State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi opens religious building in Mogok, meets local people

The congregation led by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receive the Five Precepts from Mogok Nyaung Thone Bin Pariyatti Thamanaykyaw Monastery Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Tejosara Bivamsa in Mogok yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi accompanied by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu, Dr Win Myat Aye, U Ohn Win and officials left Nay Pyi Taw by special flight and arrived at the Mandalay International Airport yesterday morning. From there the State Counsellor and party flew by helicopter to Mogok and were welcomed upon arrival by Region government ministers, Hluttaw representatives, officials and local ethnic people.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party then attended the opening and merit sharing ceremony of Nyaung Thone Bin Pariyatti Thamanaykyaw Sasana Beikman constructed in the compound of Nyaung Thone Bin Pariyatti Thamanaykyaw Monastery.

First, Mogok Nyaung Thone Bin Pariyatti Thamanaykyaw Monastery Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Tejosara Bivamsa, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu, U Ohn Win, Dr Win Myat Aye, Deputy Minister U Kyi Min and donor Htawara Company Limited Chairman U Maung Ko cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the religious building.

After the Nyaung Thone Bin Pariyatti Thamanaykyaw Monastery Sayadaw and State Counsellor had sprinkled scented waters on the commemorative plaque of the religious building, the State Counsellor and guests took the five precepts from the Sayadaw and listened to the Sayadaw and Sanghas reciting parittas. **SEE PAGE-3**
Maha Pathana Pali chanting ceremony concludes at Eternal Peace Pagoda

THE Maha Pathana Pali chanting ceremony concluded at the Sasana Beikman 2 in the precinct of Eternal Peace Pagoda yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko and congregation took the Nine Precepts from the Presiding Sayadaw of Bhaddanta Janinda Pariyatti Monastery Ahbbidha Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Janinda and listened to Paritta verses recited by members of the Sangha.

The Union Minister and congregation offered offertories. They listened to Sermon from the Presiding Sayadaw of Pauk-myayaing Pariyatti Monastery and poured water to evince the act of making donation.

The ceremonies of enshrining religious objects into upper reliquary, hoisting tiers of golden umbrella, offering emerald bowl and golden lotus robe, and consecration of the Eternal Peace Pagoda will be broadcast live on the fullmoon of Tazaungmon by Myanmar Radio and Television. Eternal Peace Pagoda, near Gangaw flower roundabout, Yazathingaha Street, Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, was built by State government and Myanmar people. — MNA □

(Translated by TTN)

Union Minister for Information inspects construction of Community Centre in Patheingyi

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint arrived at Mandalay Region Patheingyi Township Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) yesterday morning and inspected the construction of a Community Centre and a hall.

The Union Minister met with Mandalay Region Hluttaw representative U Ye Min Oo, officials from civil society organizations and the local populace at the hall constructed with the donation of the people in the Community Centre and explained about the status of constructing the Community Centre.

The Union Minister said that all over the country, IPRD district and township offices and libraries were transformed into Community Centres with government funds as well as through collaboration for mutual benefit and donation as the present Community Centre.

As the Community, Centres came into existence through such ways, he explained further for it to become public places and to be used effectively.

Next, the Union Minister inspected the preparations made for library, children’s reading room, small museum and physical exercise room in the Community Centre.

The Union Minister also coordinated on conducting debates to commemorate Literati (Sarsodaw) Day, conducting talks for development of children, and constructing volley ball courts and outdoor sports ground in the office compound.

A 22x60 foot building was constructed in Patheingyi Township IPRD compound with about K 22.7 million donated by Hluttaw representatives, township administration committee and donors. The construction was reported to be nearly completed.

— District IPRD □

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Attorney-General attends 12th ASEAN-China Prosecutors-General Conference

UNION Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo attended the 12th ASEAN-China Prosecutors-General Conference held at Siem Reap, Cambodia from 6 to 7 November.

Prime Minister of Cambodian Samdech Hun Sen attended and addressed the opening ceremony.

The conference was held under the theme “The Role of Prosecutors in Regionally Combating Human Trafficking” and Prosecutors-General, Chief Prosecutors and Attorneys-General from ASEAN countries and People’s Republic of China signed a joint declaration and agreed on Prosecutors-General, Chief Prosecutors and Attorneys-General of the region to increase cooperation on combating human trafficking.

While attending the conference Union Attorney-General met with People’s Republic of China Chief Prosecutor Mr Zhang Jun and discussed increasing cooperation between Macau discussed legal affairs and experiences.

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While attending the conference Union Attorney-General met with People’s Republic of China Chief Prosecutor Mr Zhang Jun and discussed increasing cooperation between China, Chief Prosecutor Office, jointly conducting courses and workshops to study prosecution systems of the two countries, and to mutually assist and support in combating cross border crimes.

— MNA □

(Translated by Zaw Min)
State Counsellor opens religious building in Mogok, meets local people

FROM PAGE-1

Next, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Kyi Min explained religious matters to the Sanghas.

Following this, the State Counsellor accepted cash donations donated by donors for the construction of the religious building and presented documents of honors.

The State Counsellor, Union Ministers and officials then presented offerings to the Sayadaw and sanghas, listened to a sermon delivered by the Sayadaw and shared merits for the donations made.

After the ceremony, the State Counsellor, Union Ministers, officials and donors offered “soon” (day meal) to the Sayadaw and sanghas.

Later the State Counsellor met with Hluttaw representatives, Mogok Township development committee chair and officials, representatives of ethnic nationals and town elders at the King Bridge Hotel.

At the meeting the State Counsellor said she was back in Mogok because she had promised the local people to come back again. A promise is an important matter between the country’s government and the people. It is also important between government representatives and people’s representative. If a promise was not kept, trust could not be built. Without trust between individuals, groups and different levels of the country, there wouldn’t be peace. Unity couldn’t be established. Without unity, there wouldn’t be development.

The aim of the visit was to find out issues and problems in the Mogok region and to resolve them. Mogok was an admirable place because many ethnic nationals live together peacefully. Myanmar must be one that provides security to all who live in it. Regardless of religion, ethnicity and belief, all will be given the full trust and provided with support towards development. Town elders are parent like figures relied upon by the town folks. Therefore, town elders were to think and raise matters for the happiness and long term security for the ethnic nationals and the future of the country. Matters raised are believed to be for the development of the Mogok region. Mogok Town was depending on gem mining and Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation was brought along for the people to raise matters relating to it. 2020 was an election year and it was important for all eligible voters to vote. This was a right provided to the citizens by the Constitution, said the State Counsellor. The State Counsellor concluded her speech urging the administrative organizations to cooperate with the Election Commission for all eligible voters to vote.

Meeting attendees then raised matters concerning enacting Myanmar Gemstone Rule as soon as possible, releasing and registering back to the locals 3,000 acres of unused mining plots out of 15,000 acres confiscated by the State, permitting foreign tourists to visit non-mining places, appointing teachers for ethnic Palaung nationals, improving roads to some Palaung villages, assigning an orthopedist to Mogok Hospital and assigning mine plots for locals.

The State Counsellor responded to the matters raised and spoke of her wish for the Mogok region to become a region that protects and conserves natural resources and surroundings. The government was giving priority to improving road connectivity ever since it came into power and added that matters raised were not insurmountable issues. All will be seriously considered and implemented as soon as possible. If the matters couldn’t be handled immediately, it’ll be noted. The people are more valuable than natural resources and requested the local people to cooperate and work together with the government for the Union and for future generations.

After the meeting the State Counsellor, Union Ministers and party left Mogok by helicopters and arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw later in the afternoon. — MNA

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Hluttaw representatives, Mogok Township Development Committee officials in Mogok Township yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Mogok Nyaung Thone Bin Pariyatti Thamanaykyaw Monastery Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Tejosa Bivamsa, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and officials cut ribbon to open the Nyaung Thone Bin Pariyatti Thamanaykyaw Sasanalbeikman in Mogok. PHOTO: MNA

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(Translated by Zaw Min)
Fifth Irrawaddy Literary Festival opens in Mandalay

OPENING ceremony of Fifth Irrawaddy Literary Festival was held in Mercure Hotel at the foot of Mandalay Hill, Mandalay yesterday morning.

