VICE President U Myint Swe and Myanmar delegation concluded an official visit to China, and arrived back home yesterday. They attended the 16th China-ASEAN Expo and the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit which were held in Nanning, capital city of south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

At the Nanning International Airport, the Myanmar delegation was seen off by China Communist Party Permanent Committee member, political and legal affairs committee secretary Mr Huang Shiyong, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Myo Thant Pe, Myanmar Consul-General in Nanning U Soe Thet Naung and officials.

The Vice President and party landed at Yangon International Airport at 11:30 am local time. They were welcomed back by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel Aung Soe Moe, Yangon City Development Committee’s Mayor U Maung Maung Soe, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai and officials. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Gems Emporium:
Over 861 jade lots sold for euros 103.826 mln

THE Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium entered its seventh day yesterday, with over 861 jade lots sold for 103.826 million euros through open tenders at the Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

Jade lot numbers 3912 to 3911 were put on sale yesterday. Gem merchants observed jade lots on display outside the hall, which opened at 8 a.m., and submitted their tenders. In the afternoon, the Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Dr. Ye Myint Swe, and officials visited the emporium and observed the jade lots and jewelry.

Jade lot numbers 3912 to 3911 will be sold on 23 September, lot numbers 5212 to 6511 on 24 September, and lot numbers 6512 to 7811 on 25 September. About 1,300 lots will be sold each day under the open tender system. Jade is a major source of export earnings in Myanmar. Among other countries, China is the largest jade buyer from Myanmar, purchasing nearly 99 per cent of the total jade export. The largest jade trader groups come from China, Hong Kong, Japan, and South Korea to the Gems Emporium in Myanmar, which is held in Nay Pyi Taw twice a year. The emporium will be held until 25 September. A total of 6,885 merchants from 26 countries were invited to the emporium. — Min Min Zaw (Kalay) (Translated by Alphonsus)
Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than to attend meeting of parliaments in Kazakhstan

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than will attend the 4th Meeting of Speakers of the Eurasian Countries’ Parliaments which will be held in Nur-Sultan, capital city of the Republic of Kazakhstan, on September 23-24.

The Hluttaw Speaker and party were seen off by Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, Deputy Speaker U Lin Naing Myint and officials at the Yangon International Airport at 5:50 am yesterday morning.

During the visit, the Speaker was accompanied by Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw’s Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertaking Vet- ting U Thein Swe, Member of Rights Committee of Pyithu Hluttaw U Sein Bo and officials from Amyotha Hluttaw office.

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Deputy Minister for Information returns from China

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun and Myanmar delegation came back from China yesterday morning after attending China-ASEAN Radio and Television Fair in Nanning, China.

They were welcomed back by officials from the Ministry of Information at the Yangon International Airport.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Ygn-Mdy railway upgrading projects start on 1 Oct

As the phase 1 between Yangon and Toungoo of JICA-sponsored Yangon-Mandalay railway upgrading project will begin on 1st next month, Myanmar Railways has suspended some of the runs including the mail trains services between the country’s two largest cities, according to MR.

“We have cancelled some of the runs while the phase by phase upgrading of Yangon-Mandalay railway goes on,” said U San Tha Aung, manager of MR (Mandalay), adding, “But rail services will remain at the areas where double tracks are laid as trains will continue running on one while the other is under upgrading process.”

The No 2 down and No 1 up mail train services between Yangon and Mandalay will be cancelled, while other trains services between the two destinations remain as usual. MR will also suspend No 9/10 Yangon-Thazi, No 31/32 Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw, No 35/36 Yangon-Mawlamyine, and No 16/17 Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine, according to MR officials.

MR is implementing the railway upgrading project with the help of Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA), and when complete in 2023, travel time between Yangon and Mandalay will take only six hours. The whole project has been divided into two different portions, according to JICA.— Hshaw Hset Wai (Translated by TMT)

Installing new machines at CNG stations can help cut queues, ease congestion: official

By Nyein Nyein REPLACING old, low-efficient machines at CNG filling stations with new ones can help reduce queues and ease traffic congestion to some extent, according to U Hla Win Htay, the general manager of the CNG Department of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) and member of the Yangon Region Transport Authority.

“Out of 41 CNG filling stations in Yangon Region, 18 have been using old machines brought from China in 2004 and 2005. They have been found to be poor in terms of efficiency, which leads to long queues. Therefore, the machines are being replaced with new ones each fiscal year,” he said.

“Three new machines have been allotted under the 2019 Union budget. They are to be installed at Gas Station No07 on Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township, Gas Station 025 on Kyansittar Road near Dagon University, East Dagon, and Shwepyitha Gas Station No.2. The installation process is slated to be complete by September-end. After the new machines are installed, I can guarantee the long queues will decrease,” said U Hla Win Htay.

There are plans to install two new machines in Dagon Seikkan Township in the 2019-2020 budget year, and the proposal has been approved by the regional Hluttaw, he said.

“Additionally, we will forward a proposal to the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE) to obtain a land grant and extend the new CNG station,” said U Han Tun, the regional Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, Forest and Energy, at the 26th Yangon Region Hluttaw’s eleventh regular session.

In 2016, new machines were set up at Hlinethaya No1 and Gas Station 006 at the north and south junction of Dagon Myothit under the Union budget. One more machine was installed at Ahlon No2 Gas Station in 2017, and two were placed in Yenangyung and Chauk townships in Magway.

In 2018, there was no quota for Yangon Region, but 12 machines were installed in Mandalay Region, according to the MOGE.

Under the guidance of the Union Minister for MOGE, four zones have been designated for CNG gas stations. Some gas stations — No 003 in Ahlon, 004 in Kyauktar, 008 in Pale, 021 in Dagon Seikkan, 027 in Shwepyitha, and 042 in Htaukkyant — have been crowded with YBS buses.

As per data provided by the CNG Department of the MOGE, Yangon Region has over 6,500 CNG buses, but only 4,000 buses come to fill gas at the stations. The daily CNG consumption is 24.14 million cubic feet in Yangon, and YBS buses account for 13.41 million cubic feet of the total consumption. (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)
Union Minister U Thaung Tun attends Singapore Summit 2019

Union Minister U Thaung Tun addresses the Singapore Summit 2019 which was held from 20-21 September. PHOTO: MNA

Unusual Minister provides cash assistance to persons with disabilities

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (SWRR) Dr Win Myat Aye provided initial cash assistance to the persons with disabilities in Bago Region at the Bago City Hall yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye said the Myanmar National Strategy for the Development of Persons with Disabilities (2016-2025) was enacted and the National Committee on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (NCRPD) was also formed to carry out the tasks.

He continued to say that the implementations of disability level indentification and registration of people with disabilities were underway and during which the initial cash assistance for the persons with disabilities were being provided.

The government will also create job opportunities for the persons with disabilities by setting up a fund for them, he added.

