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Vice President U Henry Van Thio visits the silk factory in Tiddim, Chin State. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

VP U Henry Van Thio inspects development works in Tiddim, Falam

Vice President U Henry Van Thio, who was in Tiddim Town, Chin State, inspected development works there and in Falam Township on 18 May.

The Vice President was accompanied by Chin State Chief Minister U Salai Lian Lwal, Chin State Hluttaw Speaker U Zo Bwe, Deputy Minister Rear Admiral Myint Nwe, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Than Htut, Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, state ministers and other officials. In the morning, the Vice President and party visited the silk factory of the Department of Agriculture silk factory in Tiddim and silkworm plant research farm (Tiddim) and observed the thriving silkworm plants and the various stages of producing silk.

Next, the Vice President heard a report on the factory and farm by Department of Agriculture Director U Aung Maw, with Director-General Dr. Ye Tint Tun providing additional explanations. The Vice President remarked that planting silkworm plants would increase the income of the local families, replace the slash-and-burn farming system and reduce damage to the environment. If the silk factory were to upgrade the raw material produced from silkworm breeding and worked through cooperation with the private sector, it would be beneficial to the silkworm plant farmers, he said.

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Over 60 houses handed over to Mro ethnic people in Maungtaw

Sixty-four houses constructed by the Bago Region Government were handed over to the Kainggyi (Mro) ethnic people in the presence of Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu in Maungtaw Township yesterday.

The Bago Region Government funded over Ks600 million for construction of the houses for the ethnic people.

Construction of the houses started on 20 December. The houses are steel-structure, reinforced concrete buildings and cost Ks9.5 million each.

"We have a plan to provide school facilities, power supply and other requirements for the ethnic people here. Ethnic people are urged to live in unity, to preserve culture and to take part in building a democratic federal country," said Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein at the ceremony in Kainggyi Mro Village in Maungtaw, Rakhine State.

Bago Region Chief Minister also handed over solar panels and other home accessories to the villagers.

At the opening ceremony, Chief Ministers U Nyi Pu, U Win Thein and officials sprinkled scented water on the stone plaque to commemorate the site. —Zin Oo, Naing Lin Kyi

Family returns after living precariously between border and fence

AFTA Alom and his family of five from Taungpyo Letya Village were living precariously on the Myanmar side of the Myanmar-Bangladesh border, between the border line and border fence (near border post 34). As they were facing health and food problems, they requested permission to return to their village in Myanmar.

After the authorities permitted them to return through the official reception centre, they arrived at the Taungpyo Letwe Reception Centre via the Taungpyo Letwe entry and exit gate near the friendship bridge on 13 April 2018.

Afta Alom and his family were interviewed by the Maungtaw District administrator and officials on 15 April 2018.

Q. Were you or any of your family members involved in the incident of 25 August 2017?

A. None of our family members were involved in that incident.

Q. When and why did you go to the area between the border line and the fence near border post 34?

A. We went there twelve days after the incident on 6 September 2017. When we left our village, there was almost no one remaining in the village. A five member committee was formed by ARSA to administer the village, which included Mawlawi Afat, Mawlawi Hait, Mawlawi Zaid Hussan, Mawlawi Ayut and Mawlawi Havat Georgie Mulla. It was led by Mawlawi Afat. I am the village administrator, but was not permitted to sit on the committee. Most of the villagers went to this area between the border and the fence on the night after the incident. About 30 villagers who remained in the village were planning to attack Taung Pyo Letya post with mines (IEDs) on August 26 and 27. Villagers gradually moved their belongings near to border post 35 and 36 and then entered Bangladesh. By 17 September no one was left in the village. (By then) BGB prevented people from entering Bangladesh. After about 20 days, ICRC and international organizations came and provided rice, cooking oil, sugar, salt and flour. As the area we are staying in is not in Bangladesh, some thought of entering into Bangladesh. Some just wanted to stay where they were. BGB told us not to go to the refugee camp (in Bangladesh) and told us to remain where we were, between the border line and the fence.

Q. What rank is the BGB official who told you to remain where you are?

A. He was the commander of a BGB post.

Q. What do you think was the reason behind this?

A. I think they wanted to show the world that Myanmar is not accepting back the people from the Myanmar side of the border.

> Earlier, there were more than 50 (ARSA terrorists). Now there are only about 20 left. They are from villages in southern Maungtaw. I heard that they have some homemade guns. But they mostly use mines (IEDs).

Q. Did the people who stayed in that area know that they were inside Myanmar?

A. At first they did not know, but now they do.

Q. When top officials from this side came and talked with representatives, was everything explained to the rest?

A. There were some explanations, but it was not clear.

Q. After the Union Minister for Home Affairs came, why did many people go to Bangladesh?

A. After the flag meeting, held on 20 February 2018, the BGB 34 battalion commander told people to return to Myanmar and live according to the law there. Some thought that they might be forced back into Myanmar, so they went to Bangladesh.

Q. When we were there, we saw some INGO's preparing to send foodstuffs. Is the other country permitting them to do this? What was provided?

A. INGO provides supplies after reporting to BGB. A group was formed for distribution. The group included Nur Hak (Taungpyo Letya), Nay Lin Aung (Taung Pyo Letya) and someone from Mede village and another village. The group distributes to about 25 leaders, who then distributed to households in their group. Once every 15 days ICRC regularly provided 24 kg of rice, cooking oil, flour, 4 kg. of beans and salt. A family has about 10 to 15 members, but these families are sub-divided into 3, 4 and 5 families, so the provisions were adequately provided. Sometimes, there were aids from Saudi and Turkey. But everything was provided only after the Bangladesh government permitted it.

Q. Is there any health care service?

A. ICRC came once a week. BGB came once every two days.

Q. Were those staying between the border and fence told they could go to refugee camps without showing any documents?

A. A person can go without being required to show any documents. However, nowadays permission is required. But even then, we were not allowed to go to any town. There are police and military in the towns.

Q. Were there any deaths for any reasons in the area?

A. About six elderly people and a youngster died. Their remains were buried on a hill near a Daingnet village north of the area. If there were any health emergencies, patients were sent to a hospital after receiving a document from the ICRC.

Q. Whenever the authorities came, Dil Mahmat and Nay Lin Aung met as representatives. What do you know about them?

A. Dil Mahmat and Nay Lin Aung do interpretation when there is a meeting between the two countries. As BGB came and talked through them, and they gradually become leaders. BGB also appointed them as leaders, and the people accepted them.

Q. As a former administrator of Taungpyo Letya Village, did you suffer any intimidation?

A. I reached the village only after many villagers had arrived there. Mawlawi Zaid Hussan threatened me. A month later, I was reported to be a drug dealer and interrogated.

Q. Are there members of ARSA in the area?

A. Earlier, there were more than 50 (ARSA terrorists). Now there are only about 20 left. They are from villages in southern Maungtaw. I heard that they have some homemade guns. But they mostly use mines (IEDs).

Q. Is there any violence against women?

A. No. But some human traffickers are luring women into brothels. Some youngsters were said to have been abducted for their organs, but this is no longer occurring.

Q. What are the difficulties you face when you stay in the place?

A. We can eat only things provided by INGOs. We could not have meat and fish. Language was also a problem. We only understand a few officials. People from Bangladesh are also spreading fear about us.

Q. Did the INGO prevent people from going to refugee camps?

A. No. UNHCR said people should not stay in the place and said they'll construct living areas in refugee camps.

Q. Were there people who lived in the refugee camp and then came back to stay in the village?

A. Of the 1,050 households staying in the place, half had registered in the refugee camps. When it was time to receive rations from the refugee camp, they went to take it. As they were receiving aid from both places, they collected more.

Q. How do you survive in the area without any income?

A. My son worked in the ICRC office on the other side and earned about 35,000 Taka (more than Ks 500,000) a month, and we survive on this. But others are facing difficulties.

Q. Now that you came back, how do you plan to live?

A. I will depend on my son's income for now. Once the situation becomes stable, I will work on a farm near the village.

Q. What do you want to say about people living in the place?

A. They don't agree with one another. On social media sites, like Facebook, I read about their complaints. Some were threatening my son for working in the ICRC office there.

Q. What do you want to ask for your family?

A. I want to be safe and have something to do to earn our livelihood.— Myanmar News Agency ■

> I would firstly like to address the three branches of the sovereign power of the State, who have been entrusted with power according to the Constitution, to exercise mutual respect, understanding, and trust as they collaborate for the good of the people. Additionally, I wish to urge the media sector, which serve as the ears and eyes of the public, to understand the seriousness of their duties and to hold in high regard the public sector that they serve.
>
> **(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)**

> Let us strive collectively for the emergence of a just and free nation– a nation which will guarantee equal rights and equality, a nation which practices a pure ideology.
>
> **(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)**

Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects the Falam (Surbung) airport construction project, which is in phase 1 of construction on the Surbung mountain range in Tiddim. **PHOTO: MNA**

VP U Henry Van Thio inspects development works in Tiddim, Falam

FROM PAGE-1

Demand for silk was growing in the international market and supports of the respective departments were required to obtain a firm place in the market. Similarly, further research needed to be conducted in order to produce other high value products from the silkworm plant in addition to silk thread, said the Vice President.

In Myanmar, silkworm plants are planted in Kachin State, Kayah State, Chin State, Shan State and Mandalay Region covering 6,437.98 acres. In 2017-2018, there were 231 silkworm egg cards in silkworm plant research farms and silkworm plant farms producing 11,868 pounds of cocoons.

The first-year planting cost of an acre of silkworm is about Ks850,000. Maintenance in the second year and the making of six silkworm egg cards costs another Ks978,000. The six silkworm egg cards produce about 600 pounds of cocoons.

At the cocoon selling rate of Ks600 per pound, the second-year income of Ks1,320,000 will make a profit of Ks342,000. The break-even point will be reached within two and half years, it is learnt.

Afterwards the Vice President inspected the upgrading of Tiddim-Reed Road, Reed-Falam Road and the strength of the 360 ft. long Mansaung suspension bridge across the Manipur River near Mansaung Village and commented on the importance of continuously inspecting the strength of the bridge and to prevent roadblocks.

From there, the Vice President and party inspected developments in Laitui Village, Tiddim Township and a border trade station in New Haimual Village, Tiddim Township. At the border trade station, the Station Manager and officials explained the operations of the border trade station. Ministry of Commerce Permanent Secretary U Toe Aung Myint and Ministry of Hotels and Tourism Permanent Secretary U Yi Mon provided additional explanation.

The Vice President responded to the explanations by urging to strive toward expanding new export items and to obtain a market. As a border crossing agreement had been signed recently between Myanmar and India, there would be an increase in travel and trade and emphasis needed to be placed on having arrangements made for convenient trade and travel, he said.

The Reed border trade station was established on 4.814 acres of land in Tiddim Township, New Haimual Village in Chin State on 10 December 2013. During fiscal year 2017-2018, the border trade station handled trade worth US$44.35 million, of which import value was US$18.334 million and export value was US$26.016 million.

Trade in fiscal year 2016-2017 was US$39.652, and there was an increase in trade of US$4.698 million, it is learnt.

