President U Win Myint receives Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Wang Yi

State Counsellor, Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Wang Yi hold bilateral talks

President U Win Myint receives State Counsellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr Wang Yi at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw at 4.30 pm yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

PRESIDENT U Win Myint received a delegation from the People’s Republic of China led by State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr. Wang Yi at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw at 4.30 pm yesterday.

At the call, cordial discussions centered on further promotion of Myanmar-China friendly relations and cooperation, broader bilateral cooperation in the development programs of both countries based on the Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received a delegation from the People’s Republic of China led by State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr. Wang Yi at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw at 3.10 pm yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr Wang Yi at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the call, both sides cordially discussed further promotion of fraternal relations and cooperation, closer cooperation in the regional and international arenas and cementing of people-to-people relations between the two countries.

SEE PAGE-3

"We guarantee the product is made from natural true tea"

"Authentic taste of tea, enjoy Shwe Phe Oo Teamix "

Enjoy Refreshing Taste With Shwe Phe Oo
President U Win Myint receives Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Wang Yi

FROM PAGE-1

holding of the 70th anniversary diplomatic relations between the two countries which falls in 2020 on a grand-scale, relaxation of trade policies in the interest of the peoples of both countries, increase in volume and number of items in bilateral trade, greater effectiveness in implementing the projects in connection with Myanmar-China economic corridor and border cooperation zone under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and closer bilateral cooperation in regional and global affairs.

Also present at the call were Union Ministers U Thaung Tun, U Han Zaw and U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Minister U Aung Htoo and officials. The Chinese Foreign Minister was accompanied by the vice foreign minister, the Chinese ambassador, and high level officials.—MNA

(Translated by TMT)

UNION Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe hosted a dinner for the delegation led by State Counsellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of People’s Republic of China Mr Wang Yi at the Shwesanein Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and officials of MOFA attended the dinner.

The Chinese delegation was accompanied by Chinese Ambassador Mr Chen Hai.

Before the dinner, Union Minister U Han Zaw and Vice Chairman of the International Development Cooperation Agency Mr Deng Boqing signed an MoU to donate 1000 prefabricated homes for Rakhine State by China and exchanged the documents in the presence of Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe and State Counsellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of People’s Republic of China Mr Wang Yi.

Then, Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe hosted a dinner for the delegation led by State Counsellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr Wang Yi. —MNA

(Translated by TMT)

MoU to donate 1000 assemble homes for Rakhine State by China was signed and the documents were exchanged in the presence of Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe and Chinese Foreign Minister Mr Wang Yi.
State Counsellor, Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Wang Yi hold bilateral talks

Also present at the call were Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe and Chinese Ambassador Mr Chen Hai.

After the call, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Wang Yi took part in the Myanmar-China bilateral talks.

At the meeting discussions focused on the observance of the 70th anniversary diplomatic relations and establishment of comprehensive strategic relations, soonest implementation of Myanmar-China economic corridor, implementation of border economic cooperation zone projects through effective means and multi-sectoral cooperation involving cultural, transport and electricity sectors.

Also present at the bilateral talks were Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Min Thu, U Thaung Tun, U Han Zaw and U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Ministers U Kyaw Myo and U Aung Htoo and officials. The State Counsellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of China was accompanied by the vice foreign minister of China, the Chinese ambassador and high-level officials. —MNA

(Translated by TMT)

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe observes the vaccine management at National Cold Chain and Vaccine Management Resource Centre in New Delhi on 3 December. PHOTO: MNA

GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance Board Retreat Meeting was held in New Delhi, India on 4 and 5 December, attended by Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe, a member of the Board.

Speaking at the meeting, the Union Minister discussed the review of financial aid policy of Gavi and future funds, test injection of anti-malarial drugs in African countries, tactics and strategies to be implemented in the mid-income level countries, anti-Ebola programme in African countries and means for the greater effectiveness of tactics and strategies to be adopted for developing countries during the period from 2021 to 2025.

On 3 December, he studied vaccines cold chain and vaccine management at National Cold Chain and Vaccine Management Resource Centre at National Institute of Health and Welfare.

Gavi provided over USD 116 million for vaccination program of the Ministry of health and Sports from 2012 to 2017. It has already allotted an aid of over USD 123 million for providing vaccines, giving new types of vaccines, mass vaccination campaigns, vaccines cold chain optimization platform and health system promotion.—MNA

(Translated by TMT)
PRIVATE Sector Development Committee Chairman Vice President U Myint Swe who is in Taninthayi Region Myeik Town attended the opening ceremony of the Taninthayi Region Investment Forum 2019 Exhibition and addressed the Taninthayi Region Investment Forum 2019.

He attended the opening ceremony of the Taninthayi Region Investment Forum 2019 Exhibition held at Sea View Condo, Myeik yesterday morning.

The ceremony was opened by the Vice President, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myint Maung, Deputy Ministers U Sett Aung and U Kyaw Lin, Region minister for planning and finance Daw Yi Yi Cho cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

Next, the Vice President took commemorative photos with attendees and inspected the exhibits in the Taninthay Region Investment Forum 2019 Exhibition. He then attended the Taninthay Region Investment Forum 2019 held at the Pearl Thanda Hôtel. Dance entertainments were first performed and Taninthay Region Investment Forums 2019 was started with the Vice President striking the Mingala Golden Gong three times.

In addressing the forum the Vice President said investment forums had been held in states and regions and the day’s investment forum was the first to be held in Taninthay Region. Holding investment forums states and regions wise exposes the specific economic benefit and strength of the respective state and region. State/region products were promoted and investors get to know the investment opportunities in the state/region.

Furthermore the forum would create opportunities for the region’s micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and interested investors to establish contact. 

Taninthay Region is at the southern most part of Myanmar covering 43,328 sq. km. and according to the 2014 Census, had a population of more than 1.4 million. On the east and south is Thailand, north is Mon State and the west is Andaman Sea placing the region in an economically important location.

The main products of Taninthay Region were natural pearl, cultured pearl, aquatic products, rubber, palm oil and bird nest. Mining was also a major business or work in the region. Furthermore, it had numerous beaches and islands and nature based travel business was playing a main and important role in the region’s development. There were also many possibilities of producing high-value and value-added products in Taninthay Region.

As of October 2019, 44 foreign investors had invested US$ 2,385 million in Taninthay Region. 71 local investments had invested US$ 233.96 million (K 282,326.163 million). Most investments were in the energy, hotel and tourism, building construction and agriculture sector.

Myanmar as a member country of ASEAN had pledged to implement the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC-2025) and had to strive towards establishing regional integration through inter-personal and basic infrastructure connectivity.

Taninthay Region being the western most gate of Greater Mekong was situated in an important position to connect to the Southern Economic Corridor, Middle East and India. Private sector and development partner organizations are urged to firmly grasp these opportunities, cooperate and work hand in hand with Myanmar for socio-economic development of Taninthay Region. In World Bank Ease of Doing Business Ranking for 2020, Myanmar had risen to 165 from last year’s ranking of 171. Aims to increase Myanmar’s Ease of Doing Business Ranking were included in the Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan (MIPP).