The union minister also urged national committees on rights of persons with disabilities (NCRPD) to work in cooperation.

Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein expressed thanks for the cash assistance. A total of K 464.73 million cash assistance for 15,491 persons with disabilities were provided. Each will receive K 30,000.

The Union Minister also provided K 9.8 million for the construction of birdeg on the Jaungtar-Sarseta road in Jaungtar Village-tract, Nyaunglebin Township.

Then, the union minister and party presented cash assistance to the persons with disabilities who attended the event. A person with disabilities gave words of thanks. Between 2017 and 2019, a total of 11,568 persons with disabilities in Bago Region were provided initial cash assistance. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)
Yangon Excelsior Hotel to get Blue Plaque on 28 Sep

THE Yangon Excelsior Hotel on Bo Sun Pat Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon, will become the 33rd site to receive a Blue Plaque from the Yangon Heritage Trust (YHT) on 28 September, according to the trust.

The building was constructed around 1930. It housed the offices of the Steel Brothers Company and even served as a merchant trading place at one point. The Yangon Excelsior Hotel was refurbished and the heritage building and the British colonial-style architecture was restored, according to the YHT.

The hotel won the 2019 Best Adaptive Reuse Award at the 2019 YHT Conservation Awards. The YHT is also planning to install blue plaques at the Inya Lake Hotel and the Yangon Myanmar National Airlines (MNA) head-quarters near Sule Pagoda by the end of the year. In the coming years, heritage buildings and houses of famous people will get blue plaques.

"Some buildings have already got the attention of the people, while some have still not been noticed. The city’s landmark heritage buildings have been marked with blue plaques, which serve as historical markers. People will have easy access to observe their deep historic and cultural significance and enduring legacy through the blue plaques. It will also encourage the people to conserve the heritage of the city," said U Thurein Aung from the Yangon Heritage Trust.

YHT. “Yangon has the highest number of colonial buildings among South East Asian cities. It is the finest place to view colonial architecture. The city’s cultural significance and heritage benefit the tourism business. Yangon has several heritage sites,” he added.

“This heritage will pass on to the future generations,” he added. — Maung/ Ko Khant

Ferry for Yechanpyin-Agnunaw route to be ready by Nov-end

The ferry which will ply between Yechanpyin and Agnumaw is currently under construction at the Dagon Seikkan shipyard. PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG SOE

A ferry which will ply between Yechanpyin and Agnumaw is currently under construction at the Dagon Seikkan shipyard under Inland Water Transport, and it will be completed by the end of November.

“The construction of four ferries has been undertaken in the 2018-2019 fiscal year at the Dagon Seikkan shipyard. The largest of the four ferries has been earmarked for Rakhtine State. It will operate between Yechanpyin, Sittway town and Agnumaw, Maungtaw town. The ferry is slated to be completed by November-end,” said U Tin Soe, deputy chief engineer, Dagon Seikkan shipyard.

The ferry has been designed by engineers at the shipyard. The construction of the vessel began in April, and it is estimated to cost K1.6 billion.

“The landing craft vessel measures 200 feet in length, 50 feet at the beams, and its draft measures 10 feet. The ferry is the largest to be constructed at the Dagon Seikkan shipyard, and it would also be able to carry vehicles,” said U Tin Soe.

“At present, motorboats are running on the Yechanpyin-Agnunaw route. But, their transportation capacity is poor. Ferries can aid transportation and trade flow," he added.—Myint Maung Soe  (Translated by El Myat Mon)

Standards for 26 agricultural products drafted

THE Standardization Technical Sub-Committee of Agricultural Products has drafted standards and specifications for 26 agricultural products, and standards for soybean, sunflower, sesame, mango, and lula palm are still being drafted, according to the Agriculture and Market Information Agency.

Myanmar is drafting the standards and specifications with the help of local and foreign experts, including officials from the World Trade Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization, said an official from the Consumer Affairs Department.

Standards of rice, various pulses, watermelon, avocado, banana, mangoes, and coffee have been approved, whereas drafts of standards for durian, mango, pineapple, pean-

ut, sesame, mango, turmeric, ginger, onion, corn, cashew nut, elephant foot yam, coconut, and pineapple have been forwarded to the government.

The standards have been drafted up in two languages — English and Myanmar — so that exporters and growers can understand them fully. Myanmar is drafting new standards and specifications to ensure agricultural products from the country meet international standards, and to bolster exports and increase earnings through improving the quality of products. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacted the Law on Standardization in 2013, and the objectives of this law are: to help promote exports by improving the quality of production organizations and their products, production processes, and services; to protect consumers and end-users by guaranteeing imports and products are not lower than the prescribed standard, and are safe; and, to ensure there is no harm to the environment from the production process, according to the Myanmar Trade Portal. —GNLM  (Translated by El Myat Mon)
Export surges to $15.97 bln in current fiscal year

MYANMAR’S exports to foreign countries touched a high of US$15.97 billion between 1 October, 2018 and 13 September, 2019, according to data of the Ministry of Commerce.

The figure is up by $599.9 million compared with $10.89 million registered in the corresponding period of last fiscal year. Of the seven export groups, agriculture, livestock, fishery and finished industrial goods showed increase while exports of minerals, forest products and other exports declined.

Export values were registered at $3.13 billion for agro products, $354.7 million for livestock, $695.7 million for fishery products, $1.38 billion for minerals, $166.39 million for forest products, $8.48 billion for manufactured goods and $749.8 million for other goods.

The country’s export sector relies more on the agriculture and manufacturing sectors. While export earnings from the CMP (cut, make, and pack) garment businesses are rising, the country’s reliance on natural resources such as natural gas and jade is lessening.

The Ministry of Commerce is focusing on export promotion in order to reduce trade deficit. Since 2011, the Ministry of Commerce has adhered to its policy reform. Moreover, a series of liberalization and openness for policy development have been introduced for enhancing more viable trade environment, Permanent Secretary said at the Myanmar Global Investment Forum 2018 held on 12 September 2018 at MICC2 in Nay Pyi Taw. — Ko Khant

(Translated by KMM)

Illegal entry of sugar from border spells trouble for local producers

WITH sugar flowing into Myanmar illegally through the border, the price of sugar in the local market has taken a dive, which has sugarcane growers worried.

“At the moment, sugar prices have plunged in the local market due to higher imports of sugar than necessary. If the government supervises this situation, we can proceed with our business. Or, we will have to suspend operations,” said U Ko Ko Latt, who is growing about 100 acres of sugarcane in Tagaung, Mandalay Region.

Sugar is mostly being smuggled into Myanmar from Thailand, and it is being sold for K700 per viss, while locally produced sugar is priced at K900. Myanmar produces about 500,000 tons of sugar per year, according to the Ayeayar Shweli Sugarcane Farmers Association.