Later, the Vice President and party inspected the retaining wall and fence construction works near the border trade bridge that connects Rihkhawdar Town in Myanmar with India. The Vice President and party then went to meet and encourage household members in Rihkhawdar Town, Ward (4) who were affected by fire on 16 April and presented cash assistance.

In the afternoon, the Vice President and party arrived at Reed Lake near Ward (1), Rihkhawdar Town, Falam District, where they were greeted with a traditional dance, after which departmental officials explained the works being conducted for Reed Lake and regional development. Reed Lake, near Rihkhawdar Town, Falam District, is 2,997 ft. above the sea level and is more than 2 miles wide.

Reed Lake was discovered around AD 1500 and is an internationally known travel destination of Chin State, as well as being a significant religious locale for locals.

From there, the Vice President went to the Falam Township Tibual Village 16-bed hospital to inspect the health care service provided. He then encouraged and presented cash assistance to patients undergoing treatment.

The Vice President then arrived at the Falam (Surbung) airport construction project, which is in phase 1 of construction on the Surbung mountain range, where the Department of Civil Aviation Director General and other officials explained the project.

After this, the Vice President inspected the construction of the runway and two retaining walls. In the evening, the Vice President and party reached Falam Town, where they were welcomed by traditional dances.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Vice President U Henry Van Thio encourages a patient undergoing treatment at 16-bed hospital in Tibual Village, Falam Township, Chin State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Opening of new Kayah State Hluttaw building in Loikaw, Kayah State

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of a new Kayah State Hluttaw building held in Loikaw, Kayah State, yesterday morning.

During the ceremony, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than said the role of the Hluttaw was very important in a democratic system, and the new Kayah State Hluttaw building would showcase the unity and peace prevailing among local ethnic groups in the region. He noted that it was an honor to see the establishment of a new Hluttaw building, which was joining other landmarks, such as Ngwe Taung Dam, Taung Kwe Pagoda and the Lawpita waterfall.

Also, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, the Kayah State Chief Minister, the State Hluttaw Speaker and Deputy Speaker opened the new Hluttaw building by cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

Kayah State Chief Minister U L Phaung Sho presents commemorative gift on the opening of the new Kayah State Hluttaw building to Hluttaw representative in Loikaw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Afterwards, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker and Kayah State Chief Minister sprinkled scented water on the plaque commemorating the opening of the Hluttaw. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister Lt-General Ye Aung opens women's vocational training school (Katha)

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-General Ye Aung opened the Ministry of Border Affairs, Education and Training Department, women's vocational training school (Katha) on 18 May.

The school was built with a budget allocated from fiscal year 2017-2018. Officials opened the training school by cutting the ceremonial ribbon. Also, Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung unveiled the signboard and sprinkled scented water onto the commemorative plaque.

The Union Minister delivered a speech at the opening, and Hluttaw representative U Nyi Nyi Tun spoke words of thanks. Afterward, the Union Minister inspected the dormitories, dining hall and kitchens at the training school.

Additionally, on the afternoon of 16 May, the Union Minister inspected construction on sections of the Wuntho-Bamauk road, Naungkan-Mawlin road and Pinlebu-Banmauk road.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung inspects border area national races youth development training school in Pinlebu Township. **PHOTO: MNA**

Earlier in the morning of 16 May, the Union Minister inspected a site in Bamauk Township where a border areas national race youth development training school is to be built, and on 17 May the Union Minister inspected the Pinlebu Township border area national races youth development training school, where he provided cash assistance and urged the planting of seasonal fruit trees.

On 18 May, the Union Minister also inspected construction on a road connecting No. 6 Ward to Thein Inn Village in Katha Town and Naungkan-Mawlin road.

The Union Minister remarked about the requirements of the officials, Hluttaw representatives, and quality inspection groups to systematically inspect the construction, and for local residents to participate in the maintenance of the road, for long term utilization.

During his tour of the region, the union minister visited the Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department, District Development Supervision office (Katha), Township Development Supervision office (Bamauk and Pinlebu) and coordinated on discussions with officials.

While in Pinlebu, the Union Minister also visited the Pinlebu Township Hospital, where he met and encouraged patients undergoing treatment and provided cash assistance.

The Union Minister later visited the Myitthaychin Village basic education primary school in Bamauk Township and Pinn Mu Village basic education middle school (branch), where he presented school uniforms and books.

Further, Chairman of the Work Committee for Implementation of Development of Border Areas and National Races Union Minister for Border Affair Lt-Gen Ye Aung inspected regional and human resources development works in Sagaing Region Bamauk, Pinlebu and Katha townships from 16 to 18 May. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Worker select fishes at the Nyaungtan Jetty in Yangon. **PHOTO-PHOE KHWAR**

Myanmar-Indonesia trade exceeds $1bln in FY2017-18

BILATERAL trade between Myanmar and the Republic of Indonesia topped US$1.025 billion at the end of the 2017-2018 fiscal year, according to the latest report from the Ministry of Commerce.

The total trade with the Southeast Asian nation included imports amounting to $901.4 million and exports valued at $123.9 million. When compared with the previous fiscal year, Myanmar-Indonesia trade increased by $198 million in FY2017-18.

Myanmar exports marine products, agriculture products and miscellaneous items to the Southeast Asian nation, while imports from Indonesia include paper, palm oil, steel, tobacco, rubber, medicine and other items.

The ministry's yearly statistical reports indicate that bilateral trade with Indonesia has gradually increased since the 2013-2014 FY. Myanmar-Indonesia trade was $498 million in the 2013-2014 FY. It increased to $636 million in the 2014-2015 FY, $741 million in the 2015-2016 FY and $827 million in the 2016-2017 FY.

According to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA), Indonesia's investment in Myanmar in FY2017-2018 was $9.859 from one project.—Shwe Khine ■

Prices of areca nuts unlikely to rise this month: merchants

INDIA'S demand for Myanmar areca nuts is currently falling in the export market due to market competition, resulting in a decrease in prices of areca nuts in the domestic market, according to a report by *the Myawady Daily*.

U Hla Maung, chair of Tamu Trading at the Border Trade Chambers of Commerce, said that the country mainly exports areca nuts to India, which purchases nuts not only from Myanmar, but also from Indonesia. At present, the prices of areca nuts from Indonesia are less expensive than from Myanmar.

The market saw a decline in prices of areca nuts, in comparison with last month. The current selling price of areca nuts is between Ks3,400 and Ks3,600, based upon the quality.

U Aung Ngwe, one of the merchants, said that it is expected that the price of areca nuts is unlikely to rise until the end of this month.

Areca nuts are primarily grown in Ye Township in Mon State. The town produces approximately 60 viss (one viss equals 3.6 pounds) of areca nuts each year. The country exports nuts to India, the second largest neighbouring country, through the Tamu and Reed border trade stations.

According to official statistics provided by the border trade camps, Myanmar exported $7.706 million worth of areca nuts, weighing 8,452 tonnes, to India in the 2014-2015 FY.

The export volume increased to more than 20,000 tonnes in the 2015-2016 FY and 21,492 tonnes in the 2016-2017 FY.—GNLM ■

Border trade with Thailand up over $47mln in current FY

MYANMAR-Thailand border trade showed an increase of over US$47 million in the past 41 days during the current interim fiscal year, according to the official weekly statistical report of the Ministry of Commerce.

Between 1 April and 11 May this year, trade between the two countries totalled $171.4 million, while at this time last year, the bilateral trade was $123.6 million.

Myanmar and Thailand continue to conduct trade through seven cross-border gates at Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Maese and Mawtaung. Myawady has the largest volume and value of trade.

During the period, border trade between the two nations saw a significant increase in value, compared with the similar period in the last year, apart from the Hteekhee and Maese border gates.

Bilateral trade, as of 11 May, was valued at US$91.9 million in Myawady, US$39.4 million in Myeik, US$29.7 million in Kawthoung and US$8.6 million in Tachilek. The value of border trade between both countries coming across at Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese was fewer than $1.5 million each. According to the Ministry's official figures, the total trade value at all borders reached $875.7 million, an increase of $230 million over the last fiscal year.

Myanmar primarily imports a wide range of consumer products, food, soft drinks, cooking oil, plastic ware, and cosmetics, while exporting marine products, agricultural commodities and other items to neighbouring country.—Swe Nyein ■

Vehicles seen at Myawaddy border trade zone. **PHOTO-SUPPLIED**

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A delegation led by Mr. Wang Zhengwei, Vice chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) visit Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

CPPCC vice chairman in Yangon

VICE chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Mr. Wang Zhengwei, who was in Myanmar at the invitation of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, met with Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein at Yangon Region Government Office yesterday morning.

During the meeting they discussed matters relating to increasing mutual understanding and cooperation, development in investment and economic conditions, new Yangon projects and the Special Economic Zone project.

Afterwards, the delegation visited Bogyoke Market in downtown Yangon.

In the afternoon, the delegation paid a visit to Shwedagon Pagoda and signed the visitors' book. Shwedagon Pagoda Trustee U Than Zaw explained to the delegation about the history of the Pagoda.—Myanmar News Agency ■

16th Dr. Tin Shwe Literary Award ceremony held

THE 16th Dr. Tin Shwe Literary Award ceremony was held at the Sedona Hotel, Yangon, yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint spoke about physician writers, including Dr. Tin Shwe, along with the benefit of establishing and presenting literary awards, how literary awards benefit the people in the literary community, his appreciation of the selection committee for maintaining and protecting the literary community, and of being happy and honored, on behalf of the award winners.

Also, U Kyaw Win (Manoktha Kyaw Win), a member of Dr. Thin Shwe Literary Award selection Committee and Myanmar Writers Association Chairman, delivered a speech, followed by science writer Saya Ko Ko Aung providing a brief description of the award winning books.

Afterwards, the Union Minister presented the Life Long Literary Award to Sithu Dr. U Thaw Kaung, as well as the 16th Dr. Tin Shwe Literary Award to Dr. Khin Maung Lwin, who wrote "Fruits and Health," Dr. Hlwam Moe Han, who wrote "Practical Questions and Answers for Cancer Patients," Dr. Maung Maung San (Kyaw Saw Min) who wrote "Read it" and U Thein Hlaing who wrote the "Myanmar English Dictionary of Ancient Myanmar Historical Terms."

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint presents the Life Long Literary Award to Sithu Dr. U Thaw Kaung at the 16th Dr. Tin Shwe Literary Award ceremony in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

Additionally, on behalf of the Dr. Tin Shwe family, son U Thet Lwin Shwe, Managing Director of Bright Corner Co. Ltd. and Real Life Co. Ltd., donated cash to honour aged writers, which was accepted by the Myanmar Writers Association Vice Chairman, U Chit Naing, and presented gifts to Award Selection Committee members, which was received by U Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min- Danuphyu) on behalf of the committee.

Award winners and Dr. Tin Shwe's daughter, Daw Thet Thet Shwe (Tin Shwe Sarpay), then delivered a speech of thanks.

Following this, the Union Ministers, the Award Selection Committee, award winners and family members of Dr. Tin Shwe took commemorative group photos.

