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C-in-C of Defence Services honours students of Tatmadaw families, war veterans, servicemen

STUDENTS, teachers, parents and administrative officials dubbed as educational triangular must be strong in improving necessary technologies for the State and human resources, said Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the ceremony to honour outstanding servicemen, offspring of servicemen and those of war veterans who passed the matriculation examination in 2018-2019 academic year and all-round outstanding youths at Zeyathiri Beikman, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Students must be knowledgeable in learning education; teachers must teach pupils to have education; parents should encourage their offspring; and administrative officials must create the comprehensive learning environs with physical development and teaching aid to be able to enjoy peace, security measures and happiness. As such, education sector would meet development for new generation youths, he added.

Although education systems are changed, students need to actually have knowledge in learning in respective grades, said Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. Also present at the ceremony together with the Senior General were his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presents a prize to an in-charge officer of a school management for achieving highest pass rate in 2018-2019 academic year at the ceremony to honour outstanding servicemen, offspring of servicemen and war veterans. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

(Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, the Union Minister for Home Affairs and wife, the Union Minister for Defence and wife, the Union Minister for Border Affairs and wife, the Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) and wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and wife, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and wives, Chairman of Central Executive Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Lt-Gen Hla Min (Retd), the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, Director General Dr Zaw Win of the Ministry of Education, prize winning servicemen and students, parents, teachers and guests.

In his speech, the Senior General said that today's global countries are striving for development of their countries to be able to overcome challenges in education age. No matter how plentiful natural resources a country possesses, it cannot successfully carry out development tasks if it does not have human resources.

In their drive for the flourishing of human resources, global countries are promoting the education of new generation. Today's youths are new generations for shaping the future State.

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C-in-C of Defence Services honours students of Tatmadaw ...



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party pose for a documentary photo together with the prize winning students and all-round outstanding youths at the ceremony to honour outstanding servicemen, offspring of servicemen and war veterans. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

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The youths who outstandingly passed the basic education must pursue high education. At this juncture, the youths need to hold up diligence, perseverance and endeavour in learning.

The Senior General urged them to make studies on general knowledge apart from respective subject-wise curricula. Education is an endless and deep arena without frames. Depend-

ing on intellect and intelligent powers, youths will be outstanding. Youths need to notice that those in continuous learning will be more outstanding than others.

Next, Adjutant General Lt-Gen Hsan Oo presented reports on the outstanding prizes honored to the servicemen and the children of Tatmadaw family members who passed the matriculation exam with flying colours in 2018-2019 academic

years, the children of war veterans, all-round outstanding youths, and those who won in article, essay, painting, cartoon competitions at the State level, and the outstanding students who won university scholarships in 2019-2020 academic years.

Afterwards, the prize presentation ceremony followed. The Senior General presented honorary prizes and certificates of honor to the in-charge officers of school management from No 2 BEHS (Mingaladon) Aung San Thuriya Hla Thaung School that stood in the first-place in pass rate, BEHS (Shwenettaung) that stood in the second place and No 2 BEHS (Theinni) that stood in the third place in the pass rate in the 2018-2019 academic years, the school heads from No 3 Tatmadaw Education School (Aungban) that won the best pass rate, No 2 Tatmadaw Education School (Meiktila) that won the second best pass rate and No 6 Tatmadaw Education School (Mawlamyine) and cash prizes to the responsible persons for 26 Tatmadaw Basic Education High Schools and nine Tatmadaw Education Schools.

Then, the Senior General presents honorary medals, prizes and certificates of honour to six-distinction winners in 2018-2019 academic year and an outstanding schoolgirl for English proficiency skill.

Afterwards, Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Senior General, presented honorary medals, prizes and certificates

of honour to six-distinction winners officer.

Next, Vice-Senior General Soe Win presented honorary medals, prizes and certificates of honour to six-distinction winners.

Then, Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of Vice Senior General Soe Win, presented honorary medals, prizes and certificates of honour to six-distinction winners.

At today's prize presentation ceremony, gold medals, honorary medals and certificate of honour were presented to three best pass rate winning Tatmadaw Basic Education High Schools and three best pass rate winning Tatmadaw Education Schools, 32 military personnel who won one and two distinctions each, and outstanding students who are offspring of Tatmadaw families, war veterans and military personnel-substitute civilian servants, including 38 six-distinction winners, 72 five-distinction winners, 88 four-distinction winners, 106 three-distinction winners, 36 state-level all-round outstanding students, five winners in the State-level article/essay contests, and 83 students of Tatmadaw families and war veterans in winning higher education level vocational university scholarship awards, totalling 460.

Likewise, K110,000 per one distinction was awarded in distance to 693 one-distinction winners and 207 two-distinction winners, totalling 900 winners,

who are offspring of Tatmadaw families and war veteran families with the cash donations of well-wishers.

The prize presentation ceremony has been held since the 2011-2012 academic year for honouring the outstanding military personnel and offspring of Tatmadaw families and those of war veteran families in the matriculation examination and offspring of military personnel-substitute civilian servants.

This was the eighth time of its kind. So far, gold medals and cash awards were presented to 316 six-distinction winners, 646 five-distinction winners, 1,038 four-distinction winners, and 1,195 three-distinction winners, 1,563 two-distinction winners and 5,403 one-distinction winners in total. Starting the 2014-2015 academic year, higher education level vocational university scholarship awards were also given to the outstanding students.

Monthly stipends are being given to a total of 488 students, including 72 students in 2014, 86 in 2015, 82 in 2016, 81 in 2017, 84 in 2018, and 83 in the current year. Of them, out-standing military personnel and all-round outstanding youths have been sent abroad as excursion trips since 2013.

Arrangements for more overseas excursion trips will be arranged this year, according to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. — MNA ■



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presents a prize to an outstanding schoolgirl. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

Re-opening of the Call for Nominations for the ASEAN Prize 2019

As none of the candidates merits the ASEAN Prize to 2019 to be awarded at the 34th Summit, the ASEAN Secretariat has re-opened call for nominations for ASEAN Prize 2019 to recognise inspiring achievements and exemplary contributions of an individual or organization, inter alia, to the building of a rules-based, people-oriented, people-centered ASEAN Community, and intra ASEAN collaborative efforts.

Nominees should have exceptional merit in contributing to the following designated focus areas:

- Outstanding collaboration between ASEAN Member States (AMS);
- Outstanding collaboration between ASEAN and the world;
- Outstanding people-to-people engagement among AMS;
- Outstanding economic integration and promotion of standards between or among AMS; or
- Other outstanding contributions to ASEAN Community Building

The Judging Committee, consisting of eminent high-level members, including incumbent and former ASEAN Secretaries-General, will select a recipient who will be awarded the ASEAN Prize Trophy and a cash prize of US\$ 20,000. This year's prize will be presented at the Opening Ceremony of the 35th ASEAN Summit in November 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The nomination form for ASEAN Prize 2019 can be downloaded at the ASEAN Secretariat Website <http://www.asean.org/asean-prize>. Nominee must submit the duly fill-in form to the ASEAN Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office No.9, Nay Pyi Taw or dgasean@gmail.com and psaseanmmr@gmail.com no later than 6 September 2019.

Nominee must be an ASEAN citizen or an ASEAN-based organization. In the nomination form, the nominee need to elaborate within three or five pages highlighting the achievement the nominee has contributed to the building of a rule-based, people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community and intra-ASEAN collaborative efforts since the launch of the ASEAN Community on 31 December 2015. The nominee should also share future plans in continuing the work after winning the prize. For further information, please visit the ASEAN Secretariat Website.

National Health Laboratory signs MoU with Japanese university



Niigata University of Japan and National Health Laboratory sign the MoU in the presence of Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe and officials in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Niigata University of Japan and National Health Laboratory signed MoU in Yangon yesterday in the presence of Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe and officials.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe stated gradual development of both the government and the private sectors for progress of the country's health undertakings. "The private sector must take into account the quality and safety alongside the rules and regulations, medical ethics, social conducts and business codes of conduct in providing public healthcare services," he urged, adding, "The division concerned under the ministry is regulating public healthcare

services within the legal framework and rules."

DHIS-2 had been introduced at 43 hospitals through staff trainings, he explained, and urged specialist physicians of the government and private sectors to lead staff efficiency promotion programs.