“There should be no smuggling of sugar. We must fight it and we have formed a central committee for preventing illegal trading,” U Myint Lwin, the Director-General of the Consumer Affairs Department, told the media at a press conference held at the sugarcane association in Htigyaing, Sagaing Region, on 21 September.

Sugarcane is being cultivated on about 80,000 acres in four zones in Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, and Shan State, with annual yield pegged at about 1.5 million tons.

Sugarcane farmers in Htigyaing are facing problems as the price has declined in the current harvest season, according to Daw Sandar Aye, who is cultivating sugarcane on about 500 acres of land in Hti-gyaing. The price of sugarcane reached K50,000 per ton in the 2015-2016 harvest season, K41,500 in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, K41,500 in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, and is pegged at K50,000 at present, according to the sugarcane farmers association. —Nadi Hlaing

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Imports have declined $1.3 bln as of 13 Sept: MOC

THE value of Myanmar’s imports between 1 October, 2018 and 13 September, 2019 in the current fiscal year stood at US$17.2 billion, a decline of $1.3 billion from $18.5 billion registered in the year-ago period, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

The value of consumer, capital, and intermediate goods imports fell significantly in the current fiscal. Over the past eleven-and-half months period, capital goods, such as auto parts, vehicles, machines, steel, and airplane parts were brought into the country, with an estimated import value of $5.46 billion. The figure was $806.9 million lower compared to the same period in the previous FY.

Meanwhile, Myanmar imported consumer products worth $3.15 billion, including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and palm oil. Both private and public sector imports of consumer products showed a decline of $526 million compared with the same period of the previous FY.

Intermediate goods make up a large share of Myanmar’s imports, with petroleum products and plastic raw materials being the main import items. In the current fiscal, imports of raw materials declined by $257.6 million from the year-ago period to reach an estimated $6.6 billion.

During the same period, raw materials worth $2.24 billion were also imported for the Cut-Make-Pack (CMP) garment sector. —GNLM

Price of Moringa seeds plummets as demand cools

THE price of Moringa or drumstick seeds has plunged sharply to K7,000 per viss (one viss is approximately 1.6 kg) this month in Yenanchaung and Chauk townships of Magway Region on the back of falling demand in foreign and local markets.

Last month, the seeds were priced at K20,000 per viss. Growers are storing the seeds and waiting for the price to rise again, said Daw Mar Mar Myint from Yenanchaung Township. Japam, China, Malaysia, and Singapore have offered to purchase drumsticks from Myanmar, but the production of drumsticks in the country is limited.

Moringa powder has become popular due to its health benefits and nutrition.

Drumstick trees can be grown across the country. They are mostly found in tropical regions such as Magwe and Sagaing. Moringa trees can be harvested twice a year; and yield between 200 and 500 moringa pods per harvest. —GNLM

(Translated by El Myat Mon)
Union Minister emphasizes importance of statistics in tourism industry

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung yesterday said the statistics are vital to promote and implement the plans in tourism industry as the meeting aims to get accurate data required to identify actual incomes in this industry.

The event was held at Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon and was attended by Yangon Region’s Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister Daw Naw Pan Thinzar Myo, the Director-General of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, and representatives from travel agencies.

On 21 September afternoon, the Union Minister looked into services for the guests at Myanmar Hotel International.

He later visited Wyndham Grand Yangon Hotel to attend the Myanmar FAM 2019 Farewell Dinner, where he said that in addition to major tourist destinations such as Yangon, Bagan, Mandalay and Inlay, Myanmar has new tourist sites such as Kengtung, Myek Archipelago, Mogok, Chin, Kayah, Rakhine, Kachin and Kayin.

Myanmar is now promoting community-based tourism to help local people get income from this industry, while Myanmar has reduced visa restrictions on some foreign travelers to attract more tourists.

The Union Minister also suggested to inform international tourists that Myanmar is a safe place to visit.

Then, the responsible persons from Myanmar Tourism Promotion Board and the tourists in FAM Trip presented their journey and shared their experiences.

The package of FAM Trip involved a total of 61 media persons and bloggers from the tourism industries of the United States, Europe, Asia and ASEAN countries. They visited Bagan, Yangon, Inlay and Mandalay.— MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Stand Together Now Peace Expo held in Yangon

STAND Together Now Peace Expo was held at Sule Square in Yangon yesterday.

The event was organized by Music for One Foundation with the aim of acquiring deeper understanding of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

“Over 160 country, including Myanmar, signed an agreement in September 2015, that they will promote SDGs. But in Myanmar, there is neither SDGs day nor organization that celebrate it. Our reason for holding this event is to let the public know that everyone is responsible for SDGs” a member of Music for One Foundation said.

World Peace Day, which share the essence of today event, is held internationally from September 21st to 27th. Due to the tight budget the event was held for a day only.

“There are many organization which has to do with SDGs. But they are working separately on their own. They should all join hand. I think all of them should take part in this event. We are going to invite other organizations to let the world that Myanmar is doing their best to achieve 17 SDGs” he added.

There was talk show and concert at the event. There are 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs).—Nyi Zaw Moe

Translated by Alphonsus

Gabon to be first African nation paid to fight deforestation

Gabon has been a leader in Central Africa in preserving its rainforests, creating 13 national parks since 2000 that cover around 11 percent of the country.

The “historic” 10-year deal will be awarded to Gabon for “both reducing its greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and degradation, and absorptions of carbon dioxide by natural forests,” CATF said in a statement.

The announcement comes ahead of a major UN climate summit on Monday that Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has called to ask countries to raise their greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Gabon has been a leader in Central Africa in preserving its rainforests, creating 13 national parks since 2000 that cover around 11 percent of the country.

It has around 12 percent of the Congo Basin forest, the world’s second-largest tropical rainforest, and is home to almost 60 percent of the surviving forest elephants in Africa, which CATF said was “a key indicator of sound natural resource governance.”

A major scandal involving a huge haul of illegally logged kavezi- go, a tropical hardwood, led to the vice president being sacked, and British-born environmental campaigner Lee White being appointed forestry minister.— AFP
NAIROBI (Kenya) — The World Health Organization has accused Tanzania of failing to provide information on suspected cases of Ebola in the country, potentially hindering efforts to curb the spread of the deadly virus.

East African nations have been on high alert over an outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which has left 2,103 people dead. Four people were diagnosed with the virus in Uganda and later died.

The WHO said it had learned on September 10 of a suspected case of the disease in Tanzania’s port city of Dar es Salaam, and information emerged that this patient’s contacts had been quarantined, and that the person had tested positive for Ebola.

The WHO said it had learned on September 10 of a suspected case of the disease in Tanzania’s port city of Dar es Salaam, and information emerged that this patient’s contacts had been quarantined, and that the person had tested positive for Ebola.

Two other suspected cases were also unofficially reported.

