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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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President U Htin Kyaw and Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint formally open the Children's Literature Festival in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

# President opens Children's Literature Festival in Yangon

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw and First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin attended the opening ceremony of the Children's Literature Festival, exhibition and book sales event in downtown Yangon yesterday morning.

The ceremony was held in Basic Education High School No. (6) Botahtaung (Saint Paul), designated as a historically significant building.

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint, a longtime advocate of children's literature festivals, said the most recent festivals have included exhibitions and book sales so that the children can buy books they are interested in while visiting the festival and become better acquainted with books and literature.

SEE PAGE-3

# UEHRD sends tents to Rakhine for use in repatriation

The Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine is preparing to provide temporary shelters to refugees before construction of houses for them are ready for accommodation.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement bought more than 1,050 tents manufactured in Belgium, with each tent costing more than Ks900,000. One tent can accommodate up to 10 people.

The ministry used money from a loan from the World Bank to buy the tents.

Dr. Win Myat Aye, the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement who is also vice-chairman of the UEHRD, inspected the tents stored at the Yangon Region Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Office yesterday. The ministry will send the tents to conflict areas in Rakhine State. The houses for refugees are under construction under the Cash for Work programme.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye held talks separately with the US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Scot Marciel and Mr. Knut Ostby, the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Myanmar at his ministry in Nay Pyi Taw Friday on the repatriation issue in Rakhine State.—Myanmar News Agency

# Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker attends unveiling of Bogyoke statue

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint unveils the statue of Bogyoke Aung San in Htantabin, Toungoo District. **PHOTO: HTANTABIN IPRD**

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint unveiled a Bogyoke Aung San statue in Htantabin Township, Toungoo District, Bago Region yesterday morning.

The event was begun by Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Zaw Win, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Min Oo and Htantabin District chief administrator U Than Shwe, as they cut the ceremonial ribbon.

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint unveiled the Bogyoke Aung San statue by pressing a button and then delivered the opening remarks.

Afterwards, Bago Region Chief Minister delivered a speech and U Thaung Kyaing, a representative of the Bogyoke Aung San statue organizing committee, delivered a message of thanks.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint and event attendees then posed for a commemorative group photo.

The Bogyoke Aung San statue is 8 ft. high and cast in bronze, weighing more than 150 Viss (about 245 kg). The statue was created at a cost of more than Ks 32.5 million in donations, and was erected in a 70 ft. x 45 ft. space in front of Thiri Mingala Hall, Htantabin Township.—Htantabin IPRD ■

# Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker attends Children's Literature Festival in Myawaddy

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than and officials enjoy the entertainment of BEHS No. 1 students in Myawaddy Township in Kayin State. **PHOTO: HTAIN LINN AUNG**

TWO-day Children's Literature Festival in Myawaddy was opened yesterday at the No.1 Basic Education High School, Myawaddy Township, Kayin State.

Officials and students gathered yesterday to open the Children's Literature Festival in Myawaddy Township, Kayin State.

The ribbon cutting ceremony saw officials participating, including Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Kayin State Hluttaw Speaker U Saw Chit Khin, Minister of Burma Ethnic Affairs U Tay Za Htut Hlaing Htwe, Deputy Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department Dr Thida Tin, and deputy commissioner U Htoo Lwin, along with outstanding students. Also, students performed the theme song of the Children's Literature Festival, and the Myanmar School song.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than spoke at the ceremony, noting, "In this time, when we are using cutting-edge technology, parents need to take care that mindless entertainment and games are not overwhelming the minds of children. Under these circumstances, it will not be easy to persuade children to avert their attentions to reading, but we want to urge parents to make concerted efforts for the development of our children's future.

"We hope to bring about happiness for children, by increasing their exposure to ideas and knowledge, cultivating reading habits, improving nationalism and patriotism, and enabling children to develop the courage to overcome hardships.

"I hereby urge parents and teachers to cultivate the development of future leaders by using children's reading rooms and reading children's poems," added Mahn Win Khaing Than.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker also viewed students' while ad-lib speaking, reciting poems, storytelling, painting, colouring and other competitions. He also viewed the children reading rooms, book exhibitions, ethnic literature exhibits, education exhibits, along with other exhibits and book shops.

Additionally, Saya Myin Mu Maung Naing Moe and Sayama Nu Nu Yi (Inwa) gave talks about literacy at the children's literature festival.

Many customary items from the Kayin, Burma, Mon, Shan and Pa-O ethnic people, such as musical instruments, literature and other items, were displayed at the ethnic literature and culture exhibit.

A large number of students and youths from Myawaddy Township took part in the two-day Children's Literature Festival, which will end today. —Htain Linn Aung (IPRD) ■

# President opens children's literature festival

FROM PAGE-1

"Children who are acquainted with books will see many books while visiting the festival and gain the habit of buying and reading books. The main aim for the children is to be happy in the books and literature circle", Dr. Pe Myint said.

The Union Minister said the children's literature festivals are also designed to shape the socialisation of the country's children.

"The festival is arranged in such a way that children will interact with other children rather than enjoying something at home alone or only with their siblings. The festival is first for the children to enjoy by participating in the events and games, second to enjoy books and literature circles and the third is for children to have the habit of doing things together with other children", said the Union Minister for Information.

President U Htin Kyaw, First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin, officials and students pose for a commemorative photo at the opening ceremony of Childern's Literature Festival in BEHS No(6) Botahtaung, Yangon on 6 January 2017. **PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR**

The festival was held at the entrance of the school, where President U Htin Kyaw, Union Ministers Dr. Pe Myint, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Dr. Myint Htwe, Nai Thet Lwin and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein cut a ceremonial ribbon.

The President, a son of the well-known Sayagyi Min Thu Wun, a member of the Myanmar literati and the author of several books of children's literature, has shown interest in the children's literature festivals ever since the first one was held in Nay Pyi Taw last year. U Htin Kyaw was asked to contribute to the preparation of an informational booth on his father. Books, papers and records prepared by the President were on display yesterday.

President U Htin Kyaw, First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin, Union Ministers, Yangon Region Chief Minister and party yesterday visited the Sayagyi Min Thu Wun booth as well as other booths and observed the performance by the Kyaukse Elephant Dance troupe.

During the second part of the children's literature festival, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint delivered a speech saying that momentum is being gained in holding the children's literature festivals. A union-level festival was first held in Nay Pyi Taw where the President led the union ministers while leaders of states and regions governments were in attendance. Later festivals were held in Mandalay, Mawlamyine, Taunggyi and Monywa and now in Yangon. The next children's literature festival will be held in Pathein. All these are union-level festivals and at least 10 more will be held in states/regions capitals as well as district towns, said the Union Minister.

Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi spoke of being honoured to hold the children's literature festival in a school designated as a historical heritage building.

"Today's children's literature festival will inspire students to read, think and study more and create good inventions for human society and its surroundings while nurturing and encouraging to strive toward world peace and development," said the Union Minister for Education.

After speeches by Union Ministers, students from basic education schools, private schools and schools for the handicapped performed dances, sang songs and played musical instruments.

Also yesterday, Technoland Computer Training Co. Managing Director U Myat Soe and Client Focus Technology Group Co. director U Aung Kyaw Moe donated five Dell computers and teaching aids, respectively, to Basic Education High School No. 6 Botahtaung (Saint Paul). The donations were accepted by school headmaster U Kyaw Kyaw Tun.

The children's literature festival will be held until 8 January from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.—Myanmar News Agency ■

President U Htin Kyaw and wife Daw Su Su Lwin look at displayed documentary photos during the festival. **PHOTO: MNA**

Student performs with dance to President U Htin Kyaw and wife Daw Su Su Lwin during an opening Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish **"Letter to the Editor"** that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

# YPS card system to be installed in 4,000 YBS buses

THE Yangon region government is planning to implement the Yangon Payment System (YPS) system in some 4,000 Yangon Bus Service (YBS) buses, according to a report yesterday in the Myawady Daily.

Once the YPS system is installed, payments will be deducted from the card, based upon the distance travelled. The system will not impact payment rates.

The Yangon region government has already discussed the tender process for the payment service with technology companies. The board will review the tender proposals from various consortiums, before choosing the final bidders for consideration. The cabinet will then select two tender winners for the automated fare collection (AFC) system. The two winning consortiums will sign five-year contracts with YBS companies. They will then be required to issue YPS cards and install all AFC technology, which will be initially tested on some 4,000 buses.

YBS buses will install YPS, together with the cash box system. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

The Yangon region government will announce the tender winners for the YPS system on January 11. The Yangon region government invited the tender in September, and has received tender applications from 21 companies.

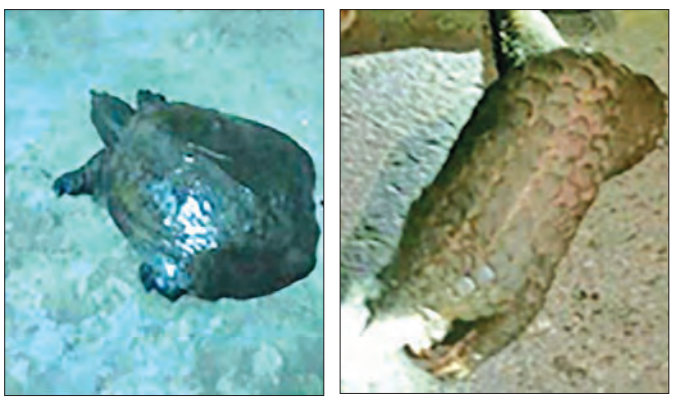
Currently, YBS buses are using a cash box system. Later on, the YBS will install the YPS system, together with the cash box system. The government will make sure the YPS cards are accepted in all buses, trains, and other means of transport, as well as other services.—GNLM ■

# Live pangolins, turtles seized in Sagaing

MEMBERS of the Sagaing Region Forest Department have arrested two men in connection with the illegal smuggling of wildlife animals on Independent Day, which fell on 4 January, police reported yesterday.

After receiving a tip from a member of the public, authorities searched a six-wheel express bus driven by Kyaw Kyaw (a) Kyaw Gyi, along with bus conductor Shwe Yee Win Htwe at Kantbalu toll gate, while travelling to Mandalay at around 1 a.m. Police found a cache of six live pangolins, plus three live turtles hidden in the bus toolbox.

Police filed charges against the two suspects for violating the Protection of Wildlife and Conservation of Natural Areas Law.—624 ■



Police arrested two men illegal smuggling of wildlife animals: pangolins and turtles. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

# Over 30,000 city taxis registered by January 2018

THE Yangon Transport Authority has registered more than 30,000 city taxis, as of January 2018, according to a report yesterday in the Myawady Daily. The registration process began on 14 November, 2017. As of 2 January, 2018, the Yangon Transport Authority had registered some 30,242 city taxis. Among city taxis, about 7,880 were registered taxis, 4,642 were district-transferred taxis, while 19,520 were extended taxis.—GNLM ■

# Opium powder, yaba pills worth Ks6.9 million seized in Mohnyin

POLICE seized more than Ks6.9 million worth of heroin and yaba tablets during a surprise anti-drug operation in Mohnyin Township, Mohnyin District, Kachin State, on Friday.

During the operation, police stopped a suspected motorbike, being driven by U Ye Win, 45, near the town's cemetery on Mawhan-Nangmachi road, to search his vehicle at around 3.30 p.m., said a member of the anti-drug squad.

Police discovered 48 grams of opium powder and 1,190 yaba pills weighing 119 grams, with an estimated value of Ks6.93 million, and confiscated the drugs.

According to the follow-up investigation, U Ye Win confessed that he bought opium powder and yaba tablets at a price of Ks5 million from a 40-year-old ethnic man from Nangmachi Jade Field.

Police are still investigating. Charges are being filed against the suspect, under the existing Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

"Efforts are being made to eliminate illegal drug smuggling and reduce cases of gambling in the region on a regular basis," said a police inspector.—Win Naing (Kachinmye) ■

Real estate development sector absorbed most domestic investments, being placed at the top spot on the list of Myanmar Citizens Investment Sector. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

## MIC approves over Ks3 trillion in domestic investments

DOMESTIC investments, including increased investments, reached Ks3.16 trillion (over US$910 million), as of the third week of December this fiscal year.

