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Mon ethnic people take part in national-level political dialogue in Ye, Mon State, yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Mon holds national-level political dialogue in Ye

THE opening ceremony of the National-level Political Dialogue for ethnic Mon people was held yesterday at the People's Sports Stadium in Ye Township, Mon State.

At the ceremony, Kyaikmaraw Township, Yamanya Nikaya Kaw Pa Line Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kaytuma-la delivered the opening speech. This was followed by a speech

from the National Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) Vice Chairman (2) Dr. Tin Myo Win, who expressed his delight over the present event taking place after the New Mon State

Party signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA). He spoke about the importance of establishing a federal union based on democracy,

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SWRR Union Minister meets displaced persons in Kachin State

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (SWRR) Dr. Win Myat Aye, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Soe Aung and Kachin State Minister for Social Affairs Dr. Thin Lwin met with conflict-struck displaced persons in Kachin State at the temporary camps in Tan Phe Village, Myitkyina Township, Kachin State.

Displaced persons from In Jan Done, In Gaing Kaung and Inlotyan villages expressed their appreciation for the assistance provided and requested help in moving the remaining people from the villages to a safe place.

At the meeting, the Union Minister explained the process of assisting and helping displaced persons—especially the elderly, people with disabilities, expecting mothers and children—with food, livelihood, education, social security, health etc. The Union Minister encouraged displaced persons to openly state their requirements.

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branches of the Innwa Bank and Red dot.

Union Minister for Home Affairs attends 72nd Myanmar Fire Service Day celebration

UNION Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe attended and addressed the 72nd Myanmar Fire Service Day celebration held at the parade ground of the Myanmar Fire Service Department headquarters at Oat Pone Sate Road, Mayangon Township, Yangon Region yesterday morning.

At the event, the Union Minister for Home Affairs conferred the Ye Bala title to two personnel, the Ye Thurein title to one personnel and the Ye Kyawthu title to five personnel.

In his speech at the event, the Union Minister said it had been 72 years since the fire service was started as a force conducting social service, and now its personnel were serving with a strong belief of protecting the country and the people. The event is held with the aim of ensuring the present service personnel remember and honour the incomparable value, motivation, dedication, sacrifice and spirit of the personnel of the past. The Myanmar Fire Service Department was formed to protect the lives and properties of the people in the country from fires and natural disasters. As the country develops, balanced training and preparation with the three fundamentals of manpower, support



Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe visits the 72nd Myanmar Fire Service Day booth at the parade ground of the Myanmar Fire Service Department headquarters in Yangon. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

materials and technologies need to be conducted against dangers in the form of natural disasters, chemical, biological and radioactive materials. With a view to preparing for the future, the organisation and capabilities of the Fire Service Department were expanded and more equipment and machinery were added. To provide the best service to the people with added forces, it is

most important to prepare and practice with the latest technology and knowledge. As the capabilities of every Fire Service Department personnel affects the safety of the people, as well as the construction of the nation, they need to train and develop their capabilities, said the Union Minister.

After the parading companies and fire engines marched

past the Union Minister, a "Brave Heart" competition to test individual capability, team search and rescue "Rip-it-off" competition for car accidents, demonstration of fire engines and equipment from Poland and company-level earthquake search-and-rescue demonstrations were conducted.

The Union Minister and his wife then presented awards to

personnel who took part in the parade. Later, the Union Minister and guests viewed the modern firefighting equipment displayed at the exhibition.

The Myanmar Fire Service Day celebration was attended by Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe and his wife, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, Deputy Ministers, heads, senior officials and personnel of forces and departments under the Ministry of Home Affairs, members of Myanmar Veterans' Organisation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, donors, artistes and invited guests.

Following the celebration, the document of honour and prize presenting ceremony were held at the Myanmar Fire Service Department headquarters at Thida Hall. Myanmar Fire Service Department Director General and senior officers presented awards to winners of the Brave Heart and Rip-it-off competitions, best company awards to parading companies at the 72nd Myanmar Fire Service Day parade, model fire station award and many other awards and documents of honour, it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Mon holds national-level political dialogue in Ye

FROM PAGE 1

equality and self-determination rights. He added that to establish this, National-level Political Dialogues are held to discuss the requirements, desires, wishes and views of the ethnic nationals. As such, at this National-level Political Dialogue, ethnic Mon people can present their requirements, desires, wishes and views, said Dr. Tin Myo Win.

Later, speeches were delivered by Chairman of New Mon State Party Nai Htaw Mon; Mon State Chief Minister Dr. Aye Zan; U Khin Zaw Oo, U Khun Myint Tun and U Saw Tun Aung Myint of the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC) government group; ethnic armed organization group and political party group; All Mon Region Democracy Party central executive committee mem-



National Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) Vice Chairman (2) Dr. Tin Myo Win delivers the speech. **PHOTO: MNA**

ber Nai Kyan Yit; and Mon National Party Vice Chairman Nai Ngwe Thein, while organizing committee Chairman Nai Banyar Lae explained the works done for the National-level Political Dialogue.

In the afternoon, the dialogues were continued by groups. Proposals on the funda-

mental principles of the political sector were discussed at the Mon Dhammayone (meeting hall), proposals on the fundamental principles of the social sector to build a federal union and proposals on the fundamental principles of the federal economy were discussed in two separate meeting halls of Basic

Education High School No. 1 and proposals on the principles of the farmland and environmental sector were discussed at the Tapalin Nasu Dhammayone.

The three-day dialogue will be held until 7 May and the 500 representatives in attendance will discuss in groups on the four sectors, as designated by the UPDJC.

Present at the dialogue were monks, officials from NRPC, UPDJC, all levels of the Joint Ceasefire Monitoring Committee, Mon State Chief Minister and state government members, Mon State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and representatives, members of the National-level Political Dialogue managing committee, officials from ethnic armed organizations, representatives of groups and observers.—Mon State (IPRD) ■

SWRR Union Minister meets ...

FROM PAGE 1

Displaced persons from In Jan Done, In Gaing Kaung and Inlotyan villages expressed their appreciation for the assistance provided and requested help in moving the remaining people from the villages to a safe place. They stated that this was their priority, above any other form of support and assistance. Later, Ks675,000 for children below five years in the camp, Ks1.4 million for expecting mothers, Ks3.4 million for people with disabilities, Ks185,000 for women-led households and one month ration of rice, cooking oil, salt and beans for 880 displaced persons in the camp were provided and accepted by officials. In addition to this, an over 100-year-old woman, an over 90-year-old man and woman were met with separately and provided aid, it is learnt.—MNA ■



Our country can retain its former glory

We have much to carry on fulfilling the hopes and needs of the people of the country. We must press on until our citizens have their dignity raised and our country can retain its former glory on the global stage.

(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)



Collective strength is vital to build peace and stability which we need. We need to have mutual understanding and mutual respect as the basic foundation to bring to an end the armed conflicts which have existed for many years among the ethnic nationalities. We can make this foundation strong with our collective strength.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)

MPC's 2nd paper reading session, book sales festival kicks off

THE opening ceremony of the Myanmar Press Council's (MPC) second paper reading session, conducted under the theme of "Democratic State of Myanmar and the establishment of a strong fourth pillar", was held at the Information Ministry's Printing and Publishing Department (PPD) Central Press Building, Theinbyu Street, Yangon, yesterday morning.

At first, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, PPD Director-General U Aung Myo Myint and paper reading session organising committee chairman MPC Vice Chairman (1) U Ohn Kyaing (Hanthawady U Ohn Kyaing) cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the MPC's second paper reading session and book sales festival, and then visited the bookshops in the compound.

Next, the opening ceremony of MPC's second paper reading session was held at the PPD Hall where Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker said knowledge is gained when experts read papers, and by holding such a paper reading session, many unknown topics become known. Citizens and the youth will also be encouraged to read books and literature. Thus, holding of similar events should continue, said the Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker.

Paper reading session organising committee chairman MPC Vice Chairman (1) U Ohn



Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, PPD Director-General U Aung Myo Myint and Hanthawady U Ohn Kyaing cut ribbon to open the MPC's second paper reading session. PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT

Kyaing (Hanthawady U Ohn Kyaing) said, "If journalists and media personnel ask whether there is press freedom today, my view is things such as freedom are neither asked for, nor can they be owned. The duty and responsibility of journalists/media personnel is to write to serve the people; and as the eyes of the people, they have to write what they know and see. This is our right as journalists and media personnel. This right is also granted under the Constitution. This paper reading session was held with the aim of establishing

a strong 'fourth pillar', the media, when a democratic system is established."

Later, paper reading session organising committee chairman, committee members, moderators, authors of the papers and invited guests took a commemorative group photo.

The ceremony was attended by chairmen and officials of MPC, literature, printing, publishing and news media organisations, Myanmar Writers Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Organisation, Myanmar Music Association, invited guests and media

personnel.

The book sale festival consisted of more than a hundred bookshops, which were visited by book lovers and the public.

At the paper reading morning session, which was held after the opening ceremony, moderators MPC Vice Chairman (2) Dr. Myo Thant Tin and MPC information official U Myint Kyaw introduced the authors of the papers.

U Ohn Kyaing (Hanthawady U Ohn Kyaing) and U Ye Myint Pe then read their papers titled "Democratic State of Myanmar and the establishment of a strong

fourth pillar" and "Image of the life of a journalist."

In the afternoon at the paper reading session, moderators MPC member U Chit Naing (Chit Naing – Philosophy) and MPC joint secretary (2) U Kyaw Swa Min introduced the authors of the papers.

Dr. Tin Hlaing (Bo Hlaing) and Professor Dr. Myint Maung Maung then read their papers titled "Establishment of Myanmar Press Council and its future work" and "New media sector and public health." The authors of the papers responded to questions raised by the attendees of the paper reading session, and the PPD Director-General presented cash awards to the moderators and authors of the papers.

The paper reading session will continue on 6 May, where Dr. Maung Maung San, U Myat Khaing (MJA), U Naing Maung and U Kyi Naing (MWU), U Nyunt Tin (Maung Nyein Thu – Gyobinkauk) (MWA), U Chit Win Maung (MJU) and U Zeya (Thargyi Maung Zeya) will read papers titled "World of the Jimmy and our world", "Battles of press freedom", "Review of present news media", "Journalists and ethics", "Status of media freedom during the NLD government", and "Rakhine State affair and usage of a peaceful newspaper", respectively.—Yi Yi Myint, Ohnmar Thant ■



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ACTING CHIEF EDITORAye Min Soe,
ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**EXPATRIATE CONSULTANT EDITOR**Mark Angeles,
markrangeles@gmail.com**SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT**

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORSZaw Min,
zawmin.gnlm@gmail.com
Win Ko Ko Aung,
kowink2aung@gmail.com**INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**LOCAL NEWS EDITORS**Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com**TRANSLATORS**Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Zaw Htet Oo
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun**REPORTER**May Thet Hnin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
mayreporter.mm@gmail.com**PHOTOGRAPHER**

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAMTun Zaw,
Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin**EDITORIAL SECTION**(+95) (01) 8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
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Tourist arrivals fall in Myanmar

THE number of tourists who visited Myanmar from January to March this year declined by 3 per cent compared with the same period last year, according to a report in Myawady Daily yesterday.

Myanmar received some 920,000 tourists from January to March, compared to the 950,000 tourists in 2017, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

"Some of the trips were cancelled because of negative media publicity. The political situation does not really impact tourism, but such matters should be handled through the media," said Daw Khin Than Win, deputy director-general of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

Tourists arriving from Western countries fell this year compared to the same period last year. In contrast, more tourists from Japan,



Tourists being seen taking the photos of a pagoda in Mandalay. PHOTO: THIHA KO KO

China, Thailand and South Korea visited Myanmar this year.

"Tourists visiting Inle have declined slightly. If we compare the nationwide figures, the num-

bers have not dropped significantly. We are trying to ensure the Myanmar tourist industry is stable," said U Yan Win, chairman of Myanmar Tourism Fed-

eration. The number of tourists entering Myanmar has declined significantly because of the Rakhine conflict in August 2017. — GNLM ■

8th property expo to be held in Yangon

THE eighth property expo in Myanmar will be showcased by iMyanmarHouse.com from 11 to 13 May 2018 at the Tatmadaw Exhibition Hall in Yangon.

"This exhibition will be organised by iMyanmarHouse.com in Yangon. iMyanmarHouse.com has showcased similar expos in Mandalay, Taunggyi, Sittwe, Patheingyi and Singapore. More than 50 property companies will participate in the three-day event. Instalment schemes and special discounts will be available on the sale of some apartments. Banks will participate in the expo to provide information on loans," said U Nay Min Thu, managing director of iMyanmarHouse.

The prices start upwards of Ks20 million for apartments and between Ks50 million and Ks 500 million for condo apartments. Some apartments will be sold on the instalment payment scheme that could last a year or up to 25 years.

Besides these, U Win Zaw, chairman of Construction and Housing Development Bank; U Than Oo, vice chairman-1 of Myanmar Real Estate Services Association; Daw Moh Moh Aung, general secretary of Myanmar Real Estate Services Association; Daw Mee Mee Tin, director of Rural Area Development Department and sub-general secretary-2 from Myanmar Real Estate Serv-

ices Association; U Kyaw Sithu, sales director of Golden City; U Peter, business consultant of Aung Thamardi Real Estate Co. Ltd; U Myo Myint, managing director of MKT construction; U Soe Win Naing, director of Prefect World Real Estate; U Sai Khung Nong, vice chairman-1 of Myanmar Real Property Development Association; U Myat Thu Win, chairman of Shwe Minn Tha Foundation; U Lin Thet Nyoung, CEO of Myanmar Land Institute; U Thet Naing Oo, CEO of Maverick Real Estate; and Hluttaw Laywer Maung Kaung Phay will give talks on the topic of real estate during the event.— Nyein Nyein ■

Art competitions to be held in Yangon prior to anti-drugs day

To mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, art competitions will be held in Yangon, with the aim of sharing information among the public on the danger of drugs and their impact. This is the 21st time that Myanmar's anti-narcotics association is organising art competitions, including painting, cartoon, poster and computer painting contests for high school students, middle school students and primary school students, ahead of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, which falls on 26 June. According to the schedule, cartoon and painting contests will take place on 2 June at No. 2 Basic Education High School (BEHS) in Latha Township in downtown Yangon. In addition, the computer painting contest will be held on the following day at the University of Information Technology on Parami Road, at Hlaing University Campus in Yangon's Hlaing Township. The poster contest will also be held at BEHS No. 4 on 3 June. Application forms to participate in the contest are available free of charge at the Drug Elimination Museum (Yangon) in Kamayut Township beginning 1 May. Participants have to submit their application forms to the museum no later than 1 June.—Nyein Nyein

Losses due to fire in Kayin State exceed Ks92 million

THE total amount of losses caused due to fires in Kayin State last year was more than Ks91 million, according to figures released by the Fire Services Department.