“Despite several requests, WHO did not receive further details of any of these cases from Tanzanian authorities,” the organisation said in a statement issued Saturday.

On September 14 Tanzanian authorities officially reported there was no Ebola in the country, but declined “secondary confirmation testing” at a WHO centre, the global body said.

Then on Thursday, the WHO was made aware that a contact of the initial patient was sick and in hospital.

“To date, the clinical details and the results of the investigation, including laboratory tests performed for differential diagnosis of these patients, have not been shared with WHO.”

Very high risk

The lack of information received by WHO meant it cannot determine the cause of the illness, it said.

“The limited available official information from Tanzanian authorities represents a challenge for assessing the risk posed by this event.”

The WHO determined that because the initial patient traveled widely in the country and due to uncertainty around the cases, the lack of information and the fact that, if confirmed, it would be the first-ever outbreak of Ebola in the country, “the risk was assessed as very high at national level”.

“At this stage, WHO is not aware of signs of a widespread transmission of any illness related to these cases, however investigations, including with the support of WHO Collaborating Centres, should continue to reach a diagnosis and further inform the risk assessment,” said the statement. They also warned of a high risk for the region.

Thousands of Swiss protest 5G wireless over health fears

BERN (Switzerland) — Thousands of people protested in the Swiss capital Bern Saturday over the roll-out of a 5G wireless technology across the country, which they fear could damage people’s health. The protests included many carrying placards, gathered in front of the Swiss parliament building, in a bid to stop the construction of more 5G-compatible antennae.

“Despite several requests, WHO did not receive further details of any of these cases from Tanzanian authorities,” the organisation said in a statement issued Saturday.

The tiny principality of Monaco became the first country in Europe to inaugurate a 5G mobile phone network in July based on technology from Chinese firm Huawei, which is seen by the US as a major security risk.

But critics in Switzerland argue that the electromagnetic radiation the new system emits poses unprecedented health and environmental risks compared to previous generations of mobile technology. Online petitions have helped persuade several Swiss cantons — in Geneva, Vaud, Fribourg and Neuchatel — to postpone the construction of antennae as a precaution.

The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) has also argued for a cautious approach to the new technology.

Opponents of the new technology are trying to gather the 100,000 signatures they need to force a referendum on imposing a moratorium on the technology until its risks can be properly assessed. — AFP

Image 1

Integrated system developed to monitor air pollution in offshore areas

BEIJING — Chinese scientists have developed an integrated system to conduct comprehensive monitoring of air pollution in offshore areas, according to the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS).

The system is comprised of more than 30 monitoring devices including detection laser radar, in-situ detection sensor for carbon dioxide and aerosol particle spectrometer. It has been installed in the offshore area in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province for a one-month test. It will help obtain meteorological parameters and distribution characteristics of major pollutants in Shenzhen’s offshore area.

Led by Hefei Institutes of Physical Science under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the monitoring system was coordinated by many organizations including the Institute of Atmospheric Physics under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and National Marine Environmental Monitoring Center. Offshore areas have complex environmental conditions such as high humidity and high salt content. They are characterized by the coexistence of multiple pollutants.

The system will conduct multi-dimensional monitoring and collect multivariate data to ensure high-resolution observations. It will support the construction of a national environmental monitoring network and provide technical support air pollution control in offshore areas, according to the CAS. — Xinhua

Image 2

The ongoing Ebola outbreak is the second-worst in history after more than 11,000 people died in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia between 2014 and 2016. But the containment efforts have been hindered from the start by conflict in eastern DRC, as well as attacks on medical teams tackling the haemorrhagic fever amid resistance in some communities to preventative measures, care facilities and safe burials. — AFP

Image 3

Israeli company completes pilot wireless road-charging of moving electric vehicle

JERUSALEM — The Israeli hi-tech company Electreon Wireless reported Sunday that it has installed a full system of electric road and successfully completed road charging of Renault Zoe electric vehicle while driving.

The system developed by Electreon was placed under a 20-meter asphalt layer on the company’s test road, in the coastal settlement of Beit Yerah.

As part of the test, the company demonstrated an energy transfer of 8.5 kilowatts (KW) with efficiency of more than 91 percent and expected to reach delivery of over 15 KW within weeks. The wireless charging is made as the deeply installed coil infrastructure distances the radiation source from the road surface. The company’s coils that were installed in the last experiment are in final configuration as obtained from the French company Hutchinson’s production line. — Xinhua
**Gift for future generations**

It is rather unfortunate that we have entered the 21st century amidst problems triggered by climate change and natural disasters.

Natural disasters, including heavy rainfall, floods, droughts, earthquakes, landslides, forest fires, and cold waves, are besieging the world at present, leaving behind a trail of destruction and human tragedy.

Famines, epidemics, lack of peace and stability, the constant sounds of unending war in many places of the world—these problems, which are mostly man-made, are increasing the degree of destruction and human tragedy.

How long will the Earth remain a habitable dwindle? How long will it be able to sustain life? Is our planet still a pleasant place? These are the questions before today’s generation. And, we need answers and solutions for the survival of future generations.

These questions about our future have often given rise to heated arguments, especially among the educated youth in the coming generations.

Is it fair for us to have future generations to grapple with calamities and suffocate? We must take this question into account seriously. We must not leave one youth in the present situation, where disasters both man-made and natural rule the planet.

We are aware that famine is rampant, wars are displacing people, and natural disasters are placing people in harm’s way. In such a situation, it is right for us to continue with ignorance, greed, irresponsibility, and selfishness.

It’s time we change our mindset and seek the means to save the world, otherwise the human race will be wiped out.

The earth’s temperature increases and the world suffers from natural disasters.

In the future, we might escape the climate change disaster.

We must think carefully and make the best choices.

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**Opinion**

**Quit smoking, vaping and juuling**

By Khin Maung Myint

**Opinion National**

23 SEPTEMBER 2019

The Global New Light of Myanmar

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

**The Global New Light of Myanmar**

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions. Poet, 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, Sanchaung, Yangon 11150. Interested candidates can submit their work at "globalnewlightofmyanmar.com" with the following information:

(1) Name of your School/College/University.
(2) Name of your School/College/University.
(3) A brief write-up of your work.
(4) Your name and if different your penname.
(5) Your level of education.
(6) Name of your School/College/University.

--The Editor, The Global New Light of Myanmar

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**Myanmar Daily Weather Report**

Call Thin Thin May. 09251022355, 09974424848

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**Forecast valid until the 23rd September, 2019:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in the southern States, fairly widespread in Mandalay, Magway and Bago Regions, Kayah State and widespread in the remaining regions and States with isolated showery falls in Upper Sagay and Taninthayi Regions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the Sea:** We will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3-7) feet along and Myanmar Coasts.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuous thunderly activities in Central Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and Neighbouring Area for 23rd September, 2019:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**Forecast for Yangon and Neighbouring Area for 23rd September, 2019:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and Neighbouring Area for 23rd September, 2019:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

**Sea and Bay of Bengal.**

**Weather Forecast for 23rd September, 2019:**

The sea and Bay of Bengal are expected to be fair. The wind speed range will be from 20 to 25 knots. The wave height will be from 2 to 4 feet.