Also, the Myanmar Investment Commission has approved investments in 78 enterprises this FY.

These domestic investments will be provided to sectors, such as electric power, real estate development, transport and telecommunication, livestock and fisheries, hotel and tourism, industrial estate development, agriculture and other service sectors.

The real estate development sector absorbed most domestic investments, being placed at the top spot on the list of Myanmar Citizens Investment Sector.

According to the new Myanmar Investment Law, the region and state Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration (DICA) offices are authorised to approve investment proposals having capital of not more than $5 million. Land lease permissions are also given from the regional office. In addition to these, there is tax relief available for investments, depending on the set investment zone. —Ko Htet ■

## Five tonnes of chemical-free vegetables to be exported daily

MYANMAR is planning to export five tonnes of chemical-free vegetables daily to foreign countries from the Nyaung Hnit Pin agricultural zone in Mhawbi Township, Yangon region, according to a report yesterday in the Myawady Daily.

Since 2017, Myanmar has exported one tonne of chemical-free vegetables from the Hnit Pin agricultural zone to Singapore. Similarly, some six to eight tonnes of chemical-free vegetables are being distributed daily to over 60 markets in the Yangon region.

Currently, a centre to sell chemical-free vegetables has been opened, under the label "Go Green", in the local market.

To meet the export target, local cultivators from Taungtha and Myingyan township will be provided with farm land, crop seeds and knowledge of other agricultural methods to grow chemical-free vegetables within the contract system. A 'Green, Agricultural Production and Sale Cooperative Association' has also been formed.

The cultivation of chemical-free vegetables will include four types of mustard, including white mustard, mustard greens, Taiwan mustard and Kale, along with sour leaves and water grass.—GNLM ■

## Land use problems slow development of livestock sector

DESPITE the growing interest in the livestock sector, foreign investors are hesitating to invest in the fish and prawn farming sector because of land use problems, according to a report yesterday in the Myawady Daily.

"Foreign investors have expressed interest in this enterprise. However, the lack of a clear land policy for fish farming hurts the fish farming sector," U Win Kyaing, general secretary of Myanmar Fish Federation, told the Myawady Daily.

Of the 480,000 acres of land set aside for the fish and prawn farming sector across Myanmar, 108,000 acres of land are authorised to be used for fish farming, while permits have not yet been approved for 372,000 acres of land.

To carry out business in their own land, land owners need the LaNa.39 form, but it does not allow them to sell, mortgage, lease or transfer the land.

Some Myanmar farmers practise mixed farming — fish and crop farming —on agriculture land. Enterprises that are found farming fish on agriculture land are fined Ks1 million per acre. Fish breeders want the government to formulate a plan for them, so they can have access to loans by mortgaging their fishing ponds.

Currently, fish resources are decreasing, though the fish farming sector can help replenish the fish supplies. Fish farmers also want government subsidies and support for their farming.—GNLM ■

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# Myanmar students excel in science competition

## Interview with outstanding students in the 6th ASEAN Plus Junior Science ODYSSEY

By Nanda Win,
Win Win Maw

Ma Su Swe Zin.

Ma Khin Yadanar Phyo San.

Ma Soe Yadanar Phyo.

Ma Kyal Zin Lin lat.

THE sixth ASEAN Plus Three Junior Science ODYSSEY (APTJSO) was held from July 10-15 in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

ODYSSEY is an annual competition organized for gifted and talented students in the science and technology fields, and is aimed at nurturing future scientists and engineers.

Outstanding students from Myanmar won 8 prizes in the competition. The following are interviews with them.

**Q : Could you tell me how you entered the 6th ASEAN Plus Junior Science ODYSSEY (APTJSO)?**

**Ma Su Swe Zin** : I passed the examination with flying colours in the 2016-2017 academic year and was selected as an outstanding student to enter the 6th ASEAN Plus Junior Science ODYSSEY (APTJSO), in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

**Q : How did you sit for this competition after you had been selected as a candidate?**

**Ma Khin Yadanar Phyo San** : There were, altogether, six of us in the group and we entered the competition, under the supervision of Dr. Than Htike Soe and Dr. Moe Thu, who are Principals of No. 11, B.E.H.S (11), Mandalay and Yangon Institute of Education Practising School.

**Q : Could you tell us the number of participant countries and who the winners were?**

**Ma Soe Yadanar Phyo** : Besides the ASEAN ten countries, there were Tai Pei China, South-Korea, and Sweden.

**Ma Kyal Zin Lin lat** : We won eight types of prizes. As for me, I won the bronze medal in the project presentation, as well as the silver medal for my project and poster presentations.

**Q : How did you make your preparations in order to win the prizes, and what were the challenges you faced in the competition?**

**Ma Su Swe Zin** : We earned gold medal in the poster presentation, which was made in Myanmar. We drew pictures of flower vases, chairs and dust bins in the poster, which was made from recycled plastic cans, bottles and tyres.

**Ma Khin Yadanar Phyo San** : My group won a gold medal in the competition, as a result, I felt excited. Finally, we did well.

**Ma Soe Yadanar Phyo** : My group won a bronze medal in the Bio Laboratory Skill. We had to perform practical experiments, including in biology, chemistry and physics, with three hours in the laboratory. We were not familiar with these kind of experiments in school. But we tried our best to do well in it.

**Ma Kyel Zin Lin Lat :** I had to compete with many students from different countries. We entered the competitions by drawing lots. I won a silver medal in my project presentation, and a bronze medal in the landscape presentation. I received a lot of experiences, which were very valuable in my life.

**Q : What are your strengths and weaknesses?**

**Ma Su Swe Zin** : I am afraid that I am weak in spoken English. The main gap was when many students from other countries took advantage of their computer literacy in the competition.

**Ma Khin Yadanar Phyo San** : I think a good command of English plays a vital role in this IT age. Moreover, I am aware that we are weak in using laboratory skills. That's why we should try to make the best use of our abilities.

**Q : What do you want to say to inspire junior students?**

**Ma Soe Yadanar Phyo :** Being outstanding students, we had a great chance to enter the competition. I would like to urge them to study English and international affairs regularly, besides their homework.

**Ma Kyal Zin Lin Lat :** Our group, which was comprised of six students, competed under the title "ASEAN Plus Three Juniors" in the contest. Furthermore, we gained victory what we deserved in it. That's why I'd like to encourage my junior students to study diligently.

**Q : What do you want to say to express your gratitude and appreciation?**

**Ma Su Swe Zin :** I would like to say words of thanks to our government, the ministry for education, all our teachers and parents, who support me in everything we needed.

**Ma Khin Yadanar Phyo San :** I am much obliged to all our teachers and my parents, who fulfilled all my needs during the competition. I want to share words of encouragement to my younger brothers and sisters. "Victory is within your reach, as long as you try hard". ■

Students give thumb-up in front of signboard at the 6th ASEAN Plus 3 Junior Science ODYSSEY (APTJSO) was held from July 10-15 in Hanoi. **PHOTO: HLA MOE**

Students look at poster presentation at the competition of 6th ASEAN Plus 3 Junior Science ODYSSEY (APTJSO) which was held from July 10-15 in Hanoi, Viet Nam. **PHOTO: HLA MOE**

# Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to President

*The following are messages of felicitations from Foreign Heads of State / Government sent to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Htin Kyaw, on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.*

**From H.E. Mr. Joko Widodo**
**President of the Republic of Indonesia**
**Your Excellency,**

On behalf of the Government and the people of the Republic of Indonesia, it is a privilege for me to convey to Your Excellency and through you, to the Government and people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, our warmest greeting and heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

In the event of this historic celebration, please allow me to reiterate Indonesia's commitment to strengthen the bonds of friendship between Indonesia and Myanmar and to solidify bilateral and regional cooperation for the common prosperity of our two countries.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration and best wishes for your personal well-being and the advancement of Myanmar.

# Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to State Counsellor

*The following are messages of felicitations from Foreign Heads of State / Government sent to State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.*

**From H.E. Mr. Joko Widodo**
**President of the Republic of Indonesia**
**Your Excellency,**

On behalf of the Government and the people of the Republic of Indonesia, and on my own behalf, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. I wish for a continued success, prosperity and unity for the Government and the people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

It is my firm believe that the cooperation between Myanmar and Indonesia, primarily in strategic areas such as trade, investment, fisheries and agriculture, will continue to make our bilateral relations stronger. I also strongly believe that the close people-to-people contacts as well as the ongoing constructive dialogue between the people of Indonesia and Myanmar will further contribute to better and stronger relations in all fields of cooperation between or two countries.

May I again offer Your Excellency my congratulations on Independence Day and wish the people of Myanmar a happy celebration. Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**From H.E. Mrs. Retno L.P. Marsudi**
**Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia**
**Your Excellency,**

I have the immense pleasure to convey to you my most sincere felicitations on the communication of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

I warmly recall on meeting in September and December 2017 in which we held a fruitful and constructive discussion which strengthened the bonds of friendship between our two countries. I look forward to working closely with you and explore potential areas of cooperation in the bilateral as well as in multilateral level for the mutual progress and prosperity of our two nations.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest esteem.

# Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio

*The following are messages of felicitations from Foreign Heads of State / Government sent to Vice Presidents of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.*

**From H.E. Mr. M. Jusuf Kalla**
**Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia**
**Your Excellency,**

The celebration of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on January 4, affords me the opportunity to express our sincere congratulations and best wishes on the welfare and happiness of the people of Myanmar.

Over the years, Indonesia and Myanmar have established a close and harmonious relationships. Allow me to express my belief that collaborative efforts to advance the cordial ties between Indonesia and Myanmar, will continue to grow and be further strengthened on the bilateral level as well as on the regional level for the mutual benefit of both countries.

Offering my best wishes for your happiness and prosperity of the people of Myanmar, please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest esteem.

**From H.E. Mr. M. Jusuf Kalla**
**Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia**
**Your Excellency,**

I am very pleased to convey to you my warmest greetings and congratulations on the important occasions of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

May this joyous celebration bring prosperity and progress for the people of Myanmar. I also hope that friendship between Indonesia and Myanmar can be strengthened through cooperation in various fields in order to create stability and prosperity for the people of our two countries and for our region as well.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration and best wishes for your personal well-being.

# Ceremony for Prize in Poetry Recitation held in Yangon

A CEREMONY to present the poetry recitation award was held yesterday evening at Basic Education High School No.6, Botahtaung Township.

Pre-school and primary school level school-children participated in the first day of the Children's Literature Festival.

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint presented the prize to the first place winner, the first runner-up and the second runner-up of primary-school level school children, while consolation awards were presented by Daw Khin Mar Swe, head of the Yangon Region Education Department. The first place , first runner-up and second runner-up awards for pre-school level poetry recitation contests were presented by Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister Daw Pan Thinzar Myo, while consolation awards were presented by U Ye Naing, Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department.

The winners of the games at the festival were awarded by officials. Football and Htote Si Htoe (border-crossing game) competitions are to continue.

A total of 110 students will participate in the primary school level and middle school level storytelling contests, which will be held today, and 58 students will compete in the ad-lib speaking contest, which will be held on 8 January.
—Myanmar New Agency ■

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint presents prize and gifts to winner of the games at Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO: MNA**

# The Year 2018 when the government must work hard with the people!

NOW is the time when our country is struggling with concerted efforts to recover from the stage of abject poverty. Looking back into Myanmar history not very far from now, it can be seen that most of the Myanmar people experienced many years of poverty and hardships more than peaceful and pleasant periods. This year marks the 70th Anniversary of our nation's Independence. If we begin counting starting from the advent of British colonial rule, it has lasted for more than 130 years. To put it simply Myanmar patriots and national leaders together with the people have struggled for national liberation since then. Many Myanmar patriots together with leaders from the ethnic national races fought valiantly for our Independence risking both life and limb. Accordingly, it must be said that Myanmar people have been struggling all the time to liberate themselves from colonial rule and colonial exploitation. Why?

Though it has been 70 years since Myanmar gained her Independence from the British Imperialists, most of our people have not yet gotten the chance to savor the taste of Independence to the full. That is because they are suffering from various kinds of unfairness, injustice and suppression in political, economic and social affairs in later years even after gaining Independence. The civil war which accompanied our Independence have not yet ceased to this date. Though Myanmar achieved a modest rate of growth during the short period of parliament democracy from 1948 to 1962, the nascent progress the country achieved came to a halt with the military coup of General Ne Win on 2nd March 1962.