The Union Minister stressed the adoption of monitoring and evaluation system at hospitals in compiling a checklist of quality services, and pointed out the importance of government-private cooperation in the health sector. "A national seminar will be held soon to share suggestions and means toward cementing government-private cooperation," he said.

Patron of National League

for Democracy (NLD) U Win Htein, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Phyo Min Thein and a member of the panel of patrons of Myanmar Medical Council Prof Dr Maung Maung Wint also gave speeches at the signing ceremony.

Deputy Director-General Prof Dr Htay Htay Tin of National Health Laboratory and Prof Toshiyuki Someya, Dean of the Medical School of Niigata University, extended greetings. The two professors signed the MoU. Also present were Chief Minister of Bago Region U Win Thein, MPs, officials of the ministry and private hospitals, health professionals and guests.—MNA ■

(Translated by TMT)

Non-Resident Nepali Association holds 7th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin delivers the speech at 7th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting, in conjunction with the 2nd Asia Pacific Women's Meeting at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) held its 7th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting, in conjunction with the 2nd Asia Pacific Women's Meeting, yesterday at the Chatrium Hotel in Yangon.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin.

First, Union Minister U Kyaw Tin, Ambassador of Nepal to Myanmar Mr. Bhim Krishna Udas, former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal Dr. Prakash Sharan Mahat, and officials cut the ceremonial ribbons and opened the event. Then, accompanied by participants, they looked at photographs of the famous Nepali Gawrakha people in Myanmar on display.

Afterwards, the national anthems of Myanmar and Nepal were played, and Nepali traditional oil lamps were lit. Nepali traditional dances and Myanmar ethnic traditional dances were also performed at the event.

This was followed by the Union Minister making congratulatory remarks. NRNA-Myanmar President U Win Tin (a) S.B Cherty, Mr. Bhim Krishna Udas, and Dr. Prakash Sharan Mahat

delivered messages of greeting.

Next, NRNA representatives discussed achievements, businesses, and social matters of the Nepali Gawrakha people.

The 7th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting of NRNA was held on 6 and 7 July, with over 100 Nepalese from Myanmar and over 130 Nepalese from 15 Asia Pacific countries in attendance. This was the first time the meeting was held in Myanmar. The 6th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting was held in Hong Kong.

The Non-Resident Nepali Association holds meetings to preserve unity among the non-resident Nepalese Gawrakha and to better serve the countries the non-resident Nepalese are residing in and Nepal.—MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

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with your name and title.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.**Polio vaccine to be administered three more times in Myawady**A nurse administers the Polio vaccine to a children in Hpapun, Kayin State. **PHOTO: HTEIN LIN AUNG**AS Poliovirus strain mutation
has been found in Hpapun, Kayin
State, polio vaccine will be ad-
ministered to children under 5
three more times in Myawady
Township.

Deputy Director from Min-

istry of Health and Sports, Dr
Hnin Ngwe Ni Aye, said due to
the discovery of poliovirus strain
characterization in a child in Sin
Swal village, Hpapun Township,
Kayin State, the vaccine will be
administered three more times,adding that only administering
it three times can ensure 100
percent prevention, that is why
caution should be taken to have
the children given vaccine three
times. The vaccination cam-
paign was ordered after a childin Sin Swel village near Hpap-
unTownship, Kayin, was found
to have contracted the VPDP1
virus in June.Present at yesterday vac-
cine campaign were District
Administrator, U Tay Za Aung,
Township Administrator, U
Phyo Zaw Ko Ko and officials,
Chairperson of Myawady Dis-
trict Myanmar Maternal and
Child Welfare Association, Daw
Aye Mya Mya Kyine and mem-
bers, Medical Superintendent
of Myawady District People's
Hospital, Dr Yan Naing Oo, and
officials.This vaccine administration
was the first time and will take
place from July 7th to 9th. The sec-
ond time will be from July 21st to
23rd and third time from August
4th to 6th. Myawady Department of
Health reported that this vaccine
administration will be conducted
in 7 townships in Kayin State, 3
in Mon State, 2 in Bago Region,
12 townships in total.— Htein Lin
Aung (IPRD)

(Translated by Alphonsus)

**One killed after truck
overturns in KhinU
Township**ONE person was killed after a
12-wheeled truck overturned
on 7 July in Khin U Township,
Shwebo district, Sagaing Re-
gion, according to the Gone Gyi
traffic police.According to the police,
the truck loaded with coal
was heading to Shwebo Town-
ship from Kanbalu Township
when it struck a tree between
mileposts 16/0 and 16/1 on the
Shwebo-Myitkyina (Union)
road and overturned, after the
driver, identified as Nam Htike
Aung, 26, lost control of the ve-hicle. Nam Htike Aung's co-driv-
er, identified as Kyaw Win Sai,
46, was killed on the spot. Nam
Htike Aung also sustained seri-
ous injuries and was rushed to
Khin U general hospital, from
where he was transferred to the
Shwebo general hospital after
receiving preliminary medical
care.The traffic police have
charged Nam Htike Aung with
reckless driving under Sections
337, 338, and 304 (A) of the Penal
Code.— Chit San (Khin U) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Officials checking the overturned truck in KhinU Township, Shwebo
district on 7 July. **PHOTO: CHIT SAN (KHIN U)****Three Chinese workers die,
one injured after falling off
grid in Pyawbwe Township**The 500 KVA transmission tower in Pyawbwe Township from which
four chinese people fell off. **PHOTO: MPF**Four Chinese workers from
CEEC company installing pow-
er cables in Pyawbwe fell off the
lines in Pyawbwe on 6 July, and
three died and one was injured.The accident happened at
the 500 KVA transmission tower
91, which is between mile post
269/6 and 7, on Yangon-Man-
dalay Expressway, in Pyaw-
bwe Township. Zi Fayou, Li
Wenquan, He Kaili and UangShihua fell off while working on
the tower due to nuts coming off.
Zi Fayou, Li Wenquan and He
Kaili fell from about 100 feet and
died on the spot. Yang Shihua's
leg got caught on the tower and
injured. He was sent to the Man-
dalay General hospital. A case
has been opened at the Nyaung
Kone police Station. — Myan-
mar Police Force

(Transtled by Alphonsus)

Myanmar-Thailand border trade reaches over \$3.14 bln in 2018-2019 FY

BORDER trade between Myanmar and neighboring Thailand reached over US\$ 3.14 billion as of 28 June in 2018-2019 fiscal year (FY) which started in October, according to the official weekly statistical report of the Ministry of Commerce.

The value of export between two countries hit \$2.25 billion,

while its import reached \$ 889 million as of 28 June in this FY.

The country mainly conducts border trade with Thailand through seven border checkpoints, Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese gates.

From 1 October to 28 June this year, Hteekhee border gate

topped with most bilateral border trade value of \$ 1.97 billion, followed by Myawady with \$ 708 million and Myeik with \$194 million.

Myanmar primarily exports fishery products such as crab, fish and shrimp, as well as onions, sesame, dry tea leaves, coconut and turmeric, while consumer goods, cosmetic machinery, food products, while agricultural equipment and track cars are imported into the country from Thailand.

The country is also trading with these neighbouring countries_ China, India and Bangladesh. Sino-Myanmar border trade is through Muse, Lweje, Kanpikete, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung gates while Myanmar is carrying out border trade with India via Tamu and Reed. The country's border trade gates with Bangladesh are Sittway and Maungtau. Border gates as of 28 June this FY totalled over \$ 8 billion which increased by \$ 1.27 billion more than last year.—Zwe ■ (Translated by Hay Mar)



Fishermen make a bountiful harvest of fish at a pond in Twantay.
PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Import of semi-finished goods declines by over 4% in nine months

MYANMAR imported US\$5.09 billion worth of semi-finished goods in the current 2018-2019 Financial Year, down by \$226.9 million or 4.3 per cent, from the corresponding period last 2017-2018 FY, according to the Ministry of Commerce reported.

Between 1 October and 28 June, the public sector imported semi-finished goods worth nearly \$138 million while the private importers bought the same amounting to \$4.9 billion.

This year saw a decline in value of imports of semi-finished goods from both sectors. When compared with the same period last FY, this year's imports of intermediate products by the public sector decreased by \$39 million, while the private sector imports of the same declined by \$187 million.

