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A worker checks the quality of a dress rolling out from a weaving machine in Meiktila, Mandalay Region. **PHOTO: CHAN THAR (MEIKTILA)**

SME development to gain speed in 2018

By May Thet Hnin

AT the 13th meeting between Vice President U Myint Swe and Myanmar businesses held yesterday, the Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho said SME development works are to start early next year.

For now, SME development central committees and three work committees, for SME

agencies, fund management and work reviews/reports, led by Union Ministers, were formed and an official announcement will be made soon, it is learnt.

In order to recognise the development of SMEs, competition by work sectors will be held in states and regions, said the Union Minister.

“For SMEs to know all their works, a competition will be held on recognising entry into the

market. Their products will be displayed for all to know”, the Union Minister said.

The competitions are scheduled to be held in the second week of January, for which Japan will provide technical support and help judge the products. The products that are up to standards in the regional competitions will compete in the final competition that will be held in Nay Pyi Taw, added the Union

Minister. Vice President U Myint Swe said the government is using various methods for SME sector development and urges the private businesses to work together for this.

“SMEs are the main driving force in the country’s economy. If SMEs are implemented, economy will develop. We are expecting much for SME sector development” said the Vice President.

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BEST BANK IN MYANMAR

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Children's literature festival to be held in Yangon from 6 to 8 January

A coordination meeting for Children's literature festival in Yangon from 6 to 8 January at the Basic Education High School (6) in Botahtaung was held yesterday morning at Yangon Region Government office.

In his opening address at the meeting, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint said books are sold at the same time as books are displayed at the literature festival, and both are combined in a single event. This filled in a blank missing in the country after there had been encouragements to enhance the events, Dr. Pe Myint said.

"In the world today, there is a need to study continuously. New things are continuously coming out. It is a knowledge age and information age. If it is not studied today, we'll be left behind by others. That is why we need to study all the time and there is a need to find and study. A person who is interested in reading will read. But they will read only when there is a will to read without fail. When interest in reading is created in the early years, when the interest to read is retained in the children's mind, they will have the habit of read-



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint delivers the speech at a coordination meeting for Children's Literature Festival in Yangon from 6 to 8 January. **PHOTO: MNA**

ing when they grow up", Dr. Pe Myint said.

The forthcoming literature festival will include games that are played in a group, competitions, dances and entertainment from school teams. The participating children will participate not only as individuals but also as a group. Through this, they will develop the habit and pleasure of working as a group and will not become lonely and outcast individuals in society. They will not be anti-social and will have

the spirit of making their society they live in to be pleasant and thriving, the Union Minister said.

"In addition to children developing the habit of reading, another matter is to instill the practice of working together with others on matters that are related to all.

If this is achieved, the children will not only develop knowledge and intelligence, but will also be able to relate and connect with others and work together resulting in youths who could

lead our country. The aims at holding this event is to instill in the children the habit of reading, working together with others and obtaining the necessary skills and qualities to lead in the various stages of the country.

The festivals were held in many towns and the festival in Yangon will be more interesting. I am confident that this will be a grand and more complete festival that many will be interested", said the Union Minister.

The Ministry of Informa-

tion, Information and Public Relations Department Director General U Ye Naing explained yesterday about arrangements made for the festival. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and (Yangon) Region Ministers, festival organising sub-committees and attendees joined the discussion.

The Children's literature festival in Yangon will be held in the same way as children's literature festivals held in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Mawlamyine, Taunggyi and Monywa with a story-telling competition, a poem reciting competition, talks, debates, origami, painting competitions, daily literature talks, games and entertainment programmes.

Later in the day, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint went to Basic Education High School (6) Botahtaung to inspect the preparations made in the school compound.

The children's literature festival is jointly organised by the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Education and the Yangon Region Government and will be held from 6-8 January from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.—Myanmar News Agency ■

2017-2018 Architect's Fair holds opening ceremony

AN opening ceremony for Architect's Fair (2017-2018) under the theme of "Architecture for People" was held yesterday morning at the National Theatre of Yangon, at which event organising committee chairman U Maw Lin explained the reasons for holding the event.

As part of the ceremony, Union Minister for Construction U Win Khaing, Myanmar Architects Council chairman U Thaw and Association of Myanmar Architects (AMA) chairman U San Oo jointly signed a commemoration of the event's opening. U Tun Than, an AMA honourable patron, also officially opened the fair and posed for commemorative photos.

The Union Minister said the fair is beneficial to the country and pointed out the efforts by Myanmar architects and engineers for the establishment of high quality construction works, new construction materials and innovative methods.

Panel discussions will be held under the titles "Architec-



Union Minister for Construction U Win Khaing addresses the opening ceremony for Architect's Fair 2017-2018 at National Theatre in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

ture for People," "Our Aim for Yangon" and "Coordination and the Construction Sector", while 11 papers will be read in the paper reading sessions. The Association of Myanmar Architects, associate associations and companies are also displaying their exhibitions and construction materials sales booths within

the National Theatre.

At one of the panel discussions, Union Minister U Win Khaing remarked on taking responsibility according to the theme of "Architecture for People," having the good aims of long-term protection of the people and to lead in the construction sector of national



Union Minister for Construction U Win Khaing looks at the poster displayed at the opening ceremony for Architect's Fair 2017-2018 at National Theatre in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

development.

Opening remarks were delivered by Yangon Region minister of electricity, industry, road and communication Daw Nilar Kyaw and AMA chairman U San Oo.

The event was attended by representatives from hlut-taws, chairmen and executive

committee members of Myanmar Engineering Council and Myanmar Engineering Society, architects, engineers and officials.

The event will be held for three days until 1 January 2018 in the National Theatre from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.—Myanmar News Agency ■

SME development to gain speed in 2018

FROM PAGE 1

The government will be working together on obtaining cash investments, main infrastructure requirements of electrical power and obtaining loans without collateral. Businesses can submit the difficulties they face, added the Vice President.

In issuing loans to SMEs, arrangements are made so that those entitled will be provided with loans within 30 days. Myanmar national experts who had international experience in SME development are also employed as advisors, said Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho.

In the 11th meeting held in October, Union Minister U Khin Maung Cho mentioned that Myanmar Economic Bank would provide loans totaling



Vice President U Myint Swe delivers the speech at the 13th meeting for SME development in Yangon.

PHOTO: MNA

Ks200 billion.

Currently, JICA and western nations are providing financial and technical support for SME sector development in Myanmar.

According to a research

conducted by Central Statistics Organisation, 98 per cent of the more than 120,000 businesses registered in Myanmar are SMEs. In the employment sector, of the 21.9 million workers, 83 per cent are working in

un-registered SMEs.

The private sector development committee held meetings with entrepreneurs every month and so they have now met 12 times as of November, discussing 200 challenges being

faced by entrepreneurs, said Vice President U Myint Swe.

He also suggested holding private and public dialogues between the ministries and entrepreneurs concerned to solve the remaining obstacles, as the regional and state governments have replied to the entrepreneurs regarding their challenges.

The vice president also urged entrepreneurs to take advantage of the newly enacted Myanmar Companies Law, which guarantees to consider a company with a 35 per cent share of foreign investment as a citizen-owned company.

Meanwhile, to support the export and import sector, the Central Bank of Myanmar has allowed export financing and related banking services for export financing services since 8th December. ■

Programme on film editing and film making held in Yangon

A knowledge-sharing programme about film editing and shooting organised by the Myanmar Motion Picture Association was held at one of the studios in the Ministry for Information office in Bahan Township, Yangon, yesterday evening.

This programme was led by the Myanmar Motion Picture Association and aimed at sharing useful methods of film shooting,

camera techniques, use of lenses and other related skills in film making.

Ko Sai Aung Tun, who is in charge of film and photograph creation, said that it was just a knowledge-sharing programme for young trainees who will become cinematographers and cameramen.

“That’s why we especially aim at teaching young artists

and film shooters to learn theory and practical training. By doing so, it can enhance quality and effectiveness of shooting films”, Ko Sai Aung Tun said.

Sharing knowledge about the media and various aspects of filmmaking to the younger generation is key to the overall development of that industry in Myanmar, he said.—Zaw Gyi (Pannita) ■



Myanmar Motion Picture Association carries out knowledge sharing programmes at the Studio-1 of Ministry for Information in Bahan Township, Yangon. PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PANITA)

Ethnic communities gather at forum on peaceful coexistence



Representatives from ethnic communities line up for refreshment at the forum for peaceful coexistence in Mohnyin. PHOTO: EPN

ETHNIC communities in Mohnyin District held a forum on Friday for exchanging views on how to achieve and retain peaceful coexistence and harmony among the people in the district.

“This forum is aimed at propagation of our traditional culture of unity, honesty and loving kindness along with harmony among us,” said U Tin Ko Ko, member of the leading committee for the forum held at the Htilin Monastery in Moehtnyin.

During the two-day forum, representatives of the ethnic communities in the district exchanged views on the current situation in the district.

Representatives from Kachin, Shan, Red Shan, Rakhine, Bamar and from other communities attended the forum.

The results of the forum will be reported to the government, said U Win Naing, chairman of the leading committee for the forum.—EPN ■

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New national-level environmental conservation policy to be issued in 2018

May Thet Hnin

MYANMAR will get a new national-level environmental conservation policy and strategy framework in 2018.

"Currently, the new national-level environmental conservation policy which has been issued in 1994 is almost complete to update.

Also, a national-level environmental strategic framework will be come out," said Daw Khin Thidar Tin, the director of Yangon Region Environmental Conservation.

With a national-level environmental conservation policy, soon to come will be a national-level climate change policy and strategy, a national-level green economy policy and strategy and a national-level waste items management policy, Daw Khin Thida Tin said.

"We are finalising the draft national-level environ-

mental conservation policy, which will ensure environmental protection and sustainable development across Myanmar, which will be issued very soon.

We have drawn the national-level waste items management policy and strategy till 2030. All the strategies will be used in appropriate sectors," she added.

The national-level environmental policy covers three strategic areas -- clean environment and health, functioning ecosystems, sustainable development and mainstreaming environmental protection and management.

"In order for the country's development, environmental conservation needs to be combined and be in harmony with the other sectors, she added.

"I think impact on the environment and on business are most significant because

impacts on environment are also impacts on the people, people's livelihood and people's health.

For example, what we see in Hpakant with the jade mining is that it is poorly managed, allowing access by scavengers. Hundreds of these people die each year from the collapse of the waste.

And also we have pollution in the form of wastewater not properly controlled by factories.

And then there is deforestation, which you see particularly in the shrinking mangrove areas, also we've seen it with the palm trees cut down for palm oil in the south of Taninthayi, we see it at mining sites, including small scale mining that causes deforestation.

So environmental impacts are the biggest problems, and they will impact people's

lives", said Ms. Vicky Bowman, the chairman of the Myanmar Center for Responsible Business.

Weaknesses are also found in the implementation reports of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) by enterprises. Some third parties are allegedly committing breach of copyright regarding activities of the EIA, SIA and EMP, especially in construction businesses.

The government has already issued warnings about these breaches, it is learnt.

The Environmental Conservation Law was enacted on March 2012 in Myanmar and its rules issued in June 2014. The National Environmental Conservation Committee (NECC) was formed in June 2016. ■

Number of passengers expected to increase after upgrade of Yangon circular railway



Locomotives run on the Yangon Circular Railway at Yangon Central Railway Station. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

AN increase of about 260,000 passengers per day is expected after the upgrade of the Yangon circular railway, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

Myanma Railway (MR) is implementing the upgrading project in cooperation with the Japan International Coopera-

tion Agency (JICA). The cost of the project is Ks300 billion.

Upon completion of the project, the time needed to make one circular trip will take 110 minutes instead of 170 minutes.

To attract more commuters, MR will raise the speed from 15 kilometers

per hour to 60 kilometers per hour. The number of trains will also increase from 122 to 175. JICA has also announced that since the speed of the trains will be raised to 60 kilometers per hour, people should not cross the railway, walk, dry the clothes or sleep on the railway.—GNLM ■

Drugs worth more than Ks 310 million confiscated in Kachin State

A local combined anti-drug squad seized 963 grams of heroin and 18,000 stimulant tablets during a car search at Bala Min Htin checkpoint in Myitkyina, Kachin State on 29 December, at night.