Of the 10 indices set to measure Ease of Doing Business, Myanmar had progressed significantly in Dealing with Construction Permits, Protecting Minority Investors, Registering Property and Enforcing Contracts and was included in the 20 most progressive countries. Relevant ministerial departments and organizations were cooperating for significant progress in other indices.

The Myanmar Investment Law and the Myanmar Company Law are the foundations in creating a business environment that supports investors. The Myanmar Investment Law can be seen as including enactments that were important for responsible investment. The Myanmar Investment Commission aims to invite and permit responsible investments that would not affect the natural and social environment. Establishment of the electronic company registration system known as MyCO allows effective and fast company registration via online as well as using digital system for all works related to a company.

**Vice President U Myint Swe delivers the opening speech at the Taninthay Region Investment Forum 2019 yesterday. PHOTO: MNA**

**Vice President U Myint Swe opens the Taninthay Region Investment Forum 2019 at the Sea View Condo in Myeik yesterday. PHOTO: MNA**
Vice President U Myint Swe addresses Taninthayi Region Investment Forum 2019

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The ministry was also amending procedures that were causing difficulties for investors to do business while stages or levels to do things were being amended and reduced step by step. The government was drawing up and implementing MIPP for the country’s development. MIPP was drawn up with the aim of achieving an equal and prosperous social environment and a balanced development by promoting responsible investments. MIPP will be reviewed every five years to be in line with the country’s economic aims and policies.

The Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) has been drawn up with the aim of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The plan places emphasis on the importance of the private sector in creating responsible investment through the cooperation of government entities and the private sector. The government was working towards a balanced socio-economic development and natural environment development.

In addition to this Myanmar Private Sector Development Framework an Action Plan has been drawn up for private sector development in Myanmar. The framework and action plan encompasses “improving legal and procedural environment,” “works for obtaining financing,” “support and increase trade and investment,” “re-drawing the State’s role in trade and service sector,” and “creating basic human resources.”

“While relaxation and reforms were conducted to ease procedures for investment countrywide, Taninthayi Region, located in an economically strategic location with improved roads and communications, had enabled investors to easily invest in this region,” said Vice President U Myint Swe.

Much thanks is owed to the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, the Myanmar Investment Commission, Taninthayi Region government, Taninthayi Region Investment Commission, and Directorate of Investment and Company Administration for successfully organizing the Taninthayi Region Investment Forum 2019 and Myanmar Investors Development Association (MIDA) and DaNa Khin Maung Aye also explained about the aims of holding this investment forum.

The morning session of the forum was concluded after the Vice President and forum attendees have taken a commemorative group photo.

In the afternoon session discussions on strategic investment status and works conducted towards increasing investment in Taninthayi Region, all inclusive businesses, responsible investment, sector wise investment opportunities, economic corridors, regional connectivity and sector wise investment opportunities, MIDA projects in Taninthayi Region, economic environment and investment opportunities in Taninthay Region were held and business matching was conducted. This forum will be held until 8 December. Later in the evening Vice President U Myint Swe left Myeik for Yangon by air.

The forum was attended by Peace Commission Chairman Dr Tin Myo Win, Region Chief Minis ter U Myint Maung, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Maung Aye, Region Chief Justice U Tin Aung, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Thu, Dr Tun Naing, U Sett Aung and U Kyaw Lin, Region ministers, Region Advocate, Region Auditor, Region Hluttaw representatives, ambassadors and diplomats, Permanent Secretaries, directors general, economists, local and foreign business persons, invited guests and officials.

— MNA

(Translated by Zau Min)

Myanmar-Thai lands bilateral trade drops $14.3 mln this FY

Myanmar-Thailand bilateral trade, as of 22 November in fiscal 2019-2020, reached US$479.3 million, down $14.35 million from the corresponding period in 2018-2019, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

From 1 October to 22 November, the country’s exports to Thailand totaled $316.8 million, while imports were recorded at $162.5 million. From the same period last FY, bilateral trade totaled $493.7 million, with $335.6 million in exports and $138.05 million in imports.

Myanmar conducts trade with neighboring Thailand via maritime routes, as well as border points of entry. In border trade, goods are delivered mainly through seven border gates, including Tachileik, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Htikhee, Mawtaung, and Maese.

Myanmar’s main export items are fishery products, such as crab, fish and shrimp, as well as onions, sesame, dry tea leaves, coconut and turmeric. Consumer goods, including cosmetic machinery, food products, agricultural equipment and trucks are imported into the country from Thailand.

The country is also trading with its neighbouring countries, China, India and Bangladesh. From the Sino-Myanmar border trade is through the Muse, Lweje, Kanpiketee, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung gates, while Myanmar is carrying out border trade with India via Tamu and Reed. The country’s border trade gates with Bangladesh are Sittway and Maungtaw.

Trade through the border gates, as of 22 November this FY, totaled over $1.42 billion, which increased by $312.8 million more than last year.—Zwe (Translated by Hay Mar)

Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Wang Yi arrives in Nay Pyi Taw

A delegation from the People’s Republic of China led by State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr Wang Yi arrived in Nay Pyi Taw at 2.50 pm yesterday by special flight.

The delegation was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Union Minister U Kyaw Tin, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai and officials at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr Wang Yi being welcomed by Union Minister U Kyaw Tin, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai and officials at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

A delegation from the People’s Republic of China led by State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Mr Wang Yi arrived in Nay Pyi Taw at 2.50 pm yesterday by special flight.

The delegation was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Union Minister U Kyaw Tin, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai and officials.

Later, the delegation led by the State Councilor and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC arrived at Kempinski Hotel where they will stay during the visit.— MNA

(Translated by TMT)
Mega Ace opened royal class Cineplex at Times City in Yangon

MEGA Ace company opened a royal class Cineplex at Times City in Kamayut in the western sector of Yangon on 7 December.

The royal class Cineplex guarantees international level images, sound system and cinematic effects for the audience alongside the quality services for their satisfaction. It will screen both Myanmar and foreign movies during the time between 10 am and 8 pm. Till now, Mega Ace has opened nine cinemas with a total of 23 screens in Yangon and other towns. It will open more modern cinemas in the future. Officials after formally opening the Cineplex watched a movie. Over five years ago in 2014, Myanmar produced only nine movies. But the number of yearly released movies increased to 32 in 2015 and 96 in 2016. The number jumped to 158 in 2017, but slightly fell back to 133 in 2018. As for 2019, the country has released 94 movies till now. Myanmar now has 171 cinemas, with a total of 195 screens, up from 19 cinemas and 19 screens in 2013.—Min Thit (MNA)

(Translated by TMT)

10 killed, 29 injured in Yangon bus accidents in two months of 2019

TEN people were killed, while 29 others were injured, in 38 Yangon Bus Service accidents in October and November 2019, said U Hla Aung, the joint secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

“Under the supervision of the Yangon region government, about 1,500 card payment systems have been made ready to be installed on buses. Five days ago, coordinations were held between the bus companies and Asia Starner. We are to enter into contracts within a week, if it is possible. Then, we will implement the project,” said U Hla Aung.