Usually, Myanmar imports three major groups of products, consisting of capital goods, semi-finished products, consumer goods and CMP raw

materials. The country spent its \$13.6 billion on importing the groups of products in the past nine months this FY, including capital goods valued at \$4.5 billion, consumer products pegged at \$2.3 billion and CMP raw materials amounting to \$1.8 billion.

According to the ministry's yearly statistical report, the country's import value of semi-finished goods was \$4.071 billion in the 2011-2012 FY, \$3.728 billion in the 2012-2013 FY, \$5.682 billion in the 2013-2014 FY, \$5.682 billion in the 2014-2015 FY, \$6.165 billion in the 2015-2016 FY, \$4.820 billion in the 2016-2017 FY and \$7.670 billion in the 2017-2018 FY.

During the 2018 mini-budget period (April-September), the country purchased semi-finished products worth \$3.7 billion, with \$3.4 billion from non-border trade and \$342 million from border trade.—Shwe Khine ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Export of manufactured goods up over 60% on 22-28 June

MYANMAR'S export of manufactured goods has exceeded over US\$400 million during the week between 22 and 28 June, increasing by nearly \$155 million, or more than 60 per cent, from this time last 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

The current figures includ-

ed \$258.5 million by the public sector and \$147.8 million by the private sector. From the corresponding period last FY, the country's export of the same totalled \$251.8 million.

From October through June this 2018-2019 FY, the country's exports of manufactured goods reached \$7.08 billion, including

public sector exports pegged at \$2.9 billion and private sector exports valued at \$4.15 billion.

In the 2018 mini-budget period between April and September, Myanmar exported manufactured goods worth \$4.53 billion, with the public sector earning \$1.6 billion and the private sector fetching \$2.932 bil-

lion, according to the ministry.

According to the ministry's annual statistical report, the country earned \$6.9 billion from the export of manufactured products in the 2017-2018 FY, \$5.7 billion in the 2016-2017 FY, \$6.5 billion in the 2015-2016 FY, \$4.6 billion in the 2014-2015FY, \$4.4 billion in the 2013-2014 FY,

and \$4.08 billion in the 2012-2013 FY,

During the same period, Myanmar's overall export stood at \$12.6 billion, with \$.75 billion by the public sector and \$8.85 billion by the private sector.—Swe Nyein ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Residents of Yay Pauk Gyi village earn additional income from weaving

LOCAL families living in Yay Pauk Gyi Village, Pwintbyu Township, Magway Region, said they are happy with the additional earnings generated from weaving cloth by hand on a small scale.

There are more than 3,000 people residing in 623 homes in Yay Pauk Gyi Village. While the villagers mainly depend on agriculture for their livelihood, they practise weaving during their free time, with people from neighbouring villages purchasing their hand-woven cloth. The villagers produce longyis for men and sarongs for women, blankets, towels, and schoolbags and sell them in villages within the township to earn additional income.

"Our village has more than

3,000 people living in over 600 houses. We mainly pursue agriculture. Our village is quite far from Pwintbyu Township. So, we cannot cultivate crops with the use of irrigation water and depend on rain instead," U Nyo, the leader of the village said.

"Therefore, we are weaving cloth on a manageable scale to earn extra income. All the people in our village practise weaving," he added.

"We sell longyis for K6,000-9,000, depending on the type of loom, towels for K2,500, and cotton bags for K2,500. The price of our blankets ranges between K15,000-17,5000, depending on the size," said a local weaver from the village.—Ye Win Naing (Nyaung Oo) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)



A woman weaving silk thread on a loom in Yay Pauk Gyi village, Pwintbyu Township, Magway Region.
PHOTO: YE WIN NAING (NYAUNG OO)

NSSA certificate awarding ceremony held in Yangon

CERTIFICATE awarding ceremony of National Skill Standards Authority (NSSA) was held at Central Construction Training Center in Thuwunna, Yangon at 9 am.

Present at the event were Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population, U Thein Swe, Yangon Regional Ethnic Affairs, Labour and Rakhine Affair Minister U Zaw Aye Maung, members of the NSSA, representatives from Skill assessing departments and private training schools, employers, employees organizations, GIZ, Swisscontact, development organizations and certificate recipients.

At the event, the Union Minister delivered keynote speech. He said that NSSA is

responsible for judging skills for supervisor-level and employees below the rank of supervisor at workplaces. There are four levels competency of skills. Level 1 and 2 were able to be assessed this time and they are working on to assess level 3 and 4. The employees have been assessed their skills with a set of norms 2014 to in 2019, there were 13445 candidates and 11900 passed on National skill standard 1 and 2 and subsequently were awarded certificates.

NSSA is working towards producing disciplined and competent workers to provide basic need, which is quality human resource, to built developed the nation. Policies of the future of work and technology, vocational training and assessing skills

should be made. NSSA has ISO 9001:2015 certificate and with the help of ISO they are trying to achieve Mutual Recognition of Skill within ASEAN countries. They are also preparing for Industrial 4.0 in the world's market.

The Union Minister called for adapting along with technology change.

From 2018 August to December there were 737 male and 435 female successful workers from 17 different fields. A total of 1172 were awarded level 1 certificates.

NSSA awarded certificates to 38 examiners from 11 Skill assessment departments. Now NSSA has awarded certificate to 8631 male and 3269 female workers, 11900 in total for 23 work field around Myanmar.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)



Union Minister U Thein Swe (R) presents the certificate of National Skill Standards Authority to a trainee. **PHOTO: MNA**



Artiste performing at the new marionette theatre in Mandalay. **PHOTO: MAUNG PYITHU (MANDALAY)**

New marionette theatre opens in Mandalay

A new marionette theatre was formally opened on Sunday in Mandalay as part of efforts to sustain and revive the traditional art in Myanmar.

The new theatre is located near the two big lion statues at the entrance of the Mandalay Hill in Aungmyethazan Township.

At the opening ceremony, Daw Ma Ma Naing, the chairperson of the Myanmar Marionettes Committee, stated the purpose behind launching the new theatre, saying it is expected to draw more international visitors.

Daw Ma Ma Naing, whose father U Thein Naing wrote and

published a book on Myanmar Puppet Theatre in 1966, frequently conducts modern educational puppet shows at local schools to disseminate knowledge about the traditional art and help revive it.

Puppetry is the most popular art in Myanmar. It is usually performed at pagoda festivals. Local puppeteers are continuing to bring the art back to life even as the older traditional marionette generation has almost faded away. —Maung Pyithu (Mandalay) ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Poets hold Poetry Evening in Yangon

POETS and poetry lovers took part in the roundtable talks on poems held at Shwe Oo Daung Hall of the Ministry of Information in Yangon yesterday.

Saya Thitsa Ni gave a speech, and Chairman of Myanmar Poets' Union (MPU) U Moe Kyaw Thu explained the successive sessions of the talks on poems and future programs.

Saya Maung Kyu Yint extended greetings. Poets Saya Win Myint and Saya Moe Way gave talks under the topics --

literary and art sectors, poets and their biographies, and poetry experts, readers and resource persons, followed by a question and answer session.

MPU held the Poetry Evening I in commemoration of the centennial of Dagon Tar Yar at Maha Bandoola Park, Yangon, on 8 June. The present is the Poetry Evening II. Residential poets of Mandalay will collectively organize the Poetry Evening 3 in their cultural city soon.—MNA (Translated by TMT) ■



Saya Maung Kyu Yint extends greetings at Poetry Evening event in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD)

Who We Are

Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) is the public-private partnership mechanism aimed at enabling the government and all local and international organizations to work together for the development of the Rakhine state.

UEHRD focuses on coordinating multiple stakeholders involved in providing humanitarian assistance, resettlement and development in Rakhine.

We believe trust is the key to build stronger communities. We believe everyone deserve a chance, and the right to live a meaningful and peaceful life.

If you have a passion for making Myanmar a better place and want to promote sustainable and integral development in Myanmar, UEHRD is the place for you.

Job Openings:

2 Media Managers

Job Description

UEHRD is looking for individuals who have excellent verbal and written communication skills in English and Myanmar, with extensive knowledge of web and social media, and who can conduct research and present information succinctly. PowerPoint, Word and Excel experience is a bonus.