The vehicle was on the way to Myitkyina from Waingmaw and was driven by Um Khun Aung (alias) Hsai Aung of Shweset Ward in Waingmaw. Following an interrogation, the drug carrier confessed that the drugs will be transported to Naw Li, Manjel Village in Tamoenye Township.

The anti-drug group rushed to Manjel Village where they discovered 2.354 grams of heroin, a national identity card, a driving license, a border pass, two TOYOTA-brand vehicles and one mobile handset.

The two drug traffickers have been charged with possession of narcotic drugs at the Waingmaw police department.—Myanmar Digital News ■

Prices of condo apartments fall by 20-30 % in Yangon market: real estate agents

U Nay Min Thu, managing director of iMyanmarHouse.com, a property website, said the commercial city of Yangon saw a 20 to 30 per cent decline in the prices of condominium apartments in comparison to 2013, according to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Saturday.

“Now the country’s property sector is facing a market downturn. The city’s real estate market remains cool and sees a low demand for housing and condominium apartments. However, demand continues to grow in the rental market,” one of the city’s real estate agents. Property markets in downtown are also seeing excess supply, he added.

Property agents say that the emergence of bylaws for the condominium Law in December is expected to become a push for the falling real estate market.

U Min Htain, director-general of the Urban and Housing Development Department, said the construction of Yadanar and Ayeyarwon housing projects being developed by the Ministry of Construction faces a delay due to the cooling market.

The property market had boomed in recent years. Since then, room, house, land and apartment prices have skyrocketed. But in late 2014, the market declined due to low demand. The real estate market became active



The real estate market became active again in early 2017, but prices remain low. Apartments price declined by 20-30% in the market. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

again in early 2017, but prices remain low. According to the Directorate of Investment and Compa-

ny Administration, 24.81 per cent of Myanmar citizen investment of permitted enterprises as of this

November went to the country’s real estate development sector.—GNLM ■

Myanmar’s external trade exceeds \$23 bn, with \$3.2 bn in trade deficit

DESPITE an increase in the value of foreign trade in the current financial year, a \$3.27 billion trade deficit was reported, which is over \$368.79 million more than that of the same period of the last FY, according to the latest report of the Commerce Ministry.

The country’s external trade value topped US\$23.25 billion as of 22 December, with an increase of \$3.78 billion compared with the same

period of last year, according to the Commerce Ministry’s weekly report.

Between 1 April and 22 December, the country exported domestically produced products amounting to \$9.99 billion to the international trading partners, including about \$3.58 billion from cross-border points and \$6.41 billion from normal trade.

This year’s imports of foreign-made commodities exceeded \$13.26 billion,

consisting of \$2.045 billion through border gates and \$11.23 billion from normal trade, a decrease of \$18 million against last year.

Normally, Myanmar imports capital goods, intermediate goods and consumer goods to international markets, whereas it chiefly exports six groups of commodities, including agricultural products, animal and fisheries products, forest products and manufacturing goods.—Chaw Su ■

Weekly rubber exports increased by over 1,000 tonnes

THE export of Myanmar rubber to China, Thailand and Malaysia during the week between 9 and 15 December increased by over 1,000 tonnes, according to the weekly report of the Commerce Ministry.

During the aforesaid week, the country exported a total of 6,100 tonnes of different types of rubber through border trade camps as well as sea routes, earning more than US\$7 million.

According to ministry statistics, China imported 346

tonnes of RSS1 rubber, over 1,300 tonnes of RSS3 rubber, about 977 tonnes of RSS5 rubber and 1,754 tonnes of MSR20 rubber from Muse (105-mile) trade zone and 296 tonnes of RSS3 rubber and nearly 500 tonnes of RSS5 rubber from Chinshwehaw border gate, whereas Thailand also imported MSR20 rubber weighing 100 tonnes from Myeik border station.

Rubber prices in Muse wholesale market were \$2 million per tonne during the week ending 15 December.

The prices of rubber are similar to those of the previous week.

The country sold 105 tonnes of mixtures of natural rubber and synthetic rubber, 202 tonnes of MSR20 rubber and 300 tonnes of RSS3 rubber to Malaysia, and over 200 tonnes of MSR10 rubber to China.

With the aim of penetrating international markets, local rubber growers are putting forth continuous efforts to produce high-quality rubber products.—Khine Khant ■

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● City Mart (47th street)	● City Mart (Waizayandar)
● City Mart (Yankin)	● City Mart (Hledan)
● City Mart (China Town)	● City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
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Yangon Danyingon fruit, vegetable and flower wholesale market to officially open on 1 January

By Zaw Gyi (Panita)
Photo: Pe Zaw

THE Yangon Danyingon fruit, vegetable and flower wholesale market jointly constructed and implemented by Yangon City Development Committee and Myanmar Agro Exchange Public Limited (MAEX) will officially open on 1 January, after a soft opening on 26 December.

In the Yangon Danyingon market there are three buildings for wholesale fruit, wholesale vegetable and kitchen goods, and a ground market for farmers' retail sales. More buildings are planned.

The market will be opened 24 hours a day starting on 1 January. The following is the excerpts of the interview with MAEX Company CEO U Aung Gyi on completion of the market project, the status of shops being opened and services provided.

Q. Let us know about the implementation of the market project.

A. The market came into being in December 2014, when the Yangon Region government invited tenders for construction of an upscale fruits, vegetable and flower wholesale market on 85 acres of land in Danyingon that includes a vegetable market. Our company submitted a tender under the name of Dagon International.

In March 2015, Yangon Region government granted permission to our company to construct the upscale market. According to the tender rules, the tender winning company is to form a public company, so Dagon International put up a 45 per cent share and formed MAEX public company. When it was formed there were 11 shareholders.

Now there are 2,274 share-



Dayingon wholesale market will operate around the clock from 1 January in Yangon.



MAEX Company CEO U Aung Gyi.

holders with more than Ks22 billion shares of capital. This market is built with an aim to sell vegetables, fruits, flowers and other food products wholesale. It is the biggest market in Myanmar.

Q. What products will be sold in the market? Explain about the completion status of the market, too.

A. There'll be eight buildings in the market. Building 1 is a fruit wholesale market. Building 2 is a vegetable, flower

and kitchen product wholesale market. Building 3 is a retail market for vegetable, flower and fruit farmers.

Building 4 is a wholesale market for seasonal products. In addition to this, later, there'll be a tender hall where tender system will be practiced. Building 5 is a two-story building where food stalls and shops will be located. Building 6 will sell ready-to-eat fish, meat, fish/prawn paste, dried fish and dried (preserved) food and it is also a two-story building. In Building 7 and 8, there will be medium-sized trading houses with cold storages, big trading houses that are two-rooms, three storey and four storey, as well as 200 trading houses. In addition to these, there'll be a hypermarket and an eight-storey motel as well as a lubricant shop. The market is aimed toward international export and there'll be three cold storages for packed products.

For phase-1, three buildings were completed. A soft open-

ing was made on 26 December. The completed buildings are building 1 for fruit wholesale, building 2 for vegetable, flower and kitchen product wholesale and building 3 for retail sales of vegetable, flower and fruit farmers. Retailers of vegetable, flower and fruit can also be sold in building 3. Building 1 and 2 will each have 1,120 shops measuring 5x11 ft. and 5x13 ft. In building 3, there are 3,360 5x5 ft. and 5x8 ft. shops. A total of 5,600 shops have been completed.

Q. What is the status of shop rentals in the completed building and when will the market project be completed?

A. Of the 5,600 completed shops, 2,000 shops were set aside temporarily for shop owners in the former vegetable market, according to the agreement. The remaining shops will be rented to outsiders. 2,500 shops were already rented out to those who applied for it and these were permitted to start selling in 26 December.

All the shops will be opened on 1 January 2018 and most shops are ready. The market project is expected to be completed around the end of 2019. As implementation of Phase 1.1, a seasonal products two-storey building, medium-sized trading houses with cold storages, dried and ready-to-consume market buildings are under construction. Building 4, a seasonal products wholesale market, will be completed within a month.

Q. This market is aimed for products from which regions? What are the arrangements made for the convenience of buyers from afar?

A. Foodstuff from Shan State and foodstuff known as Bama products that originate in Nay Pyi Taw, Kyaukse, Lewe, Pyi, Thekon, Hmawbi, Taikkyi and foodstuff from Ayeyawady Region will be sold. There is a modern waste collection system and a 24-hour security system. There'll be parking spaces around the buildings so that products brought and sold can be easily discharged and loaded. There is a parking lot where more than 2,000 vehicles can park. Concrete roads are laid around and in the market. Retail farmers can discharge their products easily right into the market so that the labour charges are reduced. Foods put on sale will be checked to ensure that it is safe for consumption. Required technical support will be provided to the producers. As there are trading houses in the market, sellers will also be able to get good prices for their products. In the future, there'll be cold storages and the main aim is for exporters. By doing this, our country will have more opportunity to export vegetable, fruits and foodstuff gradually. ■

Proceeds from commemorative celebration of Yangon Zoo to go for charity

Swe Nyein

PROCEEDS from the upcoming commemorative celebration of the 112th anniversary of the Yangon Zoological Garden will go to orphanages, according to the Myawady

Daily's Friday report.

The 112th anniversary of the Yangon Zoo will be celebrated on 13 and 14 January from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily within the compound of the garden. A group of volunteers including actress Khaing Hnin Wai and

other celebrities will also take part in the celebration.

The event will formally include several entertainment programmes consisting of a kid's show, magic shows, market festivals, animal dances and an elephant circus.

Since it was opened in 1906, the Yangon Zoological Garden is famous for its collection of flora and fauna, and wild animals, including mammals, birds and reptiles. It is surrounded by the Shwedagon Pagoda, Kandawgyi Garden and Karaweik Hall.

The Yangon zoo is one of the city's major attractions, drawing millions of visitors from home and abroad on a yearly basis.

The 100th Anniversary of Yangon Zoological Garden was held in January 2006. ■

Youths with enthusiasm working as teachers in Maungtaw

By Myint Maung, Zeyar
Photo: Ne Win Tun

Following the extremists terrorist attacks in the Buthidaung and Maungtaw regions in October 2016, the Rakhine government transferred female teachers in far-off rural areas to towns and started employing educated male youths returning from Malaysia, Thailand and Phakant who were interested in teaching. The age limit of 30 years was raised to 35 and they were employed as teachers on the basis of a daily rate paid monthly. Those employed as teachers in this way were then employed on a permanent basis starting in August. These teachers underwent 10 days of kindergarten and Grade 1 training in Maungtaw Basic Education High School No. (2). The following are interviews conducted with four of these teachers.

U Than Shwe (Maungtaw Township, Garabrun Post Primary School)

I returned from Malaysia after working there. There was an advertisement for teachers from the Maungtaw education department. My parents urged



U Than Shwe.

me to enter into this profession. Earlier, there wasn't much recruitment for teachers. This job is for those under 35 years of age. In the past, it was for under-30 years old. Now it was raised to 35 years and I became interested. I plan to work permanently as a teacher.

U Zaw Han Tun (Buthidaung Township, Latpankaing Village Primary School)

Before I got this job, I worked abroad. I faced many difficulties when I went to work in other countries. I like the rules and regulations set by my gov-



U Zaw Han Tun.

ernment and like the closeness of the staff. I'm also interested in this job so I ended up working in it. In other countries, I had to follow their rules and I became fearful. I don't feel safe. I went to work there because I don't have anything but I'm afraid for my life. (This job) is filling in the requirement of my country and my government. I'm also interested so I take up this job.