More than 1,500 buses will receive e-ticketing machines in the initial stage, he added.

Payment card (YPS) machines will be installed on 500 buses during the time between 10 am and 8 pm. Till now, Mega Ace has opened nine cinemas with a total of 23 screens in Yangon and other towns. It will open more modern cinemas in the future.

Officials after formally opening the Cineplex watched a movie. Over five years ago in 2014, Myanmar produced only nine movies. But the number of yearly released movies increased to 32 in 2015 and 96 in 2016. The number jumped to 158 in 2017, but slightly fell back to 133 in 2018. As for 2019, the country has released 94 movies till now. Myanmar now has 171 cinemas, with a total of 195 screens, up from 19 cinemas and 19 screens in 2013.—Min Thit (MNA)

(Translated by TMT)

YANGON BUS SERVICE ACCIDENTS

10killed, 29 injured in Yangon bus accidents in two months of 2019

By Neyin Neyin

A card payment system will be installed on Yangon Bus Service buses this month, said U Hla Aung, the joint secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

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(Translated by TMT)
Black cumin being grown in Magway villages due to high demand from abroad

BLACK cumin (black sesame) is being grown in many villages in Natmauk, Yenangyoung, and Salin townships of Magway region on account of strong demand from abroad.

“This time last year, farmers began cultivating some crops on their land. This year, we will grow black cumin instead of other crops because it is highly demanded abroad, and it sells well in the local market, too,” said a local grower from Yenangyoung Township.

“We are growing more black cumin this year because it can be exported to China and Japan. Moreover, black cumin is being used as an edible crop at oil mills and as a raw product to make traditional medicines. So, it has a good market both locally and abroad,” said Kyi Khine, a local grower.

The price of black cumin ranges between K70,000 and K80,000 per basket, according to the local edible oil market. “Sesame is usually grown in the monsoon and winter seasons in Yenangyoung. Now, the price of sesame has increased because of high demand in both local and foreign markets. There are a total of 43,977 acres under monsoon sesame, 747 acres under winter sesame, and 1,061 acres under summer sesame in Yenangyoung Township,” according to the Township Agriculture Department. —Hsan Nyount (Yenangyoung) (Translated by Hay Mar)

NRPC meets AGIPP in Yangon

OFFICIALS of the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) met with members of the Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process (AGIPP) at the NRPC in Yangon at 2 pm yesterday. Director-General of Ministry of the State Counsellor’s Office U Zaw Htay, member of the Advisory Committee of the Peace Commission U Moe Zaw Oo, Leader of the Peace Process Steering Team (PPST) U Aye Lwin, member of PPST U Maung Maung Aye and officials attended the meeting. Chairwoman of AGIPP Daw May Sabe Phyu and members Nan Phyu Phyu Lin, Nan Pu, Daw Thanda Oo, Mi Cherry Soe, Bansai Bu, U Min Thu-ra and U Kyaw Min Aung also took part in the meeting. At the meeting, AGIPP presented suggestions on matters relating to children, women, peace and security, and NRPC gave back constructive response.

As regards the discussions, AGIPP Daw May Sabe Phyu said, “Here, we expressed our worries for the homecoming displaced persons and the suggestions for the national strategy approved by the government in office. Another point is our suggestions for the challenges and problems resulting from sexual violence in the conflicts and the government responses. As regards the point, we have had frank discussions with the officials.” Founded in 2014, AGIPP has partner organizations including Gender and Development Institute (GDI), Gender Equality Network (GEN), Kachin State Women’s Network (KSWN), Mon Women’s Network (MWN), Nyein Foundation, Women’s Organizations Network (WON) and Women’s Peace Activity Network (WAN).—Ye Khang Nyunt (Translated by TMT)
Always look to the future, for Myanmar’s best days lie ahead

YANMAR has witnessed extraordinary economic and social development during the past few years, and GDP growth is forecast at 4.4 per cent for 2020, placing us amongst the fastest growing economies in the region and, by extension, the world.

Despite this progress, it is evident that substantial challenges remain. Studies show that one-third of our people remain highly vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Six in every ten children who begin first grade drop out before the end of middle school, while vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Six in every ten children who remain. Studies show that one-third of our people remain highly vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Six in every ten children who remain. Studies show that one-third of our people remain highly vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Six in every ten children who remain. Studies show that one-third of our people remain highly vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Six in every ten children who remain. Studies show that one-third of our people remain highly vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Six in every ten children who remain. Studies show that one-third of our people remain highly vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Six in every ten children who remain. Studies show that one-third of our people remain highly vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Six in every ten children who remain.

In the procedure of altera-
tion, the company must follow the format of rules and regu-
lations laid down by the Myan-
mar Companies Law. The company must not forget to file this alteration document with the Registrar of Companies Administration Office within 28 days from the date of pass-
ing of the Special resolution to amend the said part of the constitution. And the Registrar shall register the same and a certificate shall be given as a conclusive evidence that all the requirements to the alteration have been carried out by the company in conformity with the Myanmar Companies Law. Until and unless this certificate that is issued by the Registrar is being received by the company, there can be the company be able to adopt the altered constitution as enshrined by law at last.

If, when an alteration has been made to the constitution of the company, it shall at any time after the date of alteration must issue any copy of the constitu-
tion which are in accordance with the altered constitution. Failing it, it shall be liable to a fine of kyats 1,000,000/- for every copy so issued, and every di-
rector or other officer of the company knowingly and wilfully in default shall be liable to the same penalty.

Nowadays, Myanmar has opened up its economy to foreign investors to come to Myanmar to invest in the recently establish-
ed economic zones, which provide favourable incentives to foreign investors. Likewise, local companies are also attract-
ed to the new prospects of the economic zones and followed suit, so that the number of total companies have risen up to the vicinity of about 60,000 in all. With this huge number of compa-

cies operating in the different spheres of Myanmar business sectors, there found to be diffi-
culty for the Directorate of companies Administration to keep the All companies in a fairly good order, more or less some loopholes in proper check-
ing would lead to the stockpile of unfinished company cases which are not in conformity with the Myanmar Companies Law, this would certainly create a problem of big magnitude in future and shall waste the un-
necessary time to race against time to make good the mistakes.

The integration of voices from civil society and private sector into our development efforts will be crucial to implementing our MSDP, to achieving the SDGs, and to leaving no one behind, as we do so.

Certificate for filing from the Registrar on Alteration of company constitution.

By Win Sein

The Global New Light of Myanmar
Marine life under threat from plummeting oxygen levels

MADRID (Spain) — The loss of oxygen from the ocean due to climate change risks “dire effects” on sea life, fisheries and coastal communities, a global conservation body said Saturday.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) said that around 700 sites had been identified globally with low oxygen levels — up from only 45 in the 1960s.