Under the guidance of Program Officer in the Office of Chief Operating Officer, the candidates will:

- Assist in the creation of website materials: profile, testimonials, partnerships info
- Assist in the creation of brochures, signage, circulars, mock ups, e-mail campaigns, on line promotion, etc.
- Assist in the creation and production of blog posts, whitepapers and videos, user guides
- Assist with execution of webinars
- Maintain databases such as project portfolio database, contact management systems
- Maintain tracking report of public relations activity
- Perform analysis of data
- Prepare presentations
- Provide support to social media efforts

Job Requirements

- Age: 18 years old and above
- Languages: Excellent command, both written and spoken, of English and Myanmar;
- Computer skills: Knowledge of computer systems and office-related software;
- Team player: Ability to work well in a team; and
- Communication skills: Strong interpersonal and communication skills.

To Apply

Email your CV to secretariat@uehrd.org

Deadline: July 12th, 2019



Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD)

Who We Are

Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) is the public-private partnership mechanism aimed at enabling the government and all local and international organizations to work together for the development of the Rakhine state.

UEHRD focuses on coordinating multiple stakeholders involved in providing humanitarian assistance, resettlement and development in Rakhine.

We believe trust is the key to build stronger communities. We believe everyone deserve a chance, and the right to live a meaningful and peaceful life.

If you have a passion for making Myanmar a better place and want to promote sustainable and integral development in Myanmar, UEHRD is the place for you.

Job Opening:

Executive Assistant

Job Description

Under the guidance of Program Officer in the Office of Chief Operating Officer, the candidate will:

- Act as the point of contact between the executives and internal/external stakeholders;
- Act as a first point of contact and undertake the tasks of receiving calls, take messages, replying emails and routing correspondence;
- Compile and prepare reports, briefs, presentations and correspondence;
- Develop and carry out an efficient documentation and filing system;
- Handle requests and queries appropriately;
- Maintain diary, arrange meetings and appointments and provide reminders;
- Make travel arrangements;
- Perform bookkeeping, record financial transactions and handle petty cash;
- Provide administrative support to the Office of Chief Operating Officer;
- Take dictation and minutes and accurately enter data

Job Requirements

- Any bachelor degree with working experience of at least 2 years as Executive Assistant or in a related field
- Ability to multitask and prioritize daily workload
- Ability to manage time efficiently, work under pressure and meet deadlines
- Accounting knowledge and bookkeeping experience is desirable
- Committed, responsible and willing to learn
- Discretion and confidentiality
- Excellent English/Myanmar proficiency in speaking, writing and typing skills
- Great Finance
- Great presentation and demonstration skills
- Positive work attitude
- Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel and PowerPoint)

To Apply

Email your CV to secretariat@uehrd.org

Deadline: July 12th, 2019

Union Minister discusses childhood care, development in Kayah State

EARLY childhood care and development should be carried out in conjunction with child protection, said Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye in Kayah State yesterday.

Speaking to parents and childcare workers about the early childhood care and development project, the Union Minister explained the goal of the meeting, saying, "Parents, families, childcare teachers, departmental personnel, MPs and public should have awareness of the project and should work in cohesion."

"Everyone needs knowledge of the law, rules and regulations adopted for early childhood care and development and the provisions of the UN Convention in connection with child rights," he pointed out.

Committees at all levels were implement-



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye delivers the speech on early childhood care and development project in Kayah State yesterday.

PHOTO:MNA

ing the early childhood care and development project under the leadership of the Supervisory Committee for Early Childhood Care and Development and the National Committee on Protection of Child Rights, Dr Win Myat Aye explained.

"According to the project, children are in the early childhood till

they reach the age of eight years," the Union Minister said, and added that Kayah State was covered by personal hygiene and family education project, which also involved the task of providing financial aid to expectant mothers and their babies up to two years. "The project ensures optimum neurodevelopment during the first 1000

days of life," he noted, adding, "The country has parent circles for children up to three years, government-run, self-help and private preprimary schools for children up to five years in providing child care and protection." The Union Minister highlighted the systematic supervision and responsibility and accountability of

personnel concerned at different levels of work.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement has set up hotlines, 067-3404222 and 067-3404999, for any requirements or complaints.

Participants then put forward requirements in opening self-reliant and private preprimary schools, discussed ar-

eas where government assistance is needed and shared means to protect children against sexual violence and legal punishment against the crime.

The Union Minister, the deputy minister, the minister concerned of Kayah State and officials looked into their requirements.—MNA ■
(Translated by TMT)

As Bagan gets world heritage status, conservation must be prioritized

With Myanmar's living heritage Bagan making it into the list of UNESCO World Heritage sites, the people of the nation have cause to celebrate. Bagan has more than 3,500 stupas, temples, monasteries, and other religious structures, built between the 11th and 13th centuries, which have endured different kinds of challenges for more than a thousand years.

A world heritage tag for our national heritage shows that the world has recognized the outstanding universal value of Bagan and its unique cultural significance, transcending national boundaries and generations of humanity, present and future.

This means Bagan will be preserved for generations, over the next thousands of years, under the protection and management of the international community.

It is important to know that Bagan's inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List not only brings opportunities to maintain and help the site to thrive, but also responsibilities,

which we must share with the international community. It is important to know that Bagan's inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List not only brings opportunities to maintain and help the site to thrive, but also responsibilities,

which we must share with the international community.

We must improve the legal and institutional framework for protecting the site, especially to address pressures from uncontrolled development in a protected area, which still remain an imminent threat.

As we could not reverse inappropriate conservation interventions in the most important archaeological and monument site in Asia, the nomination to the World Heritage List in 1995 was rejected.

We then adopted a new heritage law and formed plans to reduce the impact of hotels and tourism development around the pagodas, and to stop any infrastructure from being built in the cultural zone.

The religious devotion and wealth of this early Buddhist empire is expressed through the remarkable scale and density of the architecture and continuing religious activities, which have survived for centuries and influenced the region.

In fact, the conservation of cultural heritage does not mean conserving lifeless edifices and items, but things which are connected with the history and culture of our country.

The duty to conserve our national heritage falls on the shoulders of all the people, and all parties involved in the conservation work have the responsibility to follow the rules prescribed by the UNESCO.

All parties concerned are urged to continue their efforts and to cooperate with the authorities so that our cultural heritage remains intact for another thousand years.



Preserving to boost the morale of Martyrs in perpetuity

By Maung Nyein Aye

UPON the arrival of July, the cause attached to the national spirits has led us to remember the Martyrs' Day on which national patriotic leaders including Bogoyoke Aung San and eight national leaders were assassinated by extremists. Myanmar nationals celebrate Independence Day in January; in February they celebrate Union Day and in March, the Armed Forces' Day. When it is drizzling in July, Myanmar nationals begin to remember the Martyrs' Day mournfully.

Historical records left behind

By the time national leaders were assassinated we were not born and brought up, but we still remember our national leaders as Martyrs up until now. They did something unusually to the cause of freedom of our country; Bogoyoke Aung San died tragically young together with other national leaders young and old alike. We cannot help not only forgetting the tragic incidents of our beloved martyrs

but also not to be able to forgotten Myanmar future generations. Martyrs' Day cannot be forgotten until the end of the world, thus giving the way to leave historical records. Moreover, our leaders highly respected and beloved by our people were assassinated on 19 July and so were other national leaders in their respective countries in the world. Our nationals should get convinced deeply about the tragic accident of our national leaders so that we must try to improve the national morale.

Flourishing keenly

Martyrs' Day is celebrated yearly without fail to show and not to forget that Bogoyoke Aung San and other national leaders made sacrifices for the cause of our country's freedom. They made an endeavour to gain independence at the risk of their own lives. The young generation should know about it. They made sacrifices for the country and its people to flourish national spirits.

Our people imbued with the extraordinary morale of the martyrs, the young generation will boost patriotism and self-sacrifice to build a new modern society as expected.



Remembrance forever in daily newspapers

We have seen preparations in daily newspapers for holding Martyrs' Day; they must highly laudable. Our national leaders risked their own lives to gain independence for the country and the people. Our people were saddened

to lose our leaders because they faced untimely death.

Our people put much value on our Martyrs in order to remember and vow them forever; it is the wish which belongs to all national races of the country. Our people imbued with the extraordinary morale of the martyrs, the young generation

will boost patriotism and self-sacrifice to build a new modern society as expected.