The data showed that in 2017, the state saw a total of 44

accidents involving fire, consisting of 16 fires due to negligence of people, 13 electrical fires, seven kitchen fires and two forest fires. The total loss as a result of damage to property caused by fires was Ks92.088 million.

The Kayin State Fire Ser-

vices Department is accelerating its fire prevention tasks at factories, workshops, and fuel stations to reduce accidents involving fire in the state to protect people and their properties.—Saw Myo Min Thein (IPRD) ■



Trucks seen at 105-mile trade zone Muse, northern Shan State. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Bilateral trade with France exceeds \$244 million in current FY

THE Myanmar-France bilateral trade value exceeded US\$234 million this fiscal year (FY), including \$176 million in imports, which was greater than the value of exports, according to the latest statistics of the commerce ministry.

From last April to this February, Myanmar exported a wide range of domestically produced products to France, valued at \$68.187 million. In February alone, bilateral exports were

valued at \$9.957 million.

Myanmar exports vegetables, certain roots and tubers, clothing accessories, textile products, charcoal, pearls and wood to France, while its imports from the European member state cover machinery, mechanical appliances, plastic products, pharmaceutical products, glassware, paper and paperboard.

According to the ministry's data, trade between the two countries amounted to \$176 mil-

lion last FY. The bilateral trade was \$110 million in the 2015-2016 FY, \$61 million in the 2014-2015 FY, \$36 million in the 2013-2014 FY, \$48 million in the 2012-2013 FY and \$81 million in the 2011-2012 FY.

France's investment in Myanmar reached \$7.34 million through 14 projects in the current FY, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).—Swe Nyein ■

Border trade through Myeik up by \$16.8 million this FY

THE cross-border trade between Myanmar and the Kingdom of Thailand via Myeik station exceeded US\$27 million in the current transitional fiscal year (FY), with exports worth \$22.5 million and imports worth \$4.6 million, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The total border trade through Myeik saw an increase in value of \$16.8 million, in comparison with the same period last year.

Between 1 and 20 April, exports from the Myeik border rose by \$15.9 million, while imports from the same gate

showed a slight increase by \$0.935 million.

The bilateral trade value from all Myanmar-Thailand cross-border points reached \$82.499 million during the period.

Myanmar carries out the export and import business with Thailand via seven border trade camps: Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Nabulae/Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese.

Myanmar imports clothing, foodstuffs, cosmetics, footwear, medicines, consumer products, machinery, raw materials and

other products from Thailand. Its exports to the Southeast Asian country mainly comprise marine products, agriculture products, raw materials and miscellaneous items.

According to the yearly official statistical report of the ministry, the trade value from the Myeik border trade camp was \$155.101 million in the 2012-13 FY, \$154.422 million in the 2013-14 FY, \$145.999 million in the 2014-15 FY, \$170.999 million in the 2015-16 FY, \$209.528 million in the 2016-17 FY and \$259.445 million in the 2017-18.—Shwe Khine ■

Ministry revokes licences of hotels, companies violating rules

THE Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has revoked and suspended the business licence of a few hotels and tour companies that were issued permits in the last two years, according to a report in Myawady Daily yesterday.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism granted licences to 283 hotels and motels with 13,004 rooms to operate from April 2016 to March 2018.

During the two-year period, the ministry revoked the licences of three hotels and suspended the licence of another three for three months for violation of the hotels and guest houses licences, rules and Regulations.

Similarly, the ministry granted tour licences to 1,097 companies from April 2016 to March 2018.

Among these, the licences of two companies were revoked, licences of another two suspended for six months, and of another four companies suspended for three months.

Moreover, the ministry revoked the licences of 377 companies that did not renew their licences.

The ministry granted 1,902 guide licences from April 2016 to March 2018. Among these, one local guide licence was suspended for six months and another was suspended for three months.—GNLM■

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Reed Lake in Chin State has attracted visitors. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Performance of Chin State Government in 2nd Year in Office

By Honey Win (MNA)

THE Chin State Government has made concerted efforts to achieve all-round development in all socio-economic sectors. In order to spur sustainable development, plans are under way to support and encourage small and medium-sized enterprises, development of health and education sectors, and conservation of the natural environment.

The authorities concerned of the Chin State Government have been able to serve the interest of the people in Chin State with sweeping reforms in various spheres during the two-year period in office.

With a view to ensuring the improvement of socio-economic status of local

residents, peace and stability in the region and rule of law and multi-sector development, the Chin State Government has made dramatic efforts to improve transport infrastructure, electricity and agriculture that are favourable to the region's soil, to support its strategies to develop the area's tourism sector and to promote small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the region.

The Chin State Government is committed to providing necessary assistance for regional development tasks, improving the telecommunications system, constructing the inter-township road, availability of electricity and upgrading of schools and hospitals presented by officials concerned

Transportation Sector

The Chin State Government has made an effort to improve the transportation infrastructure, 50 percent of the state budget is now being used to reconstruct and reinforce the roads, to make them operational in all seasons.

The land in the state is hard on top and soft underneath, which means landslides are common, rendering it difficult to get around.

Thus it is a good initiative to improve road infrastructure. With better mobility, the local residents can be able to implement the process of the regional development.

Moreover plans are under way to construct a road from Tedim Township to Paletwa Township and the Paletwa-Meeza-Shinletwa Road that will start from the western bank of the Kaladan

River in the state.

Another construction of the Kaladan River-Crossing Bridge (Paletwa) is 1900 feet long and located on the western bank of the Kaladan River.

With the cooperation of the Ministry of Construction, the construction of the Kaladan River-Crossing Bridge is under construction and the project has completed nearly 33 per cent now. The cost of the Kaladan River-Crossing Bridge has utilized from the Chin State Government fund and this river-crossing bridge is required for convenience of the local residents who cannot directly come to Paletwa by motorcar.

Upon completion of the projects, the socio-economic status of the local people will improve and they will have a chance to export their products to other areas.



Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects the construction of Falam airport project. **PHOTO: MNA**



Tikir Dam will irrigate highland farms and produce 50 kilowatts of electricity. **PHOTO: MNA**



Vice President U Henry Van Thio and officials visit Tikir Village coffee tree nursery. **PHOTO: MNA**

Moreover the local residents can grow agriculture which is favourable to the climate of the region on a commercial scale. During the period of two years, the Ministry of Construction had built 110 miles of tar road, 135 miles of roads which can be used for the whole year and 180-foot-long 5 bridges in the Chin State.

The World Bank has funded the developmental projects of the Chin State and the Ministry of Construction will construct the Kalay-Falam-Hakha-tar road, utilizing US \$66.8 million in the region. This road is 124 miles long and plans are under way to start the project in 2019.

Electricity Sector

The Chin State Government has been planning to distribute electricity supply in the region with the aim of providing opportunities for employment, educa-

school teachers respectively.

Tourism Sector

With the aim of implementing community-based tourism to create more job opportunities and reduce poverty, the Chin State Government is trying to boost the tourism sector which is good for conservation of the nature and development of the state.

Many of the natural areas remain untouched and the state government hopes the natural beauty will attract adventurers and tourists.

Chin State has much potential for tourism and become a new tourist attraction. As a result, tourist arrivals in Chin state have increased in the recent years. According to Ministry of Hotels and Tourism statistics, Chin state saw 5,251 local travellers and 1,761 tourists in 2016, and there are 11,047 local travellers and 2,454 tourist in 2017 respectively.

To promote SMEs, the Chin State Government has made an effort to improve SMEs' access to bank loans, support the role of women, focus more on organic farming and value-added products and boost border trade with India through trade points.

tion, business and the social sectors. Efforts had been made to transport power through the national grid to six towns, and through hydroelectricity lines for another four towns in the region.

Education Sector

Regarding the education sector, altogether 221 schools big and small were upgraded with new school buildings, and 121 schools were built in order to meet the set standard. The state government had appointed 10,242 teachers who receive daily wages, 2,163 primary teachers, 1,443 middle school teachers and 405 high

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

It is of great importance to educate the local people in financial management to know where the wastage is. And in financing sector, they need to know a business plan as well as a sustainable plan. Some SMEs are operating without any business plan and target. Only if they have such plans and targets will their enterprises develop. Efforts should be made to promote business structure, accounting, taxation, market management,



Chin ethnic people dance around a bonfire in Falam as the celebrate the Chin National Day. **PHOTO: MNA**



Taungzalal trees is urgently required to be conserved. **PHOTO: MOE NWE**



Chin State will get priority for future business development in townships such as Mindat (pictured). Chin State is the least developed region in the country and one of the poorest. **PHOTO: TIN WIN**

human resource management and capital management.

To promote SMEs, the Chin State Government has made an effort to improve SMEs' access to bank loans, support the role of women, focus more on organic farming and value-added products and boost border trade with India through trade points. There are four SMEs zones and the state government has laid down the strategic plans which cover 23 points.

As SMEs are major contributors to Myanmar's economy and job creation in

Chin State, it is of paramount importance to tackle challenges, create business opportunities, upgrade technology and settle financing issues. To implement the policies of the government such as national reconciliation, internal peace, raising the social living standards of the local people in the regions is important and plays a major role. For the equitable development in regions and States, peace needs to prevail throughout the whole country.

(Translated by William Ko)

Miners, companies must follow rules to avoid disasters in Hpakant jade mines

SEVENTEEN migrant miners were killed on 4 May in the latest accident in a Hpakant mine when a wall of earth collapsed on them while they were digging for jade stones. The deadly landslide in Hpakant, Kachin State, has prompted authorities to take urgent steps to prevent further disasters.

As part of the preventive measures against landslides, local authorities have formed inspection teams at the ward and village level to regularly inspect more than 10 mountains of dumped soil in the township.

The expert also suggested raising awareness of “risk factors” in mining areas in regards to landslides. Such a programme would be aimed at providing knowledge to mine workers and local authorities.

Authorities also removed makeshift tents in the at-risk area.

The latest deadly landslides happened in a restricted area where nobody is allowed to enter.

The tragedy has sent a message to local authorities to review safety policies and practices and to take law enforcement into consideration.

The environment in Hpakant has been deteriorating for some decades. Environmental conservation is very weak, and companies have used lots of heavy machinery in their jade mining operations.

When miners began using heavy machinery to extract jade from mines in Myanmar in 2005, migrant workers across the country flowed into the area to scavenge small jade stones in the discarded soil.

To prevent landslides, local authorities have suggested that migrant miners squatting in at-risk areas relocate to safer areas and that mining companies dump their waste soil in accordance with technical safety rules.

They issued an order to evict the squatters and erected warning signboards in the at-risk areas, but the miners have not fully cooperated with them, according to local authorities.

At the same time, mining companies should follow suggestions for safe dumping from a technical point of view, an expert pointed out.

The expert also suggested raising awareness of “risk factors” in mining areas in regards to landslides. Such a programme would be aimed at providing knowledge to mine workers and local authorities.

It is also necessary to strictly enforce safety rules as well as provide safety equipment to allow quick responses to accidents at work sites.

Shortcomings in following safety regulations by both mining companies and migrant squatters pose challenges for local authorities in preventing future landslides around jade mines in Kachin State. ■

Lawyers and social media

By U Han Nyunt (Law)

Introduction

“ Saya’

“ Yes”

“ The title of your article, please?”

“ Lawyers and facebook”

“ What do you mean by that, sir?”

“ Let’s have a look!”

A social network Facebook, a social networking website, is very popular among the young and the old alike. It is highly useful and effective with quick free flow of information. It creates advantages and disadvantages, good and bad and the benefits and evils, making the former supersede the latter.

Benefits

There are many subjects concerned with politics, commerce and education, creating a lot of benefits and systems. They are exploited to be of invaluable use for the young generation: latest technology and science spread throughout the world within a fraction of a second.

