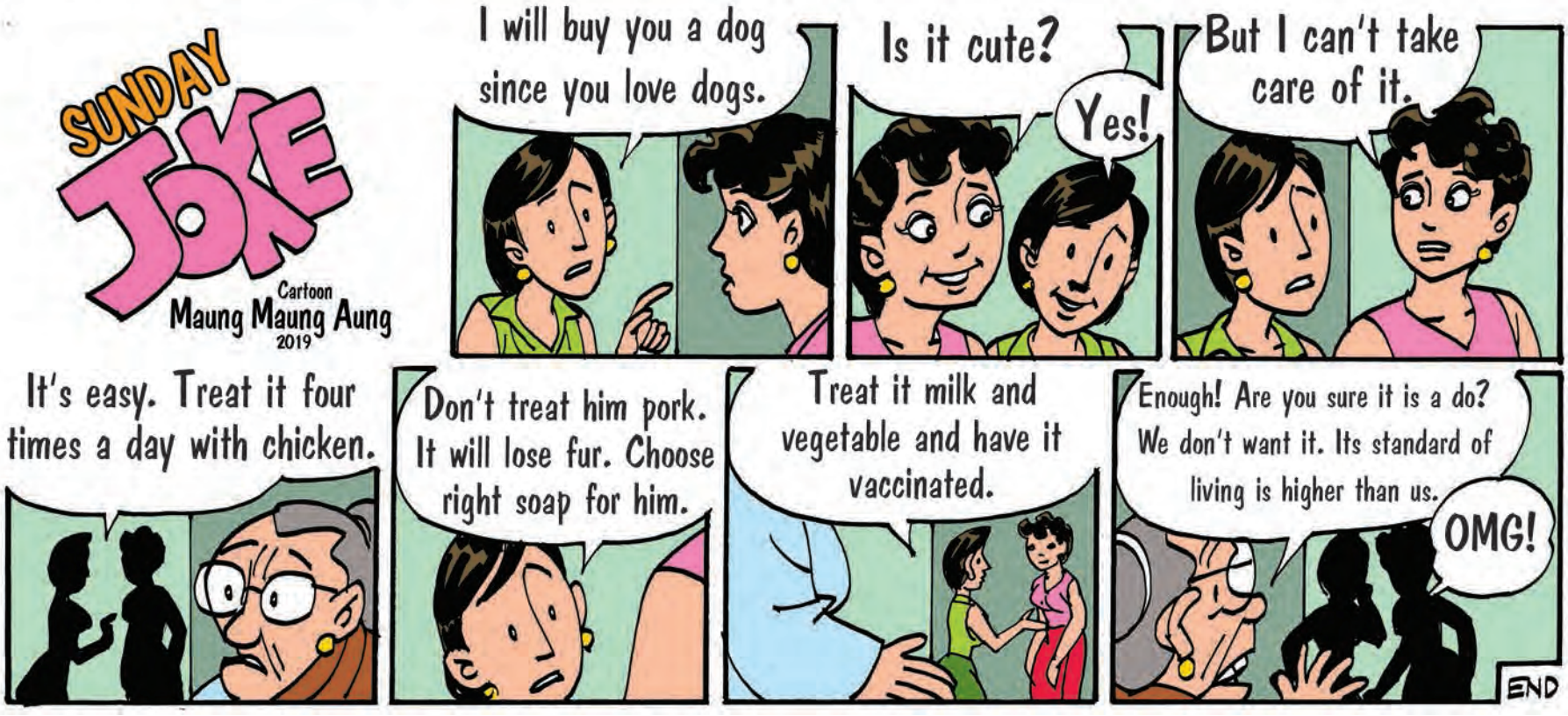
Assorted types of stones.

A mobile medical team conducting a medical check-up for local people.

The picturesque rural road.

SUNDAY COMICS





Vetiver:
the natural solution for soil erosion and landslides

By Alicia

HAVE you ever heard of the lost villages in landslide along the Ayeyar Waddy river bank, or the landslides in hilly regions of Myanmar, or the flash flood caused by heavy rain? Do you aware of the salted field as aftermaths of Nargis, and soil erosion by deforestation, and toxic plantations caused by industries where no plant can be grown? These problems are causing annually, affecting national economy. These are massive problems required massive engineering works which will cost billions of budgets. However, there is one inexpensive natural solution: the Vetiver grass.

Growing Vetiver has been an economic way of protecting natural disasters and to sustain fertility of soil for agriculture in many countries such as Laos, Thailand, china, Australia, Costa Rica, and Cambodia and so on. They can be grown in any type of soil, even in acidic or salty land. They can eliminate arsenic, lead, magnesium in soil and able to absorb soluble chemicals thus purify water. They can be widely used in purifying toxic water from industries and gold mines and, retaining the earthworks caused by exploiting resources.