U Khin Tun Maung (Upper Kwe Chaung Primary School, Buthidaung Township)

I'm teaching young Khami ethnic children. As they are eth-



U Khin Tun Maung.

nic children, I have some language difficulties. But I'm trying my best by teaching together with local teachers. Before this job, I worked in Malaysia for seven years. Even though I'm a graduate, I have to take menial basic jobs so it was not convenient. As we are foreigners, we were treated differently and looked down upon. We had to do the most basic jobs.

U Zeyar Chit Myat Oo

I'm teaching second-grade children in Maung Hna Ma Village sub middle school, Maungtaw Township. I was born in Taungup, Rakhine State. The



U Zeyar Chit Myat Oo.

village in which I taught previously was burnt. As the students are not ethnic Rakhine, it is a bit difficult to teach. Everything is OK to teach students in this school. Before I became a teacher, I worked in a company in Yangon for six years. While working there, I learnt of the plan to employ teachers here and I applied for it. I got the opportunity of participating in the development of my region and became a teacher. so I'm proud and honoured about this.

Of the 543 teachers who attended the kindergarten and Grade 1 training, 452 were male. ■

Two bridges supporting Maungtaw region development

By Myint Maung, Zeyar
Photo: Ne Win Tun

WHILE Ministry of Construction is constructing a 49-mile long Sittway-Maungtaw concrete road for Rakhine State Maungtaw region development, it is also constructing five river crossing bridges along the road.

"Our Department of Bridges is completing the construction of the remaining five main bridges on the Ponnagyun-Yathedaung-Buthidaung-Maungtaw Road before March 31. We will try to open these bridges by the end of March. With the construction of these bridges, it is possible to travel by car from Sittway to Maungtaw", said Department of Bridges director General U Shwe Lay.

Of the bridges constructed by the Department of Bridges on this road, the two main bridges are the 880 ft. Yathedaung bridge on Ponnagyun-Yathedaung



Photo shows the construction of 49-mile long Sittway-Maungtaw Road supporting Maungtaw region development, Rakhine State.

Road and the 600-ft. long Saitin bridge in Buthidaung Township on Yathedaung-Buthidaung Road.

Other bridges on Buthi-

daung-Yathedaung Road are the 960 ft. long Panzin Chaung bridge, the 180 ft. long Aung Tha Chaung bridge and the 150 ft. long Yay So Chaung bridge.

There are other smaller bridges on Buthidaung-Yathedaung Road. But the five bridges are the main ones, and attempts are being made to complete the

Saitin bridge and Buthidaung bridge as soon as possible. Once these bridges are completed, road links between Sittway and Maungtaw will be established. ■

Characteristics and value of a country

TO be able to live free from any bonds or control or pressure is the value of a country. Generally speaking, it can be said that the characteristics of a nation requires that all the citizens living in the country can enjoy the fruits of independence. In essence, the country which can guarantee the characteristics and value of the country is actually the country with genuine freedom.

Looking back into world history, nearly all of the small countries had been under the colonial imperialists at one time or the other. They fell down under the oppression of the civilized capitalist imperialists and the uncivilized fascist imperialists in some way or the other. Then, the characteristics and values of a country were lost.

During the warring periods most of the countries lost their Independence due to the aggressive occupation of the imperialists. The lost Independence was regained after fighting against the intruder imperialists with bravery and at great risks of their lives, through patriotism and nationalism.

To safeguard our sovereignty and independence, all national races should make concerted efforts to understand each other's traditions and cultures and learn to live in harmony and peace.

in the post war and in the post-cold war they tried to enter the international arena in the form of neo-colonial imperialist. Whether old or new, they will continue to seek their own national interests.

Now, Myanmar is a sovereign independent nation without any restrictions and global influences. All Myanmar citizens can enjoy the fruits of Independence. But, undeniably Myanmar had been left with the evil heritages of colonial rule. Evil heritages are none other than differences in opinion and disunity among us, the national brethren just after gaining Independence.

According to the current political situation in the world and Myanmar's current conditions, we must make sure that all Myanmar citizens can enjoy the fruits of independence. To safeguard our sovereignty and independence, all national races should make concerted efforts to understand each other's traditions and cultures and learn to live in harmony and peace. In addition to that, we must constantly monitor the dangers of the neo-colonialist so that we can safeguard our Independence and Sovereignty forever. ■

Safeguard Our Independence With Sense of Its Value!

By Pwint Thu Aung

“WE have already achieved. On the auspicious occasion of 4th January 1948 Sunday, ME 1309 9 Waning of Pyatho our country, Myanmar has already become the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with the absolute Independence and Sovereignty.”

As described on the Myanmar Independence Monument with the inscriptions written on the obelisk, our country became a sovereign independent nation, for 70 years exactly. To liberate from the colonial rule and to gain the Independence all our national brethren—Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan sacrificed a whole slew of their lives. After the intrusion of the British Imperialists, Myanmar lost its territories—Rakhine and Taninthari regions in 1824. After that, the Second Anglo-Burma War in 1852 made Myanmar lose the lower Myanmar starting from Taungoo whereas in 1885 Myanmar lost the whole country after the Third Anglo-Myanmar War.

Former Myanmar with its Sovereignty and Independence

Looking back into the historical background of Myanmar, it was a sovereign and independent nation, establishing Beikthano, Hanlin, Suvarnabhumi, Tagaung, Vesali, Srikhetra with their respective own kings, starting from BC 3 century. King Anawrahta of Bagan established the First Myanmar of great strength and solidarity by uniting scattered territories into one, thus upgrading Myanmar's image. Similarly, King Bayintnaung set up the Second



Bogyoke Aung San delivers the address at the Yangon City Hall on 13 July 1947.

Myanmar by organizing scattered regions based on Kaytumadi Toungoo, lifting virtues of justice and independence Myanmar people greatly aspired. And, U Aung Zeya, King Alaungphaya did likewise, establishing the Third Myanmar of great strength, based on Shwebo.

But, due to wars of intrusion by the British Imperialists during 1824-1885 the country came under the colonial rule. Though Myanmar patriots tried to drive the British out of the country with the weapons they had, skillful manipulation of military strategy and strength pushed Myanmar patriots' efforts to failed attempts. With the out-break of the Second World War which started to break out starting 1st September 1939, opened eyes of Myanmar youths

on world vision and politics wide, trying to build up a powerful army of their own, based on physical and mental prowess. After that thirty comrades led by Bogyoke Aung San got basic military trainings at the village, “Hsan nga” in Hainan Island, and continuing to study military trainings at the military institute, in Tamar Zarto on Formosa Island on 15th October 1941. On December 27 1941 they fought against Japanese forces was renamed the Patriotic Burmese Force—PBF.

Waging offensive wars in combination

In the months of January, February and March 1942 Myanmar forces occupied many areas, Taninthari Region, Kayin and Mon States, Bago and Yangon Regions. In occupying Yangon to regain the lost Independence, BIA applied the military strategy of keeping the enemies under siege in 3 military columns. BIA forces waged military operations in combination with the Japanese army, occupying nearly the whole country in June 1942. On account of reducing amounts of troops in BIA by the Japanese army Burma

Defense Army—BDA was formed on 26th August, 1942. The Fascist Japanese gave Myanmar the Independence—the gilded false one on 1st August 1943. However, Myanmar people did not accept it, instead launching a revolutionary attack against the Fascist Japanese forces between People and the Tatmadaw in combination on 27th March 1945. On July 23 1945 BDA which fought against Japanese forces was renamed the Patriotic Burmese Force—PBF.

Following that, PBF leaders and commanders of the military commands held a meeting at the residence of Bogyoke Aung San on August 10 and 11 of 1945 for achieving Myanmar Independence. Being the chairman of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League—zwyv, Bogyoke Aung San laid down the political roadmap for Myanmar's Independence.

At the mass meeting held at the Nay Thurein Theatre situated on the edge of the Kandawgyi [Royal] Lake on 19th August 1945 important resolutions were successfully laid down for gaining Independence. Present at the meeting were leaders from political parties, Tatmadawmen and the people. At the mass meeting, plans included in the White Paper

Project declared by the British on 17th May 1945 were officially rejected, with people's desires proclaimed by the AFPFL. The mass meeting managed to approve the proposals concerning Tatmadaw.

Nay Thurein Mass Meeting

At the Nay Thurein mass meeting, Bogyoke Aung San addressed a speech concerning the sector of Tatmadaw, “The whole of our Tatmadaw is now feeling worried as if being in the fire. Our comrades who were going to die from fires shot from enemies made their last dying speeches relay to the leaders would survive to carry on duties for fighting for the Independence dutifully. Their complaints really hurt our hearts.”

Similarly, a Kayin national leader, Mahn Ba Khaing also said, “Myanmar Tatmadaw is our benefactor. Fighting enemies by taking weapons from Japanese is really praiseworthy. We support it because it was based on cooperation between Myanmar and Kayin.” The Nay Thurein mass meeting was not only the historic one for Myanmar Independence but also the description of the last Independence struggle and devel-

opment of Myanmar Tatmadaw first-ever held in Myanmar.

After holding the historic Nay Thurein Mass Meeting, series of epoch-making events had been successfully achieved, namely—Kandy Agreement signed in Kandy, Sri Lanka on Friday 7th September 1945; Aung San-Attlee Agreement signed by Bogyoke Aung San in London, on 27th January 1945; Panglong Agreement signed by Bogyoke Aung San and 23 national leaders in Panglong at 10 am on February 1947; Nu-Attlee Agreement signed in England on 17th October 1947. Through these, Myanmar Independence Law [draft] was successfully implemented. After submitting the law [draft] to the British Parliament, Myanmar Independence was finally achieved on 4th January 1948.

Noteworthy speech of Bogyoke Aung San

Independence Day Ceremonies have been being held annually on 4th January for 70 years exactly on January 4 to come, with a view to relaying the spirits of safeguarding the Independence, which was hard-won by our ancestors at the risks of lots of lives.

Here are the noteworthy words of Bogyoke Aung San, Architect of Myanmar Independence-cum-the National Leader, “Independence is based on discipline, not out of discipline. Only if there is discipline can the Independence be achieved. We are required to work hard so that we can get what we want, as if plucking things we want from the magic tree. I want you to be well convinced of it. If you do not want to perform duties of the independence at the time when we are living under the independent flag, the Independence now in our hands will go into others' ones tomorrow. Think it deeply.”

To sum it up, every individual living in the Union needs to bear the Union Spirit and patriotism in them eternally, determining to safeguard our Independence so long as the world exist in the universe. ■

Translated by Khin Maung Oo

New UN agency projects to boost farming practices, improve farm animal health

PEOPLE around the world, especially poor farmers in developing Asian countries, will benefit through the use of nuclear techniques in combatting diseases affecting farm animals and improve water management practices, the United Nations atomic energy agency has said.

“Improved farming practices, healthier animals and – ultimately – increased food security will be the outcomes,” the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said Thursday.

Supported by a \$600,000 grant by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development (OFID), the IAEA initiative aims to contribute to strengthen the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 2 on ending hunger; achieving food security and improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture.

Producing more rice

About two-thirds of the grant will be used to help rice farmers better cope with the effects of climate change in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Nepal.

Countries in Asia – which produce 90 per cent of the world's rice – have seen fluctuating yields in recent years due to rising temperatures that bring new plant diseases and insect pests, extreme floods and droughts as well as a rise in sea levels leading to increased soil salinity and lower soil fertility in coastal areas.

“By using nuclear and isotopic techniques, scientists can help farmers improve water management practices and optimize the use of fertilizer for best yields at the lowest cost,” said the UN agency.

The increased productivity from these improved practices is expected to lead to higher volumes of high-quality, affordable rice, increasing the food security of the rural population in target countries. The improved technologies will also help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from rice production.

Fighting animal diseases

The other part of the funds will go towards the application of nuclear-related techniques for the diagnosis of foot-and-mouth disease and other fast-spreading highly contagious diseases impacting cattle in Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam.

“Early and rapid detection of animal pathogen is key to halting the spread of the diseases,” said IAEA, adding that while conventional methods can detect the viruses, they take a long time and cannot determine their behaviour or genetic character – which is required for a rapid response.