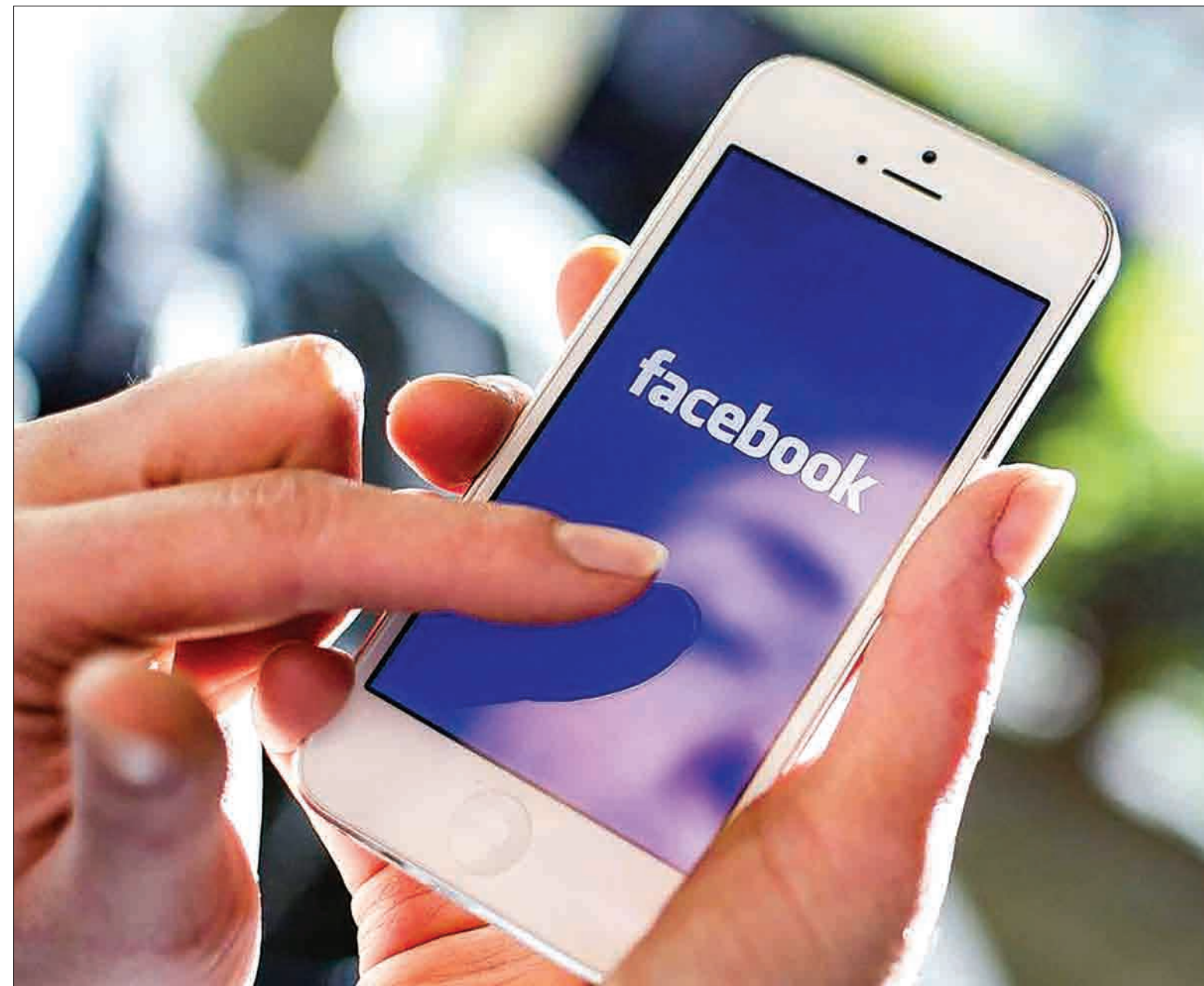
Suffice to say; it is hugely beneficial for the mankind.

Evils

Benefits are often followed by evils; evil-doers are wicked, dangerous and forceful, with meaning results; they use abusive languages with no intentions of who to whom indicated. Sometimes it is blurred; some severely hurt, but no criminals found.

Encodes

Some write under the false names; by the name of a man and that of a woman; the name of a child or a monk, a cartoon



or a photo of an another person; they don't write under their own names. They daren't let other people know their names. They happen to be false ones. It is a pity that their behavior will appear sooner or later.

False accounts

They never hesitate to create false accounts and web pages and other similarities. They try

to exploit from other accounts by imitating, attacking, degrading and hurting other people. But their efforts are all in vain; the people have already known the results.

1. Violence and threats

Security is important especially that of the people. If hurt, actions will be taken against those who have done so.

2. Hurting yourself

Don't try to get involved in criminal or legal cases. Make sure not to hurt yourself by avoiding these cases.

3. Don't bully and disturb

Don't bully and disturb the liberty of other persons for particular reasons.

4. No hate speech allowed

No hate speech is allowed to give about national race, country, religion, genders, the disabled and persons of chronic illness; no speech is allowed to tarnish someone's reputation; malicious words created to give hate speech are not acceptable.

5. Photos and videos

Readers should be told in advance what you are going to share (e.g the contents in photos and videos) Restrictions on nude photos Nudity on facebook especially sexual activities with juniors, is strictly prohibited. Nudity generally leads to having a weak character and the contagion of loose habits.

Respects for personal affairs

Don't write and share personal affairs of other persons; Just describing them might disturb them; descriptions should be in agreement with the person concerned. A sense of social advancement is also needed.

Ownership of the copyright

You should have the knowledge of who owns the copyright on the subject. Think about seriously whether you have a right to share or not. Make sure as much as you can; Don't do something in a vague manner.

Restricted commodities

Trading in restricted commodities should be banned; furthermore, it should not be mentioned in the Facebook.

Plagiarism

Don't plagiarize another person's ideas, words or work; their ideas and work should not be commercialized.

Security

Personal affairs and security matters of those who use facebook should be taken seriously and defended. Individual liberty must be mutually emphasized.

Complaint

Rude words and mean tricks should not be ignored; someone should complain to authorities concerned about them in order to be investigated.

False news

Not only on facebook but also in mass media, cock and bull stories are created by wicked persons by various ways and

means to get readers confused or to tarnish a particular person's reputation. 10% genuine news and 90% falsehood are all jumbled up in the mind of the readers to be true. Therefore readers should read cautiously not to be misled.

False news about our country was sent worldwide once to get some people into trouble. We should read cautiously what is right and wrong and have enough knowledge to test the truth or falsehood of the news reports.

Libel

Section 500(Libel) of Criminal Law and Section 66(D) of Communications Law are believed to be all known. A short network must not be used to get someone libeled in an article. Hate speeches through social networks are not welcome by majority of the people.

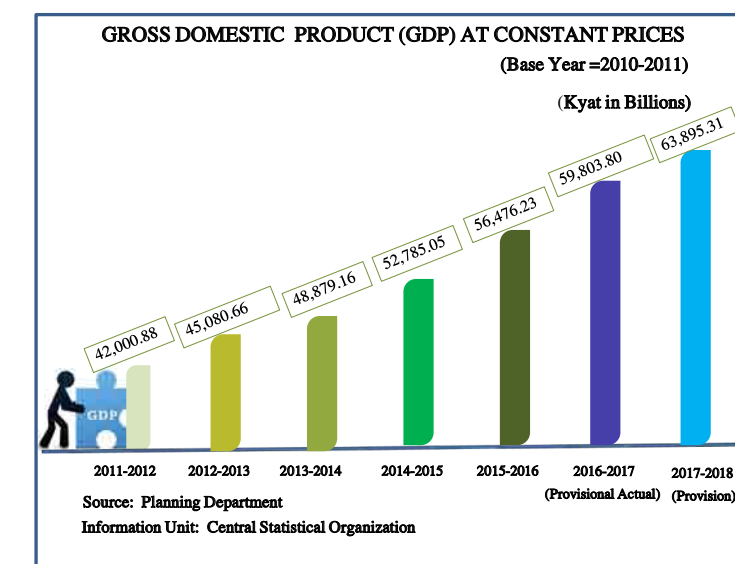
People benefits and philanthropic motives are warmly welcomed.

I read an article by Nay Phone Lat not to add a viper friend to your account. After examining the background history of a person who has requested your friendship, you should accept his request.

Information technology and cybersecurity department under the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications have investigated fake web pages and actions are being taken against them. Facebook is an online social media by means of social networking technology. Don't get angry when your mistakes are pointed in all sincerity. Don't cheat; honesty and goodwill must be valued. I would like to request those who have created false accounts not to do it again. Those who have created an account to write evil deeds will surely suffer from effects and forces committed.

Conclusion

As a lawyer, I have investigated a lot of lawsuits and crimes; therefore it is advised that the network technology of facebook should be used properly as a hobby or in business. The network should be put to good use in our daily routines. ■



The “Arts” and “Science” of Higher Education

THERE has been much discussion going on around the two streams of higher education graduate degrees awarded by the Arts and Science Universities and Colleges. Many claim that the degrees don't help in getting them jobs relevant to their fields of studies.

To be fair to the Arts and Science Universities and Colleges, the Bachelor degrees they offer are not occupation oriented like the Professional University Courses. In fact the Bachelor “Degrees” awarded, usually after a four year long course of study, only attest to the fact that the holder has acquired “higher education” in their chosen “majors” in either Arts or Science. They may, if they are eligible, continue their education and acquire further qualifications like a Master or a Doctorate Degree.

As for the Bachelor degree holders, the “job market” is wide open. It is up to the students themselves to take up a job or a career which they like or choose. There is no connotation that BA/BSc degree holders should or could choose a job in which their “Degree” would be relevant. That would be ideal of course. The reality is that large numbers of “Arts and Science” graduates are working in fields which may not be relevant to their degrees. However their degrees will be of help in acquiring further knowledge and skills in their chosen career; that is, if they are attuned to acquiring further learning in their occupational fields.

One suggestion the writer would like to make is that the Arts and Science Universities and Colleges would do well to introduce “well rounded courses” in both the Arts and Science streams. In this age of complex human and business relations one needs to be made aware of social aspects of work and life.

The Science stream should be made aware of the history of one's country and culture just as the Arts stream need to be made aware of the various aspects of science which impact their lives.

Finally, to be “employable”, both the Arts and Science streams may need to be made aware, perhaps in their final year, of knowledge about job seeking (through the internet / the employment exchanges etc.); job application including writing CVs; appearing for job interviews etc.). Such courses are being offered by many private schools. It would be beneficial to the Arts and Science Graduates if their Universities/ Colleges could offer such courses as optionals.

Lokethar.

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



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (SWRR) Dr. Win Myat Aye gives cash assistance to the elderly persons at the temporary camps in Tan Phe Village, Myitkyina Township, Kachin State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA (NEWS ON PAGE - 1)**

Sixth batch of UEHRD youth volunteers distributes aids in Rakhine State

THE sixth batch of Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) youth volunteers distributed humanitarian aid comprising rice, cooking oil, peas, salt, onions, canned fish, potatoes and milk powder to Maungtaw Township, Shwe Zar village tract, Shwe Zar village and Gone Nar village yesterday.

In the same way, on 3 March, the sixth batch of UEHRD youth volunteers offered similar humanitarian assistance to Mro and Khami ethnic nationals in Maungtaw Township, Thit Tone Nar Gwa Sone village tract, Thit Tone Nar Gwa Sone Village.

The youth volunteers also provided rice, cooking oil, peas, salt, onions, canned fish, potatoes and milk powder to 716 persons in 134 households of Kaing Gyi (Mro) village and Kaing Gyi (Na Ta La) village in Kaing Gyi village tract, Maungtaw Township, on 29 April.

On 1 May, the youth volunteers supplied aid to 782 persons in 145 households from Muslim villages including Ngan Chaung village and Gone Nar village in Ngan Chaung village tract.

The youth volunteers will provide humanitarian aid and conduct other works in Maungtaw Township until 7 May, it is learnt.—Myo Myint ■

Veteran journalists, experts talk on Democratic State, strong Fourth Pillar for Myanmar



U Ohn Kyaing.



U Ye Myint Pe.



Dr. Tin Hlaing (Bo Hlaing).



Professor Dr. Myint Maung Maung.



U Thein Soe.

By Yi Yi Myint and Ohn Mar Thant
Photo by Zaw Min Latt

SECOND paper reading session of Myanmar Press Council conducted under the theme of “Democratic State of Myanmar and the establishment of a strong fourth pillar” was held at Ministry of Information Printing and Publishing Department (PPD) Central Press Building, Theinbyu Street, Yangon yesterday morning.

Myanmar News Agency interviewed the journalists and experts who took part in the paper reading session.

U Ohn Kyaing
(Hanthawady U Ohn Kyaing)
Myanmar Press Council
Chairman (1)

I’m reading a paper titled

“Democratic State of Myanmar and the establishment of a strong fourth pillar.” Nowadays journalists and media personnel are saying there is no press freedom. This is not true. It is our duty to write. We don’t need to ask for the right or permission to write. We have to tell the people what is happening. We have to tell what the government is doing. This is our duty. I don’t understand the meaning of not having press freedom. Just as the people have their rights, we, the media personnel have our rights. Those are the rights to write and speak freely. As long as what we say and write are not against the law, we will freely write and say. We just need to control one thing. We shouldn’t write irresponsibly. We will write according to the media ethic. If we write in that way, we have press freedom. It was with

this aim that the title of the paper was chosen.

U Ye Myint Pe (Myanma Alin Chief Editor – Retired, Myanmar Times Daily Chief Editor)

I’m reading a paper titled “Image of the life of a journalist.” I’ll talk and explain about my life as a journalist in Kyaemon. My life as a daily wage, proof reader, reporter, editor to chief editor. A journalist life could not be obtained in an ordinary and simple way. It is a going through a road full of thorns. Much need to be given. Sacrifices had to be made. Books and records need to be compiled. We also need good teachers and guides.

Dr. Tin Hlaing (Bo Hlaing)
“Establishment of Myanmar Press Council and its future

work” is the title of the paper I’m reading. The aim is to let people know about the history of Myanmar Press Council. Another aim is to talk about the future work of Myanmar Press Council which was enacted in the law. The paper was prepared as a message to the people as well as for future researchers.

Professor Dr. Myint Maung Maung

A paper titled “New media sector and public health” is what I’m reading. I’m the sole representative from the medical sector. I have three aims in reading this paper. The first is how much support media is providing to public health. The pros and cons. Another is to inform the people of what is been done locally as well as in ASEAN countries. At the least, well-known journals

of the world have an article on public health issue. An article on new medicine and diseases are included. I think specialist and experts from arts and science, engineers and many other subjects and topics will be in the media sector.

U Thein Soe (Thein Soe Thiha Yadana)
Myanmar Press Council member

I was responsible to publish a book after the first paper reading session. The positioning and assigning of the book shops in the printing press compound as well as many other arrangements were my responsibility. News media is very important. I hope youngster keep this in sight. I hope they study and participate to establish sectors that will benefit the country. ■

Chemical inspectors completes Douma mission: OPCW

DAMASCUS — Chemical weapons experts have completed their mission to the Syrian town of Douma to probe last month's alleged chemical attack, but the analysis of samples may still take weeks, the global watchdog said on Friday.