Starting from the time when the revolutionary regime took power, the country did not progress much under military rule. Instead, authorities in power exploited benefits for their own sake only, and dictators and followers became extremely rich, with most of the people plunging into abject poverty. Due to misuse of power and oppression of the ruling BSPP – Burma Socialist Programme Party, demonstrations broke out in Yangon which quickly spread to other parts of the country. Soon there was a general strike which paralyzed the government's ability to rule. The nation-wide people's demonstrations brought down the socialist government. These demonstrations later came to be known as the 8888 revolution. The people were happy to be rid of the tyranny of the BSPP government but their joy was short lived. After 26 years of rule by the socialist regime, the country fell into the grip of successive military dictatorships – first the SLORC and then the SPDC. This was followed in 2010 by a quasi-civilian government headed by U Thein Sein. President U Thein Sein introduced wide-ranging economic reforms but it was not easy to make progress under sanctions imposed by the West, notably by the US and EU.

In 2015 under the leadership of the NLD government, the country is moving towards the goal of building a Democratic Federal Republic. In this period of democratic transition or the era of people's government, people's representatives and those representing the Tatmadaw are working together hand in hand in both the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, the Union Government and in the state and regional governments.

People's lives in the border areas are severe and full of hardships. People in the urban areas feel the pinch of rising commodity prices. The current Union Government is bravely cleaning up the mess of many years of military rule characterized by corruption, cronyism, and a high-handed management style. People are longing for new policies and principles. Now, a year has passed. On this auspicious occasion the 70th Anniversary of Independence day, we pray for cooperation between the people and the Union Government for prosperity, peace and stability and development of the country from the New Year 2018 on. ■



# Textile and Garment Industry of Importance for Socio-Economic Development

By Ti Kyi Maung

Textile workers sewing on production line at a garment factory in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

MYANMAR'S political reforms which had been performed starting from 2011 can be said to be successful to some extent. It is of great importance to bolster with deep-rooted economy and stable communities to strengthen the political reforms accomplished until now. In other word, it needs to simultaneously carry out economic and social reforms together with political reforms. As for a nation with many fundamental necessities such as techniques, skills, capitals and etc., there are actually only a limited of works and industries for the socio-economic development for Myanmar.

## High incomes for workers

Garment and textile industry is the one for the workforce in Myanmar to fetch high incomes, to get job opportunities as well as to fetch much foreign exchange for the country. It can create many job opportunities for workers who cannot finish the basic education, being a sector which can train occupational skills needed, in a short period of time.

Had it successfully been implemented, it would be a potential sector which would create jobs enough not only for those who had to work in neighboring countries such as Thailand and Malaysia but also for local citizens. Just by managing to bring about strengthened policies, reasonable wages and fringe benefits, and if necessary finding markets and starting capital for investment as for the government, it is a sector which can develop rapidly in a short period of time.

In the periods prior to the economic sanctions imposed in 2003 Myanmar Garment Industry was a comparatively developed one, employing over 300000 laborers. But, in a year just after the economic sanctions were imposed more than 100 factories were closed, rendering some 50000 workers jobless.

Starting from 2011 when democratic reforms commenced to be made in the country garment industries revived again. In Myanmar, Cut-Make-Pact [CMP] System has been being exercised. In future, it is said that Free on Board [FOB] System will be exercised. Amounts of exports from the textile industry from 2012 to 2015 increased from US $ 0.91 billion to 1.46 billion. According to the statistics released by the government exports values amounted to US $ 1.6 billion in the period of first 11 months of the year 2017.

## 1.5 Million jobs expected in 2020.

Myanmar garment entrepreneurs' federation expected that in 2020 the industry could employ up to 1.5 million workers in 2020, likely to export US $ 8-10 billion. The major markets of Myanmar's garment products are European Union countries. According to data of 2016 its expected value amounted up to US $ 950 million, 45 percent of the total garment export value, followed by Japan 31 percent and Korea 16 percent respectively.

## Only in the vicinity of Yangon city

According to the survey made by international research teams most of the garment industries are situated in the surrounding area of Yangon city. Statistics released by the Myanmar Garment Entrepreneurs' Federation show that more than 200 garment factories are located in Yangon area, employing migrant workers from local areas, of whom 94 percent are females from Ayeyarwady Region, Rakhine State, Bago Region an Magwe Region. Most of the workforce mainly works in sewing rather than cutting, packing and other jobs. The girls, mostly those under 25 could not finish their basic education, dropping out schools. Over 90 percent of laborers are working in foreigner-owned factories, it was learnt.

When assessed over the said findings, for the girls from various parts of the nation who cannot proceed to the higher education creation of jobs with respectable status, reasonable wages and freedom from too hard and dangerous situations can be regarded to be a necessity of great importance for social securities of the national populace.

A woman works on her sewing machine at a garment factory in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

## US $160 billion of China's Export of Garment

World Trade Organization WTO released that People's Republic of China was the country which exported most of the global garment products according to the World Trade Statistical Review 2017, amounting to export value US $ 160 billion, 36.4 percent of the total, followed by EU 28 countries amounting to US 4 117 billion, 26.4 percent. As for the individual countries, Bangladesh stood second. In 2016 Bangladesh's garment export reached 26 billion. In the regional countries Bangladesh was followed by Vietnam [US $ 25 billion], India [US $ 18 billion], Hong Kong [ US $ 16 billion], Indonesia [US $7 billion] and Cambodia [US $ 6 billion].

It is said that Vietnam's surplus value from commerce in 2016 reached US $ 15 billion because of the increase in income from textile and garment industry. Generally, Vietnam used to export its garments to US, EU, Japan and South Korea but now it started to expand its market to PRC, Russia, Cambodia and other new markets. So, Vietnam's textile and garment industry can be said to have developed greatly.

## Creation of job opportunities

In 2016, the People's Republic of China which exported most of the garment in the world managed to create a total of more than 4.5 million jobs in garment industries, with Bangladesh creating 4.8 million, India 15.6 million, Vietnam over 2.3 million and Indonesia over 3.4 million respectively in the same period. Myanmar followed them, employing over 692000 in garment factories, according to 2015 statistics.

## Prospects on investment in the industry

Though PRC is leading all in the textile and garment industry in the world, it is expected that it was likely to decrease due to higher land rental rates and increasing labour charges. But its total trade value of the industry is extremely greater than other countries so it will lead on ahead of them. Similarly, with the increasing labour charges in Vietnam which is rapidly developing in the textile industry and insecure states of safety of garment factories in Bangladesh investors are becoming interested in Myanmar with lower labour charges and prospects to develop in the industry, it was learnt.

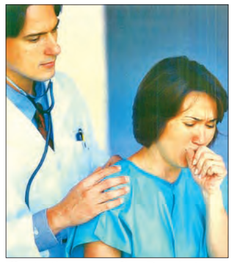
Whatever it is—eagerly or reluctantly to invest, it is incumbent upon our country to make arrangements of creating better environments such as emergence of strengthened policies, safety and security of factories, cooperation between employers and employees, designation of reasonable wages and other necessary matters for influx of foreign direct investment to come into the country for the sake of the State and socio-economic development of the people. ■

*Translated by*
*Khin Maung Oo*

# ETHICS IN MEDICAL RESEARCH

Dr. Aung Soe (a) Aung Kyaw Moe
Retired State Medical Superintendent.

46TH Myanmar Health Research Congress is going to commences at Department of Medical Research, Yangon on January 8 uptill January 12th, it is Learnt. A variety of basic health research, applied health research and health system research findings will be presented in different ways in the form of exciting paper-reading sessions, colourful poster research display, symposia, research health talks, pharmaceutical exhibitions and so on.



Illustrations regarding Respiratory Medicine (Internet)

Regarding clinical trials, I would like to mention some salient points. Not Long ago, in one of the neighbouring countries, a proposal was submitted to a hospital Institutional Review Board (IRB) to test a new drug for dissolving blood clots. Such proposals are routinely received by IRBs as part of the efforts to improve healthcare. This drug had been used by hospitals abroad, and should it worked well, it would be a golden hope, for stroke patients. The proposal was rejected as IRB studies found that there were insufficient evidence that the drug was safe.

Two years later, research from overseas institutions reported adverse effects from the drug, which acted too strongly on blood clots, causing bleeding in the brain at the site of the clot.

This proved the IRB had been correct in its decicion. Researchers who carry out clinical research apply ethical principles when they make decisions affecting patients or volunteers who take part in their studies.

Eusuring that ethical principles are adhered to in research is the function of independent IRBs, also known as Research Ethics Committees. In one ASEAN country, these principles are enshrined in the Guideline for Good Clinical Practice issued by Ministry of Health. Health Sciences Authority oversees the functions of IRBs.

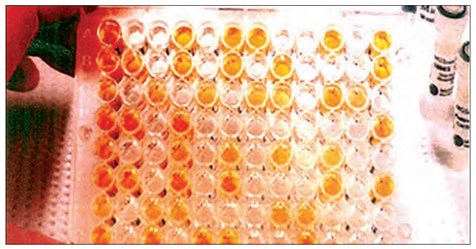
Bioethics Advisory Committee has also issued a report containing recommendations on research involving people.

Ethical guidelines are, for the most part, based on the internationally accepted code of ethics for human biomedical research called the Declaration of Helsinki, drawn up by the World Medical Association in 1964 and revised periodically. The IRB functions in its own way. When an investigator decides to begin a clinical trial to test a new drug, he must first submit a protocol __ explaining the research objectives and procedures-to the IRB.

**" Ethical guidelines are, for the most part, based on the internationally accepted code of ethics for human biomedical research called the Declaration of Helsinki, drawn up by the World Medical Association in 1964 and revised periodically"**

Without the IRB's written approval, he cannot begin his trial. The IRB may halt a trial if it finds that he has failed to comply with the terms stated in the protocol, or if it is convinced that the subjects' welfare and safety are compromised.

Next day I would like to mention some other aspects of clinical trials such on safety and recruiting subjects for trials, in this esteemed Global New Light of Myanmar.



Illustrations regarding Respiratory Medicine (Internet)

High School girls band performing at the opening of Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO:**

A book shop is crowded with students. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

Daw Khin Myo Min Thu

Visitors to Children's Literature Festival enjoy elephant dance. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

School girls perform at Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO: PHOE**

Ma San Htar Wai

# Packed first day of Children's Literature Festival, exhibition and book sales Yangon

By Yi Yi Myint & Ohnma Thant

The Children's Literature Festival, exhibition and book sales Yangon, jointly organized by the Ministry of Information, Ministry of Education and Yangon Region Government and held in Basic Education High School No. (6) Botahtaung (Saint Paul), kicked-off its first day yesterday morning and was packed with students, parents and interested visitors.

Booths were set up at the school entrance beneath the verandah, as well as on the upper floor of the main building and near the basketball court, including the National literati Sayagyi Min Thu Wun booth, cartoon booth, technology introduction for children booth, children literature booth, children reading room and 13 basic education school booths.

Speaking about the festival, Basic Education High School No. 5 South Okkalapa student Maung Nay Htat said, "The festival is very informative. I learnt a lot. There is a lot to learn about literature."

The festival is not only educational and informative, but also includes games and entertainment.

Entertainment in the school compound included many games and activities, such as a merry-go-round, roundabout, dart throwing, arrow shooting, basketball, ring throwing, spring rides and inflated pools where children played.

"I'm happy, as a parent, to see this festival being held. Children viewed the displayed books and bought those that were of interest to them. The location is central, so children from all schools came. Please hold a similar festival next year, too," said Daw Aye Aye Myint, a parent who lives in Kyaukdata Township.

Team building games were played in front of Aung Kyaw hall, as well as on the upper floor of the main building and on the playing fields.

Former Saint Paul School student U Thet Cho Win said, "Former Saint Paul School students provided free food in the morning, noon and evening. As a former student, I'm proud that this festival is being held at our school. There hadn't been opened the Children's Literature Festival before. I thank the officials for organizing the literature festival that includes games for fun. It shows children the importance of reading."

Students were seen competing in Aung Kyaw hall and in the ground floor rooms, where storytelling, debates, poetry recitations, painting and paper folding (origami) competitions were held.