The Irrawaddy Literary Festival was held with the aims for Myanmar literature to enter into the world, provide opportunities for Myanmar writers to discuss with international writers and exchange literature culture and arts and to instill the habit of reading in the students and the people.

The ceremony was attend- ed by Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint, Irrawaddy Literary Festival Organizing Committee patron British Consul General to Hong Kong Mr. Andrew Richard Heyn, Literary Festival Organizing Committee Chairman U Nay Oke (St. Paul) and members, local and foreign literati and literature enthusi- asts.

The ceremony starts off with songs and dances performed by students of Mandalay private schools.

Next a video file of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s message to Irrawaddy Liter- ary Festival was screened.

In her message the State Counsellor expresses her deep regrets for not being able to attend the event. As a literary fan, she expresses her sorrow for not being present at the festival with the rest. She spoke of her particular interest to this year’s festival because of its theme “Youth and Literature” and recalled her happiness in discovering Myanmar students having keen interest in litera- ture after conducting discussion with them in Mandalay about two years ago. As repeatedly said, the main purpose of read- ing and studying literature was to expand the knowledge about the world and to learn of the world that was not known to have existed. Reading expands one’s outlook on life and enriches knowledge about the world. As we came to know of how people living far from us live and think differently, we understand and sympathize with each other.

Different people have dif- ferent opinions on the purpose of literature and this was to be exchanged at the festival. Some tends to think of literature and arts as specific subjects on their own and has nothing to do with political or social affairs. As a politician her belief was literature concerning both pol- itics as well as social affairs. It was all about life itself and she wants all to discuss this subject too.

Efforts were made toward developing the country both physically and mentally because a country may be developed and wealthy but if the people were not mentally developed, it was yet to be a fully developed state.

Our youths were to improve not only their literature but also other matters too for their future as well as for the future of the country. They were to contem- plate seriously on how studying literature could benefit the coun- try as well as the entire world in general.

Some may not agree with this and felt that studying liter- ature means studying the style of writing, the plot etc. All these can be discussed at the festival. The State Counsellor expressed her appreciation to overseas literary friends came to participate in the festival and also expressed her gratitude to her old friends Mr. Andy Heyn for collaborating with Sayagi U Nay Oke for making this festival a success.

She added on looking for- ward to see all again at the next Irrawaddy Literary Festival. In conclusion, you expressed her fervent hope that literary fans, especially youths partici- pant in the festival gain knowl- edge from exchanging views and discussion topics not only about literature and the coun- try but also about the entire world.

After screening the State Counsellor’s message Union Minister Dr Pe Myint spoke of the value of Irrawaddy Literary Festival. When it was first held in 2013, the country had many restrictions toward holding such events. In a time where simple literature talks were held with many difficulties, the Ambas- sador and Saya U Nay Oke suc- cessfully organized the festival inviting international literary personnel. This was the event that makes the country more open.

After that, there were more activities and development in the literature circle. There were more activities of local literature personnel as well as in coopera- tion with international literature personnel. The Union Minister spoke of holding Noble-Myan- mar Literary Festival, similar to Irrawaddy Literary Festival, together with literature person- nel friends from Yangon and Mandalay then.

By the time he came to the ministry, the practice of holding literature festivals, especially children’s literature festival, flourished. During the more than three year period more than 60 children’s literary festi- vals were held all over the coun- try. Some were huge events with visitors reaching more than 100,000. Everyone knew that the Children’s Literary Festi- val held in Mandalay was the most successful with the State Counsellor attending it.

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint thanked those involved in the literary festival, noting that the literary culture has taken root in the country, as literary move- ments and organizations pro- moting literature have emerged in recent years.

He further noted that in recent years there have been thousands of books and periodicals published in the country, including the re-printing and publishing of books which were censored in the past.

Nonetheless, the literary movements have produced new writers, including on-line authors in recent years, in tand- em with the development of literature in Myanmar, he said.

However, the literary sector has not yet reached a satisfacto- ry level in Myanmar, he noted, adding that this is required to encourage learning internation- al literature in foreign languag- es, including English.

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint also stressed the need to trans- late internationally published books and periodicals which deserves to be published in Myanmar.

It was noted that the trans- lation sector in Myanmar re- mains weak, compared with neighbouring countries, which indicated that the country needs to encourage that sector, in terms of conducting training and producing a new generation of translators, he said.

SEE PAGE-10
Voices of vacationers during Tazaungdaing holidays

By Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Than
Photo : Kyaw Zin Htike

FOLLOWING are the voices of vacationers – families, friends, public servants and the public – heard at Yangon-Mandalay Expressway 115 mile rest area while they were on their way to vacations during the Tazaungdaing holidays.

Daw Khin Mar Kyi (factory personnel)

I’m returning to my parents in Magway Region Pwintbyu Township during the holiday. I’ll pay homage to Magway Myathalun Pagoda with my parents and then visit my friends later in the evening when there will be oil lamp floating festival in Magway Town. As I’ve been away from my parents for quite some time, it’s good to be back with them during this long holidays.

Daw Wah Wah Tun (company personnel)

I’m returning to my birth place of Magway Region Minbu Township during the holidays. I’m also attending a friend’s wedding and also have a medical checkup. Afterwards, I plan to visit Magway Myathalun Pagoda with my parents. After spending all my time at work, it’s good to spend some time at my birthplace.

U Myo Min Ko (driver)

I’m going back to Minbu Town in Magway Region during the Tazaungdaing holidays. Once I’m back in my birthplace, I’ll go to the oil lamp floating festival and also attend a friend’s wedding. The long holiday gave an opportunity for public servants and private company employees to return to their home towns.

U Myo Chit Aung (traveler)

During this holiday, I’m leaving my work place in Nay Pyi Taw, Lewe town to vacation in Yangon. I plan to pay homage to all pagodas and visit play grounds and super markets. I’m happy that the long holiday gave an opportunity for public servants to return to their home towns.

U Zaw Tun (company personnel)

I’m on a business trip to Mandalay. Even though I’m not on holiday during the long holiday, I’m happy for those who have the chance to enjoy it. May all have a safe journey.

U Ye Kyaw Thu Win (General Administration Department)

My duty station is Yangon. I’m going to Nay Pyi Taw on an official matter. Whether it is for pleasure or business, I enjoy travelling. Travelling relaxes and free up my mind, as well as strengthening it. While I was assigned in remote and far off place, I always look forward to such long holidays when we can visit our families, friends or return to our birth places. That’s why I wish all to be happy during the long holiday.

Saw Say Nay Da (company employee)

I’m on a business trip to Mandalay. Even though I’m not on holiday during the long holiday, I’m happy for those who had the chance to enjoy it. May all have a safe journey.

Religious ceremonies of Eternal Peace Pagoda to broadcast live

THE ceremonies of enshrining religious objects into upper reliquary, hoisting tiers of golden umbrella, offering emerald bowl and golden lotus robe, and consecration of the Eternal Peace Pagoda built near Gangaw flower roundabout, Yazathingaha Street, Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw will be held on morning of 11 November, fullmoon of Tazaungmon.

The ceremonies will be broadcast live starting from 7 am on 11 November by Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV), National Race Channel (NRC), MRTV, Up to Date, Channel 9, Maha Bawdi channel, Ministry of Information Facebook Page, MRTV Facebook page, and Myanmar Digital News Facebook Page.—MNA (Translated by TTN)

500 hot air balloons to be released on Nov. fullmoon day in Yangon

YANGON will host the first hot air balloon festival, in which 500 hot air balloons will be released on 11 November, the day of the fullmoon of Tazaungmon in Inya Lake, Yangon.

“It is the first time to celebrate the hot air balloon festival in Yangon. Everyone can enjoy the lighting festival and hot air balloon festival in Inya Lake”, said Ma Cho Zin, an official from Fortune TV.