"The initial deployment of the fact-finding mission... in Douma is complete," the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons said from its headquarters in The Hague.

"Samples have been brought to the OPCW laboratory where they will be split and then dispatched to the OPCW designated laboratories," it added in a statement. The OPCW's mission to Douma was launched amid in-

ternational outrage over images of adults and children appearing to be suffering from the effects of a toxic weapon attack.

The gruesome footage from the apparent 7 April attack horrified the world and prompted unprecedented Western strikes on Syrian military installations.

The fact-finding mission gained access to Douma on 21 April after several delays since deploying to Syria on 14 April.

But the global watchdog warned that the analysis of samples "may take at least three to four weeks," with inspectors continuing to collect more information and material.

"At this time it is not possible to give a timeframe for when



Syrians walks down a street in the Eastern Ghouta town of Douma on the outskirts of the capital Damascus on 20 April, 2018, during an army-organized media tour. **PHOTO: AFP**

the Douma report will be issued to states parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention," the OPCW said.

On 7 April, the Syrian Ameri-

can Medical Society (SAMS) and the White Helmets jointly said dozens of people died in a "poisonous chlorine gas attack" in Douma. But Syria and Russia

have accused Syrian volunteer rescue workers of staging the video footage at the behest of the United States and its allies.—**AFP ■**

US man who killed Indian immigrant sentenced to life

CHICAGO, United States — A man in the US state of Kansas who shot dead an Indian immigrant while shouting "get out of my country" was sentenced Friday to life in prison.

Adam Purinton had previously pleaded guilty to the racial slur-filled, drunken attack in February last year at a suburban bar and restaurant in the Midwestern state. Srinivas Kuchibhotla, 32, was killed in the assault in the Kansas City suburb of Olathe. His friend Alok Madasani, also Indian, was injured along with a

bystander, Ian Grillot, who tried to intervene. The 52-year-old Purinton received the maximum punishment for the murder, and two sentences of 165 months each for the attempted murders, the prosecutor's office said.

While Purinton would be eligible for parole in 50 years, he was likely to spend the rest of his life in prison.

He is also facing federal hate crime and firearms charges, which could result in the death penalty. Purinton has pleaded not guilty in the federal case.

Kuchibhotla's widow Sunayana Dumala released a video statement following the sentencing, describing her husband as an immigrant with "dreams for a better future."

"Today's sentencing in the murder of my husband will not bring back my Srinu, but it sends a strong message that hate is never acceptable," Dumala said.

"I have shared Srinu's story to highlight the goodness in him with the hope that others will emulate his life and not that of the man who killed him."—**AFP ■**

South Korea police foil anti-Pyongyang leaflet launch

SEOUL — South Korean police on Saturday prevented activists from launching anti-Pyongyang leaflets to North Korea, citing an agreement reached at a historic inter-Korean summit last month.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in agreed to restore peace and reconciliation and cease all hostile acts when they met at the border truce village of Panmunjom on 27 April.

"Hostile acts" include broadcasting through loudspeakers installed along their tense border and distributing propaganda leaflets to each other's side.

Accordingly, the two Koreas removed their propaganda loudspeakers this week.

Some 300 police were deployed at a public park in Paju City near the border where a group of some 20 activists in-

cluding defectors from North Korea gathered to launch leaflets by gas-filled balloons.

Police kept the activists apart from a rival group of some 40 people who accused them of seeking to ignite confrontation with the North.

"Stop provoking a war," they chanted.

Police surrounded a small truck carrying some 5,000 leaflets, plastic balloons and gas canisters, preventing the activists from unloading them.

Park Sang-hak, a leading activist and former North Korean defector, said South Koreans were "intoxicated by Kim Jong Un's peace offensive" even though the North has not changed at all.

He vowed to continue efforts to send leaflets over the border to "let North Koreans know the truth" and "bring an end to the North's Kim Jong Un regime".—**AFP ■**

Israel pulls out of race for UN Security Council seat

UNITED NATIONS — Israel on Friday dropped out of a race for a Security Council seat in 2019 and 2020 following a campaign by Arab states at the United Nations to block the bid. The decision leaves the path clear for Germany and Belgium to take the two seats available for countries of the Western Europe and Others group when the General Assembly votes next month. "After consulting with our partners, including our good

friends, the state of Israel has decided to postpone its candidacy for a seat on the Security Council," said a statement from the Israeli mission. It was Israel's first attempt to win a seat at the 15-member council. Palestinian foreign minister Riyad al-Maliki said last month that Arab countries were "doing everything possible to convince as many countries as possible to block the vote on Israel's bid for a seat at the Se-

curity Council." South Africa and the Dominican Republic are set to win two of the five seats up for election. Indonesia and the Maldives will be competing for one seat representing the Asia-Pacific group of countries. The Security Council is made up of five permanent members — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — while the ten other seats are filled by elected members that serve two-year stints.—**AFP ■**

Major quake hits Hawaii, prompts further volcano eruptions

LOS ANGELES — A magnitude 6.9 earthquake shook Hawaii's Big Island on Friday, prompting fresh eruptions from a volcano that has been spewing lava near residential areas, forcing hundreds of people to flee.

The US Geological Survey said the quake struck at 12:32 pm (2232 GMT) and was centered on the south flank of the Kilauea volcano, which first erupted on Thursday after a series of tremors.

"This is in almost exactly the same location as the deadly 1975 M 7.1 quake," USGC said in a tweet.

That quake killed two people and injured 28.

Another 5.7-magnitude tremor had hit the island earlier on Friday and authorities said they expect more seismic activity.

The quakes have prompted

the Kilauea volcano, one of five active on the island, to erupt.

Drone and video footage showed orange magma gushing up from cracks in the ground and snaking through a wooded area.

Molten lava could also be seen bubbling up through cracks on streets in the Leilani Estates and Lanipuna Gardens neighbourhood where residents were ordered to evacuate on Thursday.

The area is home to about 1,700 people and 770 structures. The broader district potentially impacted by the threat is home to some 10,000 people.

No injuries have been reported but several homes were said to have been destroyed or badly damaged on Friday, authorities said.

Dangerous gas warning

Officials urged any remain-



Steam rises from a fissure on a road in on Hawaii's Big Island. PHOTO: AFP

ing residents to evacuate and warned of extremely high levels of toxic fumes.

"Hawaii Fire Department reports extremely dangerous air quality conditions due to high levels of sulfur dioxide gas in the evacuation area," the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency said.

"Elderly, young and people with respiratory issues need to comply with the mandatory evacuation order and leave the area," said a statement from the mayor's office.

Governor David Ige said residents were being housed in community centers until the danger from Kilauea, one of the world's most active volcanoes, has passed.

The lava outbreak came after hundreds of small earthquakes in recent days that followed the collapse of a crater floor on the Puu Oo volcanic cone.

A 5.0-magnitude earthquake early Thursday south of the cone triggered rockfalls and potential additional collapse of the crater, USGS said.

It sent a short-lived but massive pink plume of ash wafting into the air. Big Island resident Janice Wei, who moved to Hawaii from California — known for its own high earthquake risk — said the eruption was almost a "relief." "We've been waiting for big movement from the crater, after so many small earthquakes," she told AFP.

"Hawaiians and local people have lived here forever," she said. "You know what's going on; we have warning systems.

"Everybody should be prepared."

'Fire curtain'

Using his drone, area resident Jeremiah Osuna captured video footage of the lava flow, which he described as a "fire curtain" that left him feeling "shock and awe."

"It was like if you put a bunch of rocks into a dryer and turned it on — a lot of earth and pressure and fire just moving around," Osuna told AFP.

Governor Ige activated the state's National Guard troops, and told residents to pay heed to

official warnings. He also signed an emergency proclamation releasing disaster funds to the Big Island.

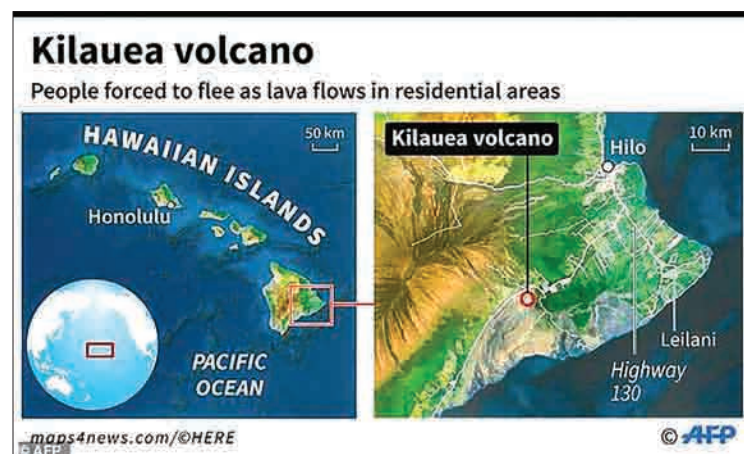
In his emergency declaration, the governor noted the current flow was similar to a 1960 eruption in the Kapoho area that "caused significant damage."

Geologist Janet Babb of the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory told AFP that scientists had been following an "intrusion of magma" down the rift zone since Monday afternoon in anticipation of a possible eruption.

Though the cracks from which lava was emitting had gone dormant, she emphasized that "the overall concern and the overall event has not ended."

US Senator Brian Schatz of Hawaii said the Federal Emergency Management Agency was mobilizing resources, as well as monitoring for forest fires, power outages and water supply issues.

Hawaii Island, or the Big Island, is the largest of the eight main islands that comprise the Pacific US state, an archipelago that includes hundreds of smaller volcanic islands.—AFP ■



A map of the Hawaiian islands locating the Kilauea volcano, one of the world's most active volcanoes. PHOTO: AFP

Beijing slams Macron warning on Chinese 'hegemony'

BEIJING — China on Friday hit back at French President Emmanuel Macron's warnings against allowing a single nation to dominate the Indo-Pacific region, where many countries fear Beijing's growing might.

During his visit to Sydney on Wednesday, Macron said that France, India and Australia shared a responsibility to protect the region from "hegemony" -- in a remark widely

interpreted as a stab at China.

"What's important is to preserve rules-based development in the region... and to preserve necessary balances in the region," Macron said then.

"It's important with this new context not to have any hegemony," Macron added through an interpreter.

But Beijing shot back on Friday, with foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying

saying that while she had not seen Macron's comments, any fears about Chinese hegemony amounted to "groundless accusations".

"In the eyes of the world, which country could be said actually to be exercising hegemony in the world nowadays? Who has also long exercised military or economic hegemony of every kind in the region?" Hua said to reporters during a regular

press briefing, in a thinly veiled reference to the United States.

"Before making such comments or groundless accusations, you should clarify these facts," Hua added.

China's nationalist tabloid Global Times also criticised the French leader, accusing him of staging an "opportunistic show in (the) Indo-Pacific".

"As France is in decline, opportunism is rising within its

diplomacy," the newspaper said.

France has a number of island territories in the Pacific Ocean.

Australia has become increasingly alarmed at China's push into the Pacific, while neighbouring New Zealand has also voiced concerns about "strategic anxiety" — diplomatic code for Beijing's influence among the region's island nations.—AFP ■

Modi supporters seek divine help for BJP win in Karnataka

UDUPI (Karnataka) — Prime Minister Narendra Modi's supporters are offering potted tulsi plants at a famous shrine here, seeking divine help for the BJP to unseat the Congress in Karnataka.

Forty-five-year-old devotee Keshavacharya travelled all the way from Shiruru village, 22 km from Udupi, to pray at the 800-year-old Sri Krishna temple for Modi and his party's success in the crucial 12 May Assembly polls.

Before standing in a long queue at the shrine with a potted tulsi plant, Keshavacharya said he had taken personal care to grow it.

At least one lakh tulsi plants are offered by devotees on a daily basis at

the temple with a desire to get their personal wishes fulfilled.

"I decided to offer it (tulsi plant) at the temple for Modi's success," he told PTI.

Two other devotees Govind and Kumaraswami echoed similar views.

Before taking part in the prime minister's first rally in the state, they had prayed at the temple, they said.

The project to offer a lakh tulsi plants to Lord Krishna has been initiated by Palimar Mutt's Vidyadheesha Tirtha Swami, who has got a second term to administer the temple.

The project is to dedicate one lakh tulsi leaves of gold — estimated to cost around Rs 32 crore — to



the Lord during his tenure that will end in 2020.

The plan is to adorn the roof of the sanctum sanctorum of Sri Krishna

Mutt with gold topping, Vedavasa Tantri, the diwan of the Sri Krishna Mutt, said.

The devotees, who cannot afford to contribute

a golden tulsi leaf weighing one gram, are given the opportunity to render service by offering tulsi plants for 'tulsi archan' be-

ing performed daily since January, he said.

Asked if temple officials have come across devotees like Keshavacharya, he said, "There may be. It is difficult to know with what prayers devotees visit the temple and offer tulsi plants. We never ask about it."

With growing demand for tulsi plants, the temple's project has encouraged employment opportunities in Udupi with many nurseries being set up in the last three months.

The temple too has undertaken tulsi cultivation in around 14 acres in Udupi, Vedavasa Tantri added. After the puja, the tulsi plant is used for making ayurvedic medicines.—PTI ■

Critical US-China trade talks end in Beijing

BEIJING, China — China and the US ended the second day of high-stakes trade talks on Friday with "big differences", Beijing said, leaving the world's two largest economies on the brink of a trade war that could have knock-on effects on the global economy.

The talks were aimed at forestalling momentum towards the looming conflict, with both sides prepared to pull the trigger on tariffs that could affect trade in billions of dollars of goods.

"Both sides recognise there are still big differences on some issues and that they need to continue to step up their work to make progress," China said in a statement released by the official Xinhua state news agency.

The discussions promised a potential off-ramp for the trade conflict — US President Donald Trump has threatened to levy new tariffs on \$150 billion of Chinese imports while Beijing shot back with a list of \$50 billion in targeted US goods.