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**Global New Light of Myanmar**

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions.

**The Global New Light of Myanmar**

**23 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

**23 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

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**Trade Mark Ad**

**Call Thin Thin May. 09251022355, 09974424848**

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**Various types of e-cigarettes, including a disposable e-cigarette, rechargeable e-cigarette, medium-size tank device, large-size tank device and e-pipe.**

**Opinion National**

23 SEPTEMBER 2019

The Global New Light of Myanmar

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions. Poet, 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, Sanchaung, Yangon 11150. Interested candidates can submit their work at "globalnewlightofmyanmar.com" with the following information:

(1) Name of your School/College/University.
(2) Name of your School/College/University.
(3) A brief write-up of your work.
(4) Your name and if different your penname.
(5) Your level of education.
(6) Name of your School/College/University.

--The Editor, The Global New Light of Myanmar
Swiss hold high-altitude wake for lost glacier

MELS (Switzerland) — Dozens of people dressed in black went on a “funeral march” up a steep Swiss mountainside on Sunday to mark the disappearance of an Alpine glacier amid growing global alarm over climate change.

The Pizol “has lost so much substance that from a scientific perspective it is no longer a glacier,” Alessandra Degiacomi, of the Swiss Association for Climate Protection, told AFP ahead of the event.

Sunday’s climb took place as the UN gathered youth activists and world leaders in New York to mull the action needed to curb global warming.

The solemn two-hour “funeral march” led up the side of Pizol mountain in northeastern Switzerland to the foot of the steep and rapidly melting ice formation, situated at an altitude of around 2,700 metres (8,850 feet) near the Liechtenstein and Austrian borders. Upon arrival, a chaplain and several scientists were to give sombre speeches in remembrance of the glacier, accompanied by the mournful tones of alphorns — a 3.6-metre (12-foot), pipe-shaped wooden instrument.

A wreath will be laid for the Pizol glacier, which has been one of the most studied glaciers in the Alps. The move comes after Iceland made global headlines last month with a large ceremony and the laying of a bronze plaque to commemorate Okjokull, the island’s first glacier lost to climate change.

500 glaciers gone

But unlike Iceland, Sunday’s ceremony does not mark the first disappearance of a glacier from the Swiss Alps. Since 1880, 500 glaciers have completely disappeared, including 50 that were named, Switzerland’s glaciologist and march participant Matthias Huss told AFP before the event. Pizol may not be the first glacier to vanish in Switzerland, but “you could say it is the first to disappear that has been very thoroughly studied,” Huss of the ETH technical university in Zurich said. The logs kept since 1893 paint a bleak picture of recent rapid changes to the climate. — AFP

S Korea’s Oscar-tipped ‘Parasite’ sets French box office

PARIS — The South Korean satire “Parasite” has become the most successful Cannes-winning film at the French box office in 15 years, new figures show.

Director Bong Joon-ho became the first Korean to lift the Palme d’Or in May for his brilliant class war black comedy, and is an early favourite to lift the best foreign language movie Oscar.

More than 1.6 million people have paid to see the film in France so far, according to the site CBO box office, a feat not achieved by a Cannes-winner since Michael Moore’s incendiary documentary, “Fahrenheit 9/11,” in 2004.

After ecstatic reviews at the Toronto and Telluride festivals this month, Vanity Fair said it “has everything that a (Oscar) best-picture front-runner could possibly need. Except the English language.”

Even so critic Katey Rich said lightning could strike twice and it could yet follow the Mexican film “Roma,” which became the first non-English language film ever to be nominated for best picture last year.

It went on to win three Oscars, including best foreign language film and best director for its maker Alfonso Cuaron.

“How far can it go?”

She predicted that Bong’s exhilarating story about a family of clever underclass scammers was virtually guaranteed a clutch of nominations.

“The question now is how much further it can go,” said Rich. — AFP

Poetry in motion: Social media revives ancient art

LONDON — Eighteen-year-old Londoner Danique Bailey is one of a new generation of poets using social media to revive the ancient art.

The teenager was among the 100 winners of last year’s Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award, an international competition of 6,000 11- to 17-year-olds from 83 countries.

She was rewarded for a mischievous ode to the plantain fruit.

“Social media made a lot more people interested in poetry, including myself,” she told AFP calling it a “really fun and satisfying way to express yourself in a short amount of space.”

She is not the only millennial getting into the art — sales of poetry books jumped 66 percent between 2012 and 2017, according to Nielsen BookScan, which gathers data for the book publishing sector.

Around 1.3 million poetry books were sold last year, a 12 percent increase over the previous year, its figures show.

Two thirds of the buyers were aged under 34.

Judith Palmer, director of the Poetry Society, suggested that people were turning to poetry because it grapples “with existential questions that people are trying to come to terms with... about our lives in uncertain times.”

“Of course there are long poems, but mainly poems are short and it works really, really well to read on a phone, to swap around, to read, to find on social media,” she added.

‘Instapoets’

Her group’s research found that Instagram was often the place that people were first introduced to poetry.

Indian-born Canadian Rupi Kaur, 26, is one of the stars of this platform, boasting 3.7 million subscribers. — AFP

Japanese woman wins competition for young conductors

BESANCON (France) — A 32-year-old Japanese woman won the top prize at a prestigious international competition for young conductors, held Saturday in Besancon, eastern France.

Nodoka Osikawa became the first Japanese to win the prize, following in the footsteps of internationally renowned conductor Seiji Ozawa, who was the first Japanese to do so in 1959.

“I am determined to live up to the honor of winning such a big prize,” Osikawa said, noting that she felt the “heavy weight” of winning a contest also won by Ozawa.

In addition to receiving the Grand Prix de Direction of the 56th Besancon International Competition for Young Conductors, awarded by the jury, Osikawa also won the “audience’s favorite” prize and the “orchestra’s favorite” prize. Saturday’s final was between Osikawa, 28-year-old Victor Jacob of France, and 33-year-old Haozan Li of China. — Kyodo News
No-deal Brexit: How EU members are preparing for a no-deal Brexit

PARIS—With the spectre of a no-deal Brexit looming on October 31, EU members are taking measures to cushion their economies, safeguard trade with Britain and protect citizens’ rights. The prospect of trade barriers being re-erected on November 1 between Britain and its EU neighbours has led to fears of nightmarish tailbacks at borders, with potentially huge losses for exporters.