Vetiver, Chrysopogon zizanioides, is an annual plant native to India. It has long instinct roots which grow vertically into the soil. The roots are small and curly but rigid and extend to 2-4 meter (6-ft to 13-ft) depth within the first year. Unlike the other grass which form horizontally spreading, mat-like root system. When the plants are grown 6 inches apart in rail on horizontal ground, they can perform as natural soil retaining wall. The rails need to be grown 3 fts apart. They also need to be vertically grown on streams and river banks to endure the water flow. When the roots in the rail join each other and form a network, they act as natural retaining wall for the soil. The stems are erect and stiff. The web of long, rigid stems and leaves decelerate the flow of water and the roots prevent soil from sheet corrosion. The more they are grown nearer the faster they cooperate and work. They need to get water regularly for about 3months and be taken care for 6months. After that, they barely need to be nurtured.

Growing vetiver on slope for preventing lanslide

2.7 meter tall vetiver root in Vietnam

Growing vetiver with other plants

Growing vetiver as retaining wall along dam

A thin green line of vetiver around paddy and maize fields will act as shield and protect the fields from pests. The long stiff leaves of Vetiver attract the pests especially termite and stem borers to lay eggs but the chance of lava survival on leaflets is extremely low. When the leaves are cut and used as mulch beneath the plants, it keeps moisture in soil longer and reduces the growth of weed among the plants. By growing the rails of grass on infertile plantation before growing anything, it will nourish the soil because their roots and stems will seize the minerals that flow along by the rain and keep them in the soil. When they are cultivated together with certain crops, it will

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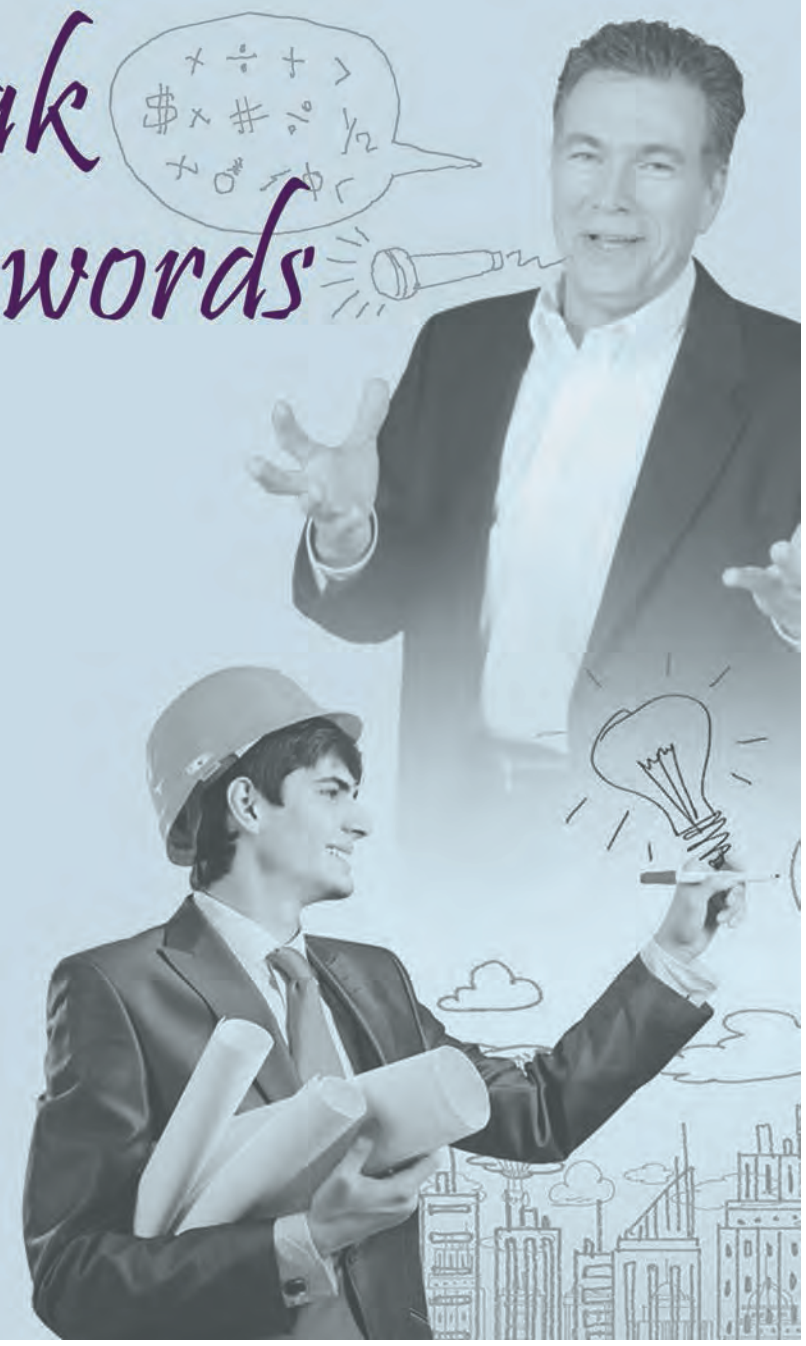
Actions speak louder than words