Former Saint Paul School student association chairman U Thein Swe said, "This school has been designated as an historical heritage building, so the festival is being managed in order that there is no effect to its heritage status. There should be this sort of festival, and those who visit it will benefit a lot. Children are seen to be weak in reading. By holding such a festival, they will become aware of literature and reading. I want them to develop the habit of reading and to gain knowledge from it. That is why this festival is being held. Another thing is the parents. Parents will have some good ideas on what sort of books their children should read. This festival is beneficial for the parents, too. Both parents and students should come to the festival. I'm happy and proud to participate in this, as a former student."

Basic education schools, private schools and schools for the handicapped were providing entertainment in the Aung San Hall, in front of the main hall and on the football grounds. Entertainment includes puppet shows, the "Nyan Lin Htat" elephant dance, a magic show, facial paintings, caricature drawings, taking photos with cartoon figures, 3D posters, stage

shows, as well as book sales.

Teacher Daw Khin Myo Min Thu of Basic Education High School No. (1) Botahtaung noted, "It is very informative for the students and youths. Unity is also achieved. Children will read more. They will also feel closer to each other and become warm and united. Because of the festival, the children will have more knowledge. They will develop in sports, ethics and morals, and I believe the country will develop. As a teacher, I hope it will be held every year. The quality and ability of the students are expected to develop."

At the private school family entertainment stands, students from Mother's Home, Shwepyisoe, Shwepin Shwethi, ICEC, Moe Thauk Pan, May International School, and Genius private schools entertained with dances and musical acts, while there were a numbers of book shops and food shops available, as well.

21st Century Education Development program director Ma Tinza Waing said, "This booth is jointly organized by Luyaychun Private High School and 21st Century Education Development. Model buildings and bridges were built. This will develop the minds of the students. They will be able to solve a problem with what they have in hand. They will have confidence in themselves. They'll be able to make presentations. By arranging these booths, it will widen their views. This is the first festival held in Yangon where the teachers, parents and students are seen together, and thus it is the best festival."

The Yangon Region Government and Information and Public Relations Department is awarding students and children who won in team building games, jig-saw puzzles, paper folding (origami), painting competitions, and others, held in the private school booths and other booths with Min Thu Wun poem books, children's cartoon books, cartoon drawing books and exercise books.

Basic Education High School No. 2 South Okkalapa student Ma San Hta Wei added, "This festival is held so that youths like us could learn and gain knowledge. All should come. I believe that by coming, they'll have the habit of reading. Please read. Books are our best friends. I'm proud and happy that this festival is held in Yangon." There were about 80,000 students and teachers from schools in Yangon, together with parents and interested people, who visited the first day of Children's Literature Festival. ■

Mg Nay Htet. **PHOTO: MNA**

Students from BEHS No.6 perform with dance at Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

A child receives painting on his cheek at Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Children participate in innovation at the Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Students pose for a commemorative photo wearing traditional dress at Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Students competing Myanmar traditional Htote Si Toe or a border-crossing game during the festival. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Students from private schools performing with dance at the opening ceremony of the Children's Literature. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

# Rice exporter accused of defrauding businessmen of Ks5.3 billion

By May Thet Hnin

Business owners filed a complaint at Bayintnaung Rice Market on 5 January alleging a rice exporter known as U Aung Swe Oo from ASO Company Ltd. swindled more than Ks5.3 billion from 62 merchants and fled.

The amount includes transactions made as of 2 p.m. yesterday, with the final tally incomplete as there are more complaints expected, said Myanmar Rice & Paddy Merchants Association Chairman U Aung Than Oo.

He said there were those who were swindled a minimum of Ks10 million to a maximum of Ks800 million, including one foreign company. A month's salary still needs to be paid to ASO Company staff who filed a complaint to the market. Officials from the market have resolved this by paying half of the salary due, it was learnt.

The alleged fraudster U Aung Swe Oo had previously traded in beans and sugar. Merchants said he has been in the rice trade for about a year and half and is not a member of the rice market.

Rice Commodity Exchange, Myanmar Rice Trader's Association in Bayintnaung.

"He is not a member. As a non-member could not trade, he used his brother's membership card. He also used brokers. Some merchants used brokers to trade with him. He came to the market for a short time only. The main thing is the trade is made with the consent of the buyers and sellers. Some merchants sold (to him) because they wanted a better price than the market price. We warned the merchants repeatedly about this," said U Aung Than Oo.

After similar cases occurred in in the Bayintnaung market, the Myanmar Rice & Paddy Merchants Association and Market Committees issued warnings and alerts to buyers and sellers since September 2017 to be sure that sales in the market are systematic and of true quality, added U Aung Than Oo.

At the present moment, about five businesses have opened cases against U Aung Swe Oo, while the Bayintnaung market is collecting evidence for others who were swindled, it is learnt.

Officials from the Myanmar Rice & Paddy Merchants Association and market formed a committee to provide legal assistance to those who were swindled, a committee to confiscate ASO Company-owned capital items and an arbitration committee between rice mills and rural merchants who dealt with ASO Company so that effective legal actions could be taken.

The whereabouts of U Aung Swe Oo is currently unknown and it is suspected that he is on the run, officials said. Rice bags and related accessories that he stored in rented warehouses have been confiscated, while four plots of lands he owns in Mandalay were prevented from being sold or transferred, it is learnt.

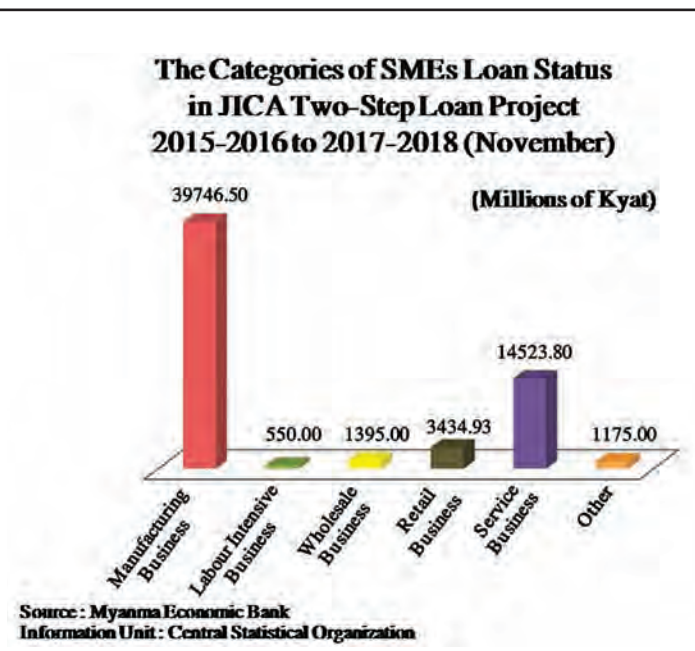
To prevent similar occurrences, assessment of the membership rules will be made within three months, to export only when rice is in hand and not to do pre-sales and pre-purchasing. The government is also requested to allow applications and issue export licenses only when the export products are in hand.

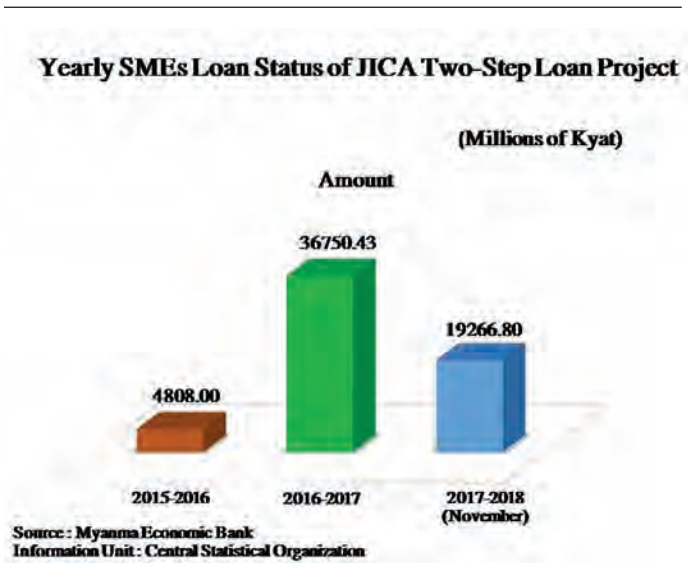
"Mill owners in the region and merchants use brokers. Brokers sell to retail shops, buyers in the regions and rice exporters. When things go wrong, brokers will be the first to be hurt. From them, it will move on to mill owners and merchants and finally the farmers. It is unlikely that this will affect the last stage (farmers)" said the Bayintnaung Rice Market Association Chairman U Lu Maw Myint Maung.

Due to this case, there could be delays in the shipping date if the goods are not provided in time, which could in turn affect the country's image in foreign markets, added U Lu Maw Myint Maung.

"The (Bayintnaung) market set the base price, and we sell it at that price to the buyer. We are now afraid of these credit sales. I'm afraid nothing will come out of this and the legal costs are high too. I want the (Bayintnaung rice) market to take the lead in making a legal case", said U Tin Sein of Danuphyu, who said he was swindled out of more than Ks60 million.

At the moment, Myanmar is practicing a market-based system, as the base price is determined by supply and demand. In past years, there had been several cases resulting in the loss of billions of kyats. ■




# Car sales fall significantly despite decrease in slip prices

By May Thet Hnin

Showroom employees stand beside a vehicle at showroom centre. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

DESPITE a decline in the price of car slips, the auto market remains cool, with auto prices remaining above normal rates, according to auto dealers.

Dealers estimate that the cooling auto market is linked to the new car import policy announced on 16 October of last year that requires the imports of only left-hand drive cars. Increased tax rate is another reason why the market is cooling.

"Trading has gone down. It takes place under an over-the-counter system. Generally, the trading volume is said to have declined by 75 per cent," said U Aung Than Win, chairman of Myanmar Automobile Purchase and Sale Enterprise (Yangon).

The prices of car slips increased to Ks14 million in the past two months, though, the current slip prices have decreased to Ks12 million in the market. Despite a drop in slip prices, the market sees a continuous increase in the value of automobiles, according to dealers.

"The price of cars has increased, roughly between Ks1-Ks1.5 million per head, with the result being that the market is cooling down, despite a decrease in slip prices," said Ko Ayaykyo, one of the car dealers in Yangon.

For the time being, however, there is a high demand for cars worth between Ks10-Ks15 million in the market.

U Soe Aung, who imports car from the borders, noted, "Currently, the auto market is experiencing cooling conditions. Most car importers have turned to other businesses, due to the changes to car import policies and higher tax rates. There only remains around 20 per cent of car importers working in the border area." The requirement for the import of left-hand drive cars might draw widespread criticism among those who import older vehicles. On December 12, the Myanmar Automobile purchase and sale enterprise (Yangon) sent a letter, urging the government to again allow the import of right-hand drive cars.

A Supervisory Committee for Motor Vehicle Import earlier announced its new policy to only allow left-hand drive cars manufactured in 2014 or later to be imported into the country beginning in 2018. ■

# US military chopper crash-lands in Okinawa, no injuries

NAHA, (Japan) — A US military helicopter made a crash-landing on Saturday afternoon on a small islet in Okinawa Prefecture, local police said.

There have been no injuries resulting from the emergency landing on a sandy beach on Uruma city's Ikei Island, according to the police.

According to a government source, the aircraft is a UH-1 helicopter belonging to the US military which told the Japanese government the helicopter opted for a "preventive landing" to avoid an accident.

According to the Okinawa Defence Bureau, a unit of the Defense Ministry, four people were aboard the helicopter and no one was injured.

The helicopter landed on Ikei Island due to a warning light in the cockpit, the defence bureau said.

There are no houses near the accident site, the police said.