"The two sides exchanged views on expand-

ing US exports to China, trade in services, bilateral investment, protection of intellectual property rights, resolution of tariffs and non-tariff measures," Xinhua said.

It added that they had reached "a consensus in some areas", without elaborating.

The countries agreed to establish a "working mechanism" to continue talks, it said.

The announcement followed comments by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin earlier in the day that the two sides were having "very good conversations".

However, American officials declined to give further details of the discussions.

Detailed List

China is confused about what the US actually wants, said Zhang Monan, a researcher at the influential think-tank China Center for International Economic Exchanges.

The American pressure on Beijing has heightened, she said, even as Beijing has taken several steps to liberalise its mar-

kets.

Those reforms include a timeline to lift foreign ownership restrictions for automakers, permitting foreign investors to take controlling stakes in some financial firms, and on Friday, allowing foreign companies to trade iron futures on domestic exchanges.

But a list of demands presented to Beijing before the negotiations got under way showed such piecemeal reforms fell far short of US expectations.

The document, divided into eight sections, was presented as a starting point for negotiations, according to Bloomberg News.

The asks included cutting China's trade surplus with the US by at least \$200 billion by the end of 2020, lowering all tariffs to match American levels, eliminating technology transfer practises, and cutting off support for some industries fostered by China's industrial policies, Bloomberg reported.

Industrial policy

Liu He, vice premier in charge of the economy,

led the discussions for China.

Known as President Xi Jinping's right hand man on economic matters, Liu was noticeably absent from Xi's speech Friday morning commemorating the birth of Karl Marx and the continued relevance of his theories to China.

The speech alluded to Beijing's determination to keep true market capitalism at arm's length — a key area of concern for the American delegation that has balked at China's state-led industrial policy and fostering of domestic industry.

Friction is highest over China's "Made in China 2025" programme, designed to spring China from a maker of sports shoes and denims into high-tech goods.

For Beijing, recent moves by Washington to ban US sales to telecom giant ZTE and the reported opening of a similar probe into goliath Huawei, have reinforced the wisdom of the policy. A spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce said China had taken up the ban with the US delegation.—AFP ■

DPRK resets Pyongyang time to GMT+09:00



Photo taken on 5 May, 2018 shows the reset Pyongyang time at the Pyongyang train station in Pyongyang, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) reset Pyongyang time to GMT+09:00, 30 minutes earlier than previous time, starting from 5 May. PHOTO: XINHUA

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. (1006W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. (1006W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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‘Do you speak African?’ Black actors blast racism of French film industry

PARIS — Sick of being typecast as cleaners, prostitutes and delinquents from deprived suburban estates, a group of black and mixed race actresses published a book on Friday pillorying the prejudice they have suffered at the hands of the French film industry.

“Being black is not my job” (“Noire n’est pas mon métier”), written by 16 of the country’s leading black female actors, recounts some of the everyday racism they have suffered in their work.

“Do you speak African?”, “You can’t play her, she’s a lawyer” and “luckily you have fine features and you are not negroid, not too black...” are among the things that Nadege Beausson-Diagne said she has been told at castings.

The actress, who appeared in France’s biggest ever film at the box office, “Welcome to the Sticks” (“Bienvenue chez les Ch’tis”), said she was also told she was “not African enough to be African” and that “for a black, you are really very intelligent. You should have been white”.

“French cinema is still very much in thrall to cliches from another time,” said Aissa Maiga, the star of “Bamako”, who was nominated for a Cesar, a French Oscar, for the 2007 drama.

She said they had enough of “inevitably being referred to as gazelles or panthers”, and of being confined almost always to roles that were little more than stereotypes.

‘Window dressing’

“Our presence in French

films is still often due to the window dressing of just having a black character,” she said.

Maiga said the same lack of diversity ran as deeply through French television and theatre. “To have any kind visibility and any length of career (as a black actress) is a miracle, a huge challenge and a scandal,” she added.

Although the book does not name names, the 16 actresses — who will launch the book at the Cannes film festival next week — said racism is endemic in the French industry.

“It is time to shake up French cinema, to show the real face of our diverse society not just in the casting but in the stories that we tell, and to get over the caricatures of the past,” they added in a statement.



Nadege Beausson-Diagne is one of the French female actors who has written about racism in the French film industry. **PHOTO: AFP**

“Black Panther” director Ryan Coogler will take on the problems black film-makers and actors face in his masterclass at Cannes next Thursday.

His blockbuster has already beaten the box office record set by “Titanic”, and is now the third highest-grossing film of all time.

“There are not that many films about the presence of the black man in American cinema,” Cannes director Thierry Fremaux said last month as he launched the festival’s line-up. “But there is this (“Black Panther”), and it is a touchstone,” he added.—AFP ■

Zeta-Jones to star in Facebook comedy ‘Queen America’



British actress Catherine Zeta-Jones. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEW YORK — British Oscar winner Catherine Zeta-Jones will star in the dark comedy “Queen America,” the first major series produced by Facebook, which is seeking a foothold in the uber-competitive market for original content.

The sultry 48-year-old actress, who took home an Oscar in 2003 for “Chicago,” confirmed her jump to the small screen — fittingly — in a Facebook post. The news was first reported by Hollywood industry outlet Deadline.

“So excited about my next project!” wrote Zeta-Jones. “I

think you’re going to love it!”

“Queen America” takes a look at the cutthroat world of beauty pageants in America. Zeta-Jones stars as ruthless coach Vicki Ellis, who is in high demand from girls and women hoping to be the next Miss America.

The 10 half-hour episodes will debut on Facebook’s relatively new video platform Watch, according to Deadline.

In September, Facebook debuted “Strangers.” Then in late April, it launched “Skam Austin,” an adaptation of a Norwegian programme. It also has

ordered a half-hour dramedy series starring US actress Elizabeth Olsen.

But snapping up Zeta-Jones — who is also a Tony winner for “A Little Night Music” — indicates a turning point for the world’s largest social network in its efforts to offer original content to its two billion users.

Last year, Zeta-Jones played Olivia de Havilland in the FX series “Feud: Bette and Joan.”

Facebook did not respond to AFP requests for further comment on the project.—AFP ■

Chris Martin planning to play Argentina for Global Citizen campaign

NEW YORK — Coldplay front-man Chris Martin is planning to perform in Argentina as he takes the Global Citizen campaign against extreme poverty to another continent, sources close to the organizers said.

The advocacy movement, which rallies support for development assistance through music and other events, holds festivals in New York’s Central Park each year when world leaders are gathering for the UN General Assembly and has previously expanded to Canada, Germany and India.

Sources close to the organizers told AFP that Martin, who

holds the title of festival curator, is planning a concert later this year in Buenos Aires as part of Global Citizen.

Details are being worked out but the sources said that Global Citizen’s CEO, Hugh Evans, met Thursday with President Mauricio Macri in Buenos Aires.

Macri and Argentine first lady Juliana Awada took to the stage last year at the Global Citizen festival in Hamburg to join Colombian superstar Shakira.

Macri, who will host a summit in November of the Group of 20 major economies, said at the time that the festival sent a strong message of support for fighting

poverty including by investing in education and women’s empowerment.

Global Citizen does not sell tickets for its festivals but instead admits fans who commit to taking actions such as writing to their governments to support development aid as part of the UN-backed goal of eradicating the planet’s most extreme poverty by 2030.

Reports earlier indicated that Global Citizen is also planning a large event in South Africa in December to mark this year’s centennial of the birth of anti-apartheid hero Nelson Mandela. Coldplay both launched and

ended its last world tour in Argentina. The English rockers’ tour

became the third highest grossing in music history.—AFP ■



Chris Martin (L), shown performing in 2012 with Coldplay bandmate Guy Berryman, is planning a Buenos Aires concert as part of efforts to reduce poverty. **PHOTO: AFP**

Divisions resurface as Germany fetes Marx at 200

TRIER (Germany)— Germany marks the 200th anniversary of Karl Marx's birth on Saturday, but celebrations risk being marred by protests as the revolutionary philosopher remains a divisive figure almost three decades after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Marx's birth city of Trier will lead commemorations of the man officials describe as a "great son of the city", with 600 events planned around the 19th-century scholar hailed for foretelling the ills of capitalism.

The centrepiece of the festivities will be the unveiling of a 5.5-metre (18-foot) tall statue of the philosopher— a gift from communist China— with dignitaries including a Chinese delegation and the head of Germany's Social Democratic Party to attend.

But it is also before the statue that the association representing victims of communism have called protests against the thinker they blame for inspiring Stalinist regimes.

"We want to protest loudly against the unveiling of the Marx statue and raise our voices against the glorification of Marxism," said Dieter Dombrowski, president of the Union of the Victim Groups of Communist Tyranny.

For Dombrowski, Trier's decision to accept the gift from China is "disrespectful and inhu-



The centrepiece of the festivities in Trier will be the unveiling of a 5.5-metre (18-foot) tall statue of Marx — a gift from communist China. **PHOTO: AFP PHOTO/HARALD TITTEL**

man" to those who suffered under communist regimes.

Far-right party AfD, which enjoys strong support in former East German states, has meanwhile separately called a silent march with the theme "Get Marx off the pedestal" through Trier's city centre.

With the far-right in the melee, counter-protesters are getting ready to march too against the nationalists.

'Neither glorify nor vilify'

Born on 5 May, 1818 in the western German city close to the border with Luxembourg, Marx developed his theories as the Industrial Revolution gathered pace.

His works such as the Communist Manifesto and Das Kapital subsequently became compulsory course material in countries under communist regimes, with revolutionaries from Vladimir Lenin to Mao Zedong seizing on Marx's ideas.

China's President Xi Jinping on Friday said the Asian giant's communist party will forever remain "guardians and practitioners" of Marxism, while Vietnamese leader Tran Dai Quang also penned a gushing commentary marking Marx's birth.

Due to Marx's reputation as the Father of Communism, he was largely derided in the former capitalist West Germany during the Cold War.

But since reunification, and particularly over the past decade, unbridled capitalism and its discontents have fuelled renewed interest in Marx's work.

His theories on inequality and oppression of the working class find resonance today as societies once again see social and political upheaval.

Rainer Autz, director of a company set up to oversee the exhibitions on Marx's life, works and legacy, said that more than a quarter century after reunification, it was now time to reexamine the philosopher who left Germany deeply divided.

"We're not looking to glorify or vilify him. But we want to show him as a person in his time, as well as show where he may have gone wrong," Autz told AFP.

But the gigantic statue gifted by Beijing has sparked accusations of a city seeking to capitalise on Chinese tourists or investments.

Rejecting the claims, Trier mayor Wolfram Leibe said it is simply "a gesture of friendship" from China.

"There isn't a single Chinese company in Trier. We have no economic relations with China and that means we made this decision autonomously. We are not susceptible to blackmail," he told AFP.

Leibe acknowledged that the statue could become a vandalism

target, but said: "that isn't going to give me sleepless nights. It can simply be cleaned up."

'Marx should remain contentious'

The row over Marx and his legacy has also taken on a further political dimension over the AfD's planned silent march.

A group of counter-protesters want to make themselves heard against the far-right party, saying the AfD's controversial ideas against migrants constituted a "violation against humanity".

At the same time, the counter-protesters are critical of China's present.

"Nationalism and an authoritarian dictatorship rule in China. Trier city would have been better off using its own funds to build the long-overdue Marx statue," said the counter-protesters, which include several local left-leaning groups.

Wading into the debate on Thursday, German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier said Marx should remain as he has been in history — controversial.

"I think that us Germans, in 2018, should neither inflate Marx nor banish him from our history," said Steinmeier.

"We should neither be afraid of Marx nor build gold statues of him. In short, Marx should remain contentious."—AFP ■

Japan bullfighting lifts 'men-only' rule

TOKYO — Japanese bullfighting organizers said on Saturday they had lifted a long-standing ban on women entering the sport's "sacred" ring, in a bid to modernise the traditional activity for the #MeToo generation.

Japanese sumo wrestling has recently come under fire for its strict men-only rules. In "togyu" bullfighting, women were similarly barred from the ring, which is ritually purified before matches with salt and Japanese sake.

But on Friday, organisers lifted the prohibition and allowed female bull owner Yuki Araki to lead her animal into

the ring in Yamakoshi, north of Tokyo, after a fight on the opening day of this season.

"Equality for men and women is a trend of the times," said Katsushi Seki, an official with the Yamakoshi bullfight organisation.

"By opening the ring to women, we hope this traditional bullfighting will continue far into the future," Seki told AFP.

Unlike Spanish style bullfighting which ends with a matador slaying the animal, "togyu" is a bloodless match between two bulls locking horns, with great pains taken to ensure the animals do not gore each other.

"I'm glad that local people

openly welcomed us," bull owner Yuki Araki, 44, told Japanese public broadcaster NHK.

One of Japan's other traditional sports, sumo, has found itself in hot water after women, including at least one nurse, were shooed out of a sumo ring as they tried to help a man during a medical emergency.

Just days after that incident triggered scathing national and international headlines, a female mayor in the western city of Takarazuka was barred from delivering a speech inside a sumo ring.

Sumo bosses then came in for further criticism after trying to prevent girls from par-



"Equality for men and women is a trend of the times," said Katsushi Seki, an official with the Yamakoshi bullfight organisation. "By opening the ring to women, we hope this traditional bullfighting will continue far into the future." **PHOTO: AFP**

ticipating in a children's sumo event in Shizuoka prefecture, citing unspecified "safety concerns".

In an attempt to stop the latest public relations disaster to hit the roly-poly sport, officials met last week, but failed to reach a decision on reversing their men-only rule.

The rings where sumo is practised, known as sumo dohyo, are seen as sacred places.

Sumo is closely interlinked with the native Shinto faith, which considers women to be ritually unclean, meaning they are barred from stepping into the ring.—AFP ■

Myanmar beats Malaysia in AFF U16 Girls' Championship group play

MYANMAR defeated Malaysia by a score of 2-1 at Jakabaring Stadium in Palembang, Indonesia yesterday in Group A play at the 2018 AFF U16 Girls' Championship.