In the same period, the group warned, the volume of anoxic waters — areas totally devoid of oxygen — have quadrupled.

The ocean absorbs around a quarter of all fossil fuel emissions, but as global energy demand continues to grow there are fears that the world’s seas will eventually reach saturation point.

Oceans are expected on current trends to lose 3.0-4.0 per cent of their oxygen globally by 2100.

However, most of that loss is predicted to be in the upper 1,000 metres, that is the richest part of the ocean for biodiversity.

“This with this report, the scale of damage climate change is wreaking upon the ocean comes into stark focus,” said IUCN acting director Grethel Aguilar.

“As the warming ocean loses oxygen, the delicate balance of marine life is thrown into disarray.”

The largest peer-reviewed study to date on ocean oxygen loss concluded that deoxygenation is already altering the balance of marine life to the detriment of species that need more of the life-giving gas.

Species such as tuna, marlin and sharks — many of which are already endangered — are particularly sensitive to low oxygen levels due to their large size and energy demands.

But loss of oxygen is affecting species across the food chain. The biomes that support a fifth of the world’s current fish catch are formed by ocean currents that bring oxygen poor water to coastlines.

“These areas are especially vulnerable to even tiny variations in oxygen levels.

“Impacts here will ultimately ripple out and affect hundreds of millions of people,” the IUCN said.

This group this year issued a landmark assessment of the world’s natural habitats, concluding starkly that human activity was threatening up to one million species with extinction.

Ocean life is already battling warmer temperatures, rampant overfishing and plastic pollution.

The World Meteorological Organization this week said that due to man-made emissions growth, the ocean is now 26 per cent more acidic than before the Industrial Revolution. — AFP

Australia braces for heatwave as more than 100 fires burn

SYDNEY (Australia) — Out of control bushfires forced residents in eastern Australia to flee their homes on Saturday, as other parts of the country braced for a heatwave due next week.

Bushfires are common in the country but scientists say this year’s season has come earlier and with more intensity due to a prolonged drought and climatic conditions fuelled by global warming.

Scorching temperatures have tipped above 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) close to where a fire was burning on the outskirts of Brisbane in Queensland state, with residents in three suburbs told to "leave immediately."

“Conditions are now very dangerous and firefighters may soon be unable to prevent the fire advancing,” the Queensland Fire Authorities warned. “The fire may pose a threat to all lives directly in its path.”

A shipping container full of fireworks exploded as the fire raged, authorities said. There were no immediate reports of injuries from the explosion.

More than 100 fires were burning across Australia’s east Saturday, including a "mega fire" burning north of Sydney.

After combining with other bushfires Friday the huge blaze is now under control but continued to burn across 250,000 hectares.

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The World Meteorological Organization this week said that due to man-made emissions growth, the ocean is now 26 per cent more acidic than before the Industrial Revolution. — AFP

Sonny Bill Williams heads fundraiser for families of Samoa epidemic

APIA (Samoa) — New Zealand sports star Sonny Bill Williams is heading a public fund-raising effort for families affected by the Samoa measles epidemic, as the death toll rose Saturday to 65.

The Samoa Ministry of Health said there were two further fatalities in the past 24 hours amid signs that the infection rate was slowing. Williams — a double rugby union World Cup winner with the All Blacks, and a former rugby league international and New Zealand boxing champion — has teamed up with other prominent sportsmen to promote the “Alofa mo Samoa” Givealittle page. “Our hearts are heavy and hurting at this time for our people in Samoa,” says the givealittle page set up by the group of past and present All Blacks including Williams, Jerome Kaino, Ardie Savea, Michael Jones and former Wallaby Quade Cooper. “Please join us in donating money that will go straight to the immediate families who have suffered loss of a loved one as a result of this terrible measles outbreak”.

Williams separately tweeted that the group had started the fund with a NZ$30,000 donation (US$20,000).

There had been 4,660 confirmed measles cases in Samoa since the outbreak began in mid-October, and 57 of the 65 deaths were children under the age of five. The Ministry of Health said 103 new measles cases were reported over the past 24 hours which was 37 fewer than the previous day and down from 165 the day before that. — AFP

New Zealand sports star Sonny Bill Williams. PHOTO: AFP
Stock markets power ahead on strong US jobs data

NEW YORK (United States) — Strong US jobs numbers gave global stock markets a shot in the arm on Friday, providing fresh evidence for the rude health of the world’s top economy.

The Labor Department reported that the US economy added 266,000 net new jobs in November, vastly higher than market expectations of around 180,000, taking the unemployment rate to 3.5 per cent.

In addition, the previous month’s numbers were revised up. “It’s not only hard to find any weakness but hard to find anything that isn’t strong,” XTB analyst David Cheetham said of the jobs report which he called “all around stellar.”

European equity markets promptly extended earlier gains, with some up well over one per cent at the close, as the news of American economic strength outweighed concerns about a plunge in German October industrial output. Major US indices gained about one per cent, finishing higher for the third session in a row. The dollar also powered ahead against the euro and pound.

China CITIC Bank approved to set up wealth management company

BEIJING — China CITIC Bank, a major commercial lender, has gained approval from China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CBIRC) to set up a wealth management company.

The wealth management unit will be established with a registered capital of no more than 5 billion yuan ($711.2 million) of other business units, according to the guidelines. — Xinhua

China’s PV product exports up 32.3 pct in first 10 months

BEIJING — China posed strong growth in exports of photovoltaic (PV) products in the first 10 months of this year, up 32.3 per cent year on year.

Exports of PV products amounted to 17.74 billion U.S. dollars, surpassing the whole volume of 2018, according to the China Photovoltaic Industry Association.

Total PV installations surpassed 190 gigawatts in the first three quarters, while the figure is expected to exceed 200 gigawatts by the end of this year, said Wang Bohua, secretary-general of the association.

China is taking the lead in PV development globally, with an internationally competitive and complete industrial chain. By the end of 2020, renewable energy will supply 1.9 trillion kilowatt-hours of electricity, which is 27 per cent of total power generation, according to the government’s 2016-2020 plan for renewable energy. — Xinhua

Saudi Armaco shares to start trading on 11 December

RIYADH (Saudi Arabia) — Saudi Armaco shares will start trading domestically next Wednesday, the Riyadh stock exchange said, after the energy giant raised $25.6 billion in the world’s biggest IPO.

Armaco on Thursday priced its initial public offering at 32 riyals ($8.53) per share, the high end of the target range, surpassing the $25 billion raised by Chinese retail giant Alibaba in its 2014 Wall Street debut.

“The Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul) announces that the listing and trading of the Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Armaco) will start on Wednesday,” the bourse said in a statement Friday.