Under the grant, the IAEA, in cooperation with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), will train veterinarians from the four countries in the diagnosis and control of the diseases.—UN News Centre ■

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

Putin tells Assad Russia will help defend Syrian sovereignty — Kremlin

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin told his Syrian counterpart Bashar al-Assad in a new year's greeting that Russia will continue supporting Syria's efforts to defend its sovereignty, the Kremlin said on Saturday.

Putin stressed that Russia would "continue to render every assistance to Syria in the protection of state sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, in the promotion of a political settlement process, as well as in efforts to restore the national economy," the Kremlin said.

Earlier this month Putin ordered the Russian forces in Syria to start withdrawing from the country, but said Russia would keep its Hmeymim air base in Syria's Latakia Province as well as its naval facility at Tartous "on a permanent basis".



Russian President Vladimir Putin. PHOTO: REUTERS

Russia first launched air strikes in Syria in September 2015 in its biggest Middle East intervention in decades, turning the tide of the conflict in Assad's favour.—Reuters ■

WORLD BRIEFS

US condemns arrest of peaceful protesters in Iran

WASHINGTON — The United States on Friday strongly condemned the arrest of peaceful protesters in Iran and urged "all nations to publicly support the Iranian people and their demands for basic rights and an end to corruption," the US State Department said in a statement.

Demonstrators chanted anti-government slogans in several cities across Iran on Friday, Iranian news agencies and social media reports said, as price protests turned into the largest wave of demonstrations since nationwide pro-reform unrest in 2009.—Reuters ■

Russia reports outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N2 bird flu — OIE

PARIS — Russia has reported an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N2 bird flu on a farm in the Kostromskaya Oblast region, the Paris-based World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) said on Friday.

The disease was detected on 17 December and led to the culling of more than 660,000 birds, the OIE said, citing a report from the Russian ministry of agriculture.

It did not specify the type of birds that were infected.

—Reuters ■

IS claims responsibility for supermarket bombing in Russia's St Petersburg

BEIRUT — Militant group Islamic State claimed responsibility for a bomb blast in a supermarket in the Russian city of St Petersburg on Wednesday, according to Amaq, the group's news agency.

The group didn't provide any evidence for its claim.

The explosion injured 13 shoppers in a branch of the Perekrestok supermarket chain.—Reuters ■

Russia ready to build ties with US despite Washington's hostile security doctrine — envoy

WASHINGTON — Moscow is ready to build relations with Washington despite the new US national security strategy that designates Russia and China as US rivals on the international arena, Russia's ambassador in

the US, Anatoly Antonov, said. "We closely studied this concept. Probably, we will scrutinize it further, looking at every word, every expression in it through a magnifying glass. There's only one thing I can say:

my first impression is that this concept causes regret, regret in the context of the Russian-US relations," the diplomat said in an interview with the international Russian-language RTVi channel, broadcasted on Friday.

"We see many flawed provisions in this concept. But we are ready to work and build relations with the United States of America even with such an unfriendly concept," he added.—Tass ■

Berlin New Year's Eve party sets up safe zone for women

LONDON — Organizers of Germany's biggest New Year's Eve party at Berlin's Brandenburg Gate are setting up a special safety zone for women who have been assaulted or feel threatened.

The move comes two years after hundreds of women were groped, sexually molested and robbed by gangs of men during New Year's Eve festivities in Cologne.

Hundreds of thousands of revellers are expected to flock to Berlin's "party mile" on Sunday

in front of the Brandenburg Gate in the heart of the city.

The annual open air event with fireworks, live bands and DJs, continues into the early hours of the morning.

Berlin police confirmed that this year women would be able to seek help in an area staffed by the German Red Cross.

"The organisers have set up a safety zone for women who have been victims of a sexual offense or are feeling harassed," a police statement said.

Anja Marx, a spokeswoman for the event, said there would be a tented area with psychologists on hand.

"We are doing this for the first time," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation by phone. "The police requested it after they did it at the Munich Oktoberfest this year and it worked out well."

She said there had not been problems at previous New Year celebrations in Berlin.

The mass assaults two years

ago in Cologne shocked the country.

A police report described how women were surrounded by gangs of men who sexually assaulted them, often while stealing their wallets and phones.

The violence fuelled criticism of Chancellor Angela Merkel's decision to open Germany's doors to more than a million migrants after it emerged that many of the assaults were carried out by men of North African and Arab appearance.—Reuters ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR

အစဉ်တစိုက်အားပေးဖတ်ရှုကြသော ပြည်တွင်းပြည်ပမှ
“စာဖတ်သူများ၊ ဖြန့်ချိပေးသောကိုယ်စားလှယ်များ၊ ကြော်ငြာရှင်များနှင့် မီဒီယာအရင်းအမြစ်များ”
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ဖြတ်သန်းနိုင်ပါစေကြောင်း The Global New Light of Myanmar မှ
နှစ်သစ်ဆုမွန်ကောင်းတောင်းလိုက်ပါသည်။



Russian-Cuban laboratory to help trace gravitational waves

MOSCOW — The Russian-Cuban observatory expected to be built in Cuba will be equipped with one of the world's most powerful telescopes to help scientists find the sources of gravitational waves and warn about an asteroid danger, Director of the Astronomy Institute at the Russian Academy of Sciences Dmitry Bisikalo told TASS on 28 Thursday December.

“The second stage [of the observatory’s construction] involves a big, modern and good telescope of the meter-class. I can call it one of the best existing telescopes in the world. This is a wide-angle meter-class telescope. This is a very good instrument and there are plans to use it for solving a number of most important tasks, in particular, the tasks of the asteroid and comet danger and the search for objects and the sources of gravitational waves, said Bisikalo whose institute has been appointed as the chief contractor for the observatory’s creation.

Russia has no observatories in the Western Hemisphere and that is why many scientists are



Russia has no observatories in the Western Hemisphere and that is why many scientists are interested in building this facility in Cuba. PHOTO: TASS

interested in building this facility in Cuba, the scientist added.

One observatory and one testing range

On the Cuban government’s request, Russia is going to build one observatory and one testing range on the island to carry out applied research and specify the work of space navigation systems, in particular, GLONASS.

The Institute of Applied Astronomy of the Russian Academy of Sciences will be responsible for this effort. On Cuba’s behalf, the Institute of Geophysics and Astronomy will be responsible for the observatory’s construction. The project will be financed by both countries.

“The Cuban side has provided a site while our Education and Science Ministry has allocated fi-

nancing for some works during the first stage. And now we are exploring together with Cuban researchers the possibility of accommodating the observatory and are preparing the infrastructure,” Bisikalo said.

However, the construction of this facility will begin only after the relevant agreement is signed between the governments of Russia and Cuba.

“I hope that it will be signed next year,” Bisikalo said.

First telescope in the Western Hemisphere

The observatory will be built in two stages. At the first stage, scientists will install a medium-class telescope in it.

“At the first stage, quite a small instrument measuring 20-40 cm will be

built to survey the astroclimate on Cuba,” Bisikalo said.

Moreover, the telescope can be installed already six months after the agreement is signed and funds are allocated and immediately after this scientists will be able to obtain data from it.

The second stage of the observatory’s construction will begin a year after the project’s official start. Over the period of two years, scientists will install a big telescope. Therefore, three years after launching the project’s implementation, the researchers will be able to obtain first data from the big telescope. At present, both telescopes are ready and are kept in the Astronomy Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

“The telescopes are expected to be robotized, i.e. with the minimum participation of humans. The telescopes will be maintained basically by scientists of the Cuban Institute of Geophysics and Astronomy but the scientific results will be processed jointly with scientists from the Cuban and Russian sides,” Bisikalo said.—TASS ■

US military to accept transgender recruits on Monday — Pentagon

WASHINGTON — Transgender people will be allowed for the first time to enlist in the US military starting on Monday as ordered by federal courts, the Pentagon said on Fri-

day, after President Donald Trump’s administration decided not to appeal rulings that blocked his transgender ban.

Two federal appeals courts, one in Washington

and one in Virginia, last week rejected the administration’s request to put on hold orders by lower court judges requiring the military to begin accepting transgender recruits

on 1 January.

A Justice Department official said the administration will not challenge those rulings.

“The Department of Defence has announced that it will be releasing an independent study of these issues in the coming weeks. So rather than litigate this interim appeal before that occurs, the administration has decided to wait for DOD’s study and will continue to defend the president’s lawful authority in District Court in the meantime,” the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

In September, the Pentagon said it had created a panel of senior

officials to study how to implement a directive by Trump to prohibit transgender individuals from serving.

The Defence Department has until 21 February to submit a plan to Trump.

Lawyers representing currently-serving transgender service members and aspiring recruits said they had expected the administration to appeal the rulings to the conservative-majority Supreme Court, but were hoping that would not happen.

Pentagon spokeswoman Heather Babb said in a statement: “As mandated by court order, the Department of De-

fence is prepared to begin accessing transgender applicants for military service on 1 January. All applicants must meet all accession standards.”

Jennifer Levi, a lawyer with gay, lesbian and transgender advocacy group GLAD, called the decision not to appeal “great news.”

“I’m hoping it means the government has come to see that there is no way to justify a ban and that it’s not good for the military or our country,” Levi said.

Both GLAD and the American Civil Liberties Union represent plaintiffs in the lawsuits filed against the administration.—Reuters ■

Notification on changing Pesticide Manufacturer

Regarding with the following pesticide produced by Ladda Co.,Ltd. registered at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, shall change it original manufacturer Ladda Co.,Ltd. to Bion Tech Inc Co.,Ltd. shall onward import and distribute the product of through distribution.

Sr	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Type of Registration	RegisterNo.
1	BIONBAC	Bacillus subtilis.....1x10 ⁹ cfu/g WP	Provisional	P 2017-3990

Therefore, it is to notify that if any objection would like to change of manufacturer may submit it to Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogon, Insein within two weeks from the date of Notification.

Address - Seven Tigers Trading Co.,Ltd
No.(4), Thiri Myaing Street, Htauk Kyant (Southern)
Mingalardon Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Phone No: 09-794868499, 09-257322255

Japan eyes trilateral summit with China, S Korea in early April

TOKYO — Japan has proposed to China and South Korea that a long-delayed trilateral summit be held in Tokyo in early April, but Beijing is withholding its response, diplomatic sources said on Friday.

With China remaining reluctant about the summit before the National People's Congress in March, the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has conveyed its readiness for a three-day visit to Japan by Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and South Korean President Moon Jae-in from 4 or 9 April, they said.

Seoul has said it would try to make necessary arrangements, they said.

The trilateral summit was last held in November 2015. Japan is to host the next summit, but it has been repeatedly postponed due to rows over territorial and historical issues.

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono is ex-



(From L) South Korean President Moon Jae-in, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang attend a photo session in Manila on 14 November, 2017. They debated regional development and security matters with their counterparts from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

pected to visit China in late January at the earliest to arrange the summit date.

The Japanese government hopes to set Abe's visit to China in 2018 after the trilateral summit and invite Chinese President

Xi Jinping to Japan by the end of that year.

Japanese government sources have said Abe may not attend the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics ceremony in February despite the

Moon administration's invitation due to the South Korean government's stance on the thorny issue of Korean women forced to work in Japan's wartime military brothels.—Kyodo News ■

DPRK vows never to change policy of bolstering nuclear, missile capabilities

PYONGYANG — The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) said on Saturday that it will never change its policy of developing nuclear and missile capabilities as a means to counter threats from the United States.

The official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) released a detailed report on the situation of the Korean peninsula this year, accusing the United States of being culpable for the dangerous tension there.

It said that the Donald Trump administration "has resorted to the hard-line hostile policy toward the DPRK, the degree of which dwarfs the policies of the former administrations."

"Our party and state ...clarified the principled

stand that it would continue bolstering the capabilities for self-defense and preemptive attack with the nuclear force as the pivot, as long as the US and its vassal forces persist in nuclear threat and blackmail," said the KCNA.

The report also listed chronically the events which marked the nuclear and missile crisis this year.