Reduction in the morale of martyrs would impel us to have self-love and self-seeking. It would be unable to distinguish between mistakes and truth, good and bad, with our country falling into ruin. It

is a great loss to our country when our national leaders were killed in action. The loss of national leaders leads us to remember them and to have national spirits like martyrs. The new young generation should understand inhuman acts to seize power of our country; depending on arms, actions of putting our country into a ruinous state must be rejected. These actions are not only somewhat similar to that of assassination of our leaders but also sending our country into a ruinous state.

Alerted by patriotism

Ceremonies for Martyrs' Day at a designated time and place on 19 July are held yearly for the memorial services and vow to the fallen leaders who risked their own lives for freedom of our country so that their good deeds and sacrifices should be remembered. At the risk of their own lives, the independence was gained with difficulties, letting the next generation know with patriotism to be alerted.

Proliferation of martyrdom

Nowadays, people remember and pay respects to our martyrs to be able to the young generation our inheritance. Today youths must be imbued with patriotism like beloved martyrs so that they should remember not in a year, but the morale of martyrs thriving daily.

(Translated by Arakan Sein)



National academies call for immediate action on air pollution

By CCAC Secretariat

COUNTRIES across the world must urgently adopt emissions controls and air monitoring systems for the worst pollutants, if they are to grapple with the growing problem of air pollution causing millions of deaths each year, five national academies have said.

The Academies of Sciences and Medicine from South Africa, Brazil, Germany, and the United States issued a joint statement on 19 June, which they presented at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, calling for intensi-

fied funding and action under a new global compact to tackle air pollution.

"If we do not urgently address this global challenge, air pollution will continue to take a startling toll in terms of preventable disease, disability and death, as well as in avoidable costs of care," said Marcia McNutt, president of the US National Academy of Sciences. "We need to act much more decisively. We need more public and private investments to tackle air pollution that match the scale of the problem."

Air pollution causes some 7

million premature deaths every year, with vulnerable people such as women, children and the elderly most at risk. Scientific evidence shows that exposure to pollutants can lead to heart disease, asthma, diabetes, eczema, cancer and impact brain development in children.

Air pollution has also been linked to climate change. If we were to reduce short-lived pollutants such as methane, and black carbon, we could reduce global warming by up to 0.5°C over the next few decades, simultaneously avoiding 2.4 million premature

deaths.

According to the academies, the biggest contributor to air pollution is fossil fuel and biomass combustion, used for power-generation, heat and cooking, transport and agriculture. Air pollution from fossil fuels is particularly adverse for humans as it contains large amounts of particulate matter, which enter the body and damage its organs.

With the global economic costs of disease caused by air pollution across 176 countries in 2015 estimated to be US\$138 million, the academies call for this preventable

problem to be addressed in tandem with climate change mitigation and sustainable development.

The academies recommend that all countries make air pollution reduction a priority by placing emission controls on industry and embracing clean fuels. Where possible, success stories from individual cities and countries should be shared and used as lessons for those grappling to improve air quality.

The global compact would encourage governments, businesses and citizens to increase investment for air pollution measures

and work together to improve air quality around the world.

"Air pollution is not only harming our planet and contributing to climate change but cutting millions of lives short," said Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme. "It is encouraging to see the global scientific community come together and call for urgent action on this truly global problem. It is time to place air pollution high on the political agenda."

Ref: The Climate and Clean Air Coalition

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, Dhammazed Road and Inya Road junction, Dhammazed Road and U Wisara Junction, West Shwegondaing Road and U Wisara Junction.

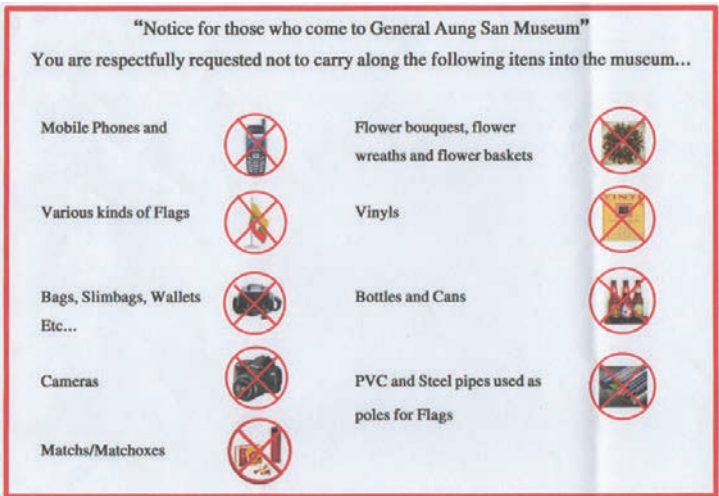
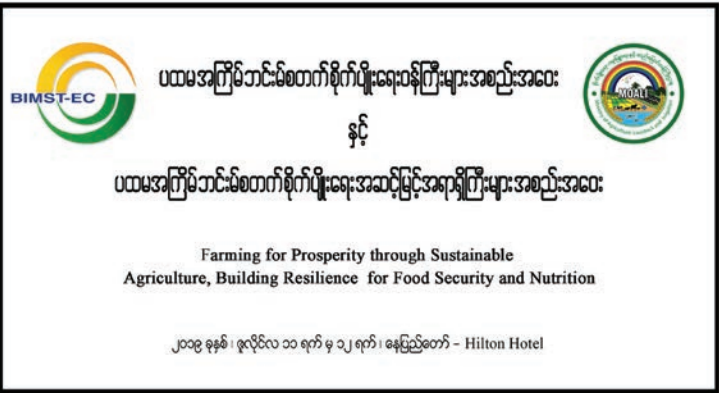
Arzarni Road, the eastern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda, the western archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda, the southern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda, Arzarni Street, the northern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda (Thwaysaykan Road) will be closed on that day.

The Yangon Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee

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

For the convenience of visitors to the Bogoyoke Aung San Museum on the Martyrs' Day which falls on 19 July, the Bogoyoke 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



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Members of Sangha in “Wa” region offered with Waso robes

THE 22nd Waso Robe Offering Ceremony for the Members of Sangha in the eastern side of the Thanlwin River was held yesterday at the Wailuwan Pariyatti Monastery in Tangyan Township, Shan State.

Under the arrangement of Central Committee to Implement the Development of Border Areas and Ethnic Nationals, Ministry of Border Affairs organized the Waso Robe Offering Ceremony.

The ceremony was attended by members of Sangha in Panghsan, Wankaung, Narphat, Manmansai, Narwi, Metmung, Hopan, Mongmaw and Nantit regions led by Presiding Sayadaw of Wailuwan Pariyatti Monastery Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhandanta Vicintta.

North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Aung Zaw Aye, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Than Htut, Shan State minister for Bama ethnic affairs Dr Aung Than Maung, Chairman of Leading Body for Palaung Self-Administered Zone U Win Kyaw, representative of Leading Body for Kokang Self-Administered Zone U San Lwin, “Wa” special region (2) committee member U San Maung, deputy directors-general from Ministry of Border Affairs, officials from Department for Development for Border Areas and National Races, departmental officials and local people also attended the ceremony.

The congregation first received the Five Precepts from Presiding Sayadaw of Panna

Dipa Monastery Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhandanta Canda Siri, followed by the recitation of parittas by Sayadaws and Members of Sangha. Afterwards, the North-East Command Commander and wife, the Deputy Minister for Border Affairs and attended donors offered Waso robes to the Members of Sangha.

The congregation also listened to the sermon delivered by Presiding Sayadaw of Kinekone Pariyatti Monastery Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhandanta Kusala, and shared merits they gained. The ceremony then concluded after reciting “Buddhasasanam Ciram Titthatu” three times by the congregation.

Over 3,000 members of Sangha were offered with 2000 sets of robes at the ceremony.



Waso Robe Offering Ceremony for the Members of Sangha in the eastern side of the Thanlwin River was held yesterday at the Wailuwan Pariyatti Monastery in Tangyan Township, Shan State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Shan State government donated K 1 million, North-East Command Commander and wife offered 50 robe sets, and other organizations offered 555 sets of robes.