A total of 500 hot air balloons are to be released at the same time on 11 November, from 7-8 pm. The Tazaungdaing lighting festival will be held over three days, from 9 to 11 November in Inya Lake, and the entertainment programmes are to include music. Moreover, visitors will be offered gifts by Asia Drink Company.—Myint Maung (Translated by La Wonn)

PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG

Three-day Tazaungdaing festival in Inya Lake, Yangon will be held from 9 to 11 November which include the first hot air balloon festival. PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG

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MYANMAR moves to put thanaka on UNESCO intangible cultural heritage list

EFFORTS are on to put thanaka, which is a distinctive feature of Myanmar culture, on the UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list for the first time, said U Kyaw Lwin Oo, director-general of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, at the Thanaka Conference held in Monywa.

“Nowadays, Myanmar traditional thanaka is being imitated by some countries. They wear thanaka as a mark of their country’s culture. So, we need to make an attempt to nominate our thanaka for the UNESCO’s World Heritage List to be able to conserve the traditional practice. We have been coordinating on this issue for 7 or 8 years. We have to submit the form not later than March, 2020. We will conduct meetings and workshops soon in relation to this effort,” said U Kyaw Lwin Oo.

The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture is upgrading the list of tangible heritage sites, such as pagodas and other ancient buildings, while conserving the country’s intangible heritage, such as the practice of wearing thanaka and performing arts (commonly abbreviated Sokapet), in cooperation with international organizations like the UNESCO.

“Thanaka is a tangible product, but the practice of wearing thanaka forms a part of our intangible heritage. The practice of wearing thanaka started at the end of 11th century AD. Myanmar people have traditionally loved to wear thanaka,” said U Kyaw Lwin Oo.

According to the list compiled by the ministry, there are a total of 2,502 intangible cultural heritages in Myanmar. But, it expected Myanmar would have more intangible cultural heritages. “There are more than 200 countries in the world. Among them, 198 countries are members of the UNESCO. A total of 508 intangible cultural heritages from 122 countries have been named in the UNESCO world heritage list. However, Myanmar hasn’t named anything yet for UNESCO although the country has more than a hundred thousand intangible cultural heritages. About 33 intangible cultural heritages from seven ASEAN countries have been named by UNESCO. Last year, the Thai traditional massage was listed as an intangible cultural heritage by the UNESCO,” said U Kyaw Lwin Oo.

Mabrur, (Translated by Hay Mar)

Yangon ferry services operate regularly despite storm warnings

WITH an aim to ensure public transportation, Yangon ferry service (Pansodan/Dala) is operating as usual, despite the current storm warnings, said Daw Khin Khin Nu, Manager of Pansodan Jetty. “The Pansodan and Dala ferry service is operating as usual. Related to the storm warnings, we keep life jackets on board Cherry vessels. It is raining this morning because of the storm, but the wind is not blowing. Authorities issued a warning that if it rains with strong winds, the ferry should not be departing from the jetty. The staff are observing the weather conditions and taking necessary measures to ensure the safety of passengers,” she added.

Moreover, authorities issued instructions on 4 November that small motor vessels are not to leave for the sea while the weather remains severe. Authorities want small motor vessels to obey all rules and regulations and keep life jackets on board their boats, or face legal actions. Authorities had earlier taken legal action against them due to violations, said U Kyaw Nyein, chairman of the Township Boats Supervisory Team.

There are 484 sampan boats with outboard motor and 29 sampan boats in Dala Township, according to the Township General Administration Department. Severe rains throughout the states and regions have

been caused by cyclone “BULU” over the Northwest Bay of Bengal. The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology has

issued warnings to local airlines and fishing vessels.—Naing Lin Kyaw (Dala) (Translated by Hay Mar)

Mohnyin’s LED light festival packed with visitors

THE first LED light festival attracted many visitors on 8 November at 6 pm in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, under the arrangement of LJ Company. At the opening ceremony U Tin Aye, a State Hluttaw representative, and officials from various departments were present.

“The LED light festival is aimed to display the art of Myanmar cultures and traditions using lights, and visitors can enjoy the lights during the Tazaungdaing holidays,” said U Ye Myint, Managing Director of LJ Company. “Most towns hosted the light festival. It was the second time for the celebration in Kachin State. Before this festival in Mohnyin Township, Bhamo first held the festival in Kachin State on 16 October;” he added.

The entrance fees are set at K1,000 for children and K2,000 for adults. Children under 5-year old are free of charge. Moreover, there is no charge for religious persons and people with disabilities. The LED light festival will continue for 10 days in Mohnyin Township.—Kyaw Kyaw (Mohnyin) (Translated by La Wonn)
Land bank set up to tackle land use problems, clear obstacles to investment

By Nyein Nyein

MYANMAR has established a land bank to deal with land use problems that can hinder investment, said U Thant Sin Lwin, Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

“Land bank is a tool that makes it easier to process data about land. Local and foreign entrepreneurs can select land location to make investments and process matters with the related ministries. The government has released the procedures for that,” he added.

“As Myanmar practiced a socialist economy, the government owned and controlled land. There are many state-owned assets such as factories, buildings, and lands. Under the ministries’ plan, vacant land will be surveyed in the respective regions and states. The land bank will provide data on vacant land, buildings, and factories. For example, if investors want to invest in Bago Region, we will notify them of the vacant land and factories in the region and the ministry holding them. The investors would have to meet with the related government to proceed with the project, as per a notification issued by the President’s Office,” said U Thant Sin Lwin.

“Regarding land utilization, there are two types of land — private and public. To invest in privately owned land, unneccessary stages can be skipped, but property value is higher. To invest in state-owned land, investors cannot avoid a lot of processes and some processes through the data bank and the tendering process,” said U Thant Sin Lwin.

“Myanmar is concerned about the impact of land ownership on agricultural businesses. Thus, the authorities are not allowing agricultural land to be used for purposes other than farming in Yangon Region. Therefore, investors are investing in other places,” U Thant Sin Lwin added.

“Myanmar is the largest nation in South East Asia by area, and the country has many vacant lands for industrial businesses. However, I admit that land-use problems are obstacles to investment. The Myanmar Investment Law also covers land types and land acquisition rules and regulations for investors. The government will set up a land bank to resolve land problems,” said U Thant Sin Lwin, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations.

At present, the ministry is endeavoring to promote investments and liberalize time-consuming processes. (Translated by El Myat Mon)

Bamboo handicrafts grab visitors’ attention at Myanmar Thanakha expo

MYANMAR bamboo entrepreneurs are exhibiting valued-added bamboo handicrafts at the Myanmar Thanakha Conference and their products have caught visitors’ interest at the expo, which is being held from 7 to 9 November in Monywa Township.

“Earlier, I had only seen bamboo handicrafts such as bamboo hats, chairs, and lacquerware. But, this expo is really fascinating and unlike other expos due to the good presentation of value-added bamboo handicrafts, agricultural products, and other products. Therefore, I would like to invest all exhibitors participating in the exhibition,” said Ko Soe Aung, a visitor from Monywa Town.

Twenty-seven types of products such as lacquerware raw materials, agricultural chemical mixes, consumer products, decoration products, and different kinds of bamboo handicrafts made from a variety of bamboo plants across the country are being displayed at the expo. — Win Oo (Zayartine) (Translated by La Wun)

RUBBER price increases slightly in Thaton market

THE price of rubber has increased slightly compared to the opening price quoted earlier in the local market of Thawwana Town, Thaton Township, Mon State, due to a large demand.

“We are earning well from tapping rubber latex. Some owners have agreed to share half of the profits. A total of 30 rubber sheets are being sold per month for rubber tapping with the labor. High price of rubber benefits growers and workers. We prefer to use sulfuric acid instead of formic acid for coagulating rubber from latex as we cannot afford formic acid,” said a rubber sheet seller from Ngaringyi village.