Armaco shares will trade within a fluctuation limit of plus or minus 10 per cent, the statement added. Armaco said the sale of 1.5 per cent of the firm, the bedrock of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman’s ambitious strategy to overhaul the oil-reliant economy, was oversubscribed nearly 17 times.

Armaco will sell three billion shares, and the company said Friday it could exercise a “green shoe” option, selling additional shares to bring the total raised up to $29.4 billion.

The market launch puts the oil behemoth’s value at $1.7 trillion, far ahead of other firms in the trillion-dollar club, including Apple and Microsoft. But the scaled-down IPO is still a far cry from the blockbuster originally planned by Prince Mohammed.

The much-delayed stock sale, first announced in 2016, was initially expected to raise as much as $100 billion from the sale of up to five percent of the company.

Its plans to raise additional funds by listing on a major international market are also on hold.

The IPO is a crucial part of Prince Mohammed’s plan to wean the economy away from oil by pumping funds into megaprojects and non-energy industries such as tourism and entertainment.

But sceptics say the IPO’s proceeds would barely cover the kingdom’s budget deficit for a year. The IPO was heavily foisted on Saudi and other Gulf traders. International investors have remained sceptical about the secretive company’s targeted valuation, even though it fell short of Prince Mohammed’s desired figure of $2 trillion. —AFP

Mitsubishi Electric worker investigated over suicide of recruit

KOBÉ (Japan) — An employee of Mitsubishi Electric Corp. has been referred to prosecutors for allegedly abetting suicide after one of the company’s recruits killed himself in August, company and other sources said Saturday.

The Nov. 14 referral of the 25-year-old recruit who had committed suicide. was oversubscribed nearly 17 times.

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PARIS (France) — The most serious nationwide strike to hit France in years caused new weekend travel turmoil on Saturday, with unions warning the walkouts would last well into next week.

The challenge thrown to President Emmanuel Macron over his plans for radical pension reform has seen hundreds of thousands take to the streets and key transport services brought to a standstill.

The strikes, which began on Thursday, have recalled the winter of 1995, when three weeks of huge stoppages forced a social policy U-turn by then-government.

Unions have vowed a second series of mass demonstrations nationwide on Tuesday after big rallies on Thursday and said it is expected to be little easing of the transport freezes over the coming days.

The strikes could prove to be the biggest domestic challenge yet for Macron, who came to power in 2017 on the back of promises to radically reform France and has sought a prominent place in the international stage as Europe’s number one statesman.

Macron was widely believed to have ridden out the challenge posed by the “yellow vests” whose weekly Saturday protests against inequality in France had shaken the government over the last year.

But the yellow vests have also sought to utilise the momentum of the strike movement and are expected to hold protests across France this Saturday.

Government stands firm

With Macron seeking for now to rise above the fray, Prime Minister Edouard Philippe insisted that the government would not abandon the plan even if it was prepared to bring it in more gradually.

He said the government would work with trade unions to introduce a single points-based pension scheme that would require the French to “work a bit longer” and replace dozens of more advantageous plans currently enjoyed by public-sector workers.

But the premier emphasised that the changes, which he said would be unveiled on Wednesday, were going to be introduced “progressively, without harshness”.

The SNCF rail operator has warned that disruption at the weekend will be at the same level as the last two days with just 10-15 percent of high-speed and regional trains running.

The Paris metro will remain severely disrupted with nine lines entirely shut, five only partially and just the driverless 1 and 14 lines working normally.

Many cancellations are also expected on the international Eurostar and Thalys services.

Air travel, which has been less impacted by the strikes, was returning closer to normal with air traffic restrictions now dropped by civil aviation authorities. — AFP

SANTIAGO (Chile) — Protesters clashed with police as thousands took to the streets of Santiago to wave flags, sing and dance in a show of opposition President Sebastian Pinera’s conservative government.

Protesters held up a huge Chilean flag with a closed eye, a symbol of the 300 people who have suffered optical injuries during confrontations with police.

Some demonstrators armed with stones and Molotov cocktails clashed with police, who scattered them with tear gas and water cannons.

Officials erected barricades around the square later in the evening.

Chile’s unrest began with a demonstration against a price hike on metro tickets in Santiago, which spiraled into violent protests across the country. — AFP

Furious Chileans have for weeks been protesting social and economic inequality, and against an entrenched political elite that comes from a small number of the wealthiest families in the country, among other issues.

The crisis is the worst in three decades of Chilean democracy and has led to 26 deaths and more than 12,000 injuries, according to the Organization of American States, with another 20,600 people detained.

As with every Friday since protests began on October 18, thousands gathered at Plaza Italia in the center of Santiago to wave flags, sing and dance in a show of opposition President Sebastian Pinera’s conservative government.

Protesters held up a huge Chilean flag with a closed eye, a symbol of the 300 people who have suffered optical injuries during confrontations with police.

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Chile’s unrest began with a demonstration against a price hike on metro tickets in Santiago, which spiraled into violent protests across the country. — AFP

US resumes talks with Taliban in Doha: US source

DOHA (Qatar) — Washington resumed talks with the Taliban in Qatar this week, a US source said, three months after President Donald Trump abruptly halted diplomatic efforts that could end America’s longest war.

In September, the United States and the Taliban had appeared on the verge of signing a deal that would have seen Afghanistan’s war end, halted diplomatic efforts that could end America’s longest war.

On Wednesday as it announced the stop tour of countries with a stake in Afghan peace, including

US envoy Zalmay Khalilzad has in recent weeks made a whistle-stop tour of countries with a stake in Afghan peace, including

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Taliban “wants to make a deal.”

Even during the stall in talks, US negotiator Zalmay Khalilzad has in recent weeks made a whistle-stop tour of nations with a stake in Afghan peace, including Pakistan.

Thorny issues

He recently arranged a captive swap in which the Taliban released an American and an Australian academic whom they had held hostage for three years.

The Taliban have until now refused to negotiate with the Afghan government, which they consider an illegitimate regime.

A nod to concerns raised by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, the State Department voiced support for a ceasefire — a key priority for Kabul before it enters negotiations with the Islamist insurgents.

“Amassador Khalilzad will rejoin talks with the Taliban to discuss steps that could lead to intra-Afghan negotiations and a peaceful settlement of the war, specifically a reduction in violence that leads to a ceasefire,” the State Department said on Wednesday as it announced the resumption of efforts to end the conflict.

Washington had sought to seal a political deal with the Taliban ahead of September’s elections in Afghanistan. — AFP

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Smart car parking system to be implemented in Yangon

By Maung Maung Myint Swe

RECENTLY went to downtown Yangon with a friend’s car. Cars were parked full on both sides of the road on Bogyoke Road. We turn into Pansodan Street and the scene was the same with cars parked full on both side of the street. We then took a turn onto Merchant Road and luckily found a space that was vacated by car that went off as we approach it. Parking space is a difficulty faced by any car drivers driving to Yangon’s central business district in downtown area. Yangon Region Government had announced since 2018 of its intention to implement a smart car parking system.