The incident is the latest involving US aircraft in the southern Japan prefecture where local opposition is strong against the huge presence of the US military.—Kyodo News ■

School children attend a yoga session in Ahmedabad, India on 6 January, 2018.
**PHOTO: REUTERS**

# US weighs Pakistani blowback as it piles pressure on Islamabad

WASHINGTON — The United States is examining ways to mitigate any Pakistani retaliation as it piles pressure on Islamabad to crack down on militants, a senior US official said on Friday, cautioning that US action could extend beyond a new freeze in aid. Pakistan is a crucial gateway for US military supplies destined for US and other troops fighting a 16-year-old war in neighbouring, landlocked Afghanistan. So far, the Pentagon says Pakistan has not given any indication that it would close its airspace or roads to military supplies and US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis played down concerns on Friday. But Washington has only just begun to work through its new plan to suspend up to roughly $2 billion in US security assistance, announced on Thursday. It came days after US President Donald Trump tweeted that Pakistan had rewarded past US aid with "nothing but lies & deceit." The senior Trump administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Washington hoped that the aid suspension would be enough to communicate its concern to Islamabad. But the official cautioned that the freeze was also not the only tool that America had to pressure the country — suggesting it might resort to other measures, if needed.

"We are considering many different things, not just the (financial) assistance issue," the official said. "We are also looking at Pakistan's potential response ... and we are looking at ways to deal with that and to mitigate the risks to the relationship."

The official declined to detail what steps were under consideration, including whether that might include possible unilateral US military action against militants in Pakistan. But as Trump allow the US military to again ramp up its war effort in Afghanistan, including with the deployment of more US troops alongside Afghan forces, the official acknowledged a sense of urgency. The United States has long blamed the militant safehavens in Pakistan for prolonging the war in Afghanistan, giving insurgents, including from the Haqqani network, a place to plot attacks and rebuild its forces. "We believe we owe it to the Americans in harms' way in Afghanistan. We simply can't ignore the sanctuaries if we are going to make progress in Afghanistan," the official said. —Reuters■

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
**MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY**
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION ENTERPRISE
Date: 6th January , 2018

**Invitation to Bid**
**for**
**Rental Power Generation Plant in Myingyan Region**
**(EPGE G-01/2017-2018)**

1. Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE) seeks to invite tender for the purchasing of electricity on Rental basis in Myingyan Region.
2. The concession period for the power plant shall be **5 (five) years** from commercial operation date (COD).
3. The Tender Form fees is Myanmar Kyats **300,000/-** (Myanmar Kyats three hundred thousand only) and can be purchased at Procurement Department, Electric Power Generation Enterprise, Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
4. The bidders shall send the technical and commercial proposal addressed to
   Tender Evaluation Committee
   Electric Power Generation Enterprise,
   Ministry of Electricity and Energy
   Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw
   The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
5. The bid submission date is 20th February, 2018 at 14:00 hr. Myanmar Standard Time.
6. Bidding Proposal must be submitted at the address on time. Any late proposal shall be rejected.
7. The bidders shall make the proposals in accordance with the **Invitation for Bid and Supplemental Request for Proposal (SRFP).**
8. The necessary information of this project tender can be inquired within office hour.

Attention to
Tender Evaluation Committee,
Electric Power Generation Enterprise
Ph +95 9 8601033, + 95 67 8104281, +95 96 8104282
Fax +95 67 8104280
thermalepge@gmail.com

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
**MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY**
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION ENTERPRISE
Date: 6th January , 2018

**Invitation to Bid**
**for**
**Rental Power Generation Plant in Kyaukse Region**
**(EPGE G-02/2017-2018)**

1. Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE) seeks to invite tender for the purchasing of electricity on Rental basis in Kyaukse Region.
2. The concession period for the power plant shall be **5 (five) years** from commercial operation date (COD).
3. The Tender Form fees is Myanmar Kyats **400,000/-** (Myanmar Kyats four hundred thousand only) and can be purchased at Procurement Department, Electric Power Generation Enterprise, Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
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# Pixar's 'Coco' strikes a chord in Mexico guitar town

(L-R) Director Lee Unkrich, Anthony Gonzalez, who plays the voice of Miguel, co-director/screenwriter Adrian Molina and producer Darla K Anderson attends Disney-Pixar's US premiere of "Coco" in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles, California, US on 8 November, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

PARACHO, Mexico — Pixar's hit film "Coco" has struck all the right notes in the tiny Mexican hamlet of Paracho, home to the traditional Mexican guitar made famous in the movie.

Nestled in the western central highlands of the Sierra Madre, Paracho is seeing a boom in guitar sales following the worldwide success of "Coco."

The film follows a boy who accidentally finds himself in the land of the dead during the Mexican celebrations for the Dia de los Muertos. Central to the plot is the boy's trusty Paracho-style guitar.

The 16th century-style guitars have been a way of life in the town of 30,000 for centuries. According to legend, a priest with the original Spanish conquerors decided locals in the village should be taught a craft to support their economy.

Paracho soon gained fame as Mexico's capital for the manufacture of stringed instruments, and "Coco" has now brought its craftsmen global fame and booming sales, artisans said.

The film, released by Walt Disney Co's Pixar, has grossed more than $550 million worldwide, according to Box Office Mojo. It ranks as the highest grossing movie in Mexico ever.

Costs for the hand-made guitars range from around 2,000 Mexican pesos ($104 dollars) to those made with fine wood that fetch up to 20,000 pesos ($1,042 dollars).

Due to popular request, local artisans have given the traditionally black guitar a Day-Of-The-Dead twist by painting the instrument white and adding a cartoon of the traditional Mexican skull on its front.—Reuters ■

# Diane Kruger discusses her challenging 'In The Fade' role

LOS ANGELES — German-born actress Diane Kruger's latest role as a woman whose husband and son are killed in an attack in the German movie "In the Fade" left her "physically exhausted" and taking a step back from acting.

"I didn't take a movie for a long time. I just felt like I couldn't. I was feeling I was drowning," Kruger told Reuters.

"I just needed time for myself to get my life back in order," she added. Kruger, known for films such as "Inglourious Basterds" and "Troy," plays Katja in director Fatih Akin's "In the Fade," about a woman who marries her husband while he is in prison.

Years later, a devastating tragedy leaves her husband dead and Katja on a mission for justice, suspicious that Neo-Nazis might be behind her loss.

German director Akin, who is of Turkish descent, said he wanted to explore racism and specifically Neo-Nazis in Germany within the film.

"There are people in this country, which I consider is my country, who want to kill me just because I look like how I look like with black hair and brown eyes. They want to kill me for it, for nothing. This bothers me," Akin said.

"I don't like that, so I have a feeling that I need to express my anger so the film gave me the opportunity to express it on paper and later on film," he added.

The film has garnered both Akin and Kruger strong praise from critics, and Kruger was named best actress at France's Cannes Film Festival last year. "In the Fade" is Germany's entry to the Oscars, one of nine films short-listed in the foreign language film category.—Reuters ■

# Director Paul Haggis denies sexual misconduct accusations

LOS ANGELES — Oscar-winning director Paul Haggis on Friday denied accusations of sexual misconduct made by four women, including two who accused him of rape.

On Friday, the Associated Press reported accusations by three women who worked in the entertainment industry including that Haggis had forcibly kissed them, or forced them to perform oral sex, in encounters between 1996 and 2015. One of the three women also accused Haggis of raping her. The women were not identified in the report.

"Mr Haggis denies these anonymous claims in whole," his attorney Christine Lepera said in a statement emailed to Reuters.

A fourth woman named in the report, Haleigh Breest, who accused Haggis of raping her in 2013, was sued by Haggis last month in New York state court in Manhattan. In the lawsuit, Haggis denied the allegation and accused Breest of extortion and of demanding $9 million in order to avoid her claims becoming public.

Breest and the other three accusers could not be reached for comment on Friday. Reuters has not independently verified the allegations. Haggis, 64, won screenplay and best picture Oscars in 2006 for "Crash." The Canadian writer and director's other work includes the movies "Million Dollar Baby" and "Quantum of Solace." He is also known for publicly breaking away from the Church of Scientology in 2009 after 35 years as a member.—Reuters ■

# Jimmy Iovine to leave Apple Music in August: Billboard

Music producer Jimmy Iovine. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LOS ANGELES — Music mogul Jimmy Iovine is said to leave Apple Inc's music streaming service in August, the Billboard magazine reported on Thursday, citing unnamed sources and music industry website Hits Daily Double.

Iovine is best known as the co-founder of Interscope Records, a rap music pioneer that branched out to include artists like Lady Gaga and U2.

Iovine's departure is likely timed to his Apple shares fully vesting, according to the Billboard story, which followed an initial report in Hits Daily Double's "rumor mill" section.

The former Interscope CEO joined Apple in 2014 after the iPhone maker bought Beats Electronics, the audio technology firm co-founded by influential hip-hop producer Dr Dre and Iovine, for $3 billion.

Apple declined to comment.

The company told Billboard in September it had 30 million Apple Music subscribers.—Reuters ■

# Big designers step off London men's catwalk amid digital disruption

LONDON — Models will strut their stuff on catwalks when London's menswear fashion week gets under way on Saturday, but absent will be some big industry names who have chosen to skip the event, or make digital presentations in place of runway shows.

The event will see around 50 traditional catwalk shows over three days, with the remainder of the 80 designers on the bill showcasing their wares through a variety of other events, including digitally.

The transition to new methods of connecting with buyers has cost the event some of its biggest catwalk names. Punk icon Vivienne Westwood announced last month that she would eschew a runway show and showcase her collection via an audio-visual presentation.

Other big Brands, including Britain's Burberry and JW Anderson, decided to skip the event last year and this year respectively, in favour of holding 'co-ed' shows during London's fashion week for womenswear in February.

"All we're trying to do is shorten the distance from a consumer to a pair of trousers," said London Fashion Week Men's Chairman Dylan Jones, who is also the editor of British GQ magazine.

"If a brand or a designer deems that it's much better for them to do a joint show, a show out of season, a digital show, go direct to consumer – doesn't matter. It's all about amplifying British creativity and selling."

Designers have been placing more emphasis on their digital presence in recent years, courting social media influencers with the same assiduousness that they traditionally reserved for the fashion press. Online sales are a particularly important revenue stream in Britain's over 14 billion pound menswear industry, growing by over 17 per cent between 2010 and 2015 — outpacing all other categories in the sector — according to researchers IbisWorld.

With a shortage of big names on the catwalk this year, organisers said the event was returning to how it was originally envisioned — as a platform for young British talent. "International media and retailers come to London for this excitement, these new businesses, the ones that are setting the menswear world on fire and you can only get that in London," said British Fashion Council Chief Executive Caroline Rush.

Designer Vivienne Westwood watches a rehearsal before her catwalk show at London Fashion Week Men's in London, Britain on 12 June, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

It was a sentiment echoed by Jones, who saw the changes in the industry as a source of excitement.

"It's mutating and developing and changing each season. And that's the great thing about fashion — it keeps changing." —Reuters ■

# Tuna goes for $323,000 at Tokyo fish market's final New Year auction

TOKYO — In the final New Year's auction at Tokyo's famed Tsukiji fish market on Friday, the owner of an international sushi restaurant shelled out more than $300,000 for a prime bluefin tuna and said he was "very happy" with the result.

The world's largest fish market, one of Tokyo's most popular tourist sites, is set to relocate later this year to clear the way for a road needed for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

Hiroshi Onodera, the president of LEOC Co Ltd which owns the "Ginza Onodera" restaurant chain, paid 36.45 million yen ($323,195) for a 405-kg (890 lb) premium Pacific bluefin tuna - around 90,000 yen per kg.

The price was just over half that of last year's winning bid of 72 million yen and well below the record 155 million yen paid in 2013.

"I've tried to win in the auction since last year, so I'm really happy," said Onodera, whose company has restaurants in New York and Singapore as well as in Japan. "This is especially true because it's the last year in Tsukiji."

Tuna is prized around the world for its use in sushi, but experts warn growing demand has made it an endangered species.

"The high price paid today for a single Pacific bluefin tuna should not distract from the dire status of the species, which has been depleted by more than 97 per cent by years of overfishing," said Jamie Gibbon, a Pacific bluefin tuna expert for the Pew Charitable Trusts, in a statement.

"If countries continue to exceed their catch limits...the very survival of the species will be threatened."

The 80-year-old Tsukiji market draws tens of thousands of visitors a year to its warren of stalls with exotic species of fish and fresh sushi, part of a tourism boom that is a key part of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's economic revival plan.—Reuters ■

Kiyomura Co's President Kiyoshi Kimura (C), who runs a chain of sushi restaurants Sushi Zanmai, poses with a 190 kg bluefin tuna, priced with a 30.4 million yen bid at the fish market's first tuna auction this year at his sushi restaurant outside Tsukiji fish market in Tokyo, Japan on 5 January, 2018. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

# British Vogue features first transgender woman, celebrating centenary of female suffrage

LONDON — Paris Lees became the first openly transgender woman to feature in British Vogue fashion magazine on Friday, marking a step towards a "more tolerant society", said the broadcaster and model.