“Many sellers can be seen, especially in the festival season. A pound of rubber fetches K755, and we purchase between 15,000 lbs to over 20,000 lbs per day,” according to the Shwe Letsaung rubber trading depot.

Mon State is the main producer of rubber with the highest yield in the country. Price fluctuation is the main problem faced by rubber growers and traders in Thaton Township. — Khun (Win Pa) (Translated by La Wun)

UMFCCI Centennial Celebration to be held in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 November

BURMESE Chamber of Commerce established in 1919 is now Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and 2019 was the centennial or platinum anniversary of UMFCCI.

The Centennial Celebration of UMFCCI will be held on 22 November 2019 at Myanmar International Convention Centre II (MICC-II) in Nay Pyi Taw with government leaders, departmental officials, local and international organizations, business persons and UMFCCI members attending the event.

Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road transport, one night board and lodging for attending UMFCCI members will be arranged by UMFCCI. Attending UMFCCI members were to make online registration by 15 November 2019 and if any difficulties were encountered in making online registration, registration in-person can be made at UMFCCI Office.—UMFCCI (Translated by Zaw Min)

Hand-woven fabrics from Kalewa selling well in market

Hand-woven fabrics from Kalewa Township are selling well in the market, according to weavers from Kine village. Locals from the village, located in Kalewa Township, Sagaing Region, rely on weaving to earn a livelihood.

“Hand-woven fabrics are in high demand during the Thadingyunt and Tazaungdaing festivals. So, the local people have to work very hard to finish the weaving in time. With the Tazaungdaing festival approaching, more women’s longyis are being woven these days. Women’s longyis will be priced at around K8,000-8,500 per piece, while the high-quality (Haka) ones will cost between K25,000 and K30,000 per piece,” according to weavers from Kine village.

“There are many steps involved in weaving longyi for women. We have to go step by step. High demand for handwoven fabrics creates job opportunities for local women in these regions,” said Daw Eh May, a local weaver from Kine village.

The raw materials used for weaving are India cotton and China cotton. They are purchased from Kalewa Township. The finished products are distributed in Kine, Zeedaung in Kalaw Township, Kalay Township and Haka, Tiddim townships in Chin State. A Weaving Enterprise Association has also been formed in Kalewa Township. — Chindwinthar (Translated by Hay Mar)
During the ARSA terrorist attacks in 2017 in Rakhine State, local people fled their homes, and since then there have also been people who sought refuge in Bangladesh. Numbers of the displaced, and those who had fled, did not go to the neighbouring country. Work has been ongoing conducted many works in the field to collect true information. A working committee, was formed in July 2018 to verify the extent of the complexities of the issue. The Committee for Accepting and Resettling Returnees, as the national level strategy for closing the IDP camps permanently in Rakhine State, local people fled their homes, and those who had committed crimes in their home villages. At the same time, those who had sought refuge in Bangladesh. Numbers of the displaced, and those who had fled, did not go to the neighbouring country.

In fact, the issue of Rakhine is a most complex one, which has been going on for many years. In 1942, during the Second World War, Muslim refugees from India crossed the Bay of Bengal seeking a new life in the island. That is why the Rakhine people do not take it granted. In accordance with the changing times, they act accordingly. It shows symbols of human traditions of living in consideration.

For the Catalanian culture which lasted for thousands of years might disappear completely in coming few years.

During fast-changing 21st Century, the Catalanian culture which lasted for thousands of years might disappear completely in coming few years. 

The roles of managers and elders have managed all affairs of the island, in addition to the realities of young unmarried boys and girls. In foreign countries, the young men do not stand on their own feet and they have to leave their beloved island due to internationally advanced technology. As the islanders leave their island, they have to try to maintain themselves as much as they can. They have to face great hardships and situations to the men they have loved.

Loss of young people

Due to lack of young people, there is no contributing system on a reciprocal basis in the field of planting and rearing paddy and other crops. In some ways, village human social life is disappearing. In social societies of the young unmarried girls, wealth and government power do not overrule the prohibitions and restrictions.

The Government of Myanmar remains fully committed to take back verified returnees, based on the bilateral agreement signed with Bangladesh and the trilateral agreement signed with the UNHCR and UNDP.

This reflects Myanmar’s commitment to the responsibilities it has taken to its people. Myanmar has recognized that its responsibility to its people includes the right to decide how to live their lives. It controls all social affairs from birth to death. Noisome things are not allowed at birth. The bridegroom will present a suitable jewelry to a bride in the village; the middle age men, bachelor, chieftain, chieftainess and youths act as a chaperon to the marriage. When the local unmarried girls are presented to the guests, the bridegroom will present the nuptial ring to the head. Their head must seek monks or any religious people through a chaperon. With the consent of the parents, the head of the family will present the nuptial ring to the groom. During the talk, a girl will sit behind the side screen and the male young people will have to sit in the fairly lighted amnas. A chaperon or a similar staff will wait in a shady amna.

Prohibitions

According to a prohibition, whoever wants to marry a girl, should like a young guest or not, she should present her tour, at the request of young boys and girls from the Island.

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During fast-changing 21st Century, the Catalanian culture which lasted for thousands of years might disappear completely in coming few years.

Talking to a girl about love

If an unmarried guest asks for talking, local young man must not talk with them, or abandon her in occasions of joy and grief. In some ways, village human social life is disappearing. In social societies of the young unmarried girls, wealth and government power do not overrule the prohibitions and restrictions.

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Fifth Irrawaddy Literary Festival opens in Mandalay

FROM PAGE-4
He also stressed the need to expose the world to Myanmar’s literature and culture, and to develop people who can write about Myanmar’s culture in English, as the human resources in this sector is weaker than the English into-Myanmar sector.

The Union Minister expressed his hope that those local and international literati can exchange ideas at the Irrawaddy Literary Festival, and the festival can create opportunities for them to realize their ambitions.

Afterwards, Patron of the Irrawaddy Literary Festival Committee, Counsellor-General of Britain to Hong Kong Mr Andrew Heyn, along with Chairman of the committee U Nay Oke (St. Paul), delivered addresses.

Following the opening ceremony, the delegation, led by Union Minister Dr Pe Myint, visited the festival.

Over 30 foreign, and more than 100 local literati, are participating in the festival, and they will continue to exchange their views about literature and culture through 11 November. (Translated by Zaw Min and Tun Tun Naing)

Russian goat who made unlikely friends with tiger dies

MOSCOW — A Russian goat named Timur whose unusual friendship with a tiger won him nationwide fame, has died, the director of the safari park where the pair lived, said Friday.

“Timur’s heart stopped beating on November 5,” Dmitry Mezentsev, director of a safari park outside the Pacific port of Vladivostok, told AFP. The billy goat, believed to be around five years old, was cremated and will be buried “with full honours”, his keeper Elvira Golovina said in a statement. The goat died of natural causes but his health deteriorated following an alteration with a male Siberian tiger he unexpectedly befriended in 2015, Mezentsev said. In a story that captivated Russia, Timur was sent to the safari park as live prey for Amur the Siberian tiger. But the tiger did not touch the billy goat when it entered the enclosure in late 2015 because the goat did not show any fear.

The two quickly became inseparable. Mezentsev, who studies tigers and leopards, at the time described the unlikely friendship as nothing short of a miracle and a “sign from above” for people to be kinder to each other. — AFP

Like roads, many genetic lineages led to ancient Rome

ROME — At the height of its empire, the inhabitants of ancient Rome genetically resembled the populations of the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, according to a DNA study published Thursday.

The paper is based on genome data of 127 individuals from 29 archaeological sites in and around the city, spanning nearly 12,000 years of Roman prehistory and history. Rome and central Italy’s antiquity is well-documented in the rich archaeological and historical record, but relatively little genetic work had been carried out until now.

Writing in the journal Science, researchers from Stanford and Italian universities said people from the city’s earliest eras and from after the Western empire’s decline in the 4th Century CE genetically resembled other Western Europeans.

But during the imperial period, Romans had more in common with populations from Greece, Syria and Lebanon.