An end to freedom of movement could also spell anguish for some of the 3.5 million EU citizens living in Britain and the around 1.2 million Britons living in other EU countries. Following is a summary of the preparations taken by various EU members:

**Britain: Fears of public disorder**

Britain says it will scrap tariffs on most imports, while keeping a reduced rate for some agricultural products to protect farmers. The EU, for its part, says it will treat Britain as a “third country”, imposing tariffs that are generally low but could run to 10 percent on cars, for example.

It warned that that tailbacks at Channel ports could lead to drug shortages and food price hikes which could in turn trigger “public disorder”.

**Russian seamen kidnapped off Cameroon freed**

MOSCOW—Moscow on Sunday said three Russian seamen abducted in an act of piracy off the coast of Cameroon in August have been freed and brought to Germany.

The Russians were part of a group of sailors, including Chinese and Ukrainian citizens, taken hostage in mid-August off West Africa have become notorious for piracy as well as oil theft, illegal fishing and human and drugs trafficking.

In a statement, the Russian foreign ministry said they were “released from pirate captivity” and that their release was “satisfactory”. They are due to return to Russia on Monday, it added.

The attacks took place off the port of Douala, located at the northeastern corner of the Gulf of Guinea that has become a hotspot of seaborne crime. The total number of hostages taken in the attack is unclear. The Cameroonian navy reported the kidnappings at the time but was unable to give the number of those taken.

The Gulf of Guinea, whose coastline stretches in a huge arc from Liberia to Gabon, is notorious for piracy as well as oil theft, illegal fishing and human and drugs trafficking. In recent years, the seas off West Africa have become “the world’s worst for pirate attacks,” according to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) watchdog.

Attacks doubled in the Gulf of Guinea in 2018 compared to the previous year — the bulk of them due to piracy, it said.

The 17 countries bordering the Gulf of Guinea and adjacent coastline have limited surveillance and maritime defence capabilities.

**Demonstrators clash with Egyptian security forces in rare anti-Sisi protests**

CAIRO—Egyptian security forces clashed with hundreds of anti-government protesters in the port city of Suez on Saturday, firing tear gas and live rounds, said several residents who participated in the demonstrations.

A heavy security presence was also maintained in Cairo’s Tahrir Square, the epicentre of Egypt’s 2011 revolution, after protests in several cities called for the removal of general-turned-president Abdel Fattah al-Sisi.

Such demonstrations are rare after Egypt effectively banned protests under a law passed following the 2013 military ouster of Islamist ex-president Mohamed Morsi. But discontent over rising prices has been swelling in Egypt, where Sisi’s government has imposed strict austerity measures since 2016 as part of a $12 billion loan package from the International Monetary Fund. Nearly one in three Egyptians live below the poverty line on less than $1.40 a day, according to official figures released in July. On Saturday protesters headed to downtown Suez for the second night in a row, where they were met by security forces barricading the streets and armoured vehicles.

NEW DELHI—An Australian man was arrested Sunday allegedly attempting to smuggle $2.9 million worth of amphetamines to Melbourne from New Delhi, officials said.

The man, Mohamed Umar Tucay, was detained by authorities carrying seven kilograms (15.4 pounds) of the stimulant at Indira Gandhi International Airport, the Central Industrial Security Force tweeted.

He was due to board an Air India flight to Melbourne, a senior official told the Press Trust of India.

BERLIN—A former SS soldier charged over incitement dies

BERLIN—A former SS soldier who faced charges for incitement and disparaging the memory of Nazi victims has died aged 96, German prosecutors said Sunday.

Karl Muenter had already previously been convicted in France over his role in the killing of 86 people in the northern French village of Ascq during World War II.

German prosecutors filed the latest charges against him in July after he made inflammatory remarks in an interview broadcast on television in late 2018.

“I can confirm he has died” of natural causes, she said.

Muenter had told journalists in an interview broadcast by German channel ARD last November that those killed in Ascq were themselves to blame for their deaths.

He also disputed the blame for their deaths.

But German prosecutors had said he was still under investigation.

MH17—Dutch investigators said Thursday they had found evidence that Russian military aircraft had provided cover for the fighter jet that shot down Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 over Ukraine in 2014.

They said it indicated Russia had “defended, supported and assisted” the jet which shot down all 298 people on board.

The report was the latest in a string of findings that has unveiled what investigators said was a large-scale Russian military plan to cover up the downing of the Boeing 777.

The inhabitants of the northeastern corner of the Gulf of Guinea have limited surveillance and maritime defence capabilities.
Sri Lanka orders fresh probe into Easter suicide bombings

COLOMBO—A fresh inquiry into the Easter suicide bombings that hit Sri Lanka killing at least 258 people was ordered by President Maithripala Sirisena on Sunday, after concerns from the Catholic Church that current probes are not independent.

The government has blamed a local jihadi group, the National Thowheeth Jama’ath (NTJ) for the April 21 attacks on three churches and three luxury hotels, while the Islamic State group also claimed responsibility. Sirisena said the commission has wide judicial powers to gather evidence on those responsible for the bombings, and to probe security and intelligence lapses.

The five-member panel is headed by a Court of Appeal judge and includes three other judges and a retired civil servant. It is to report back within three months. The inquiry was launched amid fears voiced by the country’s Catholic Church that a parliamentary probe and police investigation into the attacks are not sufficiently independent. —AFP

Foreign forces raise Gulf ‘insecurity’: Iran’s Rouhani

TEHRAN—Iran’s President Hassan Rouhani said on Sunday that the presence of foreign forces creates “insecurity” in the Gulf, after the US ordered the deployment of more troops to the region.

“Foreign forces can cause problems and insecurity for our people and for our region,” Rouhani said in a televised speech at an annual military parade, adding that Iran would present to the UN a regional cooperation plan for peace.

Tensions escalated between arch-foes Iran and the United States after devastating September 14 attacks on Saudi oil installations that Washington and Riyadh have blamed on Tehran.

Following the attacks, the United States announced on Friday that it was sending reinforcements to Saudi Arabia at “the kingdom’s request”.

In his speech on Sunday, Rouhani called on the foreign powers in the Gulf region to “stay away”. “If they’re sincere, then they should not make our region the site of an arms race,” he said.

“Your presence has always brought pain and misery for the region. The farther you keep yourselves from our region and our nations, the more security there will be for our region.”

Rouhani said Iran would present a plan for peace to the United Nations in the coming days. —AFP

Trump, Biden spar over Ukraine after whistleblower complaint

WASHINGTON—Joe Biden accused Donald Trump Saturday of “an overwhelming abuse of power” and called for an investigation into accusations the US leader pressured the Ukrainian president to investigate the presidential candidate’s son.

Biden’s allegations prompted a swift rebuke from Trump, who himself accuses the Democratic frontrunner of wrongdoings in Ukraine during his time as vice president under former president Barack Obama.

“Joe Biden is a politician who worked with a Ukrainian gas company. Watch out, a serial abuser. That’s what this guy is,” Biden continued. “If he sees any threat to his stayin power, he’ll do whatever he has to do. But this crosses the line.”