Don't talk too much
For people only listen in such
A way that they want to hear
Despite your efforts to make things clear

Be careful with your words
Which sometimes turn out to be swords
Once you let your voice crack
You can't swallow them back

If you can't afford to keep
Don't make a promise too deep
It's when you break your word
Whatever you say goes unheard

You may be smart enough to have success
But waste no time to earn a vote "Yes"
Do your best what you are good at
Even when no one says you "Congrats!"

A man may have his own story
Only in people's hearts can we find his glory
One's history is written with no words
But their actions to people they've served

By Honey Soe

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balance nutrient level of soil thus reduce using chemical fertilizer, sustaining agricultural productivity. Although they produce flowers and fruit, they will not take over the crops because they can only spread across by the roots.

Vetiver has been broadly growing and researched in Thailand under King Bhumibol Adulyadej's royal project since 22th June, 1991. In Thailand, they use it not only to prevent landslide and agriculture but also in making handicrafts, handmade bags and mats. The essential oil produced by distillation of roots can be used as bugs and mosquitos repellent and, can be apply in soap and cosmetic industries as anti-fungal and anti-microbial agent. Inhaling the oil can reduce stress and relieve headache. Their leaf paste can be used for rheumatism and sprains. Pha-lan in Chin state has been growing vetiver over the hill slopes under the plan of vice president U Hennery Ven Hteeyu for preventing landslide and, it is hoped to be more extensively grown.

Ref: Myanmar vetiver network

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	1,3,5,6,7
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

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	1,3,5,6,7
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

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
FD254	17:30	19:15	Daily
FD258	19:25	21:15	Daily
SL207	20:45	22:45	Daily
DD4239	21:00	22:45	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

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

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

YANGON TO SINGAPORE

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
UB001	7:30	12:00	Daily
8M231	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

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

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

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
OD553	23:55	4:20+1	2,3,5,6

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
OD552	21:45	22:55	2,3,5,6

YANGON TO SEOUL INCHEON

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

SEOUL INCHEON TO YANGON

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

YANGON TO TAIPEI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CI7916	10:45	16:15	Daily

TAIPEI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
CI7915	7:00	9:45	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

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

YANGON TO BEIJING

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

BEIJING TO YANGON

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

YANGON TO HANIO

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN956	18:55	21:15	Daily
VJ918	18:55	21:20	Daily

HANOI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN957	16:30	18:00	Daily
VJ917	16:30	17:55	Daily

YANGON TO HO CHI MINH

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN942	12:10	15:05	1,3,4,5,7

HO CHI MINH TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
VN943	9:30	11:05	1,3,4,5,7

YANGON TO TOKYO

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

TOKYO TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
NH813	11:15	16:05	Daily

YANGON TO DOHA

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

DOHA TO YANGON

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

YANGON TO CHIANG MAI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG724	13:10	15:05	Daily

CHIANG MAI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG723	10:40	12:35	Daily

YANGON TO SHANGHAI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
MU2099	22:15	1:35+1	2,4,6

SHANGHAI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
MU2100	2:35	8:50	3,5,7

YANGON TO DHAKA

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

DHAKA TO YANGON

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

YANGON TO DUBAI

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
EK389	2:20	5:40	5,7

DUBAI TO YANGON

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
EK388	9:15	17:25	1,3,5,7

MANDALAY TO BANGKOK

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

BANGKOK TO MANDALAY

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG709	11:55	13:20	1,7
PG713	17:00	18:25	1,3,5,7

MANDALAY TO DON MUEONG

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
FD245	12:45	15:00	Daily

DON MUEONG TO MANDALAY

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
FD244	11:00	12:15	Daily

MANDALAY TO KUNMING

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

KUNMING TO MANDALAY

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

NAY PYI TAW TO BANGKOK

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG722	19:35	22:30	1,2,3,4,5,7

BANGKOK TO NAY PYI TAW

FLIGHT	DEP	ARV	DATE
PG721	17:00	18:55	1,2,3,4,5,7

AIR LINES CODES

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

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

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