The earliest sequenced genomes, from three individuals living 9,000 to 12,000 years ago, resembled other European hunter-gatherers at the time.

Starting from 9,000 years ago, the genetic makeup of Romans again changed in line with the rest of Europe following an influx of farmers from Anatolia or modern Turkey.

Things started to change however from 900 BCE to 200 BCE, as Rome grew in size and importance, and the diversity shot up from 27 BCE to 300 CE, when Rome was the capital to an empire of 50 million to 90 million people, stretching from North Africa to Britain to the Middle East.

Of the 48 individuals sampled from this period, only two showed strong genetic ties to Europe. — AFP
Hundreds of Indian Sikhs make historic pilgrimage to Pakistan

KARTARPUR (Pakistan) — Hundreds of Indian Sikhs made a historic pilgrimage to Pakistan on Saturday, crossing through a white gate to reach one of their religion’s holiest sites, after a landmark deal between the two countries divided by the 1947 partition of the subcontinent.

Cheering Sikhs walked joyfully along the road from Dera Baba Nanak in India towards the new immigration hall that would allow them to pass through a secure land corridor into Pakistan, in a rare example of cooperation between the nuclear-armed countries divided by decades of enmity.

Some fathers ran, carrying their children on their shoulders.

Buses were waiting on the Pakistani side to carry them along the corridor to the shrine to Sikhism’s founder Guru Nanak, which lies in Kartarpur, a small town just four kilometres (2.5 miles) inside Pakistan where he is believed to have died.

The Shrine of Baba Guru Nanak in Kartarpur, Pakistan, is one of Sikhism’s holiest sites. PHOTO: AFP

“Generally people say that God is everywhere. But this walk feels like I’m going to directly seek blessings from Guru Nanak,” Surjit Singh Bajwa told AFP as he walked towards the corridor, crying as he spoke.

At 71, he is older than India and Pakistan, who have fought three wars already and nearly ignited a fourth earlier this year. For up to 30 million Sikhs around the world, the white-domed shrine is one of their holiest sites. — AFP

Former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva gestures as he leaves the Federal Police Headquarters, where he was serving a sentence for corruption and money laundering, in Curitiba, Parana State, Brazil, on November 8, 2019. PHOTO: AFP

Brazil’s freed leftist leader Lula to rally supporters

SAO BERNARDO DO CAMPO — Brazil’s left-wing leader Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva returned to his trade union stronghold on Saturday to address throngs of celebrating supporters, a day after walking free from jail.

Lula’s visit to the metalworkers’ union he once led near Sao Paulo, Brazil’s biggest city, comes after his arch nemesis, far-right President Jair Bolsonaro, branded him a “scoundrel.”

Bolsonaro told his Twitter followers Saturday that Lula was “momentarily free, but guilty.”

Lula’s release came after a highly politically-sensitive Supreme Court ruling on Thursday that could free thousands of convicts.

A 6-5 decision overturned a rule requiring convicted criminals to go to jail after losing their first appeal. Those convicts would remain free until they had exhausted their rights to appeal — a process critics say could take years in cases involving people able to afford expensive lawyers.

Lula’s criminal record prevents him from running for political office, at least for now. His freedom is likely to reinvigorate the leaderless left that has floundered since the charismatic 74-year-old was jailed in April 2018 for corruption. — AFP

On Wall anniversary, Merkel urges Europe to defend freedom

BERLIN — Chancellor Angela Merkel on Saturday urged Europe to defend democracy and freedom as Germany marked 30 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall, warning that such gains must not be taken for granted.

At a solemn ceremony in a church standing on the former “death strip” that divided East and West, Merkel said the Berlin Wall reminds “us that we have to do our part for freedom and democracy”: “The values upon which Europe is founded... they are anything but self-evident. And they must always be lived out and defended anew,” she told guests from across the continent.

On November 9, 1989, East German border guards, overwhelmed by large crowds, threw open the gates to West Berlin, allowing free passage for the first time since the Berlin Wall was built. The momentous event would end up bringing the communist regime crashing down, and led to German reunification a year later. But the euphoria for liberal democracy that characterised the epochal event then has somewhat dissipated three decades on, as the Western alliance that helped secure those achievements is riddled with divisions.

Cracks have appeared within the European Union as former eastern bloc countries like Hungary or Poland are accused by Brussels of challenging the rule of law. — AFP

Seven dead in Iraq as security forces clear protest sites

BAGHDAD — Seven protesters were killed Saturday in Iraq as security forces cleared protest sites in Baghdad and Basra after political leaders agreed to stand by the embattled government by any means.

The leaders, sources told AFP, also agreed to put an end to rallies rocking Iraq’s capital and its south since October 1 and demanding an overhaul of the political system. The crackdown began in the morning when security forces wrested back control from demonstrators of three bridges spanning the River Tigris in the capital of Baghdad.

Iraq forces then moved towards Tahrir (Liberation) Square, ground zero for the month-long movement demanding regime change, firing live rounds and tear gas. Three demonstrators died from bullet wounds and a fourth when a tear gas canister pierced his skull, medics and police sources told AFP.

Seven suspects arrested for rebel attacks in Thailand’s south

BANGKOK — Seven suspected rebels have been arrested in Thailand’s violence-wracked south, authorities said Saturday, as a manhunt sweeps through remote villages for gunmen who killed 15 in an ambush considered the deadliest attack in the yearslong insurgency.

Thailand’s three southernmost provinces have been in the grip of a simmering 15-year conflict that has killed more than 7,000 people, the majority civilians, as Malay-Muslim militants fight for more autonomy from the Thai state.

The fighting is characterised by tit-for-tat attacks that usually target symbols of the mostly Buddhist Thai state and its security forces. But Tuesday night’s ambush in Yala province was on two checkpoints manned by civilian defence volunteers — villagers trained and armed by the Thai state — which left 15 of both Buddhist and Muslim faith dead. — AFP
**Japanese inflation hits highest rate since 2012**

**BEIJING** — China’s consumer prices grew at their fastest rate in almost eight years in October driven by a spike in pork prices caused by an outbreak of African swine fever, according to official figures released Saturday.

The consumer price index (CPI) — a key gauge of retail inflation — hit 3.8 per cent last month, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said, up from 3.0 per cent in September and the highest annual rate since January 2012.

Analysts in a Bloomberg News poll had forecast a rate of 3.4 per cent.

Pork prices, the staple meat in China, have more than doubled in the past year, according to the NBS.

More than a million pigs have been culled due to the widespread outbreaks since African swine fever appeared in August 2018, according to official statistics, but that is widely considered to be an underestimate.

This, in turn, has also pushed up prices of other meats including beef, chicken, duck and eggs as consumers switch to other protein sources.

The spike has led the government to intervene to stabilise prices, according to official Xinhua news agency.

**Americans have more debt, need family help to buy homes: report**

**WASHINGTON** — Americans are waiting longer to buy their first homes, have more debt and more often need family help to make the purchase amid a supply crunch that is pushing up prices, according to a new data released Friday.

But African Americans and Hispanics continue to make up a very small share of homebuyers in the United States, far below their share of the population, according to National Association of Realtors report.

While low interest rates have made mortgages more accessible, and historically low unemployment means more Americans have a steady paychech, the influx of buyers combined with a shortage of workers means home-builders have not been able to keep up with demand.

The report shows the median sales price in September was up by 6.7% to $323,400 compared to $299,300 for all of 2018 and $197,100 five years earlier.

NAR has long highlighted the shortage of homes on the market but the report puts the implications of that problem in stark relief — AFP

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**Japanese inflation hits highest rate since 2012**

**BEIJING** — Japan is considering subsidising purchases of ultracompact electric vehicles to promote their use as an alternative to full-size cars amid an increase in traffic accidents involving elderly drivers, officials said Saturday.

The industry ministry is weighing a maximum allocation of around ¥1,000,000 (US$915) per purchase, the officials said, as the one-to-two-seater EVs are looked at as a way to provide Japan’s rapidly aging population with an easier and safer means of mobility, particularly in rural areas where public transport is limited.