Biden had on Friday demanded Trump immediately release the transcript of a July 25 call with Zelensky while saying reports that the president sought to coerc his Ukrainian counterpart, if true, amounted to “clear-cut corruption.” —AFP

Violent clashes kill 18 in Libya’s Tripoli

TRIPOLI—A total of 18 people were killed and dozens injured in violent clashes here on Saturday between Libya’s UN-backed government forces and the east-based rebel army, according to military sources of both sides.

A military source of the government forces said that 11 of their troops were killed and dozens injured in the south of the capital. “Seven of our troops were killed in the fighting aons of the airport road, Salah al-Din and Ain Zara (eastern Tripoli), and dozens of others were wounded,” a source of the east-based army told Xinhua.

that Ahmad al-Mismari, spokesman for the east-based army, said on Saturday that the army had launched a large-scale offense against government forces in southern Tripoli. Since early April, the east-based army has launched a military operation to take over Tripoli and overthrow the UN-backed government. —Xinhua

WORLD
Weekly oil prices surge amid Saudi oil crisis

HOUSTON—Oil prices jumped for the week ending Sept. 20 following the attacks on Saudi Arabia's crude oil production facilities last weekend, with the price of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for October delivery up 5.91 percent and Brent crude oil for November delivery up 6.74 percent.

During the week, the oil prices experienced spiking, falling back again, and then rising more modestly, registering the biggest weekly gains in months. WTI closed the week at $58.09 U.S. dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, while Brent crude finished the week at $64.28 dollars a barrel on the London ICE Futures Exchange.

WTI and Brent crude prices have increased 27.95 percent and 19.48 percent, respectively, so far this year, falling from their peak levels in April when the growth of WTI hit over 40 percent, and Brent crude over 30 percent.—Xinhua

Travel giant Thomas Cook fails to find funds to avert collapse

LONDON—Iconic British travel firm Thomas Cook has failed to find further private investment to stave off collapse and is now relying on an unlikely government bailout, a source close to the matter told AFP on Saturday.

The operator said Friday that it needed £200 million from the government to rescue the firm. —AFP

Hong Kong curbs airport links as protesters vow ‘stress test’

HONG KONG—Hong Kong reduced rail and bus links to the city’s airport on Sunday and police stepped up security checks in a bid to scupper plans by pro-democracy protesters to disrupt the bustling transport hub. The airport—the world’s eighth busiest—has become a frequent target for a protest movement pushing for greater democratic rights and police accountability.

Online forums used by the largely leaderless movement had called for a “stress test” of the airport on Sunday, cod for disrupting travel links or occupying buildings.

But in a bid to stop large numbers of protesters making their way to the airport, transport operators on Sunday reduced the number of stations the city’s Airport Express train would stop at and also pared down bus services.

Millions of pro-democracy supporters have taken to Hong Kong streets for the past three months in the biggest challenge to China’s rule since the city’s handover from Britain in 1997. With few protesters demanding met, violent clashes have become more intense and frequent. Early on in the movement protests at the airport were peaceful, with good-natured crowds of activists using the arrival hall to educate travellers about their goals. —AFP

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V Sinar Bandung Voy. No. (631 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY. NO. (631 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T./M.L.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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V Torres Strait Voy. No. (936/S958N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY. NO. (936/S958N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T./M.L.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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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) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V INDUSTRIAL GUIDE

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V INDUSTRIAL GUIDE VOY. NO. (2165) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (SINGAPORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928
Maymyo or Pyin Oo Lwin

By Thiha (The Traveller)

It is a town that linked the Shan mountains with the plain. A town situated at the edge of Mandalay Region bordering Shan State. It was known in many names. Flower town, hill station town, hill step town etc. During colonial time, it was Maymyo or May Town and now known as Pyin Oo Lwin. The weather was never at an extreme. Cool all the time. It was a place where many colonial mansions and bungalows abounded.

It was a place where many races and religions lived in peace and harmony. Places of worship related to many religions can be found here. Many dress styles can be seen and a variety of foods can be tasted.

New places to visit in Pyin Oo Lwin

New places described here were indeed new that came into existence in end 2018 or in early 2019. It also include places that were in existence earlier but were not known much by the people.

Mico Hill

I felt envious of the lovely parks with flower and statues that attracts visitors in Thailand and wished that we could have the same. Mico Hill is such a place that made my wish comes true. It is a resort with flowers and small buildings. The future plan include having shows and entertainment. Entry is 1,000 Kyat per person that includes a small bottle of drinking water. It is situated beside Pyin Oo Lwin-Lashio road. Go past Maha Ant Hoo Kan Than Buddha image and toll gate. You’ll see it on the left side of the road.

Humpty dumpty pagoda and monastery

Driving along Pyin Oo Lwin-Lashio road and after...
passing December Farm, you’ll see a signboard on the left side of the road pointing to Humpty dumpty pagoda and monastery. After passing December Farm, have a keen lookout for that signboard as we almost always went past it and had to turn back whenever we went there. Humpty dumpty pagoda is a pagoda with Buddha images among humpty dumple dolls. A strange place with a strange construction but color combinations was attractive enough to make you take photographs.

Sitha Coffee Farm

Sitha Coffee Farm was there for long but it became a visitors’ place only recently. There is a huge coffee shop and beyond the coffee shop is coffee plantation that was like a park. Entrance fee is Kyat 1,000 per person. You’ll be given a cup of coffee as well. It’s a big plantation. The walk is quite considerable amounting to soft trekking. You can see coffee beans extracted and dried as well as coffee plantations and oddly enough, a boat.

December waterfall

When I was there the first time there was no entrance fee. Now it is 1,000 Kyat per person and 500 Kyat per car. You can take a buggy inside with 500 Kyat for going in and 500 Kyat for coming out. But the place wasn’t too big so I prefer taking a walk instead of a buggy ride. Here too there was a pond with boat if you want to take a boat ride. Restaurants had varieties of foods and you can also go horse riding. This time around, I saw some small tents beside the pond where visitors can eat while enjoying the scenery. Quite a variety of flowers were planted and the place is becoming a place to visit for photographers.

Sulamani Structure and Mya Myintzu four side pagoda

Most visitors and devotees overlook this place. It was in front of Myawaddy Fuel Station beside Ruby Mart. Inside, you’ll see the structure and the pagoda. There were many monasteries inside. The view from the top was quite breath taking.

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Usual places of visit in Pyin Oo Lwin

After mentioning new places, I’ll now point out the usual places of visit in Pyin Oo Lwin.

(1) Maha Ant Htoo Kan Tha Pagoda

The huge marble Buddha image was made and being transported to China when it fell off the truck at the place where the pagoda was built. As it seemingly refuses to leave the country, a pagoda was built with the image inside it. Ever since it fell off the truck, devotees were paying homage to it and now the pagoda is a must for all Pyin Oo Lwin visitors to visit. Hot air balloon festival was held at the field opposite the pagoda.