The win was dominated by the play of Myanmar star Myat Noe Khin, who scored both goals for her team.

Myanmar's girls were too strong in yesterday's match, demonstrating good tackling and defensive skills.

Myanmar earned the opening goal at the 8-minute mark with a quick score by Myat Noe Khin, whose strong kick could not be blocked by the Malaysia goalkeeper.

Myanmar's Myat Noe Khin scored again at the 29-minute mark with a surprisingly successful foul ball kick from near midfield.

Her world-class kick launched from a great distance floated over the Malaysian keeper and into the net untouched by a Malaysian player.

Malaysia were awarded a penalty kick after some rough play by Myanmar at the 36-minute mark. The penalty shot was



Myanmar (red) and Malaysia (blue and white) vie for the ball in yesterday's AFF U16 Girls' Championship group play at Jakabaring Stadium. **PHOTO: MFF**

kicked by Emily, who successfully guided the ball into the net.

Both teams changed tactics

in the second half, with Malaysia speeding up play and creating opportunities, but Myanmar's

defence was too strong and no more goals were scored.

—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Patrick and Sylla stands as top goal scorers in MNL-2018

EDUBAT Patrick from Ayeyawady United and Sekou Sylla from Yangon United are standing as the current top goal scorers along with scoring nine goals in Week 11 of MPT Myanmar National League 2018.

Following them, Myanmar football star Si Thu Aung is standing in the second top goal scorer with earning 7 goals.

Sunday Mathew from Rakhin United is standing in the third top goal scorer with 6 goals.

Joseph from Hanthawady United FC and Christopher from Shan United FC are standing in the fourth top goal scorer with 5 goals while Aung Myint Tun from Magwe FC and youth football star Myat Kaung Khant from Yadanabon FC are also standing in the fifth top goal scorers with 4 goals respectively. Yangon United is still leading the standing table of MNL-2018 with earning 26 points after 11 matches played while Defending Champion Shan United followed the team with 21 points after 11 matches played also.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Greece's Tsitsipas clinches semi-final spot in Estoril



Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas loses a shoe as he returns the ball to Spain's Pablo Carreno Busta during their Barcelona Open ATP tournament semi-final tennis match in Barcelona on 28 April, 2018. **PHOTO:AFP**

ESTORIL, (Portugal) — Stefanos Tsitsipas swept the last seven points of the match to defeat Roberto Carballes Baena 6-7 (2/7), 6-2, 7-6 (7/3) on Friday for a place in the semi-finals of the Estoril Open.

The 19-year-old Greek, a surprise finalist last weekend in Barcelona against Rafael Nadal, will aim for his second straight title match as he takes on Portuguese number one Joao Sousa, who beat British third seed Kyle Edmund 6-3, 1-6, 6-0.

The 44th-ranked Tsitsipas recovered from 0-3 down in the final-set tiebreaker, erasing the deficit and sprinting to a victory that was sealed when his 77th-ranked opponent drove a return long.

The battle between first-time opponents lasted for nearly two and three-quarter hours.

"I was really focused after 0-3 in the tiebreaker," the youngster said. "The two points after that were important for the win."

"I had to keep the score as close as possible."

After those two points, I got the upper hand.

"I was patient during the rallies. Winning seven points in a row is unbelievable. I had the momentum and I kept it to the end."

Tsitsipas is coming off his best performance on clay and just defeated his second top-10 opponent in as many weeks, adding Estoril top seed Kevin Anderson to his list of victims on Thursday.

Last week, the outsider beat world number seven Dominic Thiem in the quarter-finals.

"After last week in Barce-

lona, I told myself I had to keep my level and concentration," Tsitsipas said. "That is a difficult challenge."

"At the start of the match I was frustrated, but I got tired of my attitude and stopped complaining and just played."

Sousa, who has been playing his home event since 2008, produced his best career showing at the tournament as he thrilled local fans with his victory over Edmund.

The world number 68 will be competing in his second semi-final of 2018 after reaching the last four in Marrakech a month ago.

The second semi-final will feature second seed Pablo Carreno Busta, who defeated Nicolas Jarry 6-2, 2-6, 6-1, and American Frances Tiafoe, a 7-5, 6-2 winner over Simone Bolelli.—AFP ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

6 MAY 2018

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

MOST students and young adults are constantly uttering “I don’t know what to do,” which simply means they have difficulty choosing a direction (job, path, career) for their lives and what is right for them. Prolonged periods of confusion of the life path can lead to great challenges and hardships and is a waste of time and resources.

The importance of having a direction in the actions you perform and the goals you set is invaluable. It can make or break your whole life, and it comes at the opportunity to support the many others who will benefit from your actions and performance. At this point, here’s a method of how you can discover the correct path in life and why it cannot disappoint you at any moment.

Your path of life, your direction, your end-goal is to come from within you. It must be yours and yours alone, and not one that someone chooses for you. The individuality is the core of what makes people successful and what they can truly live up to. The self-realization is the basis of the enjoyment and the passion that you can have on your way to the top. The forced goals and dreams, set by the pressure of society and the limit of resources will lead you into frustration and under-achievement in life, which is completely undesirable, and will stunt your growth and slow down your actions.

To discover your true direction, the easy technique is to take some undisturbed quiet time, with a sheet of paper and pen to note down your ideas. At the top of the paper, write the one thing that you want to accomplish most in life, if resources such as time and talent

Realising Your Direction

were not an issue and you could not fail. Then, let your mind loose freely and meditate on the subject for a few minutes. Don’t question anything, no matter how wild or impossible it may seem.

After wondering, stop and write down all the ideas and feelings that crossed your mind until there is nothing left. Then, go over what you have written, noting and circling anything that are standing out, or which you have energy for. Make a list of the ideas that you have circled. And there it is, you have the list the deepest true dreams that you want to realize, the dreams that are not affected by external pressure, the dreams that come from your heart and soul. The list is the direction because it is the essence of you.

Whether it is the path of education, certifications, jobs or your own business, this is your path. This is your direction. The path is not necessarily fixed, it can change over time due to unknown circumstances. However, this is the starting point. This is the point where you can start making goals, building yourself and walking straight in the direction that you know you want.

I encourage you realize your direction and start working on your dreams for the freedom it gives you to use your gifts and talents, passions and interests. With you focused on your path that you have the passion for, you will be able to live your life, bless the lives of others and help make this world a better place because you lived, you were here and you mattered.

A Chinese philosopher once said, “A journey of a thousand miles starts with one step,” and this is the best time to take your first step and have a big leap in your destiny.



Kris Ye Yint
IGCSE O

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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ENGLISH LESSON 1

By C. T. O

(ယခု Lesson (1) တွင် am, is, are, was, were တို့ကို မှန်မှန်ကန်ကန် အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရေးအတွက် လေ့လာကြရန် စီစဉ်ထားပါသည်။)

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK

I. am, is, are, was, were တို့ကို ဖြစ်ခြင်းပြ ကြိယအဖြစ်သုံးရန် နာမ်များနှင့် တွဲဖက်ရသောကြောင့် အချို့သော နာမ်များဖြစ်ပေါ်လာပုံကိုလေ့လာသင့်သည်။

(a) အချို့သောကြိယာများကို er / or ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြုလုပ်သူနာမ်များရသည်။ writer, singer, driver, seller, buyer, lover, fighter, speaker, beginner စတင်သူ, winner, loser ရှုံးသူ, producer exporter နိုင်ငံခြားတင်ပို့သူ, trader (ကုန်သည်), waiter စားပွဲထိုး, leader, collector စုဆောင်းသူ, sailor, inventor တီထွင်သူ, actor သရုပ်ဆောင်သူ။

(b) အချို့သောစကားလုံးများကို ist ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြုလုပ်သူ နာမ်များရသည်။ scientist, artist, specialist အထူးကုဆရာဝန်၊ tourist, botanist, geologist, chemist, physicist ရူပဗေဒပညာရှင်၊ nationalist မျိုးချစ်ဝါဒီ၊ socialist, leftist လက်ဝဲသမား၊ rightist လက်ယာသမား။

(c) အချို့သောစကားလုံးများကို ian ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြုလုပ်သူ နာမ်များရသည်။ historian, mathematician, musician ဝိတပညာရှင်၊ collegian ကောလိပ်ကျောင်းသား၊ physician သမားတော်၊ politician နိုင်ငံရေးသမား၊ christian, technician နည်းပညာရှင်

(d) အချို့ကို man ထည့်ပေးခြင်းဖြင့် ပြုလုပ်သူနာမ်ရသည်။ workman, fisherman, newsman (newspaperman) သတင်းစာဆရာ၊ milkman နွားနို့ပို့သူ၊ fireman မီးသတ်သမား၊ policeman

(e) အချို့သော စကားလုံးများကို ant ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြုလုပ်သူ နာမ်များရသည်။ applicant လျှောက်ထားသူ၊ occupant, attendant, defendant, protestant, assistant လက်ထောက်။

(f) အချို့ကို ress ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြုလုပ်သူနာမ် (အမ) များရရှိသည်။ actress, headmistress, waitress မိန်းကလေးစားပွဲထိုး၊ tigress ကျားမ၊ heiress အမွေဆက်ခံသူ။

(g) နာမဝိသေသနများ ရှေ့တွင် the ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြုလုပ်သူ အများနာမ်ရသည်။ the rich လူချမ်းသာများ။ the poor, the strong, the weak, the lonely အထီးကျန်သူများ။ the Myanmar မြန်မာလူမျိုးများ။ the police ရဲများ။ the Japanese. am, is, are, was, were များကို ‘ဖြစ်ခြင်းပြ’ ကြိယအဖြစ် သုံးခြင်းနှင့် ပတ်သက်၍ ပြည့်ပြည့်စုံစုံ ရှင်းလင်းပြီးပြီ။ လေ့လာပါ။ အချို့ကိုကျက်ပါ။ အထပ်ထပ်ဖတ်ပါ။ စာကြောင်းများ တည်ဆောက်ကြည့်ပါ။

(h) အချို့သော adj များကို နာမ်အဖြစ်သုံးနိုင်သည်။

- ဥပမာ -
1. He is a Kachin national. (Noun)
သူသည် ကချင်အမျိုးသားတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။
Every nation has a national day. (adj)
နိုင်ငံတိုင်းတွင် အမျိုးသားနေ့ရှိသည်။
 2. Myat Oo is a native of Shwebo. (Noun)
မြတ်ဦးသည် ရွှေဘို ဇာတိသားတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်သည်။
Monywa is my native town.
မုံရွာသည် ကျွန်တော်ဇာတိချက်မြို့ဖြစ်သည်။
 3. Writers must respect the reading public. (Noun)
စာရေးဆရာများသည် စာဖတ်ပရိသတ်ကို လေးစားရမည်။
There are many public libraries in Yangon. (adj)
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တွင် အများပြည်သူနှင့်ဆိုင်သော စာကြည့်တိုက်များစွာ ရှိသည်။

Lesson (2)

ယခုလ Lesson (2) တွင် am, is, are, was, were များကို ‘ရှိခြင်းပြ’ ကြိယအဖြစ် သုံးပုံနှင့် ‘ကူညီသော ကြိယ’ အဖြစ်သုံးပုံကို တင်ပြပါမည်။ “ရှိခြင်းပြ” ကြိယအဖြစ် သုံးပုံ

(A) am, is, are, was, were များကို “ရှိခြင်းပြကြိယ” အဖြစ်သုံးရန် ယင်းတို့နောက်တွင် ကပ်၍ in, on, at, စသည် ဝိဘတ်များ (Prepositions) ထည့်ရသည်။
ယင်းတို့ရှေ့တွင် ကမ္ဘာပေါ်တွင် တစ်ခုတည်းရှိသော အရာ- ပြနာမ်များနှင့် ရည်ညွှန်းပြီး နာမ်များလိုက် ရသည်။

ဥပမာ-
I have a book.
The book is on the table.
ကျွန်တော်မှာ စာအုပ်တစ်အုပ်ရှိသည်။
ထိုစာအုပ်သည် စားပွဲပေါ်မှာရှိသည်။
here, (ဒီမှာ၊ ဒီနေရာမှာ) there (ဟိုမှာ၊ ထိုနေရာမှာ)
upstairs (အပေါ်ထပ်မှာ) downstairs (အောက်ထပ်မှာ) တို့နှင့် တွဲလျှင် ယင်းတို့ရှေ့တွင် ဝိဘတ် (Prepositions) များထည့်ရန်မလိုပါ။

- ဆက်လက်လေ့လာပါ
1. Mother is at home.
အမေအိမ်မှာရှိသည်။
 2. Father is in his study.
အဖေ စာကြည့်ခန်းထဲတွင်ရှိသည်။
 3. Our house is near the hospital.
ကျွန်တော်တို့အိမ်သည် ဆေးရုံနားတွင်ရှိသည်။
 4. The moon is above our heads.
လမင်းသည် ကျွန်တော်တို့၏ခေါင်းပေါ်တွင်ရှိသည်။
 5. Myanmar is in Southeast Asia.
မြန်မာပြည်သည် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှတွင် ရှိသည်။
 6. Our school is near the market.
ကျွန်တော်တို့ကျောင်းသည် ဈေးနားတွင် ရှိသည်။
 7. The girls are under the tree.
မိန်းကလေးများသည် သစ်ပင်အောက်တွင်ရှိကြသည်။
 8. The pagoda is on the hill.
စေတီသည် တောင်ကုန်းပေါ်တွင်ရှိသည်။
 9. I am on the School Council.
ကျွန်တော်ကျောင်းကောင်စီထဲတွင် ပါသည်။
 10. My friend Ko Ko is there.
ကျွန်တော်မိတ်ဆွေကိုကိုသည် ထိုနေရာတွင်ရှိသည်။
 11. Your younger brother is here.