Lees dons a sleek, black dress designed by Yang Li and strikes a pose among a group of women ranging from politicians to online bloggers, hailed by the magazine as a new kind of suffragist. "When I was growing up you rarely saw trans people in the media and only then as objects of pity, ridicule or disgust," Lees told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"We are in the middle of a global movement where trans people are asking to be treated with the same respect as everyone else in society," she said. Inside the avant-garde magazine's February issue, Lees is profiled in a story entitled "Meet the New Suffragettes," celebrating 100 years since women in Britain gained the right to vote.

Britain granted women aged over 30 who met a property qualification the right to vote in 1918, but it wasn't until 1928 that all women had the same voting rights as men.

This is not the first time transgender women have featured in international fashion magazines.

In November, men's magazine Playboy had its first transgender 'playmate' centerfold, while in March the French edition of Vogue featured a transgender model on its cover, as did Marie Claire Spain in 2016.

The February edition of Vogue is the third by Edward Enniful, who promised to celebrate diversity when he was appointed the magazine's first black and male editor in the publication's 100-year history in April last year.

Lees, who was subjected to bullying in childhood and has faced criticism and backlash on social media, said she hoped her inclusion would offer inspiration to others.

"I know that there are many trans women who are still, in our supposedly tolerant society, too scared to come out and live their lives freely," said Lees.

"To those people I would say, if and when you feel ready to come out we'll be here to support you." —Reuters ■

U-21 Players from Shan United and Yangon United vie for the ball at yesterday's match in Yangon United Sports Complex, Yangon. **PHOTO:SUFC**

# Yangon youth team builds confidence in football friendly

Kyaw Zin Lin

THE Yangon United U-21 team won a friendly football match against Shan United U-21 yesterday at the Yangon United Sports Complex(YUSC), showing resilience and character in the come-from-behind victory.

The Yangon youth team achieved the victory over Shan by a score of 3-1.

Although Shan United dominated the first half with great tactics that resulted in the opening goal at 12 minutes by Zwe Thet Paing, Yangon responded well with their own attacking game.

Yangon got the equalizer at the 23-minute mark with a goal scored by Hlwan Moe Oo.

After tying the score, Yangon's play and confidence improved.

With both teams making substitutions in the second half, play improved even more.

Yangon got its second goal at 77 minutes with a penalty shot after the Shan defensive line made an error in the penalty area.

Soon after, Yangon scored its third goal with a shot by Kaung Htet Soe at the 80 minutes mark. ■

# KBZ Bank U-13 Girls Tournament 2018 begins

WITH the aim of promoting and improving women's football in Myanmar, the U-13 Girls Tournament 2018 was officially opened with a ceremony on the artificial football pitch of the National Football Academy in Yangon yesterday.

The tournament was supervised by Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) and mainly sponsored by Kanbawza Bank, one of the largest banks in Myanmar. The tournament is comprised of girl's football youth teams under 13 years of age from Basic Education High Schools from each and every State and Region in Myanmar.

The ceremony was attended by the President of MFF, U Zaw Zaw, chairman of Women League's Committee, U Hla Htay, Director General U Win Khaing Moe from the Ministry of Education and other football officials.

Opening speeches were delivered by U Zaw Zaw, U Hla Htay and U Win Khaing Moe before the opening ceremony.

The tourney matches will be played from 6 to 13 January, with quarterfinal matches on 14 January and semifinal matches on 16 January. The final match will be played on18 January.

The tourney can be attended free of charge, officials said.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

# Klopp revels in Van Dijk's 'fairytale' debut

LIVERPOOL, (England) — Liverpool record signing Virgil van Dijk's winning goal in the 2-1 FA Cup third round win over city rivals Everton was like a 'fairytale', according to manager Juergen Klopp.

Playing in his first game following his move from Southampton last week, Dutch defender Van Dijk headed in an 84th minute corner to secure victory in the Merseyside derby.

"Nice one! A fairy tale in a world with not a lot of fairy tales anymore, so I think something like that is quite special," said a beaming Klopp.

The German manager had said he would not rush the £75 million ($101.76 million) new recruit into the team but changed his mind earlier on Friday.

"It was a difficult decision to make to be honest because, to be 100 per cent honest, the first plan was not to start him tonight but then Dejan (Lovren) and Raggy (Ragnar Klaven) played a lot of games in the last few weeks, so I changed my mind this morning. And it helped," he said.

Van Dijk impressed in his defensive work before grabbing the winner and Klopp said he was pleased with everything he saw from the Dutch international.

"He showed a lot of things we want him to show in the future very often tonight; heading of course, football-wise his first touch was good, good under pressure and then around set pieces a proper threat."

Not surprisingly Van Dijk was delighted with his debut.

"I don't think it can get any better. It was a fantastic night," said the 26-year-old.

"To score the winner in a derby on my debut is something every little boy dreams of. I just did it.

"I'm very happy that we got through to the next round. We have a good chance to win this. I'm very happy to have my debut, to score and to win. It's just fantastic." Liverpool had tried to sign Van Dijk before the start of the season only for Southampton to block the move until the January transfer window.

"Everyone has welcomed me very well. I just want to improve and work hard for the team, the club and the fans every day," he said. "There is still plenty of room for improvement. It's just the start".—Reuters ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

7 JANUARY 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

# Good Health towards Wealth

People do exercises at Kandawgyi National Park in Yangon. **PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE**

Khin Moh Moh Aung
Yadanabon University

THERE is a saying " Health is a great boon". People are uttering the above saying trying to keep fit themselves. As everybody knows, we need to seek money to be alive comfortably in the world. We, however, should not ignore to keep ourselves fit. Most of the people neglect their health and then work hard to live comfortably along their life. The thing we should aware is that we cannot live comfortably without being healthy. Therefore, we have to follow the right way of living. If so, we can balance our life between wealth and health.

Sometimes, people lose their consciousness about health during working time. We, human beings, can work hard as much as we can when we are healthy. If we are unhealthy, we cannot use our energy and we cannot work. People who are reading about the above case will think that they know about it. However, I'm sure that sometimes, they neglect their health. As we are ordinary people, we have to suffer from physical or mental pain. Whatever, we need to prepare to possess good health. In my point of view, everyone should seek wealth by good health.

Some people do not sleep early at night and they do works till mid night. Moreover, those people usually think about work before sleep soundly. I think they cannot be fresh on the next day. That habit is not good for them. The next thing is eating healthy food properly. Some people do not have breakfast, lunch and dinner on time. They just keep their stomach with fast food and junk food. They usually say that they eat these foods because they are busy as bees and they do not have enough time. For those people, some health experts say that "Your fast food can be your last food". The saying reveals that fast food cannot help people to get enough energy. Thusly, those people should fix their eating styles.

Some of the busy people do not think to take a rest. Taking a rest is good for health. On the other hand, taking a rest can refill energy to work with freshness. The another thing is doing physical exercises. Most of the busy people do not have enough time to do physical exercises. But, we need to pay time for doing physical exercises. Most of the people get up lately when they are on holiday. If they get up early and do physical exercises (walking, running, doing aerobic, doing yoga, etc.), these doings will support them for possessing good health.

We, human beings, are struggling to be alive comfortably. We cannot struggle if we are unhealthy. So, we need to keep our mind and body fit when we are seeking wealth. If so, we can live comfortably when we are not able to work. Finally, I would like to express that "Let's work with keeping ourselves fit".

## 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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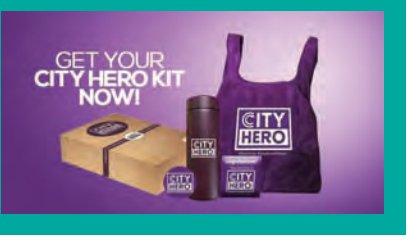

# Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

## Lesson 34: Sentences (2): Types of Statements

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>

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**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 (4)

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

Up to this time, we have discussed about the followings :..

(1) Well-paid Salary or Sufficient Salary
(2) Conditions of Security
(3) Fairness from the Upper-hands
(4) Enough Time and Conditions for their Further Study and
(5) Teachers' Opportunity for Further Study

Here, in this no.(5), the author has been discussing about how the promotions of teachers were managed to do in the past, as from PAT to JAT and then to SAT. And as time passed, there are separate trainings to produce PATs by TTSs, then JATs by TTC s and SATs by Universities of Education.

We were right in the middle of discussing on the different Teacher Trainings and their promotions and their hopes for future last week.

Nowadays, as we have the necessity of more and more teachers, all for PTs, JTs and STs both in quantity and quality. So to train more teachers, what we need to do is as follows :..

First of all, for all teachers higher in both quantity and quality. we need to post more tutors in the Universities of Education among Ph.D. degree holders and M.Ed. degree holders, so that we will have enough teachers to produce more and more Ph.Ds and M.Eds.

Then only after we get more M.Eds in number, we have to ask them and encourage them to go and teach in COEs. Here, we have to give them incentives so that they want to join COE s.

It is still quite difficult to do so to get more tutors for COEs, just because the M.Ed. degree holders have the right to choose where they want to go and serve. Most of them wants to go and join the Universities of Education, for one point, it is the place where they can get the chance to attend Ph.D. classes, and so also to get the chance for further studies for Ph.D. degree as State Scholarships to countries abroad.

And also they can have their bright future for themselves as they can be promoted from tutors to ALs to Ls and then to APs and Ps. If they are lucky enough, they can become Professors one day and so also up till Rectors and Directors General and so on. Who can't say they will not become Ministers of Education one day ? That is the point that they all have great hope individually for all of them. And standard of living and chance to get more and more experience to start their own business. So their first priority is to join Universities of Education naturally.

But, for some teachers who do not want to join Universities of Education have another chance to join the post as Middle Heads and High Heads in the Basic Education Departments. And if they will get these posts in their hometowns and in schools near their homes, they won't go away any further to these COE s. Everybody wants to stay happily as ever with their own families.

That is why they do not want to join the Education Colleges.

One more point is that we have to go to other towns, big and small to join COE s, but we can stay with our families if we join Universities of Education as these are only in Yangon and Sagaing. It is also a great luck to stay in such two Universities in Yangon and Sagaing.

Other towns where other COEs are far and near all over the country, for some M.Ed graduates, it is quite far away from their hometowns, where they wants to live together with their own family. That is why, we all have difficulty to get more tutors in COEs.

So, we need to give them more incentives to them, so that they will come and join COEs. It is also concerned with their salaries, their accommodations, their chances for further studies, fairness in promotions and everyday working styles and so on.

But, the first priority should go to UOEs, where we can get more teachers to train other M.Eds and Ph.Ds first and foremost.

Only after we have more than enough teachers for UOEs, we can take it into consideration for more tutors in COEs.

For getting more candidates in M.Ed. and Ph.D. classes, we also call for not only M.Ed. (Qualified) with one year SAT service to sit for M.Ed. Entrance Examinations and also call all B,Ed. Graduates (Qualified or not for M.Ed.) with 5 years' service to sit for M.Ed. (Qualifying) Entrance Exams. After attending one year of Qualifying class and passed the Exam., they can continue their further study as M.Ed. I students.

So, nowadays, opportunity knocks at every B,Ed. Graduate's door.

Moreover, we have another kind of opportunity to join the M.Phil.(Education) classes with a five years' service after passing the Entrance Exam.

So, nowadays, there are more and more opportunities for all B.Ed. graduates if they want to go on further studies both in our country and abroad.

But, we have still problems with other graduates without B.Ed. degree, who had already joined the service in the Basic Education Department. Even some have no teacher training at all. For them, Teacher Training for some months is necessary to do so. Only after that after some years of experience, they can be promoted from PTs to JTs and then to STs and only after that to join B.Ed. (Cor.) Classes after sitting for the Entrance Exams.

Such kinds of teachers are more than 150000 and it is quite a high number, so it is a great problem to give them teacher trainings as soon as possible, for letting uncert. teachers to teach children and youth are quite dangerous.