The DPRK has detonated a hydrogen bomb and test-fired ballistic missiles this year, including three intercontinental ballistic missiles, which drew sanctions by the United Nations Security Council.

The "Hwasong 15" test-fired by the country last month was said to be able to hit the whole territory of the United States.—Xinhua ■

China recovers \$112 mln in misused poverty relief funds — Xinhua

BEIJING — Chinese authorities have recouped 730 million yuan (\$112.20 million) in misappropriated funds as part of an investigation into the country's national poverty-reduction scheme, the official Xinhua news agency reported on Saturday.

Nearly 450 people have been charged for offenses relating to the misused funds in an inspection of 28 provinces, said Xinhua, citing the Ministry of Finance and the State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development.

The report gave no details on how the funds were misused.

China's government has pledged to wipe out poverty by 2020, targeting 70 million people living below the poverty line, but researchers and social workers say a lasting solution

will take much longer.

China has spent 196.1 billion yuan (\$30.14 billion) on poverty relief over the past four years, said Xinhua. Earlier this month, Hu Zejun, the head of the National Audit Office, said that the country has punished a total of 970 people

for misusing the funds under the same programme. It was not clear whether that number included the 450 people charged for offenses.

Hu said 101,800 people had been removed from the government list of registered poor while another

95,000 were added.

Beijing committed 86 billion yuan (\$13.22 billion) to poverty alleviation in 2017 under the national programme, most of which is used for infrastructure projects, as well as subsidies for education and health care.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SHAMIN VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SHAMIN VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31-12-2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S LAND AND SEA
SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31-12-2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SKY HIGH SW VOY. NO. (5)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SKY HIGH SW VOY. NO. (5) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31-12-2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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China Gold Record Awards ceremony held in China's Kunming



Dancers perform during the 10th China Gold Record Awards ceremony at Yunnan Grand Theatre in Kunming, southwest China's Yunnan Province on 29 December, 2017. The 10th China Gold Record Awards ceremony honours records created between 2013 and 2017 and artists in 20 categories. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

US crime novelist Sue Grafton dies of cancer

LOS ANGELES — Crime novelist Sue Grafton, whose Kinsey Millhone Alphabet series became world-wide best sellers, has died after a two-year battle with cancer, her daughter said on Friday.

Grafton, 77, died in Santa Barbara, California, on Thursday surrounded by her family, her daughter, Jamie Clark, said in a note on Grafton's website.

Grafton was best known for a series of murder mystery novels that each begins with a different letter of the alphabet. The last was "Y is for Yesterday," which was published in August.

"Sue passed away last night after a two year battle with cancer," her daughter wrote.

"Although we knew this was coming, it was unexpected and fast. She had been fine up until just a few days ago, and then things moved quickly," Clark added. Grafton had never allowed her books to be turned into movies or TV shows, and her daughter said she was adamantly against ghost writers. "As far as we in the family are concerned, the alphabet now ends at Y," Clark wrote.

Grafton's novels feature feisty female private investigator Kinsey Millhone who lives in the fictional California town of Santa Teresa.

The first, "A is for Alibi," was published in 1982. The books have been translated into 26 languages and regularly topped best seller lists in the United States.

Grafton was praised for her wit and her characters. She won numerous honours for her work including from the British Crime Writers' Association and the Mystery Writers of America. —Reuters ■

Arise Sir Ringo: Beatles drummer knighted in UK honours list

LONDON — Ex-Beatles drummer Ringo Starr has been knighted in Queen Elizabeth's New Year's honours list, along with Bee Gees singer Barry Gibb and author Michael Morpurgo, while ballet dancer Darcey Bussell becomes a dame.

Ringo, 77, real name Richard Starkey, joined the Beatles as a replacement drummer for Pete Best in 1962 and occasionally sang lead vocals, notably in "Yellow Submarine" and "With a Little Help from my Friends."

He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a Beatle in 1988 and again in

2015 for his solo career after the group split up.

Gibb, 71, is the British musician who co-founded the Bee Gees with his brothers Robin and Maurice and went on to record a string of pop classics including "Stayin' Alive" and "Night Fever" from the film "Saturday Night Fever."

English author Morpurgo, 74, is best known for children's novels like "War Horse" and was Children's Laureate from 2003 to 2005. Bussell, 48, is a former principal dancer with the Royal Ballet and currently one of the four judges in the long-run-

ning BBC TV ballroom contest "Strictly Come Dancing."

The New Year's honors have been awarded since Queen Victoria's reign in the 19th century and aim to recognize not just well-known figures but those who have contributed to national life through often selfless and unsung contributions over many years. In that category, Margaret Jamieson, of the Blue Door charity shop on the Scottish island of Orkney is recognized, along with Geoffrey Evans, a local councillor in Falmouth, Cornwall for over 40 years.

Actor Hugh Laurie receives

the CBE medal, as does author Jilly Cooper and the former editor of British Vogue magazine Alexandra Shulman.

England women's cricket captain Heather Knight is made an OBE while hip hop artist Richard Cowie, aka Wiley, is made an MBE, along with Paralympian athlete Stefanie Reid.

The biannual honours list is released on the Queen's official birthday in June and at the end of each year. The list is published by the Cabinet Office and can be seen at www.gov.uk/honours/honours-lists.

—Reuters ■

Jay-Z 'confesses' to Beyonce in 'Family Feud' music video

LOS ANGELES — Jay-Z released a music video on Friday that features the rapper addressing the pain of infidelity as he appears in a confessional booth opposite his wife Beyonce.

Set partly in a church and also featuring the couple's 5-year-old daughter Blue Ivy, the "Family Feud" video pays tribute to family ties and female empowerment.

"We all lose when the family feuds," Jay-Z sings. "A man that

don't take care of his family can't be rich."

The video is the latest from Jay-Z's hit album "4:44," in which he responds to allegations of cheating revealed by Beyonce in her 2016 Grammy-winning album "Lemonade." It briefly shows an unidentified couple having sex, until the woman stabs the man in the back.

Within an hour of its release, the video was the top trending

item on Twitter. Jay-Z, 48, confirmed in a New York Times interview in November that he had been unfaithful to Beyonce earlier in their nine-year marriage.

The rapper's soul-baring "4:44" album on love, life and social issues was widely seen as an apology to his wife.

The couple, one of the richest and most influential in the music industry, have reconciled and Beyonce gave birth to their

twins in June.

Heavy on symbolism, the eight-minute-long "Family Feud" video shows the musician walking into a church holding the hand of a white-clad Blue Ivy and taking a seat in the confessional booth.

Beyonce, dressed in a black, priestess-like robe, watches silently from a pulpit and later sits listening on the other side of the confessional screen.

Directed by filmmaker Ava

DuVernay, the video also envisions a future in which a grown-up Blue Ivy and other women of colour, portrayed by actresses Mindy Kaling, Rosario Dawson, America Ferrera, Thandie Newton and Niecy Nash, appear to rule the world.

Jay-Z has a leading eight nominations for the Grammy Awards in January, including the top prizes of best album, song and record of the year. —Reuters ■

Changed and unchanged of Tibetan Buddhist monasteries

LHASA — Every day just as the sun rises, life inside of the Drepung Monastery begins as it has for centuries — monks awaken, chant of sutras, have a light breakfast, and begin their studies.

An asphalt road connects the monastery at the foot of a mountain with the western suburb of Lhasa. Behind its whitewashed walls lurks a hidden world of golden sculptures and colored murals.

Wooden signage in both Chinese and English is everywhere inside Drepung directing for endless streams of Buddhist pilgrims and foreign tourists hither and thither.

For 600 years, Drepung, the largest monastery of the Gelug school, has stood silent witness to events beyond its walls.

Having survived hundreds of years, many monasteries are in a poor condition and in need of work. More than 200 million yuan (around 30 million US dollars) of government money have been spent renovating Drepung over the past five years.

“The buildings were repaired and parking lot and nursing home built,” said Nyima, head of Drepung’s management committee. Tibet started providing funds to monasteries in 2011, supplying them with electricity and water, and building roads, bath houses,

greenhouses and garbage treatment facilities.

In addition to government money, Drepung Monastery makes more than 10 million yuan each year from ticket, alms given by pilgrims and earnings from shops and teahouses. Most of the money is used to maintain the buildings and preserve its artwork. The remainder is making life easier for the monks.

A management committee consisting of government officials and monks has been set up in almost every monastery in Tibet. These official members work with monk members to manage monastery affairs and solve problems faced by monks.

Dradul entered Tsurpu Monastery 31 years ago. He enjoys high prestige in the Karma Kagyu school of Tibetan Buddhism since completing a three-year retreat of fully-cloistered meditation.

Dradul is a member of the monastery’s management committee and a political advisor of Tibet. It is through those management committees that monks now have medical and endowment insurance, and living allowances. Buildings are maintained. Infrastructure such as roads are improved.

Datri, a government-designated member of the manage-



Located at the “Hero City” called Gyantse, Palcho Monastery or Pelkor Chode Monastery is a key cultural relic under state-level protection. Founded in 15th century, the monastery consists of three Tibetan Buddhist sects including Sakya sect Kadam sect and Gelug sect. Combining Buddhist pagodas with temples, Palcho Monastery is a unique Tibetan Buddhist monastic architecture with complex structures. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

ment committee of Drepung Monastery, has helped source more than 200,000 yuan in medical aid to 39 monks. He also helped 114 monks apply for living allowances. “These officials are like a family member to us. Whenever we have a problem, we will look for their help,” said Ngawang Gonchen, a monk.

Religious study and services are the main activities of monastic life. Tibet Buddhist Theological Institute, the autonomous region’s first comprehensive Buddhist academy, has branches in 14 major monasteries.

Aged between 17 and 30, the monks at the institute’s branch at Drepung study sutra to acquire the highest academic degree — “Geshe Lharampa” — similar to a doctorate. Since 2005, more than

100 monks have received the degree in Tibet. “Those monks who study sutras are the future of any monastery,” said Ngawang Kun-qing, head of the Drepung branch of the institute. “So it’s important to look after them well.”

Those with excellent conduct and academic performance have the opportunity to study at the institute, which recruited its first batch of 150 monks in 2011.

“To acquire the highest degree is not easy,” said Ngawang Chupa, a sutra teacher from Ganden Monastery. It took him 32 years to obtain his “Geshe Lharampa”. He now teaches sutra to more than 100 monks in 4 classes.

Dharma assemblies are still the most important activities in monasteries. On the anniversary of the birth of the Buddha every

year, Sera Monastery begins an assembly at 6 am, when over 500 monks chant sutras together. It’s a grand sight to see.

On auspicious days of Tibetan calendar, monasteries, big and small, hold the same traditional ceremonies as they have for centuries. Tsurphu Monastery holds 38 such ceremonies a year, while Sera and Drepung monasteries hold even more. An official survey found 1,787 places of religious activity in Tibet, with over 46,000 Buddhist monks and nuns in residence, offering on-the-spot services like weddings or funerals.

“Such services not only meet the religious demand of Tibetans, they are also the responsibility of monks,” said Dorje Tsering from the religion bureau of Xigaze city.—Xinhua ■

Beijing to launch driverless subway

BEIJING — Beijing will launch three rail lines, including a driverless subway, on Saturday, the municipal transport commission announced on Friday.

Located in Beijing’s southwest suburbs, the Yanfang Line is China’s first fully domestically developed automated subway. It has nine stations on its 14.4-km main line, linking the areas of Yanshan and Fangshan. The line is expected to carry 70,000 passengers daily.

Also to start operating on Saturday is the 10.2-km Line S1, Beijing’s first medium-low speed maglev line. It connects the western suburban districts of Mentougou and Shijingshan.

The third is the 9-km West Suburb Line connecting tourist spots such as the Summer Palace and the Fragrant Hills



A train runs on Yanfang subway line in Beijing, capital of China on 30 December, 2017. Yanfang line started trial operation on Saturday. Located in Beijing’s southwest suburbs, the Yanfang Line is China’s first fully domestically developed automated subway. It has nine stations on its 14.4-km main line, linking the areas of Yanshan and Fangshan. The line is expected to carry 70,000 passengers daily. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

in northwest Beijing.