Ultracompact EVs, which are smaller than normal automobiles, are considered easier to drive and are designed to travel at comparatively low speeds.

Drivers of ultracompacts require a regular driver’s license and are only permitted to use a limited number of public roads in the country.

But the transportation ministry is looking to relax regulations in the current fiscal year that ends in March to allow the vehicles to be driven on most public roads.

They are designed for use on short trips and are expected to play a key role in reducing the number of major accidents. — Kyodo News

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**Claim’s Day Notice**

**M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY. NO. (943S)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY. NO. (943S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-11-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: MS M/C TRANSPORT (S’PORE) LTD

Phone No: 2301185

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**Claim’s Day Notice**

**M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (036 N/S)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (036 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-11-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/T.M.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: MS NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LTD

Phone No: 2301185

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**Claim’s Day Notice**

**M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0185-515N/S)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0185-515N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-11-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: MS NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES LTD

Phone No: 2301185

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**Claim’s Day Notice**

**M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1110 S/N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1110 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-11-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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YANGON Government that had projects both in and at the outer rim of the city had posted all the projects in Yangon Project Bank. Of the 80 projects posted, one was an industrial zone by a Thai company in Dagon Myothit (East) and Dagon Myothit (South) townships.

It was also known from Myanmar Investment Commission that Thailand’s Amata Corporation Public Co., Ltd. was permitted to establish an industrial zone in Yangon Region Dagon Myothit (East) and Dagon Myothit (South) townships.

Ministry of Construction Department of Urban and Housing Development (DUHD) and Amata Smart and Eco City (YASEC), a subsidiaries of Amata Corporation Public Co., Ltd. was given to an industrial zone was submitted to Union level permission was granted. The project was implemented for implementation of Yangon Smart & Eco City project while YASEC will hold 80% of the land portion of the project and DUHD will hold 20% share based on the valuation agreement, DUHD will hold 20% share of the land lease period was 50 years extendable for another 10 years.

According to the framework agreement, DUHD will hold 20% share on the valuation of the land portion of the project while YASEC will hold 80% share with Amata making the financial investments.

At the signing ceremony of the framework agreement held at Yangon Region Government Office Mingalar Hall on 22 August 2019, Yangon Region Chief Minister thanked all relevant persons and entities toward their efforts and cooperation toward arriving at this stage and commented that the industrial zone project will provide opportunity not only for the development of Yangon and developers of the project but also to potential investors who want to invest in Yangon. Permission was granted for implementation of Yangon Smart & Eco City project only after full consideration was given toward the land situation, neighbourhood and surrounding situation, local’s socio economic situation, development and maintenance of natural greenery in the project area, road and water system etc.

Eco-Friendly green environment combined with modern technology

The project will include high technology with modern technology without affecting the natural surrounding said Amata Corporation Public Co., Ltd. Managing Director Mr Yasuo Tsutsui at the framework agreement signing ceremony.

The project will include high standard housing, education, healthcare, roads, transport and support facilities, parks and recreation areas, businesses and industries. Once the project was completed, it will provide quality employment opportunities for more than 30,000 youths. It’ll create regional and economic development in a balanced way.

Furthermore, the project will attract the entry of foreign businesses and investments. As Amata family includes numerous Global Fortune 500 (2018) companies that include Toyota Motors, Cardinal Health, BMW Group, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone, Nestle, Bosch Group, Hitachi, Sony, BASF, YPsis Co., Toyota Tsusui, Posco, Nippon Steel, Continental, Denso, Sumitomo, Mitsubishi Electric, Magna International, Mitsubushi Chemical, BridgeStone, Idemitsu Kosan and Sumitomo Electric, there’s a high possibility of such Global Fortune 500 companies entering into Myanmar through the industrial zone.

As the framework agreement was signed, necessary preparations were made toward implementing the project and a new Smart & Eco City will soon come into existence.

Translated by Handytips
Quantitative and qualitative development of YBS

the old network’s hundreds of lines to just 71 lines. In addition to this, modern brand new air-conditioned city buses were introduced.

The reduction of the old network’s hundreds of lines that were all going in a messy overlapping ways everywhere to a systematic combination of short haul routes that connect people within a district (several townships) and long haul routes that connect people from satellite towns to down town and major urban areas was a qualitative development received with a mix reaction by the public. As the change-over was to how every modern city’s bus systems were being operated all over the world, the positive reactions outweigh the negative reactions. The negative reaction was mainly due to the inconvenience faced whenever a new way of doing things was introduced.

The qualitative change over from outdated routes going in all direction to more systematic routes was made successfully with proper planning. But due to limited resources that include not only financial and technical resource but human resources which were the norm in most developing countries, much still need to be done for both qualitative and quantitative development of Yangon Bus Service. Lack of modern air conditioned city buses was the first reason for many old, outdated and inappropriate buses remaining in many routes.

In any modern cities of the world with modern city bus transport system, the city buses are owned by a single entity, a company, with bus drivers, conductors and support per-
Myanmar National Team to compete against Tajikistan for home match in Mandalay

AS qualifier for the 2022 FIFA World Cup, the Myanmar National Team and Tajikistan Team in the Asia Group F will compete against each other at the Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay on November 14.

Myanmar opened their Qatar 2022 campaign – just their fourth attempt to qualify for the World Cup – with three straight defeats. Narrow losses against Mongolia (1-0) and Japan (2-0) were followed by a crushing 7-0 loss against Kyrgyz Republic a fortnight ago.

Myanmar will seek to put their qualification ambitions back on track this month with home matches in Mandalay against Tajikistan and Mongolia.

Football in Myanmar has reached new levels of success in recent years having featured in the semi-finals of the 2016 AFF Championship and enjoyed a maiden appearance in a FIFA tournament at the 2015 U-20 World Cup. — Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Myanmar National Women’s Football Team to compete against Chinese women’s league champion Jiangsu Suning

THE Myanmar National Women’s Football Team, which is preparing for the SEA Games, held a training session at No. 5 Football Pitch at Taihu Football Center in Suzhou, Jiangsu Province, the People’s Republic of China, on the evening of 9 November.

The Myanmar National Women’s Football Team will play a seven-day friendly matches in China and compete against the Chinese women’s league champion Jiangsu Suning at 10:30 pm on November 10 (today).

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The Jiangsu Suning team are the champions of the 2019 Chinese Women Super League. – Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Chelsea up to second as Tottenham falter once more

LONDON — Chelsea beat Crystal Palace 2-0 to move up to second in the Premier League on Saturday, while Tottenham’s troubles continued with a 1-1 draw at home to Sheffield United.

League leaders Liverpool host Manchester City in a highly-anticipated clash between the champions of Europe and champions of England at Anfield on Sunday.

Chelsea took advantage of kicking off a day earlier to move a point ahead of City and close to within five of Liverpool with a patient performance to break down a defensively dogged Crystal Palace at Stamford Bridge. Tammy Abraham moved level with Leicester’s Jamie Vardy as the top scorer in the Premier League with 10 goals as the England striker pounced on a deft flick through by Willian seven minutes into the second half.

Christian Pulisic then secured all three points when the American headed home his fifth goal in his last three Premier League games.

“We won the game relatively comfortably,” said Chelsea boss Frank Lampard. “A nice, solid win with a clean sheet.”

Leicester can leapfrog Lampard’s men on goal difference and open up a nine-point gap between fourth and fifth with victory at home to Arsenal later on Saturday.

Tottenham, West Ham woe

Tottenham slipped to 12th and were lucky to even escape with a point as Sheffield United impressed once more to move up to fifth.

“The reality is that for different reasons we are not showing the performances that we expect,” said Spurs boss Mauricio Pochettino.

“We are not in a good position in the table.”

A rare defensive error from the Blades set up Son Heung-min to open the scoring with his eighth goal of the season just before the hour mark.— AFP

Klopp rules out move out for France superstar Mbappe

LONDON — French star Kylian Mbappe is out of Liverpool’s price range, the Premier League leaders manager and long-time admirer Jurgen Klopp says.