Education is not only teaching, but also to nurture them to become all-round developed citizens for our country.

And for all these processes, if we can do step by step systematically and in fair and square style, it will be alright for all teachers.

But, if not, there will be another great problem in the lives of Teachers and all these unfair management can cause great danger to threaten the Mental Health of Teachers .

**(To be continued)**

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

7 JANUARY 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

A panoramic view shows Bagan dotted with hundreds of ancient pagodas. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

Glazed pots are one of the more popular locally produced products in Bagan, especially during the Ananda Pagoda Festival in the winter season, as the earthen pots are still used by people for collecting drinking water in the arid region. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

# Bagan: Then & Now

By James Perry

I FIRST visited Bagan in 1998; there was just a trickling of foreign tourists to the region, partially due to the tenuous times the people of the country were patiently enduring. There was a small scattering of guest houses, yet enough restaurants that mostly had local cuisine some Thai food. Transportation was available but the accessibility to it could at times be tricky. Regardless of these things the ancient city still had retained its stately presence and beauty.

To ring in the new year of 2018 I decided to revisit the city and see how it changed. The American president John F. Kennedy once said "Change is the law of life", Bagan is certainly no exception to this dictum. Now Bagan has a wide variety of accommodations that can range from inexpensive guest houses to high end resorts. I was in a festive mood so I decided to stay in nice resort. A friend suggested a 5 star resort in New Bagan, it was one of, if not the best accommodations I have ever stayed at in over the 20 plus years of traveling I have done in Asia, you just have to trust me on this.

The staff was exceedingly friendly and helpful and the gratis breakfast buffet was sumptuous. The rooms were tastefully designed and decorated. As I said there are other types of accommodations in both Old and New Bagan to suit any visitor's needs.

Besides the increase in places to stay, more and more restaurants are dishing up a wider variety of cuisines. You can still get local food, and there is greater variety of Thai food. However, now many restaurants will have western meals on offer, so if you have a hankering for a burger, pizza, fish and chips or spaghetti carbonara you can find them in Bagan with just a little bit of sleuthing around. The coffee shop craze has hit Bagan just like other places. There are lots of coffee shops that can brew cappuccino, espresso and lattes. Most coffee shops also have a bakery that can whip up a range of cakes, breads, pies, muffins and cookies. They are the perfect companion for an iced cappuccino on a hot day.

Bagan doesn't have much of a nightlife to boast about, however there are some bars and pubs you can visit if you want a cocktail, a glass of wine or just an icy cold beer if you feel parched. There are a fair number of them between Old and New Bagan.

A Buddhist novice monk looks out at visitors as he relaxes on a bullock cart parked at the Ananda Pagoda. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

One of the quainter options in which visitors can tour Bagan is by horse-drawn cart. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

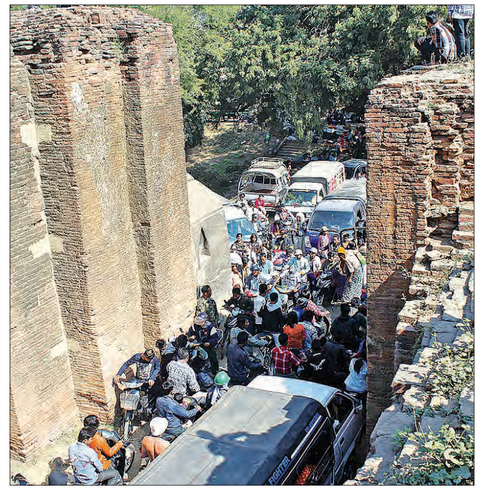
Transportation is Bagan now has become ridiculously easy. Visitors can find push bikes for hire at many shops and some accommodations will have them as well. Petrol powered motorbikes can also be rented. When I was there for the New Year I witnessed the latest transport trend, "e-bikes" or electrically powered motorbikes. They seemed to be a big hit with the foreign tourists. Obviously they're good for the environment and they don't go as fast as conventional petrol powered motorbikes. This is good for visitors who have never rode a motorbike before or for people who feel uncomfortable riding a motorbike.

Visiting Bagan in 1998 I saw the traditional horse and carriage used by people visiting temple sites, I thought it was pretty cool because it gave Bagan a vibe of classy antiquity. The horses and buggies are still there and visitors will still use them to trot around the city or visit around the temples. However, today with many transportation options the carriage drivers have been put in a position to raise their prices. So the choice is yours, but it's a novel way to see parts of the city so a short trip by horse and buggy would be worth it.

The number of visitors has obviously increased, I was fortunate to find a place to stay for the New Year because many local people will go there. The number of foreign visitors also goes up during the holiday because it's the height of the tourist season. However I have good reason to suspect that the number of foreigners visiting Bagan throughout the rest of the year has increased significantly.

Yet there are still some westerners who feel skittish about visiting any part of Myanmar in spite of the fact that the country has moved beyond its troubles from the past and recent minor conflicts have been tranquilized. So I don't know why some westerners are still refusing to visit. The image that some westerners have about Myanmar seems to be a disparaging one. What these westerners fail to understand is that perceptions do not always reflect reality, so it's their loss.

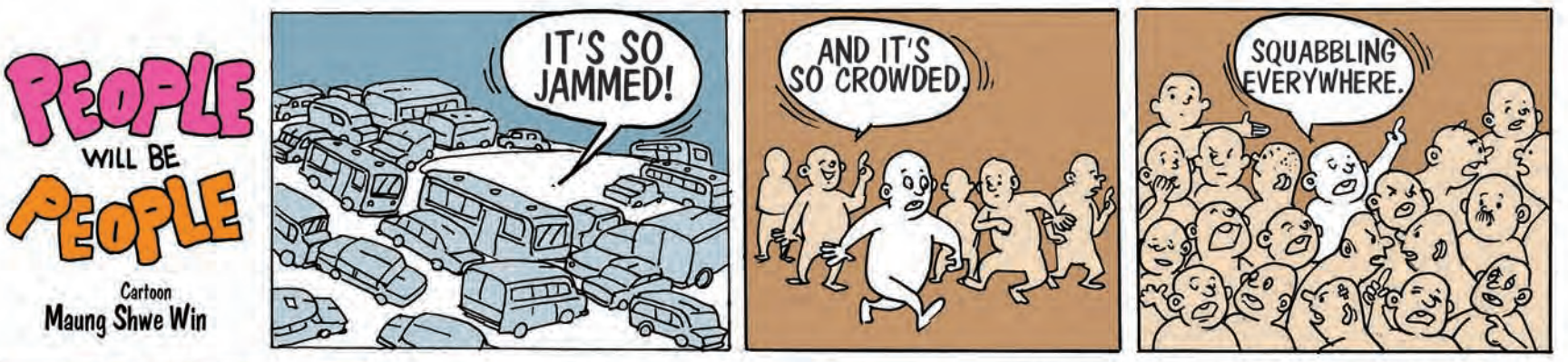
I was glad I made the trip to Bagan for the New Year holiday and being pleased by the changes that have occurred there. When I visited Bagan the first time I left with no question or doubt in my mind that Bagan easily ranks in the top 3 places in South East Asia for seeing historical and cultural iconic landmarks and ancient architecture. I think anybody who visits Bagan would agree with me.

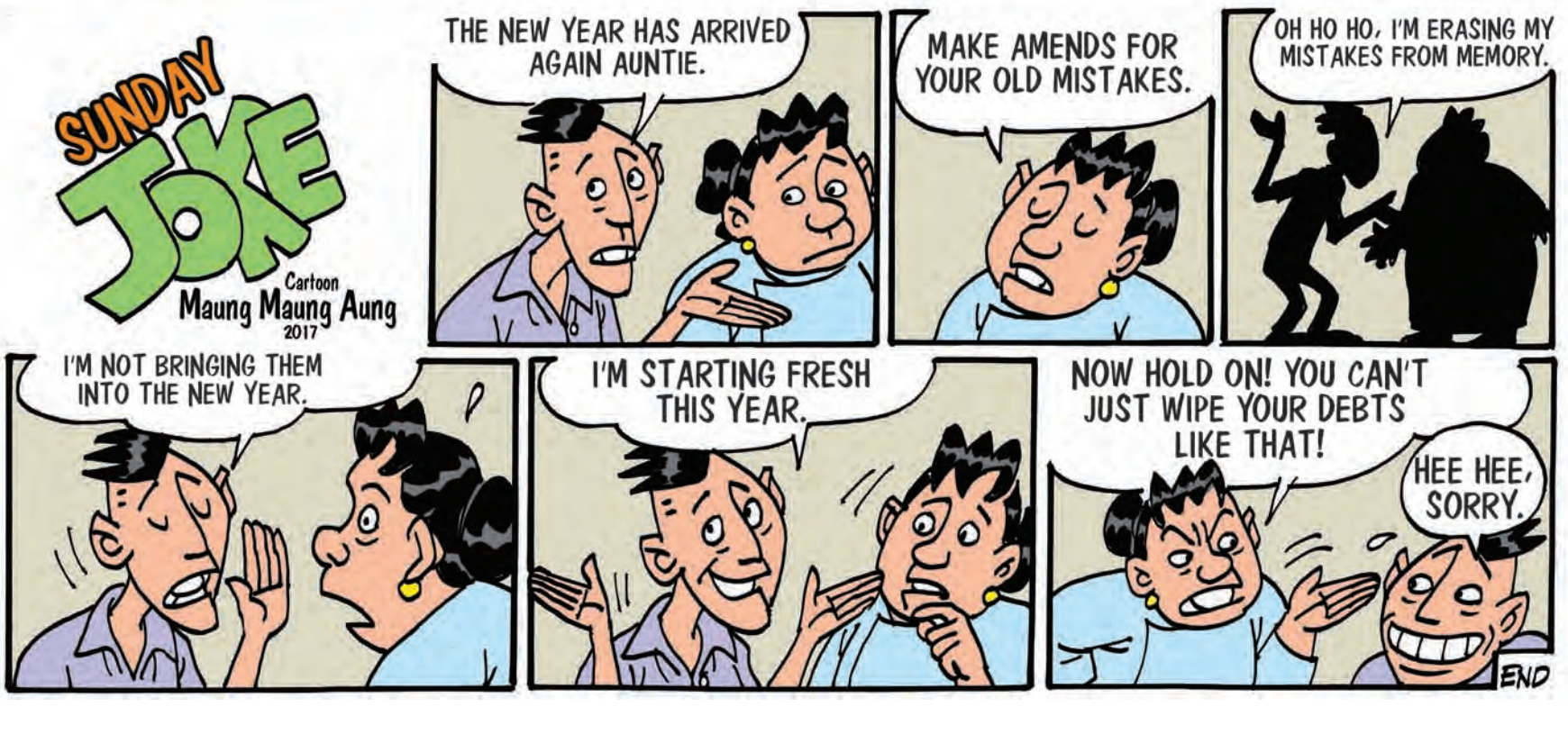


Tharapa Gate, one of ancient entrances to Bagan, some of which are thousands of years old. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

After harvest, villagers from nearby towns and villages come to the Ananda Pagoda Festival, which falls in the winter season. The worshippers traditionally come by bullock cart and camp around the pagoda to participate in the festival and to engage in religious activities. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

# SUNDAY COMICS





# Life-saving Wachet Hospital in Sagaing

By Sayar Mya (MOFA)

Wachet Hospital in Sagaing Hills.

A HOSPITAL in upper Myanmar whose mission is to treat monks, nuns, the poor and the marginalised free of charge that was started nearly 40 years ago with only Ks10,000 announced yesterday it had raised over Ks100 billion.

A festive and joyful communal libation ceremony was held to mark the occasion of rising eternal funds hitting 1000 million Myanmar Kyats accrued by people's centered Jivitadhana Sangha Hospital in the Sagaing Hills attended by members of Sangha, committee members and well wishers on the moving "Royal Ayeyawaddy Cruise Boat" in Yangon River on the cool morning of Saturday 6 January 2018.

In the recent past, the Wachet Village and many similar surrounding small villages are situated in the remote northeast area of Sagaing in the Sagaing Hills on the west bank of Ayeyawaddy River. The cluster of villages are only accessible from Sagaing Town by passenger boats manually moved by oars only up to a point called "Hlay Seik" literally "boat terminal". Then villagers had to walk a long way by foot about four miles to reach Wachet Village and the surrounding villages.