The ceremony was attended by Minister of Information Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung, Directors-General U Aung Myo Myint and U Ye Naing, Award Selection Committee members, award winners, writers and invited guests.

At next year's 17th Dr. Tin Shwe Literary Award, not only books, but manuscripts will also be awarded, it was announced. —Myanmar News Agency ■

First coord meeting to select 2017 Myanmar National Literature Award winners

THE first coordination meeting to select the 2017 Myanmar National Literature Award winners was held at the Printing and Publishing Department Central Press meeting hall on Theinbyu Street, Yangon.

In his opening remarks at the meeting, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint urged all participants to select the 2017 Myanmar National Literature Award winners through open and comprehensive discussions.

Also, the 2017 Myanmar National Literature Award selection committee Vice Chairmen Sayagyi Dr. Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min-Danuphyu) and Sayagyi U Khin Maung Soe (Maung Paw Tun), secretary U Than Ohn (Maung Zeya) and committee members discussed the selection criteria. The meeting came to a close after the Union Minister delivered a concluding speech.

Additionally, Ministry of Information, Printing and Publishing Department, Sarpay Beikman has formed a National Literature Award selection committee with 65 experts in literature to choose the 2017 Myanmar National Literature Award winners. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint addresses the first coordination meeting for selecting 2017 Myanmar National Literature Award winners in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe inspects Hlinethaya General Hospital

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe inspects the 200-bed Hlinethaya General Hospital in Hlinethaya, Yangon Region yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION MINISTER for Sports and Health Dr. Myint Htwe conducted a spot check of the 200-bed Hlinethaya General Hospital in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon Region yesterday.

The Union Minister and party visited the pediatric ward, gynecology ward, emergency and outpatient department, radiology department, ophthalmology department and emergency ward in the hospital and coordinated with officials on the requirements of staff, difficulties faced by the patients and the state of current health care service.

The Union Minister said Hlinethaya General Hospital is located in a crucial place. The area around the hospital is densely populated and patients cannot travel easily to downtown Yangon for treatment as there are many difficulties including traffic jams. Therefore, Hlinethaya Hospital needs to be upgraded in all sectors including treatment, general services, workplace happiness of the staff, reducing difficulties faced by the patients and improvement of health care service to the level of Yangon General Hospital.

A party consisting of Deputy Directors General and other officials from the Department of Public Health and Department of Medical Services is also inspecting the public health care and medical service works conducted by Hlinethaya General Hospital. They will then submit a report to the Ministry, said the Union Minister.

Afterwards, the Union Minister met and spoke openly with hospital staff, patients, family members and friends accompanying the patients, it is learnt. —Myanmar News Agency ■

in Picture

Bago Region Government handed over sixty-four houses to the Kainggyi (Mro) ethnic people in Maungtaw Township. **PHOTO: THIHA SITHU (NEWS ON PAGE-1)**

Thunder expected in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon states

THERE will be thunder in the Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon states during the next two days, as weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, according to the Myanmar Daily Weather report, issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology yesterday.

The forecast for Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and neighboring areas for today includes an 80 per cent chance of isolated rain or thundershowers.

Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters, with wave heights of some four to seven feet off and along Myanmar's coasts. —GNLM ■

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Stake driving ceremony for Teachers Training Institute

Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi driving the stake for the construction of the TVET and TTTI in Bahan Township, Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

A traditional stake driving ceremony to commence construction of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Teachers Training Institute (TTTI) jointly operated by the Department of Technical and Vocational Education and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) was held at TTTI on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township, Yangon yesterday morning.

Union Ministers U Thein Swe, U Khin Maung Cho and Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun, National Education Policy Commission Vice Chairman Dr. U Nyi Hla Nge, the Korean Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Lee Sanghwa, and KOICA representative Dr. Shin Euicheal drove the stake and splashed scented waters onto the stake.

In his speech at the event, Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi said in any country, the technical and vocational education sector plays an important role in the socio-economic development of its people. State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi pointed out this in her speech delivered at the TVET Forum held in Nay Pyi Taw in 2016. Although Myanmar is facing difficulties and challenges in the technical and vocational sector, national-level strategy and policies were set and were being implemented.

There is a requirement to train TVET teachers, and the TVET Teacher Training Institute (TTTI) jointly organised by Department of Technical and Vocational Education and KOICA will help meet this requirement, said the Union Minister.

At yesterday's ceremony, the Korean Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Lee Sanghwa and KOICA representative Dr. Shin Euicheal delivered speeches and took commemorative photos.

After the event, Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Bago Region minister for development and social affairs and other officials went to Bago General Hospital to encourage teachers undergoing treatment who were hurt in a traffic accident. They then went on to No. 1 Basic Education High School to present texts and teaching guide books and to observe training courses being conducted. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Speed up afforestation, fight illegal logging to avert impact of climate change

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has banned logging in Bago Mountain Range starting from the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year for a period of 10 years and reduced the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC).

The reason for the decade-long logging freeze in the Bago mountain ranges is to prevent the forest from extinction. Forestry conservation and reforestation will be conducted in those stricken areas in cooperation with the organizations concerned.

In the current 2017-2018 FY, the Ministry produced only 55 per cent of the teak and 31 per cent of the hardwood compared to the output of the previous year.

> In addition to the devastating impact on the environment and biodiversity, illegal logging and forestry crime also contribute to billions in lost tax revenues for the governments.

The illegal timber production and illegal firewood and timber collection have increased along the mountain ranges in Bago region in previous years, causing Myanmar to be the third-worst country for deforestation in the world.

Due to deforestation in forest-covered areas, Myanmar experienced the worst weather in its history in 2015-2016, ranking 2nd among 187 countries in the global weather danger index.

Hence, we need to speed up afforestation - the planting of trees in barren lands to increase the area under forests - and to fight illegal logging nationwide in attempts to avert the impact of the climate change.

In the second one-year period, the Ministry confiscated 42,893.4316 tons of teak and hardwood and arrested 6,591 persons, including 19 foreigners. As part of efforts for greening the arid region, more than 3,888 acres of cultivation and 37,000 acres were designated as forest reserve.

As part of the measures against deforestation and forest degradation, teak extraction is set to end in the Bago mountain ranges.

Also, plans are underway to lay down 19 schemes which can contribute to the restoration of the trees across the country.

The Ministry has made efforts to prevent illegal logging and to introduce the Community Monitoring Reporting System on a nationwide scale. Ilegal logging is a hindrance to development of the country.

In addition to the devastating impact on the environment and biodiversity, illegal logging and forestry crime also contribute to billions in lost tax revenues for the governments.

Prevention is better than arresting smugglers and confiscating logs. The participation of the people is playing a critical role in the country's reforestation drive. We are all obliged to preserve our forests for posterity and for future generations. Intervene early before the trees are cut, and eventually save an entire forest. ■

Conservation and Biodiversity for Sustainable Development

By Ye Lin Aung & Kyaw Khaung Thantzin (WCS)

MYANMAR is situated in continental Southeast Asia, between latitudes 9º 58' to 28 longitudes 92º 10' to 101º 10' E. The country covers an area of 676,577km2, extending 2,090km from north to south and 805km from east to west. With an abundance of untapped natural resources, Myanmar is well-known around the world as a golden land for her a wide diversity of ecosystems and biodiversity.

Forest genetic resources play a major role in socio-economic development, and forest product exports are an important source of foreign exchange in the country. Myanmar is the world's largest supplier of natural teak (Tectona grandis). Myanmar's forests also support large volumes of plant and animal species.

With a growing population, Myanmar is currently facing a depletion of natural resources because the country has been heavily dependent on natural resources for commercial gain. But the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has been working tirelessly on the tasks of conservation of different biological species, including flora and fauna.

The Department of Natural Environment Conservation is working on cooperation in upgrading the capacities for drawing up policies and strategies and in implementing the purification of the environment in the field, with the cooperation of international organisations. According to data of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, it was learnt that 5.79 per cent is natural reserve area, including 40 Protected Areas in Myanmar.

Among the protected areas in Myanmar are the Khakaborazi National Park, the Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, the Hukaung Valley Tiger Reserve, Mount Victoria National Park, the Rakhine Yoma Elephant Reserve, the Moe Yun Gyi Wetland Sanctuary, the Inlay Lake Wetland Sanctuary, and the Mein-ma-hla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary respectively.

Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park

The Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park is an ASEAN Heritage Site located in Monywa Township in Sagaing Region. This park is one of the many sanctuaries in Myanmar. The forest hosts many mammals such as elephants, tigers, leopards, guars, banteng, sambar, barking deer, jungle goats, mountain goats, bears, wild boars and jungle cats. It is estimated that there are 60 species of native birds, including prominent great golden hornbills and 200 species of butterflies. This park is a wonderful place for birdwatchers, nature lovers, and also those who want to make religious pilgrimages. The Alaungdaw Kathapa Shrine, located in the centre of the park, is one of the most famous pagodas in the region, where hundreds of thousands of pilgrims pay homage to the pagoda in the summer annually. Local travellers and tourists visit there by riding elephants along the route of forests, and the elephant camps in the park have contributed to the growth of the area's eco-tourism industry.

Natmataung National Park or Mount Victoria

The Natmataung National Park or Mount Victoria is located in Chin State, and it is one of the popular bird-watching sites in Myanmar. It is a home to a variety of rare and beautiful flora and fauna as well as ethnic tribes. Moreover it is a favourite place for ornithologists due to the wide variety of species such as white-browed Nuthatch and larger birds of prey.

Myanmar is rich in different kinds of biological species. Accordingly, the conservation of these natural resources is being made across the country. Forty natural conservation zones have so far been established in Myanmar.

Starting from the financial year 2016- 2017, forest management plans for 68 districts were drawn up and implemented with the cooperation of the Department of Forestry, the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and the Myanmar Wildlife Conservation Society. Under the plan, 14 kinds of forestry, including forest conservation and forest plantation, will be implemented. Production of timber has been suspended and after reassessing the situations of natural forests, the plan for reforestation of Myanma forests will be implemented within 10 years from the year 2017-2018 to 2026-2027. The major aim of drawing up the policy is for all the nationals residing in the country to possess a strengthened ecological system for progress, health and pleasure, so that all beings, including human beings, can survive.

Photo: WCS Myanmar

Concerning the forestry sector, arrangements are underway for the reforestation to resettle forests and for the plantation of forests. Conservation works have been carried out by granting budgets for conservation of the remaining natural forests across the country. As the conservation of forests is of great importance, a five-year-plan has been implemented starting from financial year 2017-2018. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation alone cannot implement the tasks of forest and environmental conservation and climate change. Only if all sector-related ministries, private organisations, social societies, people and professionals will cooperate will it be successful.

Regarding sustainable development, the Ministry has carried out conservation of the natural environment, and there are three major panels which play an important role for the social, economic and natural environment sectors. With the increasing population and urbanisation, the country has been expanded and economic enterprises are being extended. Thus it is of vital importance to conserve the environments due to the deteriorate our natural habitats.