(2) Zina Mann Aung Rock Mountain Pagoda

This pagoda was at the entrance of Pyin Oo Lwin. As it was on a small hill, the view of the town from the hill was beautiful.

(3) Bamboo Buddha image

This Buddha image was on the right side of road going up to Pyin Oo Lwin before reaching Dat Taw Gyi Ant Waterfall. It can be reached by taking the circuit road around Pyin Oo Lwin. The Buddha image was made of bamboo. This was interesting enough but the surrounding view of nature would also be an added bonus to visit the place.

(4) Snake Pagoda

This was on the right side of Mandalay-Pyin Oo Lwin road. I didn’t visit this place but many visitors do visit it.

(5) Chinese temple

Chinese temple in Pyin Oo Lwin is another must-visit place. There’s a vegetarian shop. Chinese traditional stick horoscope can also be tried out with the help of nuns. There were many places for photography enthusiasts. There was even a place where Chinese and Korean dresses were rented to put on and take photographs.

(6) 100 years old churches

There were several 100 years old churches in Pyin Oo Lwin. High numbers of visitors were disrupting prayer services so casual visits were nowadays discouraged. So I don’t want to point out where it was. You can easily find your way but be careful not be a nuisance to devotees.

(7) Peik Chin Myaung Cave

Peik Chin Myaung Cave also known as Maha Nadamu Cave is a cave situated south of Wetun village 23 km from Pyin Oo Lwin. There are many Buddha images in the cave. With a small waterfall nearby, many visitors can’t resist a dip into it. A variety of foods as well as tradition herbal medicines were also available.

Translated by
Handytips
Thet Htar Thuzar finishes second in Maldives International Future Series

Thet Htar Thuzar, a Myanmar badminton star, finished second in the Maldives International Future Series after conceding defeat to India’s Malvika Bansod in the final of the women's singles event.

Malvika Bansod beat Thet Htar Thuzar by a decisive 21-13 and 21-11 in the final.

Thet Htar Thuzar made an all-out effort from the start and tried to gain a lead over Malvika with quick and strong shots, but Malvika responded with systematic attacks and shaped a decisive result.

Thet Htar Thuzar garnered good results along the tourney. In the round of 16 matches, she ousted Chinese Taipei’s Yeh Szu Jou by 21-8 and 21-16.

In the quarterfinals, Thet Htar Thuzar claimed a big win over Sri Lanka's Thilini Pra-modika Hendahewa with a score of 21-15 and 21-12.

In the semifinals, Thet Htar Thuzar is trying to devise a strategy to collect more points for advancing into the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Thet Htar Thuzar will compete in other international badminton series till April, 2020, according to an official.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Vettel ends long wait for victory with Singapore triumph

SINGAPORE (Singapore) — Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel ended his yearlong drought without a win at the Singapore Grand Prix on Sunday, mastering a hazy circuit to claim a record fifth triumph in the city-state.

The German was chased home by teammate Charles Leclerc, who started on pole but lost the lead to the four-time world champion after making his pit stop, and Red Bull’s Max Verstappen, who finished third.

"It was a very late call on the pit stop and I just gave it everything on the out lap. I was surprised to come out ahead and it was difficult to manage the tyres but we controlled it to the end," Vettel told reporters.

Championship leader Lewis Hamilton finished fourth but extended his advantage over fellow Mercedes driver Valtteri Bottas to 65 points, with six races remaining, after the Finn finished fifth.

The race got off to a clean start with the top six retaining their grid positions despite Vettel putting immense pressure on second-placed Hamilton in the opening lap.

While a few drivers were shifting position further down the field, the frontrunners were maintaining a one-second gap between each other as Leclerc set a slow pace to make his soft tyres last as long as possible.

Ferrari and Red Bull were the first of the big teams to bring their cars in for pit stops as Vettel and Verstappen were fitted with the more durable hard tyres on lap 20, with Leclerc following suit on the next lap.

Leclerc, however, was dismayed to leave the pits behind Vettel.

Hamilton stayed out on track in the lead to set about forging a big enough gap to retain the lead when it was his turn to come in.

But Vettel, Leclerc and Verstappen were lapping much quicker than Hamilton and when the Briton finally stopped seven laps after his rivals, he emerged in a distant fourth place.

Hamilton’s only hope of victory was to capitalise on his rivals’ degraded tyres late in the race.—AFP

MYANMAR suffered a 0-2 loss against Chinese Taipei yesterday during the qualifiers for the AFC U-16 Championship 2020 at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

Team Myanmar lined up with goalkeeper Aung Kyaw Phyo, Htoo Myat Khant, Kaung Htet Paing, Tun Tun Win, Kaung Khant, Yan Naing Tun, Kaung Khant Kyaw, Zin Myo Aung, Aung Thiha Paing, Captain Kyaw Min Khant, and Sai Sai Emm Hoo.

Chinese Taipei netted an equaliser goal in the first half. A few minutes into the second half, Chinese Taipei deserved the goal when its strikers executed a well-timed cross into the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

The young defenders of Chinese Taipei put up a strong defence, blocking the ball well against Myanmar’s strikers.

Chinese Taipei netted another goal at 85 minutes. It was scored by Liao Zihan off a free kick, with an assist from his teammate striker Huang.

There was not enough time left for Myanmar to score consolation goals, and the match ended with a win for Chinese Taipei.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

AFC U-16 Championship Qualifiers: Myanmar lose to Chinese Taipei 0-2

West Ham extend away-day blues for pitiful Man Utd

LONDON (United Kingdom) — West Ham inflicted more away-day pain on a poor Manchester United side on Sunday, lifting themselves to fourth in the Premier League with a comfortable 2-0 win at the London Stadium.

Andriy Yarmolenko’s goal shortly before half-time and a wonderful late Aaron Cresswell free-kick extended United’s barren run on the road.

United, who started the season by thumping Chelsea 4-0, have lost twice already in their opening six league games and lie seventh, without an away win in any competition since March. Injury-hit United were without midfielder Paul Pogba and forward Anthony Martial and huffed and puffed but failed to break down their dogged opponents.

West Ham are riding high under Manuel Pellegrini, unbeaten since a 5-0 drubbing in the first match of the season and this victory followed a home win last season against United at the London Stadium.

But it was a chastening day for Ole Gunnar Solskjaer’s men, just a day after champions Manchester City came close to matching United’s Premier League record for margin of victory — 9-0 against Ipswich in 1995.

Solskjaer played the same side that triumphed against Leicester last week while Pablo Fornals came in for the injured Manuel Lanzini for the home side.

Both sides were cagey at the start of the match, with neither side able to create clear-cut chances.—AFP