After the launch, Beijing

will have 22 metro rail lines spanning 608 km.—Xinhua ■

Russia’s largest water park to open in Siberia in 2018

TYUMEN — The largest indoor water park in Russia will be opened in the west Siberian city of Tyumen next year, Andrei Shalnev, deputy head of the local investment policy department, told TASS on 28 Thursday December.

“The largest water park in Russia will be unveiled in the

end of 2018,” Shalnev said.

He said the new facility will feature swimming pools, water slides, saunas and food courts.

The park’s territory will be 130,000 square meters. It will have a maximum capacity of 3,000 guests. The investments in the project total 5 bln rubles (\$86 mln).—Tass ■



The park’s territory will be 130,000 square metres. **PHOTO: TASS**

Friendly football matches played in preparation for MPT MNL 2018 season

IN preparation for the 2018 season of the MPT Myanmar National League, several friendly matches were played yesterday in Yangon.

A match between Hanthawady FC and Yadanabon FC was played at Thuwanna Artificial Turf Ground, with Yadanabon winning 1-0, while the match between Shan United FC and GFA FC was played at the Thuwanna Training Pitch, with GFA winning by a score of 2-1. The friendly that featured Southern FC and Magway FC was played at Salin Ground, with Magway FC emerging with the win by a score of 4-2.

The 2018 Myanmar National League, also known as the 2018 MPT Myanmar National League, is in its 9th season. The MNL has been the top Burmese professional league for association football clubs since its founding in 2009. At the end of the 2017 Myanmar national league, Nay Pyi Taw was banned from the league for financial problems. City Yangon and Sagaing United



File photo was taken while competing Yadanabon FC and Hantharwady United FC at Thuwanna Artificial Turf Ground, Yangon on 30 December. **PHOTO: KYI SOE (MFF)**

ed were promoted from MNL-2 to the 2018 Myanmar National League. But City Yangon FC changed their owner and de-

cided to abandon their club. So Myawady FC was promoted to 2018 Myanmar National League. The 2018 MNL is comprised

of 12 teams -- Ayeyawady United FC, Hantharwady FC, Magway FC, Rakhine United FC, Sagaing United FC, Shan Unit-

ed FC, Southern Myanmar FC, Yadanarbon FC, Yangon United FC, GFA FC and Zwegapin United FC.—GNLM Sport ■

Myanmar Drift Championship 2018 in February

Khaing Set Wai

SUPERVISED by the Motor Sport Association of Mandalay (MSAM), the Myanmar Drift Championship 2018 will be held in February at Yadanabon Cyber City near Pyinsar Village in Pyin Oo Lwin Township, Mandalay, according to Ko Ei Paing from MSAM.

“We are organising the event to be better and grander. The aim is to go and compete in neighbouring countries. We are arranging to organise the racing twice a year”, he added.

Two Myanmar race drivers took part in motor racing events held in Thailand in December with good results, Ko Ei Paing said. The local motor racing events are being organised with the aims to foster young racing drivers from Myanmar and to achieve international level awards, it is learnt.

“Last year’s 2017 Myanmar motor racing event in April was broadcast live from MRTV-



Motor Drift Championship 2018 will be held in February in Pyi Oo Lwin Township, Mandalay. **PHOTO: KHAING SET WAI**

4. We are arranging the year’s event also to be broadcast live. ‘Car Drift’ is sure for this year, whether ‘Time Attack’ involves or not this year is to be decid-

ed when the event is close. We are also trying to feature cycle stunt, bicycle stunt and a Music Show” he added.

This year motor racing

was divided into two grades, Grade A and Grade B. Prizes will be awarded for first place, first runner-up and second runner-up in both grades. ■

Zwekapin FC defeats Gandamar FC

ZWEKAPIN FC beat Gandamar FC at KBZ Bank Women’s League, by a score of 5-0 in the first week of the 2017-2018 season yesterday at Aung San Stadium, Yangon.

Organized by KBZ Bank, KBZ Bank Women’s League 2017-2018 was held by dividing the competition into seven weeks. Yesterday match was the last match of the first week competition. Zwekapin FC has prepared for this season by bringing Lei Lei Hlaing, a selection player of Myawaddy and also appointed Zin Mar One, former head coach of U-19 team as a head coach of the team.

As Zwekapin FC played well while Gandamar FC did mistakes yesterday, Zwekapin FC won with 5-0 result. Two goals for Zwekapin FC were scored by Sanda Htwe at 22 minutes and 79 minutes while other two goals were scored by San Thawdar at 43 minutes and 83 minutes. Captain Than Than Htwe also scored a goal at 74 minutes.—GLNM Sport ■

Welcoming to New Year



Myint Myat Maw
Grade- 9 (T.T.C (Kamayut))

New Year is celebrated all over the world with great fun and enthusiasm.

It is a special day for the people and they will be looking forward to their upcoming year in their own way. People start the preparation for the New Year celebration many days in advance. People buy new clothes, gifts, and many new things from the market. On the midnight 31st December and on 1st January there is a celebration of New Year all over the world. After the Christmas celebration people wait for the 31st night, that is the day when we recall all the good and bad memories of the whole year and say goodbye to the old year and welcoming the year.

For the New Year, I have planned many things that have to be done. As the standard nine is the basic for the tenth standard, all the things I've learnt in 2017 may be the techniques to obtain in the next New Year, 2018. Everything is going to be new but I am also getting one year older. My sister is also going abroad, so I have to take care of my brothers on behalf instead of her. I will have to try my best in the New Year, 2018 because the tenth standard is the most distinctive decision-mark of our lives. I may have to reduce wasting time like watching TV, playing games and even my sleep time as I have to pay most of my time to study hard. For, the New Year is not only new but also important for me, a matriculation standard student.

However, 2018 is waiting for us just as we all welcome the New Year, 2018,



which may be very charming as well as freshly pleasant. It is also a flawless flower in beauty. And it is a pure, innocent figure in essence.

As 2018 is a very invaluable New Year for us, we, all the people, old or young, should make good use of time for the coming year. From an individual person to all the entire people in

the world should have good sense for the coming challenges. As for me, I must leave all the depressions and bad things behind and get ready to face with the new events. I also would like to create special arrangements for my family like family gatherings, birthdays and so forth.

In fact, 2018 is in future. Future

is full of hopes whether they can be achieved or not. However, we all live long with one hope after another. By doing so, our lives mean colorful paintings. Such paintings may appear on a day, a week, a month or a year. Therefore, 2018 may honor our life-paintings in several ways, I believe.

New Year Wishes



What a happy, happy new year, full of love, fun and good cheer!

I wish that the world will have peace, and all wars will come to a cease.

I hope everyone will have food, and we will all be in good moods.

January 1st is very near, so I shall say, "Happy New Year!"



Moe Pwint Tin (Grade 3)

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

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Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

Lesson 33: Sentences (1): Types of Sentences

Before going on with our Grammar Lessons to a higher or more complicated level, let's study again about sentences.

We have already studied that we have Subject + Predicate in a sentence and about we have Subject + Verb + Object in some sentences and we have Subject + Verb + Complement in some sentences.

Today, let's study about different types of sentences.

There are:...

- I. Statement
- II. Question
- III. Request and
- IV. Command

Let's start from the easiest ones: I. Statement.

As we have already told you, "A Sentence is a group of words which has a complete sense".

(We have already told you that groups of words which have not complete sense are called (a) Phrases (groups of words without Verbs) and (b) Clauses (groups of words with Verbs).)

A Sentence which gives you an information or tells you about something are someone is called "A Statement".

- e.g. (1) She is a teacher.
(2) He sang a beautiful song.
(3) The girl sits near the window.
(4) Ma Ma will scold you.
(5) Children are playing football.

As all these sentences tell you some information or tell you about someone or something, these are called "Statements".

Here in some sentences, we have only "One Word of Verb", but in some sentences, we have Verbs with more than one word.

e.g. In sentences (1), (2) and (3), we have only one word of Verbs as (1) is, (2) sang and (3) sits
but in sentences (4) and (5), we have more than one

word as Verbs as in (4) will scold and (5) are playing.

Please note these down as we are going to take it into consideration, when we change these sentences from one type from another.

All these above sentences are called "Statements".

II. Questions are sentences, when something someone wants to know is asked.

- e.g. (1) Is the teacher patient ?
(2) Does she sit near the teacher ?
(3) Will you come with me tomorrow ?
(4) When does the school begin ?
(5) Where do you live ?

All these sentences are asking something they want to know, so these are called "Questions" or "Interrogative Sentences".

Here, also note down in some Questions, we use Question Words as "Who, Whom, Whose, When, Where, Why, Which, What and How or How much and How many" as in e.g (4) and (5)

But in some other Questions, we do not use any of these Question Words, as in e.g. (1), (2) and (3).

Now, let's see the third type, III. Request.

It is the type of sentence which is said very politely to someone to do something.

- e.g. (1) Please shut the door behind.
(2) Please may I go out ?
(3) Be silent please.
(4) Please take these glasses away.
(5) Excuse me please.

Note that in these sentences, we usually use the word "Please" in the beginning or at the end of the sentence.

The last type IV. Command is not so polite as this Type (III).

It is something to be done is commanded very exactly by a commander or a leader or the teacher or somebody who has authority.

- e.g (1) Look at the blackboard.
(2) Take all your exercise books to my table.

- (3) March on.
(4) Stop talking.
(5) Stand on the bench.
(6) Stand Up.
(7) Sit down.

All these Commands or Orders are commanded or ordered by someone who has the authority to say so.

Therefore, no need to be polite with words like "please".

Now, here comes the exercises.

Exercise 33

- I. Make 5 Statements of your own.
- II. Make 5 Questions of your own.
- III. Make 5 Requests of your own.
- IV. Make 5 Commands of your own.

That's all for today's lesson.

You will have to study much much more about sentences in the coming lessons.

Bye for now Class ! See you next week !

Hope that the exercises are quite easy for you.

Your English Teacher (GNLM).

Email: <dr.nunuwintin.rose.dawn@gmail.com>

Different types of sentences

- I. Statement
- II. Question
- III. Request and
- IV. Command

Here comes the Answers for the last week's exercises.
Exercise 32.

I. Change into Passive Voice.

- (a) Football has been being played by children.
- (b) A new song has been being sung by me.
- (c) Our breakfast has been being had by us.
- (d) Your homework has been being done by you.
- (e) The plants have been being watered by him.
- (f) Cheese cakes have been being baked by Aunt Mary.
- (g) His new car has been being driven by Uncle Sam.
- (h) A new portrait had been being painted by her.
- (i) Their clothes have been being packed up by them.
- (j) Their lessons have been being prepared by teachers.

II. (A) Change the sentences into Past Perfect Continuous Tense.

- (a) Children had been playing football.
- (b) I had been singing a new song.
- (c) We had been having our breakfast.
- (d) You had been doing your homework.
- (e) He had been watering the plants.
- (f) Aunt Mary had been baking cheese cakes.
- (g) Uncle Sam had been driving his new car.

- (h) She had been painting a new portrait.
- (i) They had been packing up their clothes.
- (j) Teachers had been preparing their lessons.

II.(B) Change these sentences into Passive Voice.

- (a) Football had been being played by children.
- (b) A new song had been being sung by me.
- (c) Our breakfast had been being had by us.
- (d) Your homework had been being done by you.
- (e) The plants had been being watered by him.
- (f) Cheese cakes had been being baked by Aunt Mary.
- (g) His new car had been being driven by Uncle Sam.
- (h) A new portrait had been being painted by her.
- (i) Their clothes had been being packed up by them.
- (j) Their lessons had been being prepared by teachers.

III. (A) Change the sentences into Future Perfect Continuous Tense.

- (a) Children will have been playing football.
- (b) I will have been singing a new song.
- (c) We will have been having our breakfast.
- (d) You will have been doing your homework.
- (e) He will have been watering the plants.
- (f) Aunt Mary will have been baking cheese cakes.