The deputy minister and party then donated cash to the monasteries and nunneries in the region, and also donated

clothing and stationaries for the students learning at the monasteries and nunneries. The Department for Promotion and Propagation of Sasana of Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture also donated 400 robes for nuns.— MNA ■

Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun

Water system of medieval German city gets world heritage status



German's Augsburg has been heritage-listed for its water management system. **PHOTO: AFP**

AUGSBURG—The German city of Augsburg was Saturday granted World Heritage status by UNESCO for its over 800-year-old water management system boasting an aquaduct, water towers, ornate fountains, canals and hundreds of bridges.

The 2,000-year-old city in Bavaria state calls the system which has since the Middle Ages provided clean drinking water and sanitation an “intricate interplay between the innovative spirit and a technical tour de force”.

The old town centre of Augsburg, located on Germany's Romantic Road, is criss-crossed with canals and boasts over 500

bridges, “more than in Venice”, according to the city. “The history of water in Augsburg is linked to the cultural and artistic wealth of this city,” Thomas Weitzel, the city's cultural affairs director, told AFP. “Augsburg considered water such a precious asset that it has always sought to protect it.” Augsburg's resourceful engineers were European forerunners in damming and redirecting river water, from the Lech, Wertach and Singold streams. Water flowed via an aquaduct and into water towers from 1416, making the waterworks at the city's Red Gate “the oldest in Germany and also in central Europe”. The wa-

ter flowed through hollowed pine logs connected with metal casts to ornamental fountains in the city, including the Mercury and Hercules fountains. It also entered the city's butchers house, the Stadtmetzg, where the flowing water helped to cool the meat and dispose of the waste. Later water power was used for industry, with water wheels driving mills and pumping stations as Augsburg became an early centre of textile and paper production. With the Industrial Revolution in the 19th century, the city saw the creation of the first large hydroelectric power plant, at nearby Wolfzahnau.— AFP ■

Iran denies tanker detained by UK was headed to Syria

TEHRAN—Iran denied Sunday that an oil tanker detained by Britain in Gibraltar was carrying crude to Syria, which would put it in violation of EU sanctions.

“The tanker was carrying Iran's oil... Contrary to what the British government claims, its destination was not Syria,” said Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi at a press conference in Tehran. “The port named in Syria does not even have the capacity for such a supertanker to dock. Its destination was somewhere else,” he added. The 330-metre (1,000-feet) Grace 1, capable of carrying 2 million oil barrels, was halted in the early hours of Thursday by police and customs agencies in Gibraltar, a British overseas territory on Spain's southern tip at the western entrance to the Mediterranean.

The ship was detained 2.5 miles (four kilometres) south of Gibraltar in what it considers

British waters, although Spain, which lays claim to the territory, says they are Spanish.

Araghchi said the tanker was crossing the Strait of Gibraltar because its “high capacity” meant “it was not possible for it to pass through the Suez Canal”. He insisted the tanker was intercepted in international waters and accused Britain's Royal Navy of committing “maritime piracy”. The tanker's detention came at a sensitive time in Iran-EU ties as the bloc mulls how to respond to Tehran breaching the uranium enrichment limit it agreed to in the troubled 2015 nuclear deal. Iran is currently following “the legal path through court” but hopes the issue can be resolved by “ongoing diplomatic consultations”, Araghchi added. Iran Friday demanded that Britain immediately release the tanker, but Gibraltar's Supreme Court ruled that the vessel can be held for 14 more days.— AFP



The Grace 1 was halted in the early hours of Thursday. **PHOTO: AFP**

In Yakutia, Russia digs for diamonds in permafrost

MIRNY (Russia) — Diamonds are forever, and so is the permanently frozen ground of Yakutia in north eastern Siberia, home to huge diamond deposits that ensure Russia's supremacy in world production of the luxury stone.

In the city of Mirny, the sun shines almost continuously during the region's white night season in early July, with temperatures exceeding 30 degrees Celsius.

But the summer does not last long. Yakutia is known for having the coldest winters on the planet, which drag on for nine dark months. This region — rich in oil, gas and precious metals — is also home to eleven out of twelve mines belonging to Russia's Alrosa group, the world's largest producer of rough carats.

The majority state- and local government-owned company employs most of Mirny's 35,000 inhabitants and contributes around 40 per cent of the wider region's budget in taxes.

Alrosa, which has been criticised by some locals for alleged environmental damage including polluting water supplies, has a reputation for secrecy but is

now making efforts to demonstrate some of its work.

In Mirny, a gaping hole of massive depths — the abandoned mine "Mir" — stretches out into the city. It is more than a kilometre in diameter and 525 meters deep, or nearly two Eiffel towers placed end to end.

Oleg Popov, the director of Mirny's diamond sorting centre, shows off a billiard table covered in shiny stones. "There are 14,000 carats worth around \$9 million on this table," he said.

Explosions in -55 centigrade

"Each stone must be sorted by size," said Irina Senyukova, leaning on stones in the nearby sorting room.

To reach the next diamond deposits themselves, visitors board a 20-seater Antonov plane and head north, across the taiga, to Nakyn, where Alrosa operates two open pit mines and is planning for a third out in the wilderness. The most productive mine, Botuobinskaya, is currently only 130 metres deep, but the company plans to dig down 580 metres. The operating mines will be exploitable until 2041, the company hopes.—AFP ■

Grand Hantha International Hospital holds grand opening ceremony

THE grand opening ceremony of Grand Hantha International Hospital was held yesterday at the hospital in Kamayut Township, Yangon.

The opening ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thien, Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein, Yangon Region minister for agriculture, livestock,

forestry and energy U Han Tun, members of Yangon City Development Committee and invited guests.

Doctors of the hospital explained the attendees about the facts related to hospital.

As the grand opening special, the hospital gave free two Royal Hantha Diamond & Gold Member Cards to those who bought any member cards on that day.

The soft opening of the hospital was held in May 2017. The hospital provides 24-hour pediatric emergency care with fulltime pediatric specialists.

The 700 bedded Grand Hantha International Hospital is an eight-storey building and includes 17 24-hour laboratory rooms that have international laboratory standards, 11 lifts, and emergency stairs and alarming systems. — GNLM



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thien, Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein and officials open the Grand Hantha International Hospital in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: GNLM

Scientists develop chemical computer, storing images with molecules

WASHINGTON — Scientists from Brown University found a way to encode and decode images, not with microchips but with small molecules, and it worked with a 98-per cent accuracy.

The study published on Wednesday in the open-access journal PLOS ONE demonstrated that the small-molecule information storage can successfully encode more than 100,000 bits of digital images into synthetic metabolomes.

Previously, biomolecules like DNA have been used to help store information. In the new study, the researchers resorted to another molecules: metabolites, which are smaller, more diverse and have the potential to store information at greater density than the genome.

Metabolite is any chemicals involved in metabolism,

either as a product of metabolism or as necessary for metabolism.

They used liquid-handling robots to write digital information by dotting mixtures of metabolites into a grid on a surface. An instrument called a mass spectrometer can read the locations and identities of the metabolites and report out binary data.

They could encode the information from a picture and then decode it to redraw the image with 98 to 99.5 per cent accuracy. In the study, the researchers recovered the image of an anchor and a banner with the inscription of "Hope."

"A molecular hard drive or a chemical computer might still seem like science fiction, but biology shows us it is possible," said Jacob Rosenstein with Brown University, who led the study.—Xinhua ■

Oil giant Total's chief announces new unit to invest in forests

AIX-EN-PROVENCE (France) — The head of French energy giant Total announced Saturday that the company would invest a hundred million dollars annually on a new forest preservation and reforestation project.

"We want to set up a business unit to invest in projects that will preserve forests," chief executive Patrick Pouyanne told a meeting to discuss economic issues in Aix-en-Provence, in the south of France.

The company would spend \$100 million a year on the project, he said. "The most effective way today to eliminate carbon, for less than \$10 a tonne, is reforestation," he added. "This is not philanthropy," he added. "It's about investing in the medium- and long-term. A project for the forests, it has to last a long time to be positive for the planet."

Pouyanne was speaking just days after Total said it had begun producing biofuel at a

refinery in southern France, a project that has sparked an outcry from environmentalists and farmers over its plans to import palm oil.