- မင်း ညီငယ် ဒီမှာရှိသည်။
12. Our kitchen is behind the house.
ကျွန်တော်တို့၏ မီးဖိုချောင်သည် အိမ်၏နောက်ဘက်တွင် ရှိသည်။
- (B) သို့ရာတွင် တစ်ခု၊ တစ်ကောင်၊ တစ်ယောက် အရေအတွက် အနည်း အများရှိကြောင်းပြလိုလျှင် အထက်ပါပုံစံဖြင့် ရေးလေ့မရှိပေ။
A book is on the table. ဟူသော စာကြောင်းသည် သဒ္ဒါအရမှန် သည်။ သို့ရာတွင် ယင်းကဲ့သို့ရေးလေ့ မရှိပါ။
There ကိုစာကြောင်းရှေ့ဆုံးတွင်ထည့်၍ ယင်းနောက်တွင် is, are, was, were လိုက်ရသည်။ ယင်း နောက်မှ အနည်းနာမ်- အများနာမ်လိုက်ရသည်။
A book is on the table. ဟု မရေးဘဲ There is a book on the table. ဟုရေးရသည်။
There are three books on the table, စားပွဲပေါ်မှာစာအုပ် သုံးအုပ်ရှိသည်။
ဆက်လက်လေ့လာပါ။
1. There is a zoological garden in Yangon.
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တွင် တိရစ္ဆာန်ဥယျာဉ်တစ်ခုရှိသည်။
 2. There is a pagoda on that hill.
ထိုတောင်ကုန်းပေါ်တွင် စေတီတစ်ဆူရှိသည်။
 3. There is an army in every country.
နိုင်ငံတိုင်းတွင် စစ်တပ်တစ်တပ်ရှိသည်။
 4. There is a kitchen in every house.
အိမ်တိုင်းတွင် မီးဖိုချောင်တစ်ခုရှိသည်။
 5. There are 12 months in a year.
တစ်နှစ်တွင် ၁၂-လရှိသည်။
 6. There are seven days in a week.
တစ်ပတ်တွင် ခုနစ်ရက်ရှိသည်။
 7. There are over 2,000 students in our school.
ကျွန်တော်တို့ ကျောင်းတွင် ကျောင်းသူကျောင်းသား ၂၀၀၀-ကျော် ရှိသည်။
 8. There are 50 students in our class.
ကျွန်တော်တို့အတန်းထဲတွင် ကျောင်းသားငါးဆယ်ရှိသည်။
 9. There are tigers in this forest.
ဤတောထဲတွင် ကျားများရှိသည်။
 10. There are two markets in our town.
ကျွန်တော်တို့မြို့တွင် ဈေးနှစ်ဈေးရှိသည်။
 11. There are many kinds of birds in this forest.
ဤတောထဲတွင် ငှက်အမျိုးမျိုးရှိသည်။
 12. There are many varieties of paddy in the world.
ကမ္ဘာပေါ်တွင် စပါးမျိုးများစွာရှိသည်။
- (c) အောက်ပါတို့မှာ အတွေးအခေါ်အနည်းငယ် မြင့်သော်လည်း is, are, was, were တို့ကို “ရှိခြင်းပြ” ကြိယအဖြစ် သုံးထားသော စာကြောင်းများဖြစ်သည်။
1. Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder.
အလှဟူသည် ကြည့်သူ၏ မျက်လုံးထဲတွင်ရှိသည်။
 2. There is no life without hope.
There is no smoke without fire.
မျှော်လင့်ချက်မရှိဘဲ ဘဝဟူ၍မရှိနိုင်။
မီးမရှိဘဲ မီးခိုးဟူ၍မရှိနိုင်။
 3. There are many things we do not know.
ငါတို့မသိသောအရာ များစွာရှိသည်။
 4. There are a thousand and one problems for us to solve.
ငါတို့ဖြေရှင်းရမည့် ပြဿနာပေါင်း သောင်းခြောက်ထောင်ရှိသည်။
 5. Where there is a will, there is a way.
လိုလျှင်ကြံဆ၊ နည်းလမ်းရ။
Where there are buyers, there are sellers.
ဝယ်သူရှိသောနေရာတွင် ရောင်းသူများလည်း ရှိသည်။
Where there are schools, there are students.
ကျောင်းရှိသော နေရာတွင် ကျောင်းသားများရှိသည်။
Where there are monasteries, there are monks.
ဘုန်းတော်ကြီးကျောင်းများ ရှိသောနေရာတွင်၊ ရဟန်းသံဃာ များလည်းရှိသည်။

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

ဤအင်္ဂလိပ်စာသင်ခန်းစာများသည် ၁၉၈၁-ခုနှစ်၊ ဇူလိုင်လမှ ၁၉၈၃-ခုနှစ်၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလအထိ ငါးဒီဇယ်န်း မဂ္ဂဇင်းတွင် ဖော်ပြခဲ့သော သင်ခန်းစာများဖြစ်ပါသည်။
ကျောင်းသားကျောင်းသူများနှင့် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာကို လေ့လာလိုက်စားသူများ လက်မလွှတ်သင့်သော သင်ခန်းစာများဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အပတ်စဉ် တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း အပိုင်းလိုက် ဖော်ပြပေးသွားပါမည်။

Concerning with Education Budget

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

Last week, our Sayagyi Dr. Khin Zaw had written an article concerning with Education Budget. What he emphasized was the importance of Education Budget is not the percentage of the GDB, or how much we spend for the Education Budget, but the way or how we used this budget.

The author totally agree with his point of view. That is what important is.

In the old times, when we were young, the Education budget is quite low, not more than 4 %. There were times we used only round about 2 % of the GDB. But, why we can go through with that budget in these days?

During these days, there were not only Public Schools, but also Private Schools and Mission Schools. And during the Socialist era, all schools and Universities are public, all on the equal line. But now, most of the schools and Universities are public, but we have some private schools and Universities.

All these things should be taken into account.

In the old old days of when we had public and private and mission schools, the Government needed to take care of the public schools only. But, we had at least one public high school in a town, or in a township in Yangon and Mandalay. These were called State High Schools and most of these were under the administration of the Municipal (what we call CDC or City Development Council) or can we say, the administration of the Mayor of the town.

Among these municipal schools, some had good names, but most of had not. For example, Bahan State High School and Latha State Boys' High School had quite good names, but some other had not. In these days, we called such schools as Municipal Schools and most of the people looked down onto these schools.

But in the rural areas and in districts, these high schools, only one in each district or township had good names. All students from that town had to attend this high school.

The Government, the Ministry of Education had only the responsibility to take care of

these schools and other State middle or primary schools. So they could fulfill their responsibility to take care of the welfare of these schools.

Other schools as Private schools and Mission Schools had their own administration boards. Among these schools, there were Mission Schools under the administration of the Christian Missionaries, all Roman Catholic, Baptist and Methodist Christian Missions and only a small amount of some other religious missionaries as Private High Schools. As most of these missionaries were from the Roman Catholic and Baptist Missions, the schools were mostly Boys' or Girls' Schools administered by Christian Fathers, Brothers, Mothers and Sisters.

But I have heard about some Buddhist Missionary Schools such as Shin Maha Buddhagaw-sa School etc. And there were also some small schools under the missionary of Hinduism and Islam too.

And some Private Myanmar High Schools such as Myoma Amyotha High Schools, Pegu Amyotha High School and Mandalay Amyotha High Schools (these were called Amyotha Tan Myint Kyaung) and some other with their owner names as Daw Hla Yin May Alut Pyninyar Thin Kyaung, Daw Tha Htet School and so on. Some of these were also very famous for their good Education and Administration.

Here, what the author wanted to point out is that during these days, the Ministry of Education or the Government had only need to take care of these State Schools especially for their budget.

Others were running with their own expense or with their own budget.

In these days the percentage of the Education budget were quite low.

During the so-called Socialist Era, all schools became public and the Ministry of Education had to take care of all these schools all over the country.

Nowadays, we have both Public and Private Sectors in Education, and in the Private Sector, we have not only schools owned by the local Myanmar owners, but also some international schools, Colleges and Universities.

Even in such condition we have more than 500,000 schools all over the country. All these schools have to be taken care by the Ministry of Education. What a heavy load to the Ministry.

So, it is sure that we need more budget for our Education in our country if we want to upgrade our Myanmar Education.

And the present Government had managed to provide more and more budget for the Education Sector too. The percentage we get these days were much more higher than what we have known in the past (only about 1 or 2 percent), but not much as high as other developed countries. (e.g. 75% once in Malaysia during the reign of Maha Thia).

Here, the author wants to point out that although the percentage of Education budget is important (the author do agree), the more important is how we use the budget we get.

If it is just for what we call "Zee thee ban hmauk on the road" (it means the tray with all these sweet plums was out from the hand onto the road, where all these people on the road can pick up to eat for their own wish) and if it is meant for the welfare of only the high-ranked officers, we cannot say that the higher budget is for the wellness of all students and schools in our country.

What it is important is the way we use the budget we get.

Here, the author wants to give a very dare example which had happened in some time at the present.

It was how we managed to do with our Examination budget and the management on the results of these Examination.

As we all know, the Fourth Standard (the Final Grade for Primary) and the Eighth Standard (the Final Grade for Lower Secondary) Examinations are still Government Examinations. The author totally agree that these should be Government Examinations, for we need to manage to see from the Ministry how well our students are before they go up their Education ladder for another higher step. So, naturally speaking, these should be the strict Examinations to see the real conditions of our students about what they gained in their academic achievement. These should be the exams for which

students should try their best to show what and how much they gained during their schooling.

So, it is natural that these exam systems should be taken care so much everything should come out well under the strict and fair administration.

The author thought, may be it is the use of all these lockers (Than Thittars) to carry the questions and answer papers. It is quite good that if it was done for the security of the papers (both questions and answer papers) as these are very very important for all students, teachers and the authorities.

But, the problem is about the budget for carrying these to respective schools (all schools in the country this year as we have Exam. Centres in every school this year). The author is happy enough that all children can sit for their exam in their own schools. This programme is welcomed!

But, as some of these small schools which were in far far away regions and near the boarder lines, it is not easy to carry these lockers to their far far away schools. The budget for the carrying job is only 50 Kyats for each student. Imagine for a small primary school, which has only 10 students, their budget will be only 500 Kyats. How can they manage to carry these with that 500 Kyats?

Then, the teachers from such kind of schools had to carry these two lockers on their shoulders (by male teachers) or on their heads (by the female teachers) to reach their small schools. When the author saw them carrying like that in the face-book, the author felt so sorry for all these teachers, as teachers are not coolies. But it happened like that and the author could not help herself to shed tears for them.

As it happened like that, as we had much taken care for the security of these question and answer papers, then the coming consequences for these examinations should be square and fair. That means, we should pass to whom those are worth to pass and fail to whom who are not worth to pass. It should be the way to manage the results of these exams after our taking great bothering for these exams.

There may be some gaps

between the Department for the Examination and the Department of Management, the author thinks.

Only after one or two days, the examination were being sat by the students, the orders from the management side came out that, if a student came to sit for the exam. for the first day or the second day and then although he or she is absent on the following days, he or she should be interviewed or asked what he or she knows about the academic achievement, and then let him or her pass the exam. And also, if the student gets only "D" in his answered results, let him get marks by their other deeds in the whole year, from the CETs and MRC results.

Then what's the use of taking bothered for carrying these lockers for the security of question and answer papers?

The author thinks that is the gap or disintegrated job or can we say no coordination of these two sites, the Examination Department and the Management Department.

Let's think of the budget for these cabinets or lockers for all schools all over the country.

There are more than 500,000 schools all over the country. If we use two cabinets for each school, we will need to use at least 1,000,000 cabinets (for some schools have all Fourth Standard and Eighth Standard Exams). They said it cost 18000 Kyats for each cabinet, calculate by yourself for all schools all over the country.

If we get good, fair and square results after that much cost, it is still worth to do so.

But if not, what about that much high budget for the exams?

Although it cannot be said what we call "Zee thee ban hmauk", but can we say is it "palone" in Myanmar or "much ado about nothing"? (Palone means all down into the water)

So, according to the point of view by the Educationists, we can say, what is important is not all the percentage we get for the Education budget, but the "Way we use that budget or how we use it."

Hope to have better management on our Education Budget!





Chaungtha Beach is a popular attraction for holiday makers especially in summer season. PHOTO: AUNG THU



The pagoda on Chaungtha Beach has attracted Buddhist devotees for meditation there. PHOTO: MIN THIT



Sun set in Chaungtha. PHOTO: HTAY AUNG



Swimming tubes are available for holiday makers. PHOTO: MIN THIT

A whirlwind trip to Chaungtha Beach

By Maung Maung Myint Swe

WHEN we arrived in Pathein, it was already eleven in the morning. We left Yangon early but our car travelled at a normal speed and reached the biggest deltaic town at this time in the morning. Day-time temperatures in Yangon are

higher and higher; you daren't go out in the middle of the day. These conditions compelled me to get along at once with my friends for a day trip to the Chaungtha Beach.

We continued our trip without stopping over in Pathein to save our time and to get back to Yangon within a day we proceeded to the Chaungtha directly. As the temperature is high across the country, it is time for majority

of the people to flock to the beaches in the country. As our car kept going on the Pathein-Chaungtha Road, different kinds of cars were seen moving along the road in different directions. Some cars are medium-sized, some are big and few cars of their own. Most people travelled in big vehicles like trucks.

The nearest beach Chaungtha beach is 40 kilometres away

from the west of Pathein Township and about 145 miles away from Yangon.

Even if the Letkhutkon Beach is the nearest to Yangon, it has fallen into ruin through years of neglect, resulting in a decrease of a number of holidaymakers. I went there with my friends last year; although it is located in Yangon Region, I should say it is not an area of scenic beauty. Investments in infrastructure and beautification in the area near the beach are in great need to attract tourists, both domestic and foreign.

Soon we got to the Chaungtha Beach. The number of hotels on the beach has noticeably increased as well as the holidaymakers who thronged into these hotels, leaving no rooms vacant. As we were day trippers, we didn't have to check into any hotels. Instead, we took a rest in a nearby restaurant and ordered some food for lunch. As the trip was arranged by my close friend for his business purposes, he continued to stay at the hotel, sending us onto the beach. There was a very relaxed atmosphere on the beach indeed.