Arrangement for smart car parking system

“To reduce traffic congestion in downtown Yangon and for vehicles to park systematically, a smart car parking system will be implemented,” said Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein. Smart car parking system aims to prevent unnecessary long duration parking of vehicles and reduce congestion of roads in six downtown townships of Yangon. The six were Pabedan, Latha, Landmadaw, Kyauktada, Pazundaung and Botahtaung townships.

Tenders were issued for applications to establish a smart car parking system and the last date for tender submission had passed. Six companies were found to have passed the first qualification stage and one will be selected out of the six to implement the system.

“As per the word ‘smart car parking’ it will use smart technology to collect parking fees and Yangon Region government will provide necessary cooperation” said Yangon Region Development Committee road and bridge works group secretary U Lin Naing on 18 November.

Systematic selection of tender

One of the six companies that had passed the first qualification stage will be selected and permitted to implement the smart car parking system. As the tender assessment group will transparently and systematically select the tender winning company, Yangon soon will have a smart car parking that had technical support different from a person manually collecting parking fees as done in the past. Officials from Yangon City Development Committee strongly believed that the smart car parking system will resolve road congestion in six downtown townships of Yangon.

There were verbal arguments for car parking in downtown Yangon and even physical fights that had tragically resulted in death and the smart car parking system had become a work that must be implemented as soon as possible and without fail. Yangon Region Government was not allowing YRTA and YBS buses to enter into many downtown areas and making all to start/ends their trips to/from downtown Yangon at Thakin Mya Park. This causes considerable reduction in congestion of downtown roads. But the lack of parking place remains a huge problem that need to be resolved.

Road congestions in downtown Yangon was due to illegal parking and zones where restrictions were imposed on car parking. Cars that park for long duration in downtown Yangon were
cars whose owners live in downtown Yangon and cars of companies and shops.
Ko Hla Maung who lived in 29th Street said “I lived in 29th Street. As far as I know, if car parking fees were collected according to the duration of car being parked, it would not be convenient for us. I wonder how this will be resolved as paying daily car parking fee is not feasible for people like us.”

**More car parking in downtown side roads**

Smart car parking system will collect parking fees automatically. This system was implemented in Mandalay Region Mandalay town already. The system was planned to be implemented on the main roads and there’s a possibility that more cars will park in downtown side roads. At the moment, side roads were now full of parked cars almost day and night. However, there was no issue of road congestions blocking up the full length of the road as on the main roads.

**About 600,000 cars in Yangon**

Before 2010, Yangon had 160,000 cars. Due to auto policy changes in 2010, by 2018 October the number of passenger or saloon cars increased to more than a million. Cars registered in Yangon were about 600,000. Due to this, parking space was becoming fewer and fewer not only in downtown Yangon but also in almost all the other townships of Yangon too.

According to a new building construction policy, a building had to have adequate parking space for it. If public transport system was upgraded and long term plans were setup and implemented to reduce the numbers of vehicles, road congestion and subsequent problems will be significantly reduced.

According to research conducted by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the main reason for road congestion in Yangon was due to haphazardly and unsystematically parked cars. Whether the smart car parking system could support systematic parking of cars and reduce road congestion remains to be seen. According to preliminary studies conducted, it would definitely reduce road congestions. When high-rise buildings were constructed, multi-story car parks need to be constructed as well. This would be convenient for all the car drivers.

**Inclusion of car parking in high-rise buildings**

Of the high-rise building constructed, the 23 story Sule Square was unique with car parking space for 550 cars. Junction City also had parking space for 150 cars. Emergence or construction of such buildings will definitely reduce to a certain extent the shortage of car parking space.

**Smart car parking system parking fee rates**

The smart car parking system to be implemented in Yangon by 2020 will have three types of parking fees. The parking fees will be colour coded into red, green and yellow ranging from K 500 and K 300 to K 200 according to Yangon City Development Committee Engineering Department (Road/Bridge).

Cooperation of the people is required for smart car parking system to reduce the rising road congestion problem in downtown Yangon.

*Translated by Handytips*
Myanmar wins gold medal in traditional boat race in SEA Games

TEAM Myanmar won a gold medal in the 200 Meter women’s traditional boat race at the 30th South East Asian Games, held yesterday at the Subic Ndrku Malawaan Park in Philippines.

There were women athletes participating on the team, and Myanmar won first place with 54.947 seconds, while Indonesia took the silver medal with 54.945 seconds. Meanwhile, Thailand grabbed the bronze medal in the tourney.

In the Taekwondo competition at Rizal Memorial Sports Complex Court-1, Myanmar athlete Sun Shine took the bronze medal, while Myanmar’s Phone Thet Naing took another bronze medal in the Free Style Poomsae event in Taekwondo.

SEA Games Men’s Football Semifinal: Myanmar out of final with loss to Indonesia

THE Myanmar U-22 national football team suffered a 2-4 loss to the Indonesia U-22 men’s team at the crucial semifinal match of the men’s football competition at the 30th South East Asian Games held at Rizal Memorial Stadium in Manila, the Philippines, yesterday.

Myanmar started the match with almost all midfielders, as Myanmar head coach Velizar Popov relied on their attacking style throughout the first half. Team Myanmar played with one touch style, stayed strong in the midfield and attacked frequently, while Indonesia relied on its open attack.

The first half ended with a 0-0 draw, as both teams could not convert their chances into goals. The second half saw better playing by team Indonesia, with continuous attacks over Myanmar. Indonesia scored the ice-breaker by Evan Dimas Darmono at 57 minutes.

The second goal for Indonesia was at 72 minutes, scored by Egy Masulana Vikri. But Indonesia’s domination did not last, as team Myanmar scored equalizers within eight minutes.

Myanmar’s substituted striker Aung Kaung Mann, who scored the first goal for Myanmar at 79 minutes, while another substitute striker Win Naing Tun, scored at 80 minutes, making the score 2-2. The 2-2 draw ended the ninety minutes play, as extra time was played.

In extra time, Osvaldo Ardiles Haay scored the third goal for Indonesia at 102 minutes, and again Evan Dimas Darmono scored the final and fourth goal for Indonesia at 113 minutes, breaking the heart of team Myanmar, as Indonesia secured a spot in the final match.

As for the win, Indonesia will meet Viet Nam in the final match, while Myanmar will play Cambodia in the third place match after another semifinal match saw a 4-0 win by team Viet Nam over Cambodia. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)

2019 Southeast Asian Games medal tally updated

Thet Htar Thuzar fails to reach Semifinal

MYANMAR’S badminton star, Thet Htar Thuzar, lost to Indonesian Badminton player Risseli Hurtawan in the Quarterfinal of the 30th South East Asian Games in the Philippines yesterday.

Thet Htar Thuzar suffered a 0-2 loss over the Indonesian player, with a score of 11-21 and 17-21.