- (g) Uncle Sam will have been driving his new car.
- (h) She will have been painting a new portrait.
- (i) They will have been packing up their clothes.
- (j) Teachers will have been preparing their lessons.

III.(B) Change these sentences into Passive Voice.

- (a) Football will have been being played by children.
- (b) A new song will have been being sung by me.
- (c) Our breakfast will have been being had by us.
- (d) Your homework will have been being done by you.
- (e) The plants will have been being watered by him.
- (f) Cheese cakes will have been being baked by Aunt Mary.
- (g) His new car will have been being driven by Uncle Sam.
- (h) A new portrait will have been being painted by her.
- (i) Their clothes will have been being packed up by them.
- (j) Their lessons will have been being prepared by teachers.

That's all for today Class. I believe that you all have done well.

Bye Bye Class !

How to Attain Mental Health for Teachers (3)

Dr. Nu Nu Win
(Retired Professor and Head of Department)

IN the last weeks' articles, the author has already discussed about the following factors concerning the Mental Health for Teachers. These are :..

- (1) Well-paid Salary or Efficient Salary
- (2) Conditions of Security
- (3) Fairness from the Upper-hands
- (4) Enough Time and Conditions for their Further Study.

Today, the author wants to discuss a little more about the teachers' opportunity for Further Study and about their Postings, Promotions and Demotions, Transfers, Opportunities and Family Conditions of Teachers.

First and foremost the author wants to discuss here what will be their rewards or credits for further studies and after further studies for teachers in service.

Nowadays, we have lots of chance for further studies of today's teachers both inside the country and abroad.

But, what will be their chance to join such kinds of studies.

Once in our country, we have a Teacher Education System that as soon as they passed their Matriculation Exam., they will have the chance to become three different kinds of teachers as PATs, JATs and SATs and also tutors in Colleges and Universities. It depends on their individual conditions such as their marks attained in the Matriculation Exam., their family conditions such as financial and the place they live in.

Some can attend Education Colleges for Teacher Training for one year to become a PAT (Primary Assistant Teacher) to teach primary classes, and two years to become a JAT (Junior Assistant Teacher) to teach lower secondary classes. And they can join the Universities of Education (now we have three.. one in Yangon, one in Sagaing and the other one in Sagaing Ywarthitkyee which is called UDNr (University of Development for National Races) (It is only meant for the remote and boarder areas and it is not under the Ministry of Education. It is for special purposes for the development for these areas.)

The Courses in the Universities for Education are 4 or 5 years (5 years in the past from 1964 to 1984), 4 years from 2001 to 2016 and now 5 years again these days to become an SAT (Senior Assistant Teachers) to teach the higher Secondary classes after they get their B.Ed. degree. During the years 1984 to 2000, we had only One Year B.Ed. for old service Junior Assistant Teachers from the Basic Education Schools. So when they come to attend B.Ed. classes, they all were too old to study and to memorize what they were taught as they were nearly 60 years of age. But they were also so eager to attend B.Ed. classes for they can get



promotion as SATs or middle heads after they get their B.Ed. degree.

So, during these days, mostly all teachers tried their best to get the chance to have further study. The PATs want to study for JAT Courses in the Education Colleges after they have enough services and after they become JATs and get their first degree from the Arts and Science Universities or from Universities of Distance Education, and when they have enough years of services, they all try to attend B.Ed. classes (may be B.Ed. Correspondence as Distance Education again.) to get their Education degree.

These are so usual in the field of Education these days.

And for the SATs (nowadays we call only PTs, JT and STs) if they are qualified for their M.Ed. degree, they have the chance to sit for the M.Ed. Entrance Exam. (It is just because we Universities of Education want to select the individuals who are really interested in Education subjects as Educational Psychology, Educational Theory and Methodology and other further study subjects in Education. And one other reason is we have only limited classrooms and teachers to teach these M.Ed. classes in our UOE.s.)

After gaining their M.Ed. degree for some years (both written exams after taught courses and then one or two years for Master's Thesis) they can join their mother department at the UOE.s as tutors and then they will have more chance to get scholarships abroad for further studies and also they will have their chance to attend Ph.D. and so on. After some years of service, they will also be promoted from Tutors to Assistant Lecturers and Lecturers and up to APs and Professors if they get their Ph.D. degrees.

That is their chance, opportunities, and their future.

As for the B.Ed. degree holders in the field of Basic Education, they can become Middle Heads, High Heads, ATEOs,

TEOs, DDEOs and DEOs and up till to the rank of DGs if they have the efficacy and opportunity. M.Ed. degree holders in the field of Basic Education can become Middle Heads within a short services and then up to other ranks easily according to their capacity.

And they can also join the Education Colleges to become Tutors, ALs, Ls and then Principals of Education Colleges.

But, nowadays, as we have more and more demands of M.Eds and Ph.Ds not only for the UOE.s, but also for ECs, we Universities of Education have the responsibility to produce more M.Ed. degree holders and Ph.D. Degree holders.

So starting from about 2004 or 2005, we have M.Phil.(Education) Classes for those who have already got their B.Ed. degree with a service of more than 15 years. Theirs is not a Class to attend daily, but as they have their experience in their teaching services, they need to come only two days (esp. Fridays and Mondays, so that they can stay near their teachers during the weekends to get advice and extensive supervision for their projects and term papers.) after attending a taught course for one year and sitting for the final exam and then only need to write project papers after researches in Education.

That is one different kind of class for their way up in their future.

When they passed their M.Phil.(Education), (it's a kind of degree higher than a diploma) they can continue their study in M.Ed. classes.

Why the author has written such a long long story of the promotions for teachers in the Basic Education Department is that all teachers starting from PTs to STs, they have their own way of trying their best for further studies to get promotions in their future.

That was all what we already have and what we still have in our Basic Education field for the future of our teachers.

But, an individual needs to work hard

and try his or her best to be promoted from one step to another.

In the same time, there are those who are not interested in promotion, usually as they have their own stories of enjoying their recent rank in the schools in their hometowns with their own enjoyable loving families, so they do not want to go anywhere for their promotions. They enjoy their life as it is in their own way, looking after their children or their old parents.

The author thinks to let them do as they like is the Best Way to maintain Mental Health for those teachers if they serve their own job dutifully.

And nowadays again, the demand comes up higher again, to get more and more numbers of M.Ed. and Ph.D. Degree holders.

So, we two UOE.s have to take more and more students for M.Ed. and Ph.D. classes.

We have tried a lot to meet the ends, as we have already took more students both for M.Ed and Ph.D. classes this year.

But, it's a great But, that is, for these more and more M.Ed. and Ph.D. students, we also need more teachers in the three main Education Departments, but sorrowfully we have not.

So, to appoint more tutors for these Education Departments should be the very first thing to promote others. For those tutors where can we get except our M.Ed. and Ph.D. degree holders. Only after that we can continue to do other things.

Anyhow, we tried our best to get more in numbers, as we start calling for our M.Ed. (Qualifying) classes for those who are not qualified for M.Ed., but with a service of 5 years as STs.

But, there are some other matters concerning these things.

Dr. Nu Nu Win, Retired Professor and Head of Department, Department of Educational Psychology, SUOE.

(To be continued)



Mingalar Hawgyi Monastery.
PHOTO: RAMANYA

Kantarawady
Commemorative Plaque.
PHOTO: RAMANYA



Kantarawady Commemorative Plaque and Hawgyi Monastery

By Ramanya

Kantarawady Commemorative Plaque

Erected in Minzu ward in Loikaw, Kantarawady town entrance commemorative plaque was in fact the one rewarded to Saw La Phaw, a Kayinni [east] in the reign of King Mindon. Due to the abortive revolt, Prince Myingun retreated to the western part of Kayin Region where Kayinni resided, for taking a refuge. After recruiting new recruits there, Prince Myingun went to fight border guard forces of Myanmar King. It was submitted to the King by the Commissioner Maha Mingaung Kyaw Htin, head of the forces deployed in the central part of Shan State. King Mindon made the deputy commissioner of Lamai region

march Kayinni area, together with the troops amounting to 3600.

That troop advanced to Saw Lon town in Kayinni [east] from Hsipaw, thence to Kayinni [west] via Saw Lon. Accompanying the royal army, Kayah forces led by Saw La Phaw [east-Kayinni] moved forward. Prince Myingun's troops yielded to the defeat of the royal forces of great strength, escaping helter-skelter to the then British-occupied Lower Myanmar.

In recognition of Saw La Phaw's energetic support in marching to suppress Prince Mingun's forces, King Mindon sent his royal bodyguards, Boh Nga Htein and Nga Sai to confer a gold sash



Mingalar Hawgyi Monastery. PHOTO: RAMANYA

and valuable clothing to Saw La Phaw.

In 1868, King Mindon invited Saw La Phaw to his Royal Palace, Yadanarbon Capital. At the time of the control of Kantarawady Mayor Saw Phyar Sao Karn Li, Sayargyi U Ba Aye change the spelling for in Kantarawady, thus changing into Kandarawady, meant for a pleasant-looking town surrounded by beautiful landslide.

The commemorative plaque was initially situated on the road Kantarawady, west of moved to the present location. Due to decay of the original wooden post, Kayah State Government re-erected it into the concrete plaque, in its original style without changing any parts.

Hawgyi Monastery

The town built under the leadership of U Thi Ri in 1200 ME, had ever been named Thiritaw alias Thiridaw, after U Thi Ri. Later, it was called Loikaw. In the pre-war days of the Second World War, Kayah State was governed by 3 Kayah Saw Phyar, with an administrative office each built in a township, it was said. According to the elders, an administrative office for a Sawbwa to take office was built in Loikaw, and a huge edifice called 'Haw' was built for those Sawbwes to reside. It was learnt that it took four years to build the graceful Haw, a grand residential for those governors to live, from 1912 to 1916.

When the Second World War broke out, other Haws were destroyed, apart from the Kantarawady Haw, which survived the war as the only ancient cultural heritage of Kayah nationals, in Mingalar quarter of Loikaw.

The former Kantarawady Haw was built in Saw Lon village in Bawlakhe township, but due to inaccessibility to get there and being located in the sparsely populated area, in 1912 Kantarawady Saw Phyar Sis Khun Li moved it to Loikaw, whereas "Haw-Warming" to coin a phrase was held in 1919. On the demise of Saw Phyar Sis Khun Li, Sis Shwe Hone continued to administer on behalf of his nephew, who was still immature. When grown-up in 1948, Sis La Wi became a Sawbwa.

According to the contract dated on 18th

April 1961, Mingalar Haw Edifice on the premises was one of Saw Phyar's possessions. After the death of Saw Phyar Sis La Wi in 1987 his successors—son Sis La Phaw and daughter Sis Khemawady co-owned the inheritances. The two siblings donated the Haw as the monastery on 17th April 1994, by making libation before the Chairman of Kayah State Sangha Nayaka with a view to purification, perpetuation, promotion and propagation of Buddha Sasana and excavation of cultural heritage. From that day on, Reverend Sayadaw Baddhanta Candima of Lin Phon Lay village, Nwa La Moe village-tract [Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja] commenced to reside there.

Due to the deterioration of the long-timed ancient edifice Haw, renovations are underway with the help of Sayadaw and local populace. There, over 30 monks are being taught Canons of Buddhist Literature. Now its original name "Mingalar Haw had been erased, and it won renown as "Thiri Mingalarbon Buddhist Literature Institute" conducted by presiding Sayadaw Baddhanta Candima. At the monastery, Buddhist Literature Exams at different levels and religious events are being held annually. In the Myanmar months of Waso and Tazaungmone, ceremonies for religious robe-offering are observed.

Mingalar Hawgyi Monastery's Presiding Sayadaw of Kayah national race now has managed to build up a Sima, a Buddhist ordination hall named "Saddhamma Viponla" with the contribution of many donor laypersons. Some roofs of the outside annex, northern terrace and western floor are under repair. The ground for the ordination hall was consecrated on 23rd December 1997, with ground-breaking ceremony held on 25th December. Construction of the building commenced on 26th June 1998 and finished on 22nd 1999, costing lots of money, approximately several million.