Strategic policies on national-level climate change have been made to implement the sustainable development of the Nation and reduce the impact of severe climate. Moreover, with a view to effectively implement the conservation of the environment from top to bottom, supervision committees and working organisations have been formed in regions, states, districts and townships. In implementing sustainable development in the long run, all sectors are closely connected among the ministries, private entrepreneurs, CSOs, experts and professionals. Only if those entities would operate transparently and with unity, will the whole task be successful. ■

Translated by
Win Ko Ko Aung

Photo: WCS Myanmar

Photo: WCS Myanmar

Photo: WCS Myanmar

Spend 4pc GDP to education sector: UNESCO

UNITED Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has suggested the governments across the world to allocate at least 4 per cent of GDP or 15 per cent of total public expenditure to the education sector.

The suggestion came in the UNESCO annual flagship report titled Global Education Monitoring Report 2017/8 with the theme 'Accountability in education: meeting our commitments'.

The report was launched in the city recently at a function ahead of Bangladesh's next national budget scheduled to be unveiled early next month.

UNESCO Dhaka and Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO (BNCU) jointly organised the function at the conference hall of the Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (BANBEIS).

Education minister Nurul Islam Nahid addressed the function as the chief guest with secretary of secondary and higher education division Md Sohrab Hossain in the chair.

The UNESCO also made some major recommendations for the countries across the globe, including Bangladesh, for fulfilling their commitments to achieve the targets of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)-4.

The recommendations include creating space for meaningful and representative engagement to build trust and a shared understanding of respective responsibilities with all actors, strengthening the role of legislatures' education committees, publishing an annual education monitoring report, developing credible education sector plans and transparent budgets and credible and efficient regulations and monitoring mechanisms and adhering to follow-up actions and sanctions when standards are not met.

The suggestions also include designing school and teacher accountability mechanisms that are supportive and formative and avoid punitive mechanisms, especially the types based on narrow performance measures, availing transparent, relevant and timely data to decision-makers and equipping the actors with the skills and training needed to fulfil their responsibilities.

Addressing the function, Nahid said, "We have a lot of successes in the education sector. But ensuring quality teachers in the educational institutions is still a big challenge for us".

Once upon a time, female education was prohibited, he said, adding but now the girl students are going more forward than their male counterparts.

Referring to the critics of the education sector, the minister said, "Please give us proper suggestions for correction. We will accept those".

Speaking about the UNESCO's GEM report, Nahid said, "This report will help us in making time-befitting education policy. We will accept the positive things and be aware of the negative ones".—UNESCO ■

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

Japan, Pacific island nations urge N Korea to denuclearize

IWAKI, (Japan) — Japan and Pacific island countries on Saturday called on North Korea to take concrete actions toward denuclearization by complying with UN sanctions over its nuclear and missile development, as they wrapped up a two-day summit meeting in northeastern Japan.

In the joint declaration released after the gathering in Iwaki, Fukushima Prefecture, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and leaders from 14 Pacific island countries expressed deep concerns over the North evading international sanctions by transferring cargoes at sea.

It is the first time for Japan and the Pacific island countries to mention the North Korean issue in their declaration. Japan has hosted a regional summit with the Pacific island nations every three years since 1997.

The participants at the eight Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting also noted the importance of the complete, verifiable and irreversible scrapping of all of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles, while stressing the need of an immediate resolution of the abductions of Japanese nationals by North Korea in the 1970s and 1980s. The declaration also touched on the importance of the maritime order based on the rule of law and welcomed the "free and open Indo-Pacific strategy," a policy the Abe administration has pushed ahead with in an apparent effort to counter the growing maritime assertiveness of China.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (C) poses with leaders of Pacific island countries at their summit in the northeastern Japan city of Iwaki on 19 May, 2018. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

In a keynote speech at the outset of the summit, Abe pledged to support Pacific island countries in enhancing their maritime security capabilities, given their vulnerable coastal security.

"Japan will be unstinting in its assistance toward improving countries' capacity to 'protect the sea,' including each country's legal enforcement capabilities," Abe said.

"It is the rule of law that gives protection to the nations, big and small, for their inherent rights," he said. "Safeguarding the sea and safeguarding the planet and humankind are one and the same. My country will continue to make efforts with you all," Abe added.

The summit also focused on building infrastructure, including ports.

To support their sustainable development, Abe promised continued assistance to the island nations to protect the environment and cope with climate change.

Abe also vowed Japan's engagement in human resource development and people-to-people exchanges involving 4,000 people over the next three years.

The forum brings together Japan, the 14 Pacific island nations, Australia and New Zealand, as well as French Polynesia and New Caledonia, both of which are French territories.

The 14 Pacific island countries are the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The previous meeting also took place in Iwaki, an area in northeastern Japan devastated by the massive 2011 earthquake and ensuing tsunami.

Samoan Prime Minister Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi co-chaired the meeting with Abe.—Kyodo News ■

US says China trade talks going well, but 'no deal yet'

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's top economic aide said talks to ease a major trade dispute between the United States and China were "going well," but a deal remained elusive on 18 Friday May.

Trump has demanded China reduce its trade surplus with the United States, sparking a dispute that has seen the globe's two largest economic powers exchange threats of tit-for-tat sanctions.

Trump met Chinese Vice Premier Liu He on Thursday and his aides followed up with a second day of talks to try to avoid a damaging trade war.

The "negotiation is going well," said Larry Kudlow, director of the National Economic Council.

"No deal yet, to be sure, and it's going to take a while," he told reporters at the White House.

"They are meeting many of our demands," he claimed, "I believe they want to make a deal."

Trump has threatened to hit China with tariffs on up to US$150 billion of imports, prompting Beijing to threaten US agricultural exports.

On Thursday Trump unleashed a barrage of criticism against former US administrations for allowing Beijing to take advantage of the United States, and he discounted chances of settling the trade dispute with Beijing.

"We have been ripped off by China. And an evacuation of wealth like no country has ever seen before given to another country that's rebuilt itself based on a lot of the money that they've taken out of the United States," he said.

"China has become very spoiled... Because they always got 100 percent of whatever they wanted from the United States," he said.

The White House is wary of hurting largely Republican-voting farm states or damaging the economy before legislative elections this November.

But Trump is also keen to appear tough on trade and fulfil a campaign promise to make a "deal" that better benefits the United States.—AFP ■

National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow told reporters at the White House that China was "meeting many of our demands" but that there was "no deal yet". **PHOTO: AFP**

Russia unveils world's first floating nuclear power station

MURMANSK — Russia on Saturday unveiled the world's first floating nuclear power station at a ceremony in the port of the far northern city of Murmansk where it will be loaded with nuclear fuel before heading to eastern Siberia.

Built in Saint Petersburg, the Akademik Lomonosov arrived in Murmansk on Thursday where it was moored in the port and presented to the media on Saturday.

Constructed by the state nuclear power firm Rosatom, the 144 by 30 metre (472 by 98 foot) ship holds two reactors with two 35 megawatt nuclear reactors that are similar to those used to power icebreaker ships. The 21,000-tonne barge will be towed in the summer of 2019 to the port of Pevek in the autonomous Chukotka region in Russia's extreme northeast, 350 kilometres (217 miles) north of the Arctic Circle. The barge can produce enough electricity to power a town of 200,000 residents, far more than the 5,000 live in Pevek, Russia's northernmost town. It will be primarily used to power oil rigs as Russia pushes further north into the Arctic to drill for oil and gas and needs electricity in far-flung locations. Vitaly Trutnev, who is in charge of the construction and operation of floating nuclear power stations at Rosatom, said such units would "supply electricity and heat to the most remote regions, supporting also growth and sustainable development." He said use of such floating reactors can save 50,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

The barge had initially been scheduled to be fuelled in Saint Petersburg, but that work was moved to Murmansk instead due to concern in countries along the Baltic Sea.—AFP ■

Cleric Moqtada Sadr wins Iraq election but forming government far off

BAGHDAD — The final results of Iraq's elections confirmed on Saturday a breakthrough for nationalist cleric Moqtada Sadr, who was in the lead, ahead of internationally favoured prime minister Haider al-Abadi.

But the possibilities for alliances to form a coalition government remain wide open.

None of the three leading groups won more than 55 of the 329 seats up for grabs in parliament at the 12 May vote, which saw record high abstentions with just 44.52 per cent turnout — the lowest since the first multiparty elections in 2005.

In a system calibrated to divide parliament after the fall of dictator Saddam Hussein following the American-led invasion of 2003, Moqtada Sadr's Marching Towards Reform alliance is far from assured of governing Iraq for the next four years.

Sadr, who has ruled himself out of becoming prime minister, is looking to be the kingmaker and to cobble together a technocrat government from a dozen parties.

But despite leading the tally, his alliance falls short of a majority and it will take lengthy wrangling to forge a coalition.

Moqtada Sadr. None of the three leading groups won more than 50 seats in Parliament in the 12 May vote, which saw record high abstentions with just 44.52 per cent turnout – the lowest since the first multiparty elections in 2005 . **PHOTO: AFP**

Negotiations to form a coalition government began as soon as the vote ended a week ago, with the involvement of the US and Iran —who both oppose the firebrand Shiite leader.

Tricky negotiations

"Last week was the agreement of principles, and now we enter the phase of forming coalitions," properly speaking, Iraqi political commentator Hicham al-Hachemi told AFP.

The alliance between the populist Shiite preacher and Iraq's communists won 54 seats.

In second place is the Conquest Alliance, made up of ex-fighters from mainly Iran-backed paramilitary units that battled IS, which won 47 seats, ahead of the Victory Alliance, headed by Abadi, which had 42.

The vote was a slap in the face to the widely reviled elite that has dominated Iraq since the 2003 US-led invasion that ousted Saddam Hussein.

Sadr rose to prominence in the wake of the US invasion, when his militia fought a bloody insurgency against American troops.

After years on the sidelines, he has reinvented himself as a champion of the poor and linked up with secularists to battle corruption.

He is one of the few Iraqi politicians opposed to both the presence of American troops and the heavy influence that neighbouring Iran exercises over Iraq.

Sadr declared on Twitter that the results showed "reform has won and corruption is weakened," but he faces a tricky regional context as he begins coalition negotiations.

The protracted horse-trading comes at a time of high tensions after Washington's withdrawal from a landmark nuclear deal with Tehran and fears of a tug-of-war over Iraq.—AFP ■

Afghan cricket stadium attack leaves 8 dead, 45 wounded

JALALABAD—Eight people were killed and 45 wounded in a series of explosions targeting a cricket match in the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad, officials said on Saturday, the first attack since the holy month of Ramadan began.

The blasts exploded among spectators crowded into the stadium at around 11pm (1830 GMT) on Friday evening as they watched the local "Ramadan Cup", the provincial governor's office said.

No group has yet claimed the murders but the Taliban said they were not responsible in a WhatsApp message.

Jalalabad, the capital of Nangarhar province, on the border with Pakistan, has a Taliban presence and is also a stronghold of the Islamic State group.

In September 2017 IS claimed a suicide bombing on a cricket match in Kabul which left three dead and five injured.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani on Saturday condemned the attack in Jalalabad.

A victim is helped by relatives at a hospital after eight people were killed and 45 wounded in a series of explosions targeting a cricket match in the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad. **PHOTO: AFP**

"The terrorists did not stop killing our people even during the holy month of Ramadan ... by carrying out a terrorist attack in a populated sport stadium, once again they have proved that they are not bound to any creed or religion, and they are the enemy of humanity," a statement from his office said.