The 29-year-old Paris Saint Germain striker — who was instrumental in France’s lifting of the 2018 World Cup — has been linked with Real Madrid. This gathered momentum earlier in the week when Real’s coach Zinedine Zidane remarked that Mbappe had always said it was his dream to play for the Spanish side.

Klopp, speaking ahead of Sunday’s clash with second-placed Manchester City, had been keen to sign Mbappe in 2017 and met with the player and his entourage.

However, he opted to join PSG for £158 million (£202 million). PSG are seeking to extend his present contract and if they were reluctantly to allow him to leave are believed to want more than the record fee of £188 million they paid Barcelona for Neymar in 2017. “Buying this calibre of player is difficult,” Klopp was cited in Saturday’s The Times as saying. “I don’t see any club at the moment who can buy Kylian Mbappe from PSG.” — AFP

Christian Pulisic (centre) celebrates Chelsea’s second goal in a 2-0 win over Crystal Palace. PHOTO: AFP

Myanmar will seek to put their qualification ambitions back on track this month with home matches in Mandalay against Tajikistan and Mongolia. PHOTO: MFF
A drug dealer is an individual who sells or transports drugs of any type and quantity, illegally. They can be small-time dealers who sell small quantities to offset the cost of their own drug use, or they can be highly organized groups and businessmen with operations that run like a serious business. Drug traffickers can certainly get a lot of money but many bad outcomes. Many modern drugs include heroin, amphetamines, cannabis, ecstasy, cocaine, steroids and other new psychoactive substances.

The very early drug smuggling was carried out by American Mafia, the leader or godfather of which is Maranzano, around the 1950s. A Mexican, Miguel Angel Felix, became the first drug lord who controlled all of the drug trafficking in the corridors along the Mexico-United States border. Today, within global intercourse, drug dealing is becoming more and more popular and it fascinates many youths to become druggies and new drug dealers. Especially, people who do not believe their destiny and only want money are enjoying life by doing these illegal jobs. Of course, it can make them a lot of money. They cannot differentiate what happiness is and what bluff is. They are still thinking about their happiness by earning dirty money and fake smiles. Some kinds of pharmaceuticals containing drugs can be bought in local licensed pharmacies on admission. There is nowhere drugs can be used legally, but highly rich drug addicts use illegal drugs at home by dispensing a lot of money on local dirty cops. Drug barons procreate money to become their families rich by despoothing and annihilating sons and daughters of other innocent families. In other words, drug dealers or traffickers are like Draculas. Some small-time drug traffickers can be found in dark public areas, for examples, alleys beside the buildings and beneath small bridges throughout towns. They spend most of their life-time in criminal career. There is always a big boss drug dealer, who is holding the main rope, in every criminal drug case.

Some big drug dealers dominate the drug policy or laws by giving a share of the stock for drugs to local dirty governor, for example, drug lords and poppy farms of the Golden Triangle area in Southeast Asia. In Myanmar, local police forces and soldiers have destroyed many poppy farms in north and east Shan state, Kayin state and Kayar state. Local police are also arresting and jailing drug dealers and addicts. By organizing more and more criminal cases, drug dealers have no fear to do other worse things like taking ambitions of some other people and killing them. They pretend to be good persons and try to convert their dirty money to clean money by doing other good businesses. In these good fields with good people, they dare not tell their bad history of past life. Some of them make many donations and pretend to be philanthropists. They can acquire some merits by doing so, but their demerits ad sins are much much more than all these good things they are doing. They cannot put their ego aside and they do not also care their dignity. They cannot change their destiny with their money and they will be getting along with inferiority forever.

Precisely, the mind of drug dealers cannot be guessed because they are beasts who are always hunting for money. Their jobs and behaviours are completely contradictory to every religion and no deity can forgive them. All things considered, such bad people who are concerning drug trafficking and these illegal cases are not deserved to live as human beings in this world.

By Zaw Lu Htet  
Second M.B  
University of Medicine (2)
I read a lot. I shall work hard to get a degree. I shall also learn sewing in my spare time. However, my ambition is to be an artist like U Ngwe Gaing. I have known artists. I also love playing football. I shall spend most of my time drawing and painting. I shall also work very hard. I shall draw and paint in my spare time.

In summer I shall attend an art class at the Institute of Culture. I am interested in painting. My ambition is to be an artist like U Ngwe Gaing. I have known artists. I also love playing football. I shall spend most of my time drawing and painting. I shall also work very hard. I shall draw and paint in my spare time.

Exercises

Present Perfect Tense

1. She (not take) a bath for three days.
2. She (bathe) for nearly one hour now.
3. They (do) research work for six months.
4. He (just fall) asleep.
5. They (not fine) jobs yet.
6. She (not save) money since March.
7. I have been trying to join the swimming club since last year.
8. He (be) a lawyer for five years.
9. He (not have) a holiday since 1976.
10. She (be) busy since Friday.

ANSWERS

1. She has not taken a bath for three days.
2. She has been bathing for nearly one hour now.
3. They have been doing research work for six months.
4. He has just fallen asleep.
5. They have not found jobs yet.
6. She has not saved money since March.
7. He has been a lawyer for five years.
8. They have not found jobs yet.
9. She has not had a holiday since 1976.
10. She has been busy since Friday.
Wisdom is what is still left when all the lessons from schools are forgotten. I remember these words which I have read in a book. How many lessons are still left in our brains or what is left there? Do not we need to study other things again after we have already learned our school lessons? Why do not youths of today read books? Why do they assume smartphones are more interesting than books? In Myanmar which has a population of over 52 million, why is a book printed in the numbers that 500 copies when it happens to be published? There are so many questions which have been making me puzzled for ages.

A few years ago, I was in middle school as a Junior Assistant Teacher. The school was 10 miles away from the town but transportation was not easy. I encouraged some of my students who had passed the Grade IX to establish a library in the village. With the donations of books and cash from each student and their parents, it appeared a library. Already we had not studied library science, we had had the well-coordinated experience to implement the measures of a library. First, we collected books. After that, we built the building of the library. Therefore, I manage it to complete, we started hiring the books library. After all the preparations were completed, we started hiring the books to the school. The solution to my queries in the first paragraph dawned upon me. I became realized that people were not interested in reading books.

If the one who can read books does not read them, he is similar to the blind man, I have noted for long. Although people can read books, why do not they read them? Let us think about our childhood days. When we were young, we were forced to do our lessons only. When we read other books that were not the school textbooks, we were scolded by our parents and our teachers. When we could not recite our lesson by heart, we were punished with cane-beats. We were afraid of it a lot and so we did just our school lessons. The main cause was that we were not attached to the habit of reading books and our teachers and our parents did not make us attached to do so.

Now, it is my turn. We become the guides of the children. In other words, we become the architects who will the shape of humans. I do not want my children to encounter the happenings of my childhood days. I decided to establish a library at my school. There is no spare room for a library. Therefore, I manage it in a wide classroom. A partition about 10 feet is made at the opposite end of blackboard. I persuade my students explaining the benefit of reading daily. Whenever I get a chance to make a speech in the assembly ground, I explain it to all the students of the school. I also tell them about the well-known and famous people who became famous for reading books a lot. In the people whom I tell them, there include General Aung San, U Thant, U Ohn Pe, Ibrahim Lincoln, etc.

The measures of a library are various and I cannot implement it alone. I, therefore, ask for the aids of the teachers who have the same hobby as me. They also willingly give me an active hand. We can emphasize to develop the library and to gain the practices of reading of our students. We buy weekly and monthly journals and magazines for them. We make debates and also make them participate. We occasionally make discussions about books that have been read and share the knowledge with the others. When the students who always play in the recess get to be able to love the books, we let them hire the books to their houses.