It was an agonizing and distressing ordeal to send and carry a patient from the surrounding villages to Sagaing Hospital or to Mandalay Hospital.

Most of the critical and terminally ill patients in these villages remained at home suffering and embracing all the worst agonies and pains rather than travelling muddy, slippery and bumpy village pathways to the "boat terminal" and then riding on the shaking boat on the sprawling Ayeyawaddy River to reach Sagaing.

Instead they were prepared to die, having no better choice.

No doctor. No clinic. No dispensary.

These villages remained in darkness for many decades.

## Wind of Change

It was a windy evening of 29 March 1980.

There were two very old banyan trees standing tall side by side on the soft muddy earth near the same space where the existing Wachet Hospital is to be established in a few years later in 1984. Under the two banyan trees there were two old dilapidated communal rest houses called "Cardu Dita" for the local travelers to rest for a while or sleep overnight, mostly used by local fishermen and farm hands.

At sunset, local people in the villages began their dinner. A typical day's catch for a fisherman is enough for a meal, while some lucky fishermen may pull in one of the river's giant catfish. Lifestyles are simple, easy, straightforward and undemanding in Myanmar. Most of the fishermen and farmers from the surrounding villages spent their time on the communal rest houses.

A strong storm with might and anger suddenly rolled across the Ayeyawaddy River and hit hard to the west bank. Many trees including the two banyan trees collapsed and the communal rest houses blown away into thin air and gone with the wind. The big trees near the areas were also fallen down and some uprooted.

Nearly all the small houses and dwellings were also collapsed. Some good houses with corrugated tin roof were also damaged to certain extent.

The strong storm had left the community with misery.

## Kyaswa Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dr. Lakkhana

Bhaddanta Dr. Lakkhana, who was born in 1935 in Kadaw Village, Myingyan Township, Mandalay Region (formerly Division) of Upper Myanmar, later became the founder of the existing Wachet Jivitadhana Sangha Hospital in Sagaing Hills.

## From Small Hut to Standard Hospital

The original owner of the two communal rest houses was Tharyawaddy Sayadaw also known as Ashin Arseinda Maha Thero in Sagaing Hills. Immediately after the storm that devastated the area, the senior monk requested and assigned Kyaswa Sayadaw Dr. Lakkhana to rebuild the two communal rest houses for the benefit of local community.

Kyaswa Sayadaw accepted the request to rebuild the communal rest houses in their original site.

Coincidentally, Retired Divisional Commissioner U Kyi arrived at Kyaswa Religious Resort in Sagaing Hills. At that time, U Kyi was the Chairman of the Myanmar Red Cross Association.

## People's Centered Concept

While taking up discussion on various religious matters, Kyaswa Sayadaw was of the view that the vacant space left by communal rest houses should be utilized as small dispensary or basic health care unit that may benefit the rural community, who suffered lack of health care facility.

In response, Retired Divisional Commissioner U Kyi agreed to build a small structure for the purpose of health clinic. The Myanmar Red Cross Association Chairman was of the view that the opening of a health care center was in line with the government policy for rural development. He promised to assist as much as possible in the realization of the small health care unit.

## It started only with Ks10,000

As of 13 May 1980, the leading Sayadaws namely Kyaswa Sayadaw, Hanthargiri Sayadaw, Yadana Man Aung Sayadaw, and Pali Cari Sayadaw contributed Ks10,000 as initial budget.

With some cash in hands, the auspicious ground breaking ceremony for dispensary was held on 15 June 1980. In the following days, the members of Sangha and the lay disciples including the village community participated in cash and kind and also in labor to start rolling of the building of communal dispensary.

Establishing a hospital in the remote Sagaing Hills was not an easy project, and raising funds to run and operate the day to day activities of the hospital was herculean task.

There have been spates of questions cropped up and, therefore, revered and leading monks and local elders find solution to address them. Due to the meager budget allocation in the health sector in the country, monks and nuns were mostly left neglected without any medical care or primary health service for those living in very ascetic life in the remote places among the hills.

With these backdrops, a group of thoughtful "da jakas" (lay devotees and donors) planned to set up a free service hospital at Sagaing Hills. Then they started in lobbying and soliciting charity and donation from the well wishers. After receiving initial funds, they built a ten-bedded hospital through the collection of donations. The hospital was founded on 20 October 1984 at Wachet Village at the foot of the Sagaing Hills on the west bank of the mighty Ayeyawaddy River, opposite to Metropolitan Mandalay City. Mandalay is the third-largest city and the last royal capital of Myanmar.

Though the hospital was small in size, but it was cost-effective. At that juncture, it could serve four to five thousand people every year. As the sweet smell of success and flagrance of good news of the hospital spread beyond the Sagaing Hills, the number of patients goes up high every year, and the sufferer, invalid, and sick patients increased. The demand, request, call and claim indicated for hospital expansion.

The primary purpose and principal objective of this hospital is to offer free medical services to the monks, nuns, lay persons especially poor, marginalized, underprivileged and vulnerable patients residing in the area of Sagaing Hills. At the hospital, there is no unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of race, age, sex, social or religious discrimination.

Myanmar doctors, physicians, specialists, trained professionals and local nurses are attending and giving medical treatment without discrimination to the patients from upper Myanmar and elsewhere of the country. Foreign medical specialists and teams are assisting the Myanmar medical teams the whole year round coming in and going out sharing their expertise and imparting training.

Main Leading Venerable Buddhist Monk Kyaswa Sayadaw Bhaddhanta Dr. Lakkhana, Agga Maha Kamahtana Sariya, Agga Maha Saddhamma Zawtika, has already laid down five-point Resolutions some years ago. The Supervisory Committee of Wachet Jivitadhana Sangha Hospital in Sagaing Hills has embraced the resolutions of Sayadaw as its guiding principles and vowed to uphold these mottos in their daily activities for the mankind.

SEE PAGE S-8

# Goodwill or Suffering

Nwe Phyo
(Cherry land)
(Yadanarbon University)

ENVIRONMENT mends people in some way. It mends more immature and young people than experienced one. Than the young, it mends more inexperienced children. By chances, I estimate the relationship between children and their environment. These children imitate their environment.

For example, look the children living in a police station. They mimic the styles and behaviors of staffs and police officers.

When they meet each other, they often play "police vs. thieves". If a group takes the role of the police, the left plays as thieves. In playing so, there are more children who want to be police than to play the role of thieves. Apparently, they accept a belief in their mind that a thief is an evil and a police officer is the one who captures this evil. The children who play as thieves run away and the police team arrest them. Sometimes, the ways; they manacle the thieves, they escort them, they interrogate them, they torture them when they don't receive confession, are so animated.

In the same way, the children living in a hospital play the games related to medicine and surgery; taking the role of a doctor, the role of patients, injecting, doing surgery, giving medicines and etc. So, by mimicking their environment, their seeds of habit root in their mind. It is natural that the future lives of children grow developed depending on the good and bad points of their environment. Depending on the admonition of their parents, the guarding of their relatives, and the ways of their friends, the future of children falls like yellow leaves falling from tree, and their future becomes as bright as stars in the sky. According to my habit, I feel cheerful when I see promising children and when I see incapable ones, I feel down-hearted.

Last year (1963-1964), I left Yangon for Mawlamyaing very often and vice versa. The times I visited there was so many. Every times, I took train. It was so boring that I gazed somewhere when I felt bored on the train. Along the way, creeks, ponds, fields, and golden pagodas could be found. But, these views could not draw my attention every times. What attracted my attention were the small villages between Ta-Hton and Hnin-Palae. These small villages were not too far from each other. These intermittent villages along the railway were not too impressive. Most of the buildings were just thatches. People living there might probably be peasants. As a highway was in the east of the villages, some might be vendors selling chewing betel, cheroots or confectionery. Assuming all round villages, these villages were poor ones. When a train arrived at their villages, children from all of these villages were massively waiting for it. They were in different ages; from 5 years old to 13 or 14 years old. Some were naked, and some were with dirty sarongs or untidy shorts. Most of them didn't wear any shirts.

They happily yelled, waved their hands and joyfully jumped as soon as a train arrived. Whenever my train passed this place, I used to gaze out of the window. Not only me, but also other passengers fixed their eyes on them. For the first time I had been there, I thought it might be the nature of children to enjoy the chugging of locomotives or steamships.

When they were seen, the commuters from the train I took might to offer them what they had. So, they generously gave away their snacks; sweets, chocolates, steamed glutinous rice, edible succulent tuber and steamed corns to the children asking something beside the railway. Some offered coinages. When something was given from the train, children were busy robbing it.

Then, they were left behind noisily, and crowdedly. The passengers were delightful for what they had done and they also wished repeatedly for it. But, for me, I could be neither happy nor having desire to say "Well done".

Though the train passed these villages, that scene didn't fade away in my eyes. Along my journey, I was thinking about the future of those children.

There are more than six trains which passed these villages. These kids will only be waiting for trains as they realize they can get money or something edible else. For them, study times, play times and school are less interesting than the time trains arrive at their villages. Besides, the bad concept that they can fulfill their hunger without tireless, will be in their mind. Then, the bad mind; not having any intention to rely on self, not realizing to learn and study, unknowing to work for life, will destroy their future. That the children's future is ruined means the future of our nation is destroyed.

We Myanmar can be proud of being generous and charitable. However, we donate only with a belief "If I offer something, I will achieve good deeds". They satisfy with that idea. This satisfaction depends only on the temporary delight, happiness, and being pleased of the children they offered but not on lifelong delight, happiness, and being pleased. They seem not to notice that fact.

Anyway, I don't want to comment on the goodwill of benefactors. It can be said that it is noble. Nevertheless, I assume they should think about donations which can make children happy for their long lives rather than one which only make them happy for awhile.

Though it might be deemed that his kind of contribution is impossible at once, if we saved money we donated there every day systematically, would there be a school, or a library, or a hospital?

Translation of Takkatho Min Maw's essay from Myanmar into English by Nwe Pyo.

# Life-saving Wachet Hospital in Sagaing

FROM PAGE S-7

1. I will make use of my life for all the good things and better atmosphere while having the opportunity to be a human being.
2. I will employ my mind and body in all the beneficial acts and valuable performances while getting a rare chance of possessing physical existence.
3. I will develop my human mental power while in possession of the brain for the fruitful outcomes and advantages of all mankind.
4. I will exert my human energy while it is still active and energetic for the constructive impact and better achievements.
5. I will pour out all my worldly resources while it is in certainty and realism for the comfort and happiness of human beings.

**Fund raising comes a long way.**

The Eternal Funds of the hospital first reached 100 million Myanmar Kyats on 3 March 2013.

The process speeded up along with the collective efforts of the Committee Members of Lower Myanmar and Upper Myanmar Logistic and Support Bodies.

As of now, the Eternal Funds is raised to 1000 million Myanmar Kyats with the joyful communal libation ceremony on Saturday 6 January 2018.

The Wachet Hospital is running well, but not smooth as silk on budget matters.

**Remarkable exhortations being spelled out**

Wachet Hospital Sangha Executive Committee Chairperson Bhaddhanta Thadhama Daja Maha Thero told the congregation that the successive members of various committees since their inception in the 1980s were working in line with Sila, Samadi and Panna, and then by handing down the good characteristics and disciplines to the successive and current members. Therefore, the Wachet Hospital is prospering.

The Chairwoman of Lower Myanmar Committee told the congregation that she have contributed cash and kind for the hospital for more than (30) years and pledged to donate more in the years ahead.

The outspoken Honorary Secretary candidly and honesty declared that she was extremely happy to witness the rising eternal funds of (1000) million Myanmar Kyats as of today and that she would work to the best of her ability heart and soul to hit (2000) million Myanmar Kyats for the Eternal Funds as the monthly operation and running cost of the Wachet Hospital stands out around (30) million Myanmar Kyats, and the number of patients increased.

Next, the happy communal libation ceremony came to a successful closing by reciting "Buddham Saranam Teikthahtu".

The author of the article would like to wrap up that the Wachet Hospital in the Sagaing Hills is a life saving venue that could be emulated and replicated especially in remote areas across Myanmar for the rural health care with the people's centered concept.