The site at La Mede near Marseille is a former oil refinery which has been converted and is now one of the largest biorefineries in Europe. A study released on Thursday said that a massive campaign of reforestation could help battle climate change.

The study, carried out by

ETH Zurich and published in Science, said a large-scale operation could capture two-thirds of man-made carbon emissions and reduce overall levels in the atmosphere to their lowest in almost a century.

It found that the Earth can support 2.2 billion acres (900 million hectares) of trees that would sequester 205 billion tonnes of carbon. Some environmental campaigners have reacted cautiously to the research.—AFP ■



Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg: "There's absolutely no way around stopping our emissions of greenhouse gases and leaving the fossil fuels in the ground". PHOTO: AFP

US media sector braces for brutal year for jobs

WASHINGTON — The struggling US media industry is facing its worst year for job layoffs in a decade as news organizations continue to cut staff and close shop, according to a new survey.

The consultancy Challenger Gray & Christmas reported this week that media companies, which include movies, television, publishing, music, and broadcast and print news, announced plans to cut 15,474 jobs so far this year, of which 11,878 of which were from news organizations.

That is nearly three times more than the 4,062 cuts announced in the media sector in 2017 and the highest total since the economic crisis in 2009.

"Members of the media, especially journalists, have had a tough few years," said Andrew Challenger, vice president of the Chicago-based firm.



Job losses are accelerating in the US news media amid more newspaper closings and difficulties in monetizing online news sites. PHOTO: AFP

go-based firm.

"Many jobs were already in jeopardy due to a business model that tried to meet consumer demand for free news with ad revenue. As media outlets attempted to put news behind pay walls, in many markets, consumers opted not to

pay."

Some of the notable events this year included the closing of the Youngstown Vindicator, the only daily in the Ohio city, with 144 jobs lost, and the sale of the New Orleans Times-Picayune resulting in the loss of some 160 positions including 65 in

the newsroom.

But the troubles have also impacted the digital sector with BuzzFeed cutting 200 employees in January and Verizon eliminating 800 jobs in its media division, which includes Yahoo, AOL, and HuffPost, the Challenger report noted.—AFP ■

China to overtake U.S. as world's biggest insurance market

BEIJING — China is expected to surpass the United States to become the world's largest insurance market in the mid-2030s, according to a report from Swiss Re Institute.

China consolidated its position as the second largest insurance market globally in 2018, with total premiums reaching 575 billion US dollars. However, the Chinese market is currently still less than 40 per cent of the size of the US market and is also smaller than the three largest markets in Europe - Britain, Germany and France - combined.

The shortfalls serve to highlight the catch-up po-

tential. Swiss Re Institute forecast that the Asia-Pacific region will account for 42 per cent of the global premiums by 2029, mainly driven by China.

China's share of the global premiums went from zero in 1980 to 11 per cent in 2018 and is forecast to reach 20 per cent over the next decade and then surpass the US as the biggest market in the mid-2030s.

Global insurance premiums passed the 5 trillion dollar mark for the first time in 2018, equivalent to more than 6 per cent of the world's gross domestic product, the report said.—Xinhua ■



People visit the China Export and Credit Insurance Corporation booth during an exhibition in Shanghai on March 1, 2017. PHOTO: XINHUA

African leaders to launch 'historic' free trade deal

NIAMEY — African nations will officially launch a landmark trade agreement at an African Union summit in Niger on Sunday, with the long sought-after agreement hailed as a historic step towards "peace and prosperity" across the continent.

The deal, which African leaders hope will create the world's largest free trade area, was given a boost when Nigeria

and Benin's presidents signed on to rapturous applause on Sunday at the two-day summit in Niger's capital Niamey. After 17 years of tough negotiations, the AU is expected to launch the "operational phase" of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) later in the day in what AU commission chairman Moussa Faki said would be a "historic" moment.

"An old dream is coming true, the founding fathers must be proud," said Faki, adding that AfCFTA would create "the greatest trading area in the world".

Niger's President Mahamadou Issoufou hailed it as "the greatest historical event for the African continent since the creation of the Organisation of African Unity in 1963," referring to the AU's predecessor.

With Nigeria and Benin's signatures, 54 of the 55 AU member countries have now signed onto the deal, with Eritrea the only holdout. Around 4,500 delegates and guests — including 32 heads of state and more than 100 ministers — attended the AU summit in Niamey, which has been revamped and boasts a brand-new airport, upgraded roads, and new hotels for the occasion.—AFP ■

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 16th JULY 2019 (FULL MOON DAY of WASO), and 19th JULY 2019 (Martyr's Day) Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V TOVE MAERSK VOY. NO. (926S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TOVE MAERSK VOY. NO. (926S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 08-07-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P 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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)
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Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

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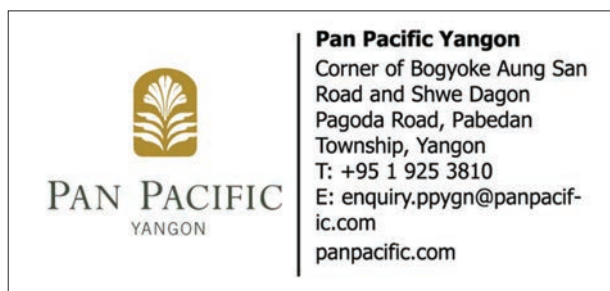
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Naung Tung Lake

Landmark of Kengtung Town

By Maung Maung Naing (Kengtung)

Historical places of Kengtung

Ethnic Shan tribes settled and lived together in Shan State (East) Kengtung region. From Kengtun Haw (Palace) 44 reigns of Saophas (Sawbwa in Myanmar) ruled the region from AD 1243 to 1962. Kengtung is located at an elevation of 2,700 ft. and is a gateway to border regions of China, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia.

In Kengtung the three hills of Swam Tong, Swam Mon and Swam Sat are situated at an imaginary vertexes of a triangle and the wards of the town are on or at the foot of the hills. Be-



Yat-Taw-Mu Pagoda. PHOTO: GOLD LIFE MYANMAR

tween the two hills of Swam Tong and Swam Sat is Naung Tung Lake about 33 acres wide lying on a north to south axis. Kengtung town was first established on the east of the lake and had many historical places like Swam Tong (also called Swam Kham or Zom Kham) Pagoda, Haw ground on which Kengtung Haw was built, Maha Myat Muni Pagoda, Aung Myay Nat Abode, old market, tomb of Saopha and Pa Leng Gate.

Swam Tong Pagoda, Kanyin Phyu tree and Standing Buddha

On top of Swam Tong hill on the east of Naung Tung Lake is Swam Tong Pagoda built

hundreds of years ago. Due to repeated renovations it is now 226 ft. tall. The uniqueness of this pagoda is not having pagoda umbrella like other pagodas in the country. On top of Swam Mon hill is a several hundred years old Kanyin Phyu tree. The tree rises up to a height of 218 ft. and had a girth of 39 ft. 10 inch at the bottom of the tree. Even though the name of the hill was Swam Mon, it was also called Lone Tree Hill (Thit Ta Bin Taung) due to

this lone tree rising high above it.

Southwest of the lake is Swam Sat hill and according to early Shan history there was once a pagoda on top of it. Digging on top of the hill in 1995 unearthed old Buddha images and based on research conducted, the ground was considered as a religious ground. In 1998 a Standing Buddha image 74 ft. 6 inch high was built on the hill. This huge Standing Buddha image is visible from all parts of Kengtung town.

History of Naung Tung Lake

According to a book written in 1930 that was a copy made from early Gon Shan writings, Kengtung was once a flooded area. Four hermits who came down from the north drained the water from the flooded area and after 7 years and 7 months, only a small lake remains. As the water recedes Hermit Tonga built a pagoda on top of Swam Tong hill. The small lake and the town took up the name of the Hermit Tonga and became Naung Tung Lake and Kengtung town.

Saopha administration and tradition

Earlier, Kengtung region

was a vast canyon, gorge or ravine submerged in water surrounded by three hills. The town was established after the hermit built the pagoda. When the hermits drained the water, the submerged land became a fertile land where people came to settle. Later it became a town administered by Saophas. As the region had good climate and fertile land the town was barricaded in a 4 miles 1 furlong long wall with 12 gates and a moat to protect it from invaders. It becomes a tradition for a new Saopha to hold a coronation ceremony in the town. The town was owned by the hermit but it becomes a tradition to transfer administrative matters of the town from the hermit/monk to the Saophas and successive Saophas continued this tradition.