W. Wordsworth said, “The Child is the father of the Man” in his well-known poem entitled “The Rainbow”. I want my children to be an adult who owns all-round development. This is my wish. Therefore, we have to concentrate on the children. Then, we have to concentrate on the schools where they are. We have to develop school libraries as resource centres nationwide. Reading habits must be nurtured from schools. This is not a dream but a must. I solemnly resolve.
Taunggyi hot air balloon festival marks end of rainy season

By Nat Ye Hla

The Tazaungdaing Festival, also known as the Festival of Lights and Tazaungdine Festival, held on the full moon day of Tazaungmon during the eighth month of the Myanmar calendar, is celebrated as a national holiday in Myanmar and marks the end of the rainy season. It is during the month of Tazaungmon when hot air balloons, lit with candles, along with fireworks, are seen in the skies. When it comes to the Tazaungdaing festival, Taunggyi’s hot-air balloon festival and competition is widely publicized in the media. It is also the annual gathering point for local and foreign photographers. Taunggyi’s hot-air balloon and fireworks competition reflect the unity of all ethnic people residing in Shan State, as they work in unison to celebrate the festival and competitions. Shan, Pa-O, Inntha, Danu and other ethnic people reside in Shan State.

The 2019 festival began on 4th November and continues until 12th November.

The origin of Taunggyi’s hot air balloon contest dates to 1894 when the British first held hot air balloon competitions in Taunggyi, soon after the annexation of Upper Myanmar. The huge balloons, made by teams and created in the shapes of animals, are the focal point of the Taunggyi festival. The activities begin every day in the early afternoon when teams release their balloons. The balloons reach an altitude of several hundred metres, after which their fireworks burst into an extraordinary, multicoloured shower – which lasts up to 15 minutes.

Brightly coloured balloons with hundreds of homemade fireworks woven into their frames are sent soaring into the night sky, showering cascades of sparks downwards onto enthralled crowds.

About 115 hot air balloons with fireworks will be released at night, along with some 280 released during the day.

A joyous festival attracts the throng of visitors.
This wedding invitation makes me angry.

Is it because you are still single?

They divorce a week later.

It’s an insult to those who came.

So what?

I lent money to give the wedding present.

Now that they divorce, I’m in debt for nothing!

Hey, aren’t you Maung Maung?

Yeah.

Don’t you recognize me? I’m Moe Moe.

We attended high school together.

You may not remember me because I’m so fat now.

I’ll refresh your memory.

Ok.

You proposed to me then. Do you remember now?

Yes! Glad to see you and thanks for not accepting my proposal.

Ump!
One of the Natural Wonders of the World

There are several wonders of the world. Some of them were made by man while some were formed by nature. The wonders formed by nature are known as the natural wonders of the world.

The followings are seven natural wonders of the world viz. Mount Everest, the Great Barrier Reef, the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro, Victoria Falls, the Northern Lights, Paricutin, and the Grand Canyon.

Situated in Arizona in the USA, the 277-mile long Grand Canyon is truly awe-inspiring. The canyon, which measures up to a mile deep and some 18 miles wide at its broadest, was formed over time by the unstoppable course of the Colorado River. Scientists estimate that the river first carved out its path more than 17 million years ago. In recent years, increased safety measures have prevented visitors from approaching the edge of the canyon. Still, the Grand Canyon site continues to be a popular tourist destination. A distant glimpse of this powerful and majestic canyon is enough to give memories of a lifetime.

From the top of the Grand Canyon, if one looks its downside, one will see the Colorado River as a tiny silver thread. Pieces of stones in the Grand Canyon are colorful. Although the original color of the Grand Canyon is brownish red, it becomes yellow, blue, green, brown, pink, etc. when the rays of the sun touch it. Therefore, it makes the Canyon the breath-taking scene. On each side of the Canyon, although many big blemishes are some distance apart, they seem like the treads of the staircase. The Colorado River flows through the rocky region in some parts of its watercourse but those rocks are not compensated by the water and they assume as old and ruined buildings. The most beautiful and peculiar region of the Grand Canyon is about 5 miles in length, and it is called The Grand Canyon National Park.

It was discovered by a Spanish named Cardinet in 1541. However, its news disappeared for about 300 years. In 1869, Major Powel and his nine colleagues got there again. It was so dangerous that there was no one to explore there. Now, the government of the United States is observing the techniques to construct a railroad across the Grand Canyon. There were two Myanmar old sayings: “If the mountain is huge, it gets under man’s foot” and “If the surf is huge, it gets under the boat”. According to those saying, the great barriers of that Canyon will not strongly resist the capacity of man.

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Physical exercises regularly, properly, patiently and systematically. Besides, students should play games in their free time. There are many games that students should play. Some of them are football, basketball and tennis. Besides, they should play some of our traditional games such as chin-lone and htoke-se-hote etc. Walking is also the best exercise for good health. Taking a walk in the early morning is very refreshing. Walking is easy and convenient for all students. It is a support for good health and costless exercise. One more noticeable thing for good health is cleanliness. Personal hygiene is also essential for all students to be healthy. If a student is not clean, he will suffer from harmful diseases. So, he must keep his body clean and wear his clean clothes. We should take a bath at least once a day. Washing our hands properly will prevent from serious diseases. There is an expression that “Preventions is better than cure”. Therefore, we must prevent spreading of several very serious diseases by keeping ourselves, our homes and our surroundings clean. Good health gives us everything we wanted. So, losing health is losing everything such as wealth, wisdom, education, grace and glow.

In summing up, only a healthy student can create a successful life not only for his family but also for his beloved country. Students who are good, bright and healthy are more important than any other in the world because the future and development of a country depend on its students. We students should maintain good health. Maintaining good health is like maintaining wealth. Therefore, good health is really an invaluable wealth. For the reasons mentioned above, all students should have good health.
Why students should have good health

By Thihla Lwin
Diploma in Business English (City of Oxford College, UK)

There is a saying that health is the greatest gift to mankind and it is better than wealth. It can neither be bought nor sold nor given to us by anyone as a present or gift. So everyone should keep this gift carefully. Besides, it is the greatest gift that students should value. Students of today are leaders of tomorrow. For a student, health is very important. If he is not healthy, he will not be able to do well in his studies. He must take adequate rest during the day and sound sleep at night. A student who is full of energy and full of health will surely break down.

Taking adequate rest, students can gain the strength which they have used up. Taking rest is like recharging a battery for the next day. If a student is healthy, he can do more works and he can learn more. But if he falls ill, he will not achieve his success in examinations. If he is healthy, he can do more works and he can learn more.

Health diseases and even death. So, they are harmful to us. Secondly, we should take enough rest during the day and sound sleep at night. For a student, he will surely break down.

By taking adequate rest, students can gain the strength which they have used up. Taking rest is like recharging a battery for further use. That is an instance of the fact that all students should take a rest to get the energy that they have lost. Lastly, students should take care of themselves. They are physical health and mental health. The meaning of physical health is the well-being of the body. It is not difficult to be healthy for a student if he does some healthy habits.

There are two kinds of health generally. They are physical health and mental health. The meaning of physical health is the well-being of the body. It is not difficult to be healthy for a student if he does some healthy habits.

There are some important practices that students should follow to keep themselves healthy. Firstly, students should eat nutritious food such as meat, fish, eggs, milk, fruits, and vegetables which contain proteins and vitamins. Fresh fruits and vegetables make us strong and healthy. But, we must avoid not only over-eating but also a reverse. We should drink pure water. If we cannot get any pure water for a day, we should drink boiled water.

Water is one of the most unhealthy. Therefore, pure water is one of the most important things, the major constituent of our body. We should avoid not only drinking alcoholic and smoking but also using narcotic drugs which can cause cancer, health diseases and even death. So they are harmful to us. Secondly, we should take enough rest during the day and sound sleep at night. For a student, he will surely break down. By taking adequate rest, students can gain the strength which they have used up. Taking rest is like recharging a battery for further use. That is an instance of the fact that all students should take a rest to get the energy that they have lost. Lastly, students should take care of themselves. They are physical health and mental health. The meaning of physical health is the well-being of the body.