Cricket in Afghanistan struggled under the hardline Islamist Taliban regime in the late 1990s, which viewed sports as a distraction from religious duties.

But its popularity has surged in the years since the US invasion, a dizzying rise which saw Afghanistan become part of the elite group of Test nations last year.—AFP ■

Israel army disputes Hamas 'fake news' on tear gas baby

JERUSALEM—The Israeli army on Friday disputed Palestinian accounts that a baby had died of tear gas inhalation during protests on the Gaza border.

"This is another instance of Hamas fake news," said Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Conricus, an army spokesman, referring to the Palestinian Islamist movement which runs the Gaza Strip.

"We got reports... from a doctor that said that the baby had a preexisting heart condition and that was most likely the cause of death," he told AFP, without naming the physician or explaining how the information was obtained.

"We don't have any additional evidence, the body of that poor baby is in Gaza... There is no way of finding out for sure," Conricus said.

The Hamas health ministry in Gaza reiterated on Friday that eight-month-old Leila al-Ghandour died after inhaling tear gas along the Israeli border on Monday as protests escalated into the deaths of 60 Palestinians, almost all killed by army gunfire.

"Did she suffer from another illness? We are waiting for the medical examiner to complete his report which could come on Sunday," said its spokesman, Ashraf al-Qudra.

The baby's family has blamed the Israeli army for her death, while explaining that Leila had been at the scene of the border protests because of a misunderstanding between the child's teenage mother and a brother.

A spokesman for the justice ministry in Gaza City said an investigation was being carried out into the death of Leila, who was buried on Tuesday, as was customary for all deaths.

In Geneva on Friday, the UN Human Rights Council voted to send a team of international war crimes investigators to probe the deadly shootings of Gaza protesters by Israeli forces.

Israel has justified its actions, arguing the measures were necessary to stop mass infiltrations from the blockaded Palestinian enclave.—AFP ■

Putin says Russia rightly among global arms market leaders

Russian President Vladimir Putin . **PHOTO: TASS**

MOSCOW— Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated all the participants in the festive gathering devoted to the 65th anniversary of creating the system of state governance of Russia's military and technical cooperation with foreign countries, according to the telegram posted on the Kremlin's website on Friday.

As the Russian leader stressed, Russia is rightly one of the global arms market leaders.

"Today Russia is rightly among the leaders on the global arms market. Our companies are successfully building up their order book and expanding the geography of deliveries," Putin said.

As the Russian leader noted, over the past years, the system of state governance of military and technical cooperation has proven its efficiency and "has become a key instrument of Russian foreign policy" and national security provision and "a significant factor of developing science-intensive sectors of the domestic economy."

"The effective sale of military products is largely crucial for replenishing the federal budget, modernizing the defense and industrial sector and, therefore, crucial for the stable development of enterprises and whole cities, the well-being of dozens of thousands of people," the head of the Russian state said, noting that the foundation of the defense sector's potential had been laid by many scientists, designers, engineers, organizers and specialists.—Tass ■

Cuba mourns after 107 killed in airliner crash

HAVANA— Cuba begins two days of national mourning on Saturday for victims of the crash of a state airways plane that killed all but three of its 110 passengers and crew.

President Miguel Diaz-Canel said an investigation was under way into Friday's crash of the nearly 40-year-old Boeing 737, leased to the national carrier Cubana de Aviacion by a Mexican company.

Three women pulled alive from the mangled wreckage are the only known survivors.

The Boeing crashed shortly after taking off from Jose Marti airport, coming down in a field near the airport and sending a thick column of acrid smoke into the air. The mourning period is to last from 6:00 am (1000 GMT) on Saturday to midnight on Sunday, the Communist Party leader and former president Raul Castro said. Flags are to be flown at half-mast throughout the country.

A Cubana de Aviacion aircraft crashed after taking off from Havana's Jose Marti airport. **PHOTO: AFP**

The plane was on an internal flight from Havana to the eastern city of Holguin. Most of the passengers were Cuban, with five foreigners, including two Argentines, among them.

The plane — carrying 104 passengers — was almost completely destroyed in the crash and subsequent fire. Firefighters raced to the scene put out the blaze along with a fleet of ambulances to assist any survivors.

What appeared to be one of the wings of the plane was wedged among scorched tree trunks, but the main fuselage was almost entirely destroyed.

Built in 1979, the plane was leased from a small Mexican company, Global Air, also known as Aerolineas Damoj. Mexico said it was sending two civil aviation specialists to help in the investigation. The six crew members were Mexican nationals.

A press conference is scheduled for 1900 GMT.

The 58-year-old Diaz-Canel, who succeeded Castro as the communist island's leader only last month, appeared aghast as he surveyed the recovery efforts, wearing a short-sleeved green shirt and surrounded by officials. Castro sent condolences to families of the victims of the "catastrophic accident," a statement read, as Russian President Vladimir Putin and a string of Latin American leaders also expressed sympathy.—AFP ■

Ten dead in Texas school shooting, student arrested

SANTA FE (United States) — Ten people, mostly students, were killed when a teenage classmate armed with a shotgun and a revolver opened fire in a Texas high school on Friday, the latest deadly school shooting to hit the United States.

The gunman, arrested on murder charges, was identified as Dimitrios Pagourtzis, a 17-year-old junior at Santa Fe High School. He is being held on capital murder charges, meaning he could face the death penalty.

Governor Greg Abbott said 10 people died and another 10 were wounded in "one of the most heinous attacks that we've ever seen in the history of Texas schools."

"Nothing can prepare a parent for the loss of a child," Abbott told reporters in Santa Fe, located about 30 miles (50 kilometres) southeast of Houston.

Abbott said the gunman apparently carried out the attack with a shotgun and a .38 revolver that were legally owned by his father.

At dusk, hundreds of people turned out for a candlelight vigil as the community sought to cope with the tragedy. People prayed and sang "Amazing Grace," tears streaming down some faces.

Abbott said searches were being conducted at two residences and "explosive devices" had been found, including a Molotov cocktail. He said journal entries by the gunman suggested he wanted to commit suicide but "he gave himself up."

Abbott said the suspect had no criminal history, although he did post a picture on his Facebook page of a T-shirt with the words "Born to Kill" on it.

Law enforcement authorities were questioning two "people of interest," the governor said. One may have "certain information," he said, and the other had some "suspicious reactions."

Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said most victims were students.

Area hospitals said two victims were in critical condition. One of the wounded was a police officer, John Barnes, who engaged the gunman and was shot in the elbow, officials said.—AFP ■

Emergency crews gather in the parking lot of Santa Fe High School, where at least eight people were killed by a heavily armed student. **PHOTO: AFP**

Israel condemns 'hypocrisy' of UN rights council on Gaza

JERUSALEM — Israel condemned the "hypocrisy and absurdity" of the UN Human Rights Council after it voted on Friday to send war crimes investigators to probe the shootings of Gaza protesters by Israeli forces. "Israel totally rejects the resolution of the UN Human Rights Council, that once again has proven itself to be a body made up of a built-in anti-Israeli majority, guided by hypocrisy and absurdity," the Israeli foreign ministry said in a statement. In Geneva, 29 of the council's 47 members voted for a resolution calling on the body to "urgently dispatch an independent, international commission of inquiry" — its highest-level of investigation.

Only two members, the United States and Australia, voted against the resolution, while 29 voted in favour and 14 abstained, including Britain, Switzerland and Germany. The resolution came after Israeli forces killed 60 Palestinians during protests on the Gaza border on Monday as the US relocated its embassy from Tel Aviv to the disputed city of Jerusalem. In its statement, the Israeli foreign ministry said the results of the inquiry were a "foregone conclusion inherent in the wording of the resolution". "It is clear to all that the purpose of the commission is not to arrive at the truth, but rather to impair Israel's right to self-defence, and to demonise the Jewish state," it added.—AFP ■

Israel's ambassador Aviva Raz Shechter is present during a special session of the United Nations Human Rights Council to discuss "the deteriorating human rights situation" in the Palestinian Territories. **PHOTO: AFP**

Malaysia's Najib summoned to anti-corruption agency: report

KUALA LUMPUR — Scandal-tainted former Malaysian leader Najib Razak has been summoned to appear before the country's anti-corruption authorities next week as part of an anti-graft investigations, state media has reported.

Najib, 64, unexpectedly lost a 9 May election to a political coalition that had focused on allegations that he oversaw the looting of billions of dollars from sovereign wealth fund 1MDB in a vast conspiracy of fraud and money-laundering stretching around the world. Najib was already barred from leaving Malaysia in the wake of the election, and police seized large amounts of cash, jewels and luxury items from his home and other sites last week.

State-run Bernama news agency said Najib had been ordered to appear before the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) next Tuesday.

"So far, he is asked to turn up next Tuesday to enable us to record his statement relating to SRC International," Bernama quoted an MACC source as saying in the report issued late Friday.

SRC International was a subsidiary of 1MDB before being placed directly under the finance ministry in 2012. Najib was both prime minister and finance minister at the time.

Hundreds of millions of dollars linked to SRC are alleged to have gone missing, in just one component of the wide-ranging 1MDB affair.

As reports proliferated in recent years that billions were looted from 1MDB by Najib, his family and cronies, his government shut down domestic inquiries into the scandal, arrested critics calling for a full investigations and muzzled news organisations reporting on the affair.—AFP ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SIMA PERFECT VOY. NO. (039N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SIMA PERFECT VOY. NO. (039N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V AREZOO VOY. NO. (ISC 1086E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V AREZOO VOY. NO. (ISC 1086E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. (1102W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V XETHA BHUM VOY. NO. (1102W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-5-2018 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.

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MAERSK WARSAW VOY. NO. (1809-10)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MAERSK WARSAW VOY. NO. (1809-10) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

Race for gold reaches climax at politically charged Cannes

PARIS — A jury led by Cate Blanchett will crown the winner of the coveted Palme d'Or for best film at Cannes Saturday, after a politically charged festival rocked by controversy and the #MeToo movement.

Movies by Spike Lee, South Korea's Lee Chang-dong, Italian Matteo Garrone and Nadine Labaki of Lebanon — one of three female directors among the 21 in contention — drew critical acclaim ahead of the famously unpredictable awards night.

But more than the prize winners, the 71st Cannes festival may linger more for its off-screen moments in the first edition since the Harvey Weinstein sexual assault scandal broke.

Hollywood stars including Blanchett, Kristen Stewart, Helen Mirren and Salma Hayek and directors Ava DuVernay and Patty Jenkins joined a red-carpet protest to demand equal opportunity and a "safe workplace".

Two days later, festival organisers signed a pledge to encourage more diversity in its selection by 2020, saying they hoped it would set an industry standard.

Despite being one of the most sought-after tickets, the premiere of Danish bad boy Lars von Trier's slasher flick "The House That Jack Built" saw audience members walk out in droves, as reviewers slammed what they called a misogynistic orgy of violence.