Today's Naung Tung Lake

Naung Tung Lake had become a well known place in Kengtung. As it existed since the town was founded it became a landmark of the town. Not only was it a well known landmark locally but it was also known by neighbouring countries and had become a landmark for international tourists as well.



Naung-Tung-Lake. PHOTO: SUPPLIED



Lone-tree-Hill. PHOTO: GOLD LIFE MYANMAR

Nowaday, Naung Tung Lake had water inlet and outlet systems and the bank of the lake had iron fencing. There were two circuit roads around the lake, one for vehicles and one for pe-

destrians and trees and flowers were planted between the two roads. Benches were also placed for pedestrians to rest. Around the circuit road for vehicles are food stalls selling local delica-

cies, restaurants, hotels and houses. There's also a physical exercise area with fitness and exercise equipments installed. Western part of the lake is considered as a best view point. From there the Standing Buddha image can be seen to the southwest of the lake. Looking toward the south of the lake, the Swam Mon hill can be seen with the tall imposing Kanyin Phyu tree on top. In the evening the water fountain in the middle of the lake was brightly lit up with multi colour lights.

Loved and cherished place
Naung Tung Lake is a place loved and cherished by the locals. It was also a place that remains in the memories of visitors. Locals say visitors who went around the lake once will become so attracted or attached to it that they'll come back again. Naung Tung Lake flocks with walkers, joggers, families, children, picnickers and visitors in the morning and afternoon. During sunsets and evenings, Naung Tung Lake became a painting where artistes visualize images from their minds.
(Translated by Handytips)



Useful Information

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No.192, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Myanmar Plaza, 4th Floor, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph: 09-970890390, Time- 10:00 to 23:00 (Open Daily)

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No. 300, Mahabandula Park Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. Ph: 01-378022. Time- 11:30-14:00/ 17:30-22:00
(Saturday only evening and Sunday off)

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BUSHIDO
No. 75/ AB Boyar Nyunt Street, Dagon Township, Yangon. Ph: 09-260031197/ 09-420231330. 10:00-22:00 (Sunday Off)

CHO JAPANESE DINNING & BAR
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DINNING FUKUROU
No. 37, Kabar Pagoda Road, Inside of Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon. Ph: 09-260031197 09-420231330. 11:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

EDOZUSHI
A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khauk Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon. Ph: 056-23150-53/ 056-23313-318 (Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020. 11:00-21:00 (Open Daily)

(3) YAKINIKU FUKAGAWA
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Ph: 09-797109000/ 01-658210/ 01-658220.



Ayeyawady United's Keith Nah (red) tries to send the ball past Chin Land FC's Tint Aung Kyaw (white) during yesterday's national league match at Ayeyawady's home stadium in Patheingyi. **PHOTO:MNL**

Ayeyawady United beat Chin Land FC 2-1

THE Ayeyawady United added three points to their kitty by beating Chin Land FC by one goal in the Week 15 match of the Myanmar National League 2019 at their home stadium Patheingyi yesterday.

Ayeyawady United lined up with experienced players, including Captain Thiha Zaw, Kyaw Zaw Lwin, Lwin Moe Aung, and expat player Raphael Success.

Chin Land FC lined up with reliable players — Captain Aung Hein Kyaw, goalkeeper

Min Thu, and expat player Kehinde Olantunde.

Ayeyawady United launched a strong attack from the kick-off, shocking Chin Land's defence line in the early minutes of the match.

Ayeyawady United's Raphael Success scored the opening goal at 7 minutes with a superb pass over Chin Land defenders.

Keith Nah secured the second goal for Ayeyawady from a penalty shoot at 13 minutes, leading to Chin Land redoubling their efforts to equalize

the score.

Chin Land finally bagged their first goal at 24 minutes. The goal was scored by Tun Lin Aung with a beautiful pass through the Ayeyawady defenders.

Their confidence boosted by the goal, Chin Land worked harder to score, but Ayeyawady put up a strong defence, causing difficulties to Chin Land strikers.

Both teams did not make any more goals, and the match ended with a score of 2-1 in favour of Ayeyawady United. — Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Pogba included in Man Utd squad for pre-season tour amid transfer talk

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Paul Pogba has been included in Manchester United's squad for their pre-season tour despite the France star's apparent desire to leave the Premier League club.

It had been claimed Pogba might refuse to make the trip amid reports the midfielder is keen to force a move away from Old Trafford.

Real Madrid and Pogba's former club Juventus are both said to be interested in signing him and in June he said "now could be a good time to find a new challenge". Pogba had missed United's training sessions this week with manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's permission.

But he was back at the training ground on Sunday and a squad announcement on United's website confirmed he will travel with the rest of Solskjaer's team as they head to Australia.

Pogba has struggled since

returning to Old Trafford from Juventus in a club-record deal in 2016. He was included in the PFA Team of the Year last season but his often-lethargic performances split opinion among supporters, while he reportedly had a major falling-out with former United

boss Jose Mourinho.

Talking to The Times last week, Pogba's agent Mino Raiola said he had made the club aware he was looking to move the player on and offered no assurances that the 26-year-old would travel for the tour.—AFP ■



Manchester United's French midfielder Paul Pogba will travel with the squad for their pre-season tour. **PHOTO: AFP**

Yangon in the lead as Week15 of Myanmar National League ends

YANGON United is leading the standing table of the Myanmar National League after the completion of the Week15 matches, according to a statement issued by the MNL.

The team has accrued 30 points from nine wins, three draws, and three losses out of 15 matches played.

Shan United is placed second on the standing table with a total of 29 points from seven wins, eight draws, and no loss out of 15 matches played.

Meanwhile, Ayeyawady United is third with 27 points

from seven wins, six draws, and two losses out of 15 matches played.

Hanthawaddy United is placed fourth with 25 points from seven wins, four draws, and four losses.

Sagaing United is fifth with 25 points from six wins, five draws, and four losses.

Twelve teams are participating in the national league, and Chin Land FC is at the bottom of the table with 9 points from two wins, three draws, and ten losses.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Park maintains share of lead at Thornberry Creek Classic

LOS ANGELES (United States)—Park Sung-Hyun maintained a share of the lead with a 69 Saturday in the Thornberry Creek Classic where Monday qualifier Noh Yealimi is trying to win in her first start as a pro.

The world number one Park is tied atop a crowded leaderboard with FengShanshan, Tiffany Joh and Ariya Jutanugarn at 20-under 196 heading into the final round of the tournament in Oneida, Wisconsin.

But just one stroke back is Park's third round playing partner Noh, who has been the biggest surprise of the week after the 17-year-old rookie shot the same three-under 69 score. It was Noh's third straight round in the 60s to reach a 19-under total, placing her alone in fifth spot.

The Korean-American Noh played the opening two rounds alongside an amateur whom she beat by 73 shots and Saturday she went toe-to-toe with the top ranked player in the world.

Park said Noh's maturity surprised her.

"She spoke very good Korean so I had time to speak with her some. I asked her how old she was and she said she was 17," said Park.

"Even though she's a young player, her swing is really good, her playing is really good. I look forward to her play in the future."

The long hitting Park, whose win last week in Arkansas returned her to the No. 1 position, finished with five birdies in a seven hole stretch on the front nine.

The 25-year-old South Korean could have had the outright lead but stumbled to the finish with a double bogey on 15 and a bogey on her next hole.

She started the day with a one shot lead over runner-up Noh, who turned down a scholarship to a major US university and decided instead to turn pro in January. "It was so fun watching her play," said Noh of Park. "She's really friendly. I was, like, really impressed with her distance obviously and then just how many birdies she made. I lost count during the front nine."

She is trying to become just the third Monday qualifier in history to win a tournament and the first since Canadian Brooke Henderson four years ago. The other was Laurel Kean in 2000.

Noh played with the poise of a veteran on Saturday, rolling in two birdies and an eagle on the par-four sixth. She had one bogey on 14 but recovered to post a birdie two holes later. Noh had an opportunity to share the lead but missed her 17-foot putt on 18.

China's Feng scorched the course with a seven-under 65 that included an eagle on the back nine and three straight birdies on the front.—AFP ■