At Liberty As we went down

on the white sandy beach, we saw a lot of holidaymakers, swimming in the sea and walking on the beach, setting us at liberty and a sense of our relaxing holidays. Most of them kept riding on bicycles to and fro and few on the motorcycles. Some swan around with the help of inflatable tire inner tubes; some were found free-swimming and in a good soaking. I felt happy to see that they all seemed to be enjoying themselves on the beach by playing or riding on bicycles and swimming in the sea or by immersing themselves underwater.

We saw a pagoda over the horizon and went there to pay homage to it.

Named wish-fulfilled Zabuwadi Statue and it is put in a cave-like rock on which stands a small pagoda which can vividly seen from far-away places. From the pagoda towards the sea, you have a wide view over the horizon as far as your eyes can see. The beach was once a mile and four furlongs; it is longer now with an addition of Shwethaungyan Beach. The beach as well as the village is named after a small creek of

Chaungtha which flows from the north to the sea, thus becoming a well-known beach in the Ayeyawady Region.

Descending on the beach

The fluttering noises from rows of coconut palms and loud voices from those on the beach and in the sea whirled us past as we returned from the pagoda. We got into a nearby shop to change our clothes and then descended on the beach. We didn't feel hot as went slowly knee-deep to chest-deep into the sea water. Most of my friends didn't go that far and gestured to me to swim back. I tried to keep myself float with my face on the surface of the water, with the waves sweeping me towards the sandy shore.

Health experts often urge the people to go on holiday to windswept beaches at least twice a year to have a salt-water bath, a good swim and a breath of sea air. We got back on the beach and changed our clothes and took a rest for a while after swimming for some time and floating our backs bobbing on the waves. Out of somewhere, a young vendor came up to

us to sell his fried prawns and fish. I bought and ate them and the taste was extremely good probably the seafood was freshly cooked or fried. Holidaymakers were found happy and gay on the beach buying and putting on frond hats, strings of mollusk beads and coconut sap.

As the Chaungtha is near to Yangon, tourists both domestic and foreign visit the Beach in thousands during the Open Season; but during the rains, it is said that the number of tourists dropped dramatically.

The Beach has become gradually well-known since 1990s due to road transport and hotels which are crowded with holidaymakers during the peak summer season.

There are several islets and villages near the Beach; we could go there just for a visit or on study tour. By exploiting the opportunities during the trip, we went to an island of Thepyhyu (white sand) by powered boat and got there within a fairly short time of 20 minutes. As the name of the island implies, the nearby beach is

covered with white sand and we saw a hill with a small

pagoda atop. If we have enough time, we might get a detailed knowledge of the people and their way of fishing life. Then we proceeded to the island of Pokala where a hamlet was found. Engaged in fishing many different kinds of fishes were left to dry off in the sun; the villagers were believed to have caught a lot of fish during our short visit. The clear blue waters of Phokala island was found without any rubbish which has been cleaned and salvaged by the villagers. Our country will be kept clean if collective efforts are made individually either on the land or in the sea or even in the drains.

By the time we got back to the Chaungtha Beach, it was already 3 o'clock in the afternoon. My friend after winding up his hotel business arrivea at about the same time and took us back to Yangon. When we returned from the Beach, the young people were still seen swimming in the sea, riding on the bicycles, walking and running on the white sandy beach, enjoying their relaxation holidays. As for us, the farther we were away from the Beach, the hotter we felt on our way to Yangon. ■



Horse riding on the beach of Chaungtha is becoming a popular recreation for visitors. PHOTO: MIN THIT

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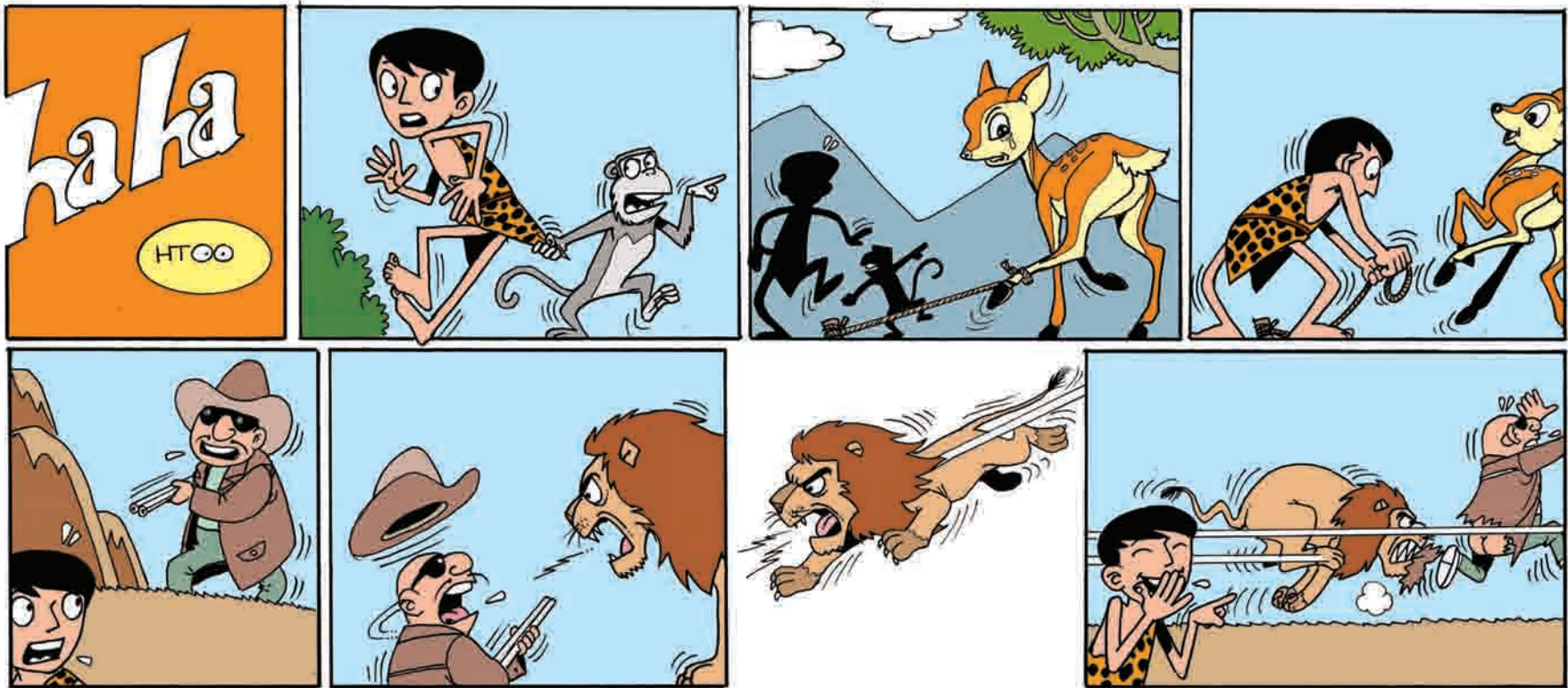
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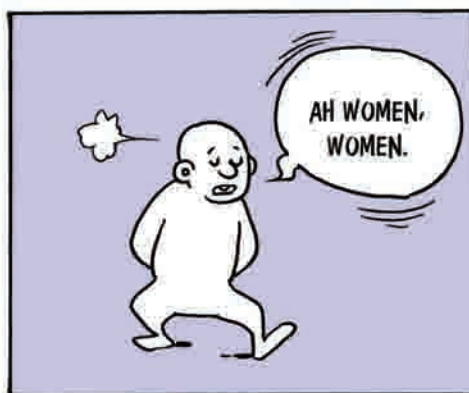
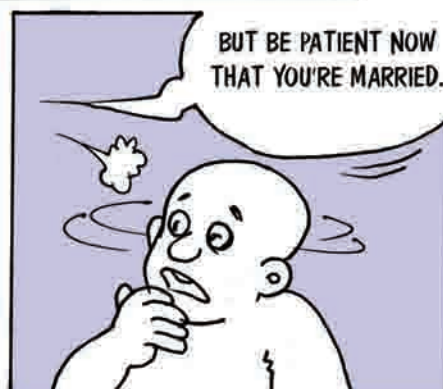
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SUNDAY COMICS



PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
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2018



END

Gyaw Orwell

ONE of my finest and happiest periods for this year is water festival holiday when I returned to my native.

Every time when I return to my native, I always made a plan ahead. This year I didn't have any plan to go back till when I reach to the bus station where I have gone to see off my cousins who living with me at the same flat.

At the bus station, I saw a lot of home returners and felt home sick. And then, I decided to go back home and told my brother that I am also going back home along with you. He was in surprise and replied, "Really, if you are sure, go quickly to the counter for your ticket". Luckily, I got a ticket despite the price is double. And then, my cousin also told me that there is an auspicious religious ceremony, Shinbyu Alu in our village.

When I took bus, it was approaching night, around six o'clock. It takes me nearly three hours to reach Bogale where I had to take motor boat to go on to my village.

As a one who returned to his native within last three years as a first time, the smell of the water in the creek and the huge clear sky filling with shining stars make me wonderful and give me great pleasure that I can't find such kind of deeper feeling at the busy city.



Novitiates-to-be dressed in traditional prince attire are seen in Hayman Village, Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Region. PHOTO: KYAW ZIN TUN

My worthy holiday and an auspicious ceremony in my native

My native is a village in Bogale Township where the creeks are surrounded. Most of the people there are naturally swimming experts. Even a six year old girl, my younger sister can swim without any floating object.

When I arrive at my native it was

nearly midnight and approaching the early morning of Thingyan Eve. In the Thingyan Eve, not only my house but also all the houses in the village welcomed Thagyamin (King of Deva) with Thingyan pot, an earthen pot featuring with Thabyay leaves, palm

leaves, coconut leaves and etc.

In this morning, the people of our village gathered at the monastery to celebrate their auspicious religious ceremony (Shinbyu Alu) in which over one hundred men and boys are novitiated and ordained. That is a great communal novitiation and ordination ceremony of our village, we, our villagers celebrated in every three years.

The eve of the Alu was finished yesterday. Now is the big day of Alu. It started with a procession called the shinlaung hle pwe from the monastery to the whole village, the shinlaung, novice-to-be on the shouldered men and bazin, monk-to-be on the chairs shouldered by four men each. The shinlaung and bazin are shield from sun by a gold umbrella and led by the family and his proud parents carrying the monastic robes and pareihkara shippa, eight requisites. The head of the procession is Hayman Oo Dobat troupe (a folk or traditional music band of Hayman Village).

I also volunteered at the Alu, shouldering my cousin (bazin). The spectators along the village road donated foods and juices to the volunteers at the Alu. In the evening, I visited to my grandparents' home and the following day I returned to Yangon.

One thing I come to know after returning native this holiday is returning native in the holiday is good for everyone who working away from their family and relatives. It not only helps them to relax and it also provides them to make deeper connections with their old friends and relatives.

Why do we have to say politely...?



Daniel
Technological University
(Hmawbi)

"If you order our products with comments that contain the words 'PLEASE', we will give ten percents discount for your order."

This is the post I had seen on the Facebook for a couple of months ago and it was for retailing the jewelry(rings) of a showroom of a foreign country. And its ideas really aimed at people to use the gentle and polite words "Please" as people from the countries where English language is the native tongue think that this is a good way to say and express good manners. And English people tend to say "Mind your P's and Q's" (P is for Please and Q is for Thank you in here) when someone or a child is saying the bad or swear words in front of them.

Even in our country, Myanmar, we can hear that our parents and grand parents often tell us to use polite and gentle words when we are communicat-

ing or cooperating with people whom we might or might not know. It is because saying those words makes them think that we are civilized people and good fellas to hang out. As most of Myanmar parents are apparently raising their children to be civilized people ever since their childhoods, we, Myanmar people do not have to care about so much being rude in conversations because we always remember consistently to mind our own tongues(not to say any raunchy, bad or offensive words, really disturb to people.)

As Myanmar people's beliefs, we will absolutely have the opportunities to get healthy in mind and rich in our properties if we start our auspicious morning praying at our Lord Buddha, saying and greeting each other with good words. There, you can see apparently how much people love to say positive and pleasant words instead of bad words. Besides, language is the powerful thing to express the country's standard owing to its relation with literature and culture of certain country.

And furthermore, there is a great

example of how positive and polite words affect on people's attitudes.

Once upon a time, an old butcher was going back to his village, riding his own cart and on it, there were a lot of meats. On his way, he saw three young men walking straight towards to him. These youths wanted to know how much they can communicate well and can get some help from the strangers whom they accidentally met, and they were arguing whose skill is better among them. And then, they found that butcher coming towards them and they made them as a target to test their skill. Then, the three youths started following after the butcher's cart passed by them. The first person stared to greet sternly like "Hay, old man! Give me some meat." Then the man picked up a diminutive meatball and threw at that person but saying nothing. After that, the second man greeted like "Hello, Mr. Old Man, Can you give me some meats? The butcher again picked up a few meats and handled to him as he liked his manner of saying. Finally, the last one greeted with a sweet voice, "Hello, isn't

it such an auspicious morning, Mr.? Could you , please, give me some meat ? Oh! I do believe that you will give it to me for you looked so gentle ?" Then, the old man replied to young man, " Oh! You are such a civilized person and I would not mind if you take the meats as much as you can." At last, the last man had meats more than the first two had.

As you can see , people like to say and listen polite , also satisfying words. If you want to be a civilized person who can pleasantly argue with people and can get some help easily from people, you definitely need to use good words that sound really nice to them. In my point of view, we are the educated people of our country, so if we do not act, use and say polite ways , we will probably be the ones who will make our generations get spoiled by letting them see our disgusting manners because children are objectively following and doing as they see. So, please behave well ,use the polite words to express your standards as much as you can and make yourself as an ideal type of your generations.

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