The Reverend Sayadaw has been preaching Buddha Teachings in Myanmar, Kayah, Shan and Pa-oh languages for propagation of Buddha Sasana in Kayah State.

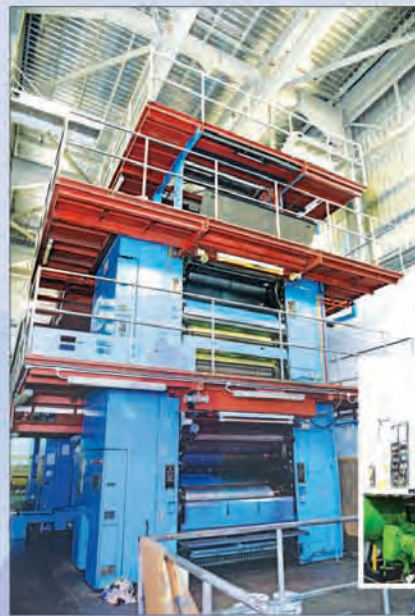
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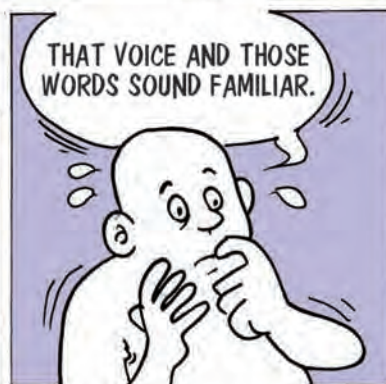
SUNDAY COMICS



PEOPLE
WILL BE
PEOPLE
Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



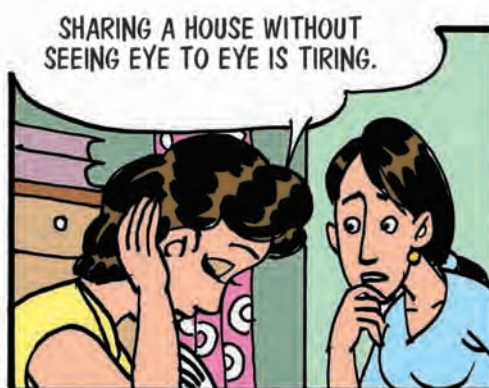
I'M LEAVING BEHIND THE BAD.



I'M PLAYING THIS BEFORE YOU'VE SAID IT.



SUNDAY
JOKE
Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2017



END

RESOLUTIONS THAT SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN 2018

NEW YEAR is drawing near and near. So, some persons may have refreshment trips in holidays. It is special occasion for those who always procrastinate in doing everything, to lay down New Year's Resolutions. I think you have already finalized the facts and data you had carried out in 2017. Besides, I strongly believe that you have dreams and resolutions for 2018. Nevertheless, I'd like to suggest that you should implement the following resolutions and dreams in New Year :

- (1) Do physical excises daily.
- (2) Quit cigarette, alcohol and narcotic-drug.
- (3) Take hygienic food.
- (4) Take enough sleep.
- (5) Have sufficient breakfast.
- (6) Take medical checkup.
- (7) Read more books.
- (8) Go monasteries and pagodas.
- (9) Take meditation.
- (10) Reduce stress.
- (11) Give family more time.
- (12) Motivate and encourage children and youths.
- (13) Visit to aged persons and relatives.
- (14) Participate volunteer activities.
- (15) Give kind-assistance to poor persons.
- (16) Donate blood.
- (17) Make charity.
- (18) Reduce the using of plastics.
- (19) Grow plants.
- (20) Give back owe-gratitude.
- (21) Try-hard in daily activities.
- (22) Give-up of procrastination.
- (23) Build confidences.
- (24) Practise Punctuality
- (25) Take responsibility and accountability.
- (26) Practise to uplift of thinking power.
- (27) Try-hard to build emotional skill.
- (28) Try-hard to control emotion.
- (29) Enlarge friendships community.
- (30) Save of everything.
- (31) Live without debt.
- (32) Save money.
- (33) Earn income in proper way.
- (34) Draw business plan.
- (35) Make investment thoroughly.
- (36) Abstain from bet.
- (37) Reduce indulgent manner.
- (38) Learn new subject daily.
- (39) Start a hobby.
- (40) Walk to work.
- (41) Think thoroughly before speak.
- (42) Reduce of TV-watching time.
- (43) Reduce social network applying.
- (44) Live in smart.
- (45) Dress in neat-style.
- (46) Learn new language.
- (47) Learn cooking-meal.
- (48) Participate in social organizations.
- (49) Learn traditional culture and custom.
- (50) Study to defend yourself.
- (51) Solve the fears.
- (52) Remember the important days.
- (54) Make creation.
- (55) Write public-benefit articles.
- (56) Drink more water.
- (57) Do not give promises you couldn't implement.
- (58) Deny politely.
- (59) Keep your key, wallet, hand-phone systematically.
- (60) Take rest in holidays.
- (61) Take vacation to the new places.
- (62) Recontact your old-friends.
- (63) Keep the house clean.
- (64) Reduce game-play time.
- (65) Make insurance for your live and properties.



File Photo: Htay Aung

Management of Time

If a person who did not get success in any fields such as education, health, economy and religion in 2017, he or she misspent a invaluable time foolishly. Only when successive trying is being made will success be achieved. There is no place for lazy and talking-persons in technology advanced and competitive age. Especially, those who could not manage the precious time will be leg-behind in all fields. It is needed to make practically in 2018 in order to accomplish the resolutions.

Success within your reach

The efforts, however, should be made in 2018 with new mind, manner and thinking and strength. Thus, necessary things could be prepared, thoroughly. Nevertheless, New Year's Resolution should be laid down without fail. This resolution should be implemented practically.

Although success could not be got in 2017, every citizens should be built the strength for implementation of success in 2018. It is needed to try hard from individuals to community and national development. Every person have much ability to implement. If you try hard, success is within your reach. Hence, individual dreams should be laid down for getting success.

In conclusion, New Year, 2018 is drawing near and near. If a person could not have a success in 2017, he or she misspent invaluable time foolishly. Hence, in order to avoid such experiences, it is needed to prepare for 2018 thoroughly. Especially, we should try with our best for our families, communities and nation as possible as we can. In this way, we could live as humanized-persons. Nevertheless, may all people happy and healthy in 2018 and could implement their dreams and resolutions in practically.

Maximizing effectiveness of aid



Yadanar Lwin
Second Year (Law)

NOWADAYS the question which is “Does aid really work?” is ever getting more questionable all over the world together with so many aid agencies, NGO groups and other aiding groups are becoming more widespread and prevalent in our society. Even though aids are essential for needy people, it should be considered whether the recipients do get benefits from those aids or not in the sustainable way for their lives. Behind the curtain, aids do not reach to the regarded destinations in most fields against the increasing amount of aids in the society. Success of aid depends on its people (both donors and aid workers and recipients), its structure (strong plans and disciplines), and time bound. There are some discussions about that issue through some plans and structures for solutions on what would create aid dependency and corruption by providing aids to the extreme poor, disastrous and calamitous people of this modern world so that we can play a part of making our society more pleasant.

First of all, people who involve in aid project play the most important role not to fail aids. *Aid agencies, the government and non-government organization groups often compete with each other for funding and they are not open minded. *They do not tell each other and even the recipients what they are doing, what kind of aid they

plan to provide and when. 1) We should try to have open information on aid delivery and management. To do so, we need freedom in media and journalism. As people are usually selfish and mistakes makers, and seek benefits for their own even from public aids, we need strong rule of law above them. The government has to take complete accountability for that. In some areas, the needy people do not accept all aids given by upper persons. Every single person who knows the duty is responsible to take account. In point of fact, everybody is essential to be solved the problem according to the law of nature in which everyone is interrelated and interdependent each other in both mental and physical.

Another important point is that we should make a coordinated and strategic plan and then communicate it to the people who receive aids. Donors should try to understand the sustainability and consider the impacts of providing aids so that their aids are not to be wasted. They should do research before they start their aids project to make sure where and which people are needed their aids and when and how. They should check often and promote effective evaluating system to be able to find out the problems, consequences and future plans for next project. And they should very carefully select the people who want to work in their project through their strong commitments, desire and ability and efforts to accomplish the project well. The project should be running progressively just like being in the flowing

water in the stream, not like in the dead water in the dam.

In addition, we should not give aids directly to the public. The reason why is that some people do not want to find any work even in their area because they know that they will get aid delivery then they just want to wait that aid. They think that it is easier to comfortably live in life. Their dependency on aids is getting higher. We should consider the progressive plans for them even after the project is done. We need to guide them to keep on going forward by themselves. For example, we must be able to fashion job opportunities by creating work places for them by promoting education, country's factories, roads and other infrastructure to be able to work at ease for the publics.

Angus Deaton, the newest winner of the Nobel Prize in economics says that foreign aid often hurts, rather than helps, poor people in poor countries. And he says that the most developed countries spent \$135 billion on official aid in 2014, but the poverty rate still exist. According to William Easterly's research, growth per capita declined 2% to 0.5% while aid as percentage of GDP was escalating 5% to 17% from 1970s to 1990s. I think that it is because of system which the people practice in most countries. 2) The government should make institutions inclusive to everyone. The poor people have not been automatically inclusive in almost all the sectors in most society in the world such as decision making according to the system

structure and their poverty is circling with no end due to the system structure which favors the wealthy people. Most of the rights and positions are structurally automatically occupied by wealthy people even if the rich people are kind and generous to poor by providing aids.

However, the poverty rate and the corruption rate are actually very low in most of Scandinavian countries such as Denmark, Norway and so on. It is very difficult to be extremely rich in Denmark as no one is allowed to be poor there. From my perspective, it is just hypocritical if the affluent capitalists of prosperous countries which worship or practice capitalism regardless of numbers of domestic poor people, say that they adore the equity and to help the people to escape from poverty then to eliminate the poverty in their countries. If the people (both government and civil society) want to see no poverty, they should imitate those countries which stand as the happiest countries in UN happiness research.

Ultimately, to grasp the success for aids, every single person is significant. There should be awareness of strategies for sustainable benefits and inspirations and motivation like recognition, awards for people who work for aids in our society. Everyone need to take own responsibility and accountability. And all the people need to be united and give more efforts, have courage to do the right things and alert of every situation and circumstances around them.

No Teaching, No Living



Shwe Kyay Mone
M.A. (YUFL)

Every person is always taught directly (or) indirectly. There is no one in the world that does not concern with teaching. Humans are all familiar with teaching forever.

Firstly, we are in family teaching. Parents teach us what to say, how to say, how to walk, how to eat and so on. Even though some people have no parents, the elders train then in the

above way. Training is a kind of teaching. Relatives and Friends also advise us to be clever, polite, hardworking and honest. However, it is parents who firstly do teaching us patiently and regularly. Therefore, according to a Myanmar saying, parents are the very first teachers in our lives.

Secondly, we may have a chance of class teaching. All the teachers teach us school lessons. They urge us to study the lessons and do homework. They also train us to keep disciplines, to attend classes regularly and to understand each other. They reward good pupils and punish bad pupils strictly.

They train all the students belonging to various parents to live in unity and help one another. They teach us science subjects as well as art subjects. They also teach us not only mother language but also foreign language. In fact, the fundamental guidelines are the basic source of developed life.

Thirdly, all the ways of livings become the life teaching for us. They never come to an end. The more experience we have in life, the more knowledge we may gain. We have to struggle hard in the whole life without stopping. We have to earn our living in several conditions. Such experiences

give us much knowledge. These are the method of living for us.

We cannot help working in life. As a result, we are used to being taught in life. We may have life teaching in many ways. They teach us how to live, what to eat, what to wear and how to deal with people.

Moreover all religions, including Buddhism teaches us how to live long as well as how to pass away. Thus we can enjoy the main sources of good life. They mean to avoid bad sins, to do good merits and to keep our mind pure. Therefore, I believe that teaching is essential for everyone forever.