There was a difference in skills between the two players, as Thet Htar Thuzar is currently 61st in the badminton world ranking, while Indonesian player Risseli Hurtawan is ranked 37th worldwide. The first match was easily dominated by the Indonesian player Hurtawan, as Thet Htar Thuzar lost many shots. But the second match saw more efforts by Thet Htar Thuzar, though four more shots by Indonesian Risseli resulted in the loss for Thet Htar Thuzar. Following the loss, Thet Htar Thuzar told fans on her social media page that she was sorry to have not won medals at the SEA Games, though she had tried her best. And Thet Htar Thuzar also said that she will try harder in upcoming tournaments by learning from her mistakes. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)
An enemy may be anything that harms or prevents us from being successful. For example, poverty and ignorance are enemies of progress. There are enemies in different sectors around youths today. Some of the enemies are visible. Some are invisible. All of them can prevent youths from being successful in life. Most of youths are trying to find a place to fit in. The fear of being alone is most common among the youths. In this way, they tend to get into a certain community of people who are not good in character. The youths follow their ways, smoke, drink alcohol, take drugs and abuse social media to interact with them. In fact, smoking, drinking alcohol, taking drugs and abusing social media are enemies of youths today.

Smoking is the biggest enemy of youths today. It appears that more and more people are smoking day by day, either cheroots or cigars or cigarettes. As cigarettes are available everywhere and not expensive, smoking is very easy for young children and adults. The beginning of drug abuse is smoking. From the beginning of smoking, the youths happen to smoke cigarettes containing heroin powder and they are addicted to drugs. Step by step, some take amphetamine and inject heroin solution in their veins. Starting with cigarettes, they continue to use narcotic drugs.

Another enemy is drinking alcohol and taking narcotic drugs. Nowadays, various kinds of alcohol and drugs are readily available everywhere. There are so many beer stations everywhere. In some quarters, the number of beer stations is more than the number of tea shops. They are persuading young people. We often see girls and young women in some beer stations. Beginning with not so strong beer, they finally become drunkards. Their health begins to break down. Finally, they die at a young age. They are victims of drugs and alcohol. It is an important issue for parents and teachers to warn the youths to stay away from bad people and not to drink alcohol and use drugs. The youths should be explained about the disadvantages of drinking alcohol and abusing drugs. These things can prevent youths from being successful.

Other enemies of youths are using the Internet too much, playing computer games excessively, watching TV the whole night and going to stage shows too often. The worst enemy is abusing social media. The effects of social media consist of two parts: positive and negative sides. On the positive side, social networks are an invaluable source for the youths because they can help the youths to improve their skills and knowledge. On the negative side, the internet is full of bad social websites associated with certain community who are bad in character. They chat the girls through the net and persuade them into prostitution. Some websites feature hate mails and violence to instigate racial violence. Therefore, it is very important for youths not to abuse social media. Some websites are harmful to them.

In conclusion, many enemies are around today’s youths in different forms. As seen, in these explanations and examples, smoking, drinking alcohol and taking drugs, and abusing social media are enemies of youths today. They can bring nothing but destruction. Therefore, I would like to advise youths to avoid smoking, drinking alcohol, taking drugs and abusing social media because they are the enemies that can destroy the future and the lives of youths today.
70. Gone are the days when my heart was young and gay.
71. Life is a winding road.
72. We take the middle way in all that we do.
73. Rome was not built in a day.
74. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.
75. Prevention is better than cure.
76. Necessity is the mother of invention.
77. Work while you work and play while you play.
78. What's the matter with me?
79. I am content to be faithful.
80. Patience is a virtue.
81. I have no hunger for other women.
82. He sometimes comes to me;
83. I've been married 18 years
84. Fortune favours the brave.
85. The brave win the tair.
86. They don't know what they want but they know
don't want what they have.
87. We always like those who admire us but we do not always like those whom we admire.
88. Everything goes wrong if you care too much.
89. Tense
90. Facts are stranger than fiction.
91. Yesterday was only a dream tomorrow is only a
tomorrow.
92. East is east and west is west and the twain shall never meet.
93. Delay means death in love and war.
94. What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.
95. The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.
96. Where there's smoke, there's fire.
97. We always like those who admire us but we do not always like those whom we admire.
98. We live not as we wish to but as we can.
99. I am not a devil. I am a man therefore I have all the devils in my mind.
100. The ripest fruit first falls.
101. The blind cannot lead the blind.
102. When we grow old and do not grow, it is bad.
103. As you sow so shall you reap.
104. Love is like fire; it needs feeding and watching.
105. I laughed till I cried.
106. There is no gathering the rose without being pricked by the thorns.
107. Honesty is the best policy.
108. Never meet.
109. Ask and learn.
110. You cannot please everybody.
111. We never meet.
112. A woman worries about the future until she gets married whereas a man never worries about
the future until he gets a wife.
113. The best ideas are common property.
114. What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.
115. The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.
116. Oh Liberty! How many crimes have been committed
in their name?
117. The best mirror is an old friend.
118. Poverty is no sin.
119. There is no indispensable man.
120. There is always someone worse off than yourself.
121. Death means death in love and war.
122. To travel hopefully is better than to arrive.
123. When want comes in at the door, love flies out of
the window.
124. Love truth but pardon error.
125. The young man who has not wept is a savage and
the old man who will not laugh is a fool.
126. It is a great loss to a man that he cannot laugh.
127. Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the
minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed.
128. Everybody is brave in time of peace.
129. I told till I cried.
130. Love is like fire; it needs feeding and watching.
131. Hitherto the philosophers have tried to interpret
the world; the point is to change it.
132. Across the field of yesterday.
133. I've been married 18 years
134. We pardon in the degree we love.
135. Being in a ship is being in a jail with the chance
of being drowned.
136. Life begins at 40.
Who will you be considered as youngsters? According to the consideration of some people, youngsters are the ones between childhood and adulthood. Undoubtedly, youngsters would like to do what they think of and what they see newly due to their nature of mind. At the time of life when they are young, they would like to try something new, something special and something popular. As the world is made up of different people from different layers, youngsters may be different in lifestyle. Some of the youngsters cannot get their parents' care and admonish. So, they do whatever they want without deciding what is right and what is wrong.

Those above ones become the victims of badness because they lack consciousness. They may smoke, they may drink liquor, they may use the drug and they may rob because they do not know what is wrong and what is right. There are so many youngsters who have to fall prey to evil doings. Actually, their original attitudes are not really bad. They become lousy just because of their neighbourhood and lack of caring for them.

When the youngsters in the age of under 18 do an illegal thing, they cannot be sentenced to jail. They have to be sent to a centre where youngsters are kept. There are some places where the youngsters under 18 are kept off. In Mandalay, there is a place where the young boys are kept because of their illegal doing. This is the Community Rehabilitation Centre. The young boys who have committed illegal doings have to stay in this center.