Both its female stars, Uma Thurman and Riley Keough, were notably absent from the red carpet, where Stewart on another night staged a kind of protest of her own by kicking her high heels and climbing the vaunted Cannes stairs barefoot.

Cate Blanchett heads the Cannes jury. **PHOTO: AFP**

Even hardened critics shed tears for "Whitney", an explosive new British documentary on the tragic life of superstar Whitney Houston which alleges she was sexually abused as a child.

Anti-Trump tirade

The glamour-drenched festival spotlighted dissident directors including Jafar Panahi of Iran and Russia's Kirill Serebrennikov, who were barred by their governments from attending.

Their films drew lengthy standing ovations, while a single seat marked with their names remained empty.

Polish Oscar winner Pawel Pawlikowski, who won the foreign-language movie Oscar for "Ida" in 2015, caused a scandal at home when he told AFP at the festival that the film had been "blacklisted" by the nationalist government. Warsaw denied the claim.

Critics swooned over Pawlikowski's latest, the slow-burn period love story "Cold War".

Political realities dominated the Cannes race, as Lebaki won hearts with "Capernaum" set among the poorest of the poor in Beirut and featuring a devastating performance by a 13-year-old Syrian refugee boy.

"While this is unquestionably an issue film, it tackles its subject with intelligence and heart," industry bible Variety said.

Spike Lee scored a hit with "BlacKkKlansman", the stranger-than-fiction story of an African-American police officer who manages to infiltrate the highest levels of the Ku Klux Klan.

The film, which several critics called a return to form for the "Do the Right Thing" director, explicitly links the tale set in the 1970s with white nationalism in the Trump era. Lee attacked the US president with an expletive-filled tirade at his press conference that quickly went viral on social media.

Critics fawned over Asian masters like Lee Chang-dong who scored a record 3.8 out of 4 stars in a Screen magazine poll for "Burning", about a young man's mounting rage over thwarted ambitions set near the North Korean border.

Hirokazu Kore-eda of Japan moved audiences with "Shoplifters", about a family of small-time crooks who take in a child they find on the street. Film website IndieWire called it "heart-wrenching".

'Less America-centric'

Garrone, best known for mafia tableau "Gomorrah", later delighted them with "Dogman" about a soft-spoken Italian dog groomer who stands up to a local heavy. In 2017, the top prize went to Ruben Ostlund's "The Square," an art world send-up that went on to bag an Oscar nomination. There were less lavish parties this year and fewer A-list stars on the Croisette seaside boulevard.

However industry insiders dismissed talk of a festival in crisis, saying the sprawling annual event was returning to its roots in the face of showbiz "disruption".

US magazine Vanity Fair called 2018 a "pivot year", as movie studios plump for social media to promote their blockbusters instead of the splashy French Riviera promotions of old.

"We've found a festival with a renewed spirit," Vanity Fair said.

"In making the festival a little less America-centric than it has been lately, Cannes has re-asserted itself as the premier destination for daring, provocative international cinema."

Variety noted that Cannes remained a "major hub" for the film rights trade and said "many projects for sale are embracing inclusiveness, with a raft of sales for female filmmakers".

Spike Lee told AFP that for directors doing provocative work, "Cannes is the greatest film festival in the world, there is no argument. This is the Mecca, this is the greatest stage."—AFP ■

Winfrey queen of the celebs at Britain's royal wedding

WINDSOR (United Kingdom) — Oprah Winfrey and Idris Elba were among the celebrities in the pews at St George's Chapel for the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle on Saturday.

Winfrey, the US talk show queen, was seen strolling through the grounds of Windsor Castle ahead of the service, as was Elba, the British actor who is a star on both sides of the Atlantic for his roles in "The Wire" and "Luther".

Celebrities from Britain and North America took their places among the 600 guests the chapel, including US former actress Markle's co-stars in the TV legal drama series "Suits".

Harry's ex-girlfriends Chelsy Davy and Cressida Bonas were seen going in.

Harry struggled to find lasting love, with the pair finding the scrutiny and weight of expectation all too much.

The three siblings of Harry's mother Diana, princess of Wales, have been invited.

Earl Charles Spencer, who spoke memorably at Diana's funeral on behalf of his family, was seen entering the church. His sister Jane Fellowes was to read from the Song of Solomon during the service.

Singer James Blunt, famous for his hit "You're Beautiful" and like Harry an army veteran, took his place in the Gothic chapel.

Blunt has performed at the Invictus Games, an international competition for military veterans set up by Harry. Nicholas Soames, a grandson of wartime prime minister Winston Churchill and a close friend of Harry's father Prince Charles, was also among the guests.

Following the service, Queen Elizabeth II was to host a lunch in the castle's St George's Hall for the 600 guests.

Charles, the heir to the throne, will be hosting 200 family and close friends from among the guests at an evening reception at Frogmore House.

Politicians have been left off the guest list, meaning there was no invite for US President Donald Trump or British Prime Minister Theresa May.—AFP ■

US presenter Oprah Winfrey arrives for the wedding ceremony of Britain's Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex and US actress Meghan Markle at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, in Windsor, on 19 May, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

Four Korean artists show works in Yangon

FOUR Korean artists will exhibit their works at the Yangon Gallery from 19 to 23 May under a cultural exchange programme.

The quartet of Korean artists brought their creations on canvas that reflect their creativity and unconstrained thought, event organisers said..

Portraits of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her father General Aung San by Park Jin Woo have attracted the attention of visitors as they reflect the Korean artist's thoughts on the emotions of Myanmar's people.

"The wrinkles on her neck show her struggle for democracy in Myanmar," said Park Jin Woo, showing his hyper-realistic portrait of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Several cherry blossoms portrayed in the daytime and at night in May in Korea are also being exhibited under the title "Things Beautiful in May." The works are by Chong Eun Mi, an award-winning artist from South Korea. This is the first time her works have been exhibited in Myanmar. It is also the first time the works of Kwon Yong Sil, who paints scenes of nature on canvas, has shown her paintings in Myanmar. "When expressing these on to a canvas, rather than reproducing it realistically, I follow the stream of my consciousness and the time flow to restructure puzzles of nature to form a different level of nature," said Kwon Young Sil.

Park Jin Woo.

> Under the exchange program, a group of Myanmar artists will conduct a group show in South Korea in December.

Nam Yeo Joo, a female artist, has shown her creation of bowls on canvas with flowing water on them. "I reflected myself as a bowl and would like to express the flowing water harmonised with an image of nature," she said. —GNLM ■

Nam Yeo Joo.

Artist Chong Eun Mi.

Artist Kwon Yong Sil.

Harry, Meghan will be Duke and Duchess of Sussex

It is traditional to give royal sons titles reflecting the three historic realms – England, Scotland and Ireland – that made up the United Kingdom. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON — Prince Harry and his bride Meghan Markle will be known as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex after their wedding on Saturday, Buckingham Palace announced just hours before the ceremony.

"The Queen has today been pleased to confer a dukedom on Prince Henry of Wales.

His titles will be Duke of Sussex, Earl of Dumbarton and Baron Kilkeel," it said in a statement.

"Prince Harry thus becomes His Royal Highness The Duke of Sussex, and Ms. Meghan Markle on marriage will become Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Sussex."

A dukedom is the highest rank in the British peerage.

It is traditional to give royal sons titles reflecting the three historic realms — England, Scotland and Ireland — that made up the United Kingdom.

Hours before his wedding in 2011, Prince William, Harry's brother and best man, became the Duke of Cambridge, Earl of Strathearn and Baron Carrickfergus. Sussex is a historic county on the southeast English coast, with a population of around 1.6 million.

The name derives from the South Saxons. Its main city is the hip seaside resort city of Brighton.

It was the scene of the Battle of Hastings and the 1066 Norman invasion of England that brought William the Conqueror to the throne.

A landscape of rolling South Downs chalk hills and seaside towns, its main gateway to the world is London Gatwick Airport.

Dumbarton is on the north bank of the River Clyde in Scotland and Kilkeel is a small fishing town in Northern Ireland's County Down.

When in Scotland, the couple will be referred to as the Earl and Countess of Dumbarton.

There have been earls of Sussex since 1141, and it became a dukedom in 1801, when prince Augustus Frederick, the sixth son of king George III, was given the title.

Queen Victoria's third son prince Arthur was made earl of Sussex in 1874 but the title became extinct upon the death of his grandson in 1943. —AFP ■

Zwekapin trounces Hantharwady in MNL match

ZWEKAPIN United played to a 3-1 win over Hantharwady United in a Week-12 match of MPT Myanmar National League 2018 yesterday at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

The battle was a good one, with back-and-forth efforts used by the young Myanmar players.

The opening goal for Zwekapin United came at the 39-minute mark when Than Htet Aung scored.

The goal forced Hantharwady to play hard for th equalizer with open attacks.

Instead, Zwekapin scored their second goal two minutes later with a brilliant shot from a new comer of the team, Zun Moe Aung.

Hanthawady never gave up and were rewarded when striker Joseph scored a consolation goal at the 44-minute mark.

The first half ended with a score 2-1.

In the 2nd half, Hantharwady was better and the play was even, with both teams establishing good positions.

The win was ensured for Zwekapin with a score by substitute player Yan Kyaw Htwe at the 88-minute mark.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Zwekapin(yellow) and Hantharwady(red) vie for the ball in yesterday's MNL match at Thwunna Stadium in Yangon. **PHOTO: KO ZAY (MFF)**

Myanmar's VUC FC in Group A of AFC Futsal Club Championship

MYANMAR'S Victoria University College (VUC) FC has been placed in Group A of the AFC Futsal Club Championship 2018 after the official Championship's Final Draw made recently in Jakarta, Indonesia.

There are altogether 16 teams in 4 groups. Group A includes Myanmar's VUC FC, together with Indonesia's Vamos FC, three-time champions Nagoya Oceans FC of Japan, and Dalian Yuan Dynasty FC from the People's Republic of China.

Group B is comprised of Vietnamese champions Thai Son Nam FC, Al Dhafra from the United Arab Emirates, Iraq's Nafit Al Wasat and Jeonju MAG FC from the Republic of Korea, who is making their first appearance in the tournament.

In Group C, title holders and two-time champions Chonburi Bluewave of Thailand, Al Sailiya from Qatar, Kyrgyz Republic's FC Erem and Vic Vipers of Australia. In Group Da re Mes Sungun Varzaghan from the Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon's Bank of Beirut, AGMK FC of Uzbekistan and tournament debutants FC Sipar from Tajikistan.

The tournament, in which 32 matches will be played, will be held from 1-12 August in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. —Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Chun leads rain-hit Kingsmill Championship by one shot

WASHINGTON — Chun In-gee fired a five-under 66 to take the clubhouse lead in the second round of the USLPGA Kingsmill Championship which was disrupted by storms on Friday.

South Korea's Chun finished with a 11-under par total of 131 for a one-shot lead over Japan's Nasa Hataoka and Austin Ernst of the US who shot 66 and 65 respectively on the River Course in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Players had to endure two rain delays before play was suspended in the evening with about 60 golfers still on the course trying to finish their rounds.

The second round will resume early Saturday morning with the third round beginning a couple of hours later.

Chun, who is ranked 15th in the world, took advantage of the soft playing conditions to shoot a half dozen birdies. Her first bogey of the tournament came on the par-four fourth hole.

"I felt good. I could see the putting lines very well today, so I made a good score," Chun said.

Chun said she spent the morning rain delay working on her health and fitness.

"When I came here the weather was not good so we got a one hour delay. So I did treatment this morning before the start," she said.

Ernst shot one of the best rounds of the day and her lowest round of the season.

"It was a lot of fun. I should do this more often," said Ernst. "My game has felt really good all year, it´s really just been a matter of cleaning a few things up." She said you can't afford to make mistakes with your irons on this course.

"You need to be a good ball-striker, you need to drive the ball well (and) good iron shots are a premium out here," she said. "Whatever it is about the place, I really like it."

Thailand's Ariya Jutanugarn shot a four-under 67 and was tied for fourth with Angel Yin (66) at nine-under, two shots adrift of Chun.—AFP ■

Nadal, Djokovic to meet for 51st time in Rome

ROME — Novak Djokovic set up an Italian Open semi-final blockbuster against old rival Rafael Nadal after both former world number one players battled back in thrilling last-eight clashes on Friday.

The Serb fought back against Kei Nishikori to earn a 2-6, 6-1, 6-3 win while top seed Nadal continued his clay court domination with a 4-6, 6-1, 6-2 defeat of Italy's Fabio Fognini.

On a dramatic and exhausting day in the Italian capital, there were also quarter-final wins for three-time winner Maria Sharapova and defending men's champion Alexander Zverev.

Djokovic, seeded 11th after his elbow injury problems, beat Japan's top player for the 12th time in succession.

"It was a fantastic match, we went toe-to-toe all the way to last shot. He started, he was flawless from both ends," said Djokovic who will face Nadal for the 51st time, holding a narrow 26-24 advantage.

Nadal beat Djokovic in their last meeting in May in 2017 in a Madrid semi-final and the Serb will be out for revenge after winning seven in a row prior to that.

"We will see tomorrow. I've not played so many matches in the last six months," said Djokovic whose last semi-final spot was in Eastbourne on the eve of Wimbledon in 2017.

"Physically, I'm OK. I just need some rest now and then go out and give it everything I've got."—AFP ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

Divine night with the Full Moon

A.W Khin Myat Phone
Grade - 10(A), B.E.H.S (4), Botahtaung.

FINALLY, it is going to be a full moon night. I believe it will be so stunning. As we all know, the moon is the queen of the night and the stars all around her are her best ladies-in-waitings. There are some people who have already faced with full moon nights while some have never experienced them yet.

Moon, otherwise, is also the satellite of our earth. A beautiful night is not complete without the moon and the stars in the dark sky. This kind of night is like a fantasy for those who are dreamers and who love to imagine. The mellifluous song of the night breeze wonders around our environment. Going and coming here and there. For little babies, it can even become a lullaby saying, "Go to sleep, go to sleep my dear!" or "Lu, lu, lu I see the moon, the moon sees me. "Yes, a very pleasant lullaby after all. There are as well many songs about the moon such as "The Moon Represents My Heart" by Teresa Teng and "Moon River" by Andy Williams. These songs become so famous because of the true love of the composers and the singers on the moon.

No matter how high our buildings can be, we can still feel the zephyr of the night. It can make us feel bright. Right!If you imagine a full moon night in your eyes while closing them, you will start to know the taste of the moonlight on your skin and the soft kiss of the moon on your cheeks.

In the countryside where large lakes can be found, a full moon night is dreamier than ever. We can see moonglade and sometimes even a moonbow, which is formed by the refraction and the reflection of the light from the moon. The moon is so beautiful that the blue ocean holds up the mirror every, every night. I want to advice that instead of being someone like the sun to lighten up someone's life, why not become someone like the moon to brighten in the darkest hours? You and I, everybody should consider it. At the full moon night, the villagers look up the sky and compose such happy songs and tell the legends of the moon. The advantage of staying in the countryside is that we can feel the full moon nights together with our beloved families, unlike in the city. The kids there can happily play around under the full moon's ray of love.

There are thousands of stars around the moon. But have you ever wondered when the brightest stars are produced? Certainly, the darkest nights when the full moon shines brightly produce the brightest stars.

The full moon nights are the time when the selenophiles(people who love the moon) have their party in the ocean of the fireflies under the sky full of stars. There's a saying-" The moon sees your soul ", which means the moon knows what is inside of you. How you are feeling and how you have determined yourself to kill the world. There are so many charming sights to see during the full moon nights that I can't describe all of them.

The full moon nights are also the time when I look up to the night sky where the fully-sized moon is smiling sweetly down on me. At the same time, I really believe that somebody at somewhere else is staring to the moon as well. Just like the way I am doing. Sometimes I feel so annoying due to the everyday life that I want to escape to the place where the full moon kisses the earth.

We should never underestimate the healing power of the full moon. She waters the fire in our hearts and she wipes the tears in our eyes. Some couples their times watching the clouds as they dance around the full moon and they tell the story about how the sun loved the moon so much that he died every night to let her breathe.

However, no matter what our differences are, we all look at the same moon. The moon, she always comes to say good night to us even though everyone ignores her kindness by sleeping deeply. But we still cannot blame it on ourselves. All in all, the full moon night is the night to harvest the intentions and wishes of the past moon. So, we will all harvest our intentions while looking forward for the next new moon.

As we all are living on the earth, still, we have to hug and sleep soundly under the warmth of the moon.

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

GET YOUR CITY HERO KIT NOW!

City Hero Kit provided by **City Mart Holding Co,. Ltd** is available free of charge at **The Global New Light of Myanmar** for those who contributed their works to our Next Generation Platform of the Sunday Special Pull-out of **The Global New Light of Myanmar**.

ENGLISH LESSON (2)

By C. T. O

*(ယခု **Lesson (2)** တွင် **am, is , are, was, were** တို့ကို "ရှိခြင်းပြ" ကြိယာအဖြစ် သုံးပုံနှင့် "ကူညီသောကြိယာ" အဖြစ်သုံးပုံကို တင်ပြပါမည်)*

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK

(ခ) အခြားကြိယာများဖြင့် တည်ဆောက်ထားသော စာကြောင်းများနှင့်မတူသည်ကို အထူးသတိပြုရန် လိုသည်။ ကြိယာများသည် လှုပ်ရှားမှု (action) ကိုပြသည်။ ထို့ကြောင့် အချို့သော ကြိယာများကို 'သွား' ဟူသော ကြိယာထောက်ဖြင့် တွဲသုံးလေ့ရှိသည်။ နာမဝိသေသနများ (adj) ကို ကြိယာအဖြစ်သုံးထားသော စာကြောင်းများမှာမူ 'အခြေအနေ'ကို ပြသည်။ 'နေသည်' ဟု အဓိပ္ပာယ်ရသည်။

ဥပမာ – The door is open.
တံခါးပွင့်နေသည်။

နှိုင်းယှဉ်လေ့လာပါ။

(a) He died (verb)
သူကွယ်လွန်သွားခဲ့သည်။
He was dead. (adj)
သဘောဆုံးသွားခဲ့သည်။
ဤနေရာတွင် 'နေ' မှာ She is signing. သူမ သီချင်းဆို 'နေ'သည် ဟူသော စာကြောင်းတွင်ပါသော 'နေ' နှင့် မတူပါ။ သူမ သီချင်းဆိုနေသည် ဟူသော စာကြောင်းပါ 'နေ'မှာ ယခုလောလောဆယ်ဖြစ်ပျက်လျှက်ရှိသည်ကို ပြလို၍ သုံးခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။
လှုပ်ရှားမှုပြသည်။
ဤနာမဝိသေသနနှင့်တွဲသော 'နေ'မှာ ရှိရင်းစွဲအခြေအနေကို ပြသည်။

(b) The door opened. (verb)
တံခါးပွင့်သွားသည်။
The door was open. (adj)
တံခါးပွင့်နေသည်။
The window opened when I went in.
ကျွန်တော်ဝင်သွားသောအခါ ပြတင်းပေါက်ပွင့်သွားသည်။
The window was open when I went in.
ကျွန်တော်ဝင်သွားသောအခါ ပြတင်းပေါက်ပွင့်နေသည်။
ထို့ကြောင့် ယင်းတို့ကွဲပြားပုံကို သေသေချာချာနားလည်ရန် အထူးလိုအပ်သည်။
နာမဝိသေသန (adj) များကို ကူညီသော ကြိယာများဖြစ်သည့် am, is, are, was, were တို့ဖြင့် တွဲဖက်၍ ကြိယာအဖြစ်သုံးပုံကို ဆက်လက်လေ့လာပါ။

1. Today is hot. Ko Ko is tall. Ma Ma is lazy.
These girls are very bright.
(ဉာဏ်ကောင်းသော)
We are free today.
I am happpy. She is sad. They are proud. His father is religious. Her mother is talkative. (စကားများသော)

2. Honey is sweet. Snow is white. The earth is round.
ပျားရည်သည် ချိုသည်၊ နှင်းသည် ဖြူသည်။ ကမ္ဘာသည် လုံးဝိုင်းသည်။
Children are inquisitive.
ကလေးများသည် စူးစမ်းတတ်သည်။
Time is precious.
အချိန်သည် အဖိုးတန်သည်။
War are destructive. Sea water is salty.
စစ်ပွဲများသည် ဖျက်ဆီးတတ်သည်၊ ပင်လယ်ရေသည် ငန်သည်။

3. Books are expensive nowadays.
The flowers in this garden are lovely.
Her hair is black. My car is small.

၂-လုံးတွဲပုံ

4. They are simple and honest.
သူတို့သည် အနေအထိုင်တွင်ရိုးရှင်းဖြောင့်မတ်သည်။
The rooms are large and airy.
အခန်းများသည် ကျယ်ဝန်လေရသည်။
He is strong and healthy.
She is short and fat.

သုံးလုံးတွဲပုံ

5. He is tall, dark and handsome.
သူသည်အရပ်ရှည်၍ အသားညိုကာ ရုပ်ချောသည်။
The town is crowded, noisy and dirty.
ဤမြို့သည် လူစည်ကားရှ ဆူညံကာညစ်ပတ်သည်။
They are dutiful, intelligent and hardworking.
သူတို့သည် တာဝန်ကျေပွန်၍ဉာဏ်ကောင်းကာ ကြိုးစားကြသည်။
(အခြားကာလများအဖြစ် သုံးပုံနောက်ပိုင်းတွင် တင်ပြပါမည်။)

မူရင်း Adjectives များဖြစ်သော good, bad, poor, tall, happy စသည်တို့အပြင် အခြားစကားလုံးများမှလာသော ဗိန္ဒုခအင်လန္တ များလည်းရှိသေးသည်။ ယင်းတို့ကို စနစ်တကျ လေ့လာရန် အောက်တွင်ပေးထားပါသည်။ (အချို့ကိုသာ ပေးထားခြင်းဖြစ်၍ မိမိဘာသာလေ့လာရန်လိုပါသည်။)

(a) အချို့သော စကားလုံးများကို နောက်မှ (Y) ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် Adjectives များရရှိသည်။

Sun –sunny	နေသာသော
watery	ရေများသော
cloudy	တိမ်ထူထပ်သော
rainy	မိုးရွာသော
flowery	ပန်းပေါသော၊ ပန်းကဲ့သို့လှပသော
hairy	အမွေးအမှင်ထူထပ်သော
sandy	သဲထူထပ်သော
hungry (hunger)	ဆာလောင်သော
angry (anger)	စိတ်ဆိုးသော
thirsty	ရေငတ်သော
greedy	လောဘကြီးသော
sleepy	အိပ်ချင်သော
funny	ရယ်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသော

(b) အချို့သော စကားလုံးများကို ful ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် နာမဝိသေသန (Adjectives) များရရှိသည်။

(Wonderful- full of wonder)

wonder – wonderful	အံ့သြဖွယ်ကောင်းသော၊
powerful	တန်ခိုးကြီးသော၊ အင်အားကြီးသော
beautiful (beauty)	လှပသော
plentiful	များသော
helpful	ကူညီတတ်သော
hopeful	မျှော်လင့်သော
careful	ဂရုစိုက်သော
useful	အသုံးဝင်သော
harmful	ဘေးဥပဒ်ဖြစ်စေသော
boastful	ဝါကြွားတတ်သော
colourful	အရောင်စုံသော
dutiful	တာဝန်ကျေပွန်သော
youthful	ပျိုမျစ်သော
successful	အောင်မြင်သော

(c) အချို့သော စကားလုံးများကို less ကပ်ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် နာမဝိသေသနများရရှိသည်။

careless	ဂရုမစိုက်သော
hopeless	မျှော်လင့်ချက်မရှိသော
colourless	ရောင်အဆင်းကင်းမဲ့သော
helpless	အကူအညီကင်းမဲ့သော
homeless	အိုးမဲ့အိမ်မဲ့ဖြစ်သော
useless	အသုံးမဝင်သော
fearless	ကြောက်ရွံ့ခြင်းကင်းသော
loveless	အချစ်ကင်းမဲ့သော
lifeless	အသက်မရှိသော
sleepless	အိပ်မပျော်သော

(d) အချို့သော စကားလုံးများကို ly ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် နာမဝိသေသနများ ရရှိသည်။

love-lovely	ချစ်စဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
friendly	ချစ်ကြည်သော၊ ဖော်ရွေသော
daily	နေ့စဉ် (ဖြစ်သော)
weekly	အပတ်စဉ်
manly	ယောကျ်ားပီသသော
womanly	မိန်းမပီသသော
lively	သက်ဝင်လှုပ်ရှားသော
deadly	သေစေတတ်သော
lonely	အထီးကျန်သော၊ အဖော်မဲ့သော

(e) အချို့သော စကားလုံးများကို ive ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် နာမဝိသေသနများ (Adjectives) ရရှိသည်။

prevent- preventive	တားမြစ်သော၊ တားဆီးသော
protective	ကာကွယ်သော
collective	စုပေါင်းသော
inventive	တီထွင်တတ်သော
productive	ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်သော၊ ပေါက်ပွားလွယ်သော
destructive	ဖျက်စီးတတ်သော
constructive	တည်ဆောက်သော၊ အပြုသဘောဖြစ်သော
active	ဖျတ်လတ်သော၊ တက်ကြွသော
educative	ပညာပေးသော
investigative	စုံစမ်းစစ်ဆေးသော
extensive	ကျယ်ပြန့်သော
expensive (expense)	စရိုးကြီးသော
expansive	ပြန့်ကားတတ်သော

(f) အချို့သော စကားလုံးများကို al ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် နာမဝိသေသနများ (adjectives) ရရှိသည်။ "နှင့်ဆိုင်သော" ဟု အဓိပ္ပါယ်ရသည်။

nature – natural	သဘာဝကျသော၊ သဘာဝနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
national	အမျိုးသားနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
seasonal	ရာသီနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
coastal	ကမ်းရိုးတန်းနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
personal	ကိုယ်ရေးကိုယ်တာ
mental (mind)	စိတ်နှင့်ဆိုင်သော၊ စိတ်ပိုင်းဆိုင်ရာ။
physical	ကာယနှင့်ဆိုင်သော၊ ရုပ်ပိုင်းဆိုင်ရာ။
botanical	ရုက္ခဗေဒနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
zoological	သတ္တဗေဒနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
geological	ဘူမိဗေဒနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
historical	သမိုင်းနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
political	နိုင်ငံရေးနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
archaeological	ရှေးဟောင်းသုတေသနနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
mathematical	သခ်ၤာနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
universal	ထာဝရဖြစ်သော (စကြဝဠာနှင့်ဆိုင်သော)
social	လူမှုရေးနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
educational	ပညာရေးနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
medical	ဆေးနှင့်ဆိုင်သော
medicinal	ဆေးဖက်ဝင်သော

(g) အချို့သော စာလုံးများကို able နောက်မှ ကပ်ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် နာမဝိသေသနများ (Adjectives) အဖြစ်သို့ ပြောင်းနိုင်သည်။ 'နိုင်သော' ဟုအဓိပ္ပါယ်ရသည်။

drink – drinkable	သောက်၍ရနိုင်သော
suitable	သင့်တော်သော
comfortable	သက်သောင့်သက်သာရှိသော
knowable	သိနိုင်သော
profitable	မြတ်စွန်းသော၊ အကျိုးအမြတ်ရှိသော
reasonable	ဆင်ခြင်တုံတရားရှိသော၊ သင့်တော်သော
considerable	အတော်များသော
changeable	ပြောင်းလဲတတ်သော
unbreakable	မချိုးဖျက်နိုင်သော
unforgettable	မမေ့နိုင်သော
reliable	အားထားလောက်သော
usable	သုံး၍ရနိုင်သော

(h) အချို့သော စကားလုံးများကို ous/ ious ထည့်ခြင်းဖြင့် နာမဝိသေသနများ (Adjectives) အဖြစ်သို့ ပြောင်းနိုင်သည်။

fame- famous	ကျော်ကြားသော
mountainous	တောင်ထူထပ်သော
continuous	ဆက်တိုက်ဖြစ်သော၊ အဆက်မပြတ်သော
prosperous	ချမ်းသာကြွယ်ဝသော
joyous (joyful)	ပျော်ရွှင်သော
fibrous	အမျှင်ထူသော
desirous	လိုအင်ဆန္ဒရှိသော
various	အမျိုးမျိုးသော
religious	ဘာသာကိုင်းရှိုင်းသော
victorious	အောင်ပွဲရသော
spacious	နေရာကျယ်ပြန့်သော
furious	ဒေါသဖြစ်သော
dangerous	အန္တရာယ်များသော

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

ဤအင်္ဂလိပ်စာသင်ခန်းစာများသည် ၁၉၈၁-၃၄၆၊ ဗူလိုင်လမှ ၁၉၈၃-၃၄၆၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလအထိ ဂါးဒီးယန်း မဂ္ဂဇင်းတွင် ဖော်ပြခဲ့သော သင်ခန်းစာများဖြစ်ပါသည်။
ကျောင်းသားကျောင်းသူများနှင့် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာကို လေ့လာလိုက်စားသူများ လက်မလွတ်သင့်သော သင်ခန်းစာများဖြစ်ပါသည်။ အပတ်စဉ် တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း အပိုင်းလိုက် ဖော်ပြပေးသွားပါမည်။

CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

WHAT IS MEANT BY CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION?

CITIZENSHIP education can be defined as educating children, from early childhood, to become clear-thinking and enlightened citizens who participate in decisions concerning society. 'Society' is here understood in the special sense of a nation with a circumscribed territory which is recognized as a state.

A knowledge of the nation's institutions, and also an awareness that the rule of law applies to social and human relationships, obviously form part of any citizenship education course. Taken in this sense, citizenship education is based on the distinction between:

- the individual as a subject of ethics and law, entitled to all the rights inherent in the human condition (human rights); and
- the citizen – entitled to the civil and political rights recognized by the national constitution of the country concerned.

All human beings are both individuals and citizens of the society to which they belong. Therefore, human rights and citizen rights are interdependent.

Men, women and children all come into the world as individual human beings. Thanks to the immense historical conquest of human rights, we are equal, in rights and dignity, to all other human beings. When citizenship education has the purpose of 'educating future citizens' it must necessarily address children, young people and adults, who are living beings, having the status of human beings endowed with conscience and reason. It cannot, therefore, exclude consideration of individuals as subjects, each with individual characteristics.

Moreover, human rights include civil and political rights, the latter obviously relating to the rights and obligations of citizens. Thus a comprehensive human rights education takes account of citizenship, and considers that good citizenship is connected with human rights as a whole.

Conversely, citizenship education which trains 'good' citizens, ie. citizens aware of the human and political issues at stake in their society or nation, requires from each citizen ethical and moral qualities. All forms of citizenship education inculcate (or aim at inculcating) respect for others and recognition of the equality of all human beings; and at combating all forms of discrimination (racist, gender-based, religious, etc.) by fostering a spirit of tolerance and peace among human beings.

Thus, when we speak of the purposes to be ascribed to either citizenship education (producing citizens with moral qualities) or human rights education (comprising a knowledge of the social and political rights of all human beings, and their recognition) we inevitably end up with the complementarity between citizenship and human rights.

Depending on the cultural traditions of each education system, we shall have, in some cases, civics education, comprising a knowledge of human rights and their exercise, and in others, human rights education, stressing civil and political rights as the basis of citizenship, and hence the national features assumed by these rights and guaranteed by states.

Bearing in mind this complementarity, citizenship education means not only 'educating citizens' but also 'training children for adulthood and citizenship'.

Citizenship education has, therefore, three main objectives:

- educating people in citizenship and human rights through an understanding of the principles and institutions [which govern a state or nation];
- learning to exercise one's judgement and critical faculty; and
- acquiring a sense of individual and community responsibilities.

These three objectives correspond both to educating the individual as a subject of ethics and law, and to educating citizens. These objectives suggest four major themes for citizenship education:

- The relations between individuals and society: individual and collective freedoms, and rejection of any kind of discrimination.
- The relations between citizens and the government: what is involved in democracy and the organization of the state.
- The relations between the citizen and democratic life.
- The responsibility of the individual and the citizen in the international community.

DEMOCRATIC CULTURE AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

If there is one idea inherent in civics education, because it concerns politics and institutions, it is the idea of democracy.

Comprehensive citizenship education cannot dispense with this concept or with a knowledge of the institutions that enable a country to function democratically.

Rather than confining ourselves to noting and describing institutions (the necessary but not sufficient requirement for civics education), we should explain how the operation of the machinery of state respects government of the people by the people, and makes it accountable to citizens.

However, this way of tackling democracy may seem remote and foreign to the world of school and of children. It is therefore desirable to imbue the whole of school life with a culture of democracy.

Educational practice is of equal value with knowledge when we come to tackle civics education. One of the major flaws in civics instruction has been that it fails to bring democracy to life in schools, and remains at the stage of merely enunciating principles and describing institutions. When the organization of a school does not lead to a democratic mode of operating on which pupils can give their opinions