This center is not like a jail. The above ones just have to follow the rules and regulations of the center. They are not closed in a room. Actually, they are sent to a new environment. In this center, they have to learn some vocational education such as motorbike repairing, gardening, and some kinds of sports like football, boxing, and sepaktakraw. Whilst they are being kept in the center, they can change not only their attitude but also their physical appearance.

There are some people who think that those boys are the bad guys and they cannot mend their minds and actions. Not there only have pessimistic persons but there also have optimistic ones. They are the volunteer teachers of the centre. They are trying to change the lives of the youngsters who are living in the center as much as they can. They are like the parents of the youngsters because they admonish them what is right and what is wrong. Actually, volunteers for those youngsters should have throughout the country. The reason, the youngsters cannot receive the caring of parents or their guardians. They just receive love and the words of the volunteer teachers and in the same way, the volunteers will receive good merits because of their good deeds.

"Youth is just a moment," some people utter. That is right. As the period of the youth is short, the life of youth is absolutely precious. Most of the people say that youths are the future leaders of the country. So, if the life of a youth destroys, the country's future can be affected. Thus, we all need to participate in helping the disadvantaged youngsters not to be the victims of evil things to make our society better.
December Mass Walk and Sports Week launches nationwide

By Nat Ye Hla

Beginning in this year’s winter season, which has brought lower temperature than previous years, December Mass Walking Week and Sports Activities launched yesterday nationwide.

To promote the standard of Myanmar Sports World, the Ministry of Health and Sports designated December as a Sports Month, and mass walking activities are to be conducted every week in December.

With a healthy and educated population, a nation can overcome all challenges. Thus an educated and healthy people are the best guarantee for a country’s future.

With the efforts of the government, the MOHS is trying to improve the public’s health system. Also, the National Health Plan promotes the public’s health, which can contribute to the country’s development.

The National Health Plan is crucial for Myanmar, and healthcare professionals should acknowledge the fact that everyone can potentially contribute to the country’s development.

If citizens have faith in our healthcare system and believe that the nation will take care of them, whether they are rich or poor, then this is the greatest gift for the country.

The National Health Plan is the first step towards Universal Health Coverage 2030, which guarantees accessible health care for every citizen.
**Sunday Comics**

Hey! Jackey! Be ready to collect the bird this time.

I shot the bird. What happened to the dog.

I want to go for a job but as you know...

Nobody buys you, lazy guy!

Children are stolen!

Adults are trafficked!

Robbery and looting are occurring.

Do you have an idea for getting a job.

You just stay at home and rely on my income.

People will be people.

We are close friends. You should send valuable gifts to my wedding.

But you sent the unvaluable cups to my wedding.

They will be useful in your life sometime.

How can these unvaluable things be useful.

You couple will quarrel sometime.

When quarrel, you should not crush valuable things.

But you can crush unvaluable things like my cups. Ha-he! Believe it.

This is my experience.

End
With the news of two Myanmar football team advancing to semifinals, I come to know that the 30th SEA Games is in progress at present in the Philippines. 

SEA Games is a multi-level sport event in Southeast Asia region. Sports are very important for human beings to keep themselves healthy and fit. By organizing such a multi-sports event, people are more interested in sports that can give them physical fitness.

Like physical fitness, mental fitness also plays an important role for human being. People organize meditation and prayer events so that they can get mental well-being by training their minds. 

Both body and mind are the sources of our happiness. A man who is under a shady tree on a hot summer day gets happy because his body feels cold, relax and peaceful. That is the happiness that comes from the body.

By thinking back their past happy memories or future happy events to come, some people get happiness. That is also a sort of happiness that comes from the mind.

If happiness is categorized, there are three levels – the happiness related to sensual pleasure, the happiness related to renouncing sensual pleasure and the happiness that is beyond these two and called “supreme happiness.” The first two are impermanent, while the third is permanent.

The first happiness related to sensual pleasure can get from our six senses organs – eyes, ears, noses, tongue, body and mind. By eyes, a guy can be happy watching a stage show. By ears, a boy can be happy listening to pop music. By nose, a girl can be happy smelling the pleasant scent of a flower.

By tongue, a gourmet can be happy enjoying the foods that they like. By body, a man can feel happiness using luxurious items. By mind, an old man can be happy thinking his younger days together with his wife.

These are the basic level of happiness related to sensual pleasures. The intermediate level of happiness can get by renouncing these sensual pleasures. Being asked, an old man said he is happy while “in meditation and giving charity.” This is a sort of happiness that comes from renouncing sensual pleasures.

There is a quote “Life is a game.” According to the quote, people are playing different kinds of games to achieve the goals that they want. Most of people like happiness and even if say that there is no one who doesn’t like “happiness.” It is true. Different people are playing different kinds of games to gain the same goal of “happiness.”

Among the games, some games bring happiness while some fail to bring. Some games are effective while some aren’t. Some have fruitful results, while some have opposite results.

Here is a game called “Super Effective Approach” Games or “SEA Games.” It is testable. It gives “supreme happiness” permanently to those who win.

It has eight episodes in three levels – morality, concentration and wisdom. Each level can give different states of happiness.

By telling right speech, doing right action and via right livelihood, the basic level of the games “morality” can win, while the intermediate level of the games “concentration” can win via right concentration, right effort and right mindfulness.

The advanced level of the game “wisdom” can win from right thinking and right understanding.

Whoever plays the games will get “happiness” according to their levels of success in the games.

The owner of the “Super Effective Approach” Games is a superhuman named “Buddha.” He himself gained supreme happiness from this game, and uncountable human beings benefited from His unique teaching since 2500 years.

So those who want to get “supreme happiness” are recommended to play the “Super Effective Approach” Games. May all beings attain “supreme happiness” from this distinctive and unique SEA Games.

By Kyaw Twain
I
t was an event in which I was living in a
top flat of a six-storey building downtown.
I was looking outside through the win-
dow-panes as usual. I leisurely looked at
the scene as it was known as a bird-eye
view. On my table, there was a cup of hot plain
tea which was mixed with green tea leaves from
Aung Pan. I was somewhat satisfied with the
situation of the early morning sipping the plain
tea and looking outside through the window-
panes.

About a week ago, an earthquake hit our
city. Our six-storied building was obviously
shaken to and fro. It happened twice and then
it was again normal and stable. Although I had
a little frightened feeling, I went on staying calm
because I know that only fate is my dad or my
mom. The scene I was seeing was some roofs
and understand O Henry’s structures of stories
and the interest of the readers. I also think if I read
he was a clever writer who could totally occupy
story unless they read it up to the end. I think
constructed by O Henry are very interesting
ones by O Henry. The plots of the short stories
also an artist. I like short stories especially the
ones by O Henry. The plots of the short stories
constructed by O Henry are very interesting
indeed. The readers never know the end of
the story unless they read it up to the end. I think
he was a clever writer who could totally occupy
the interest of the readers. I also think if I read
and understand O Henry’s structures of stories
a lot, I can be able to guess the twists of human
society.

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A Snatch From
The Day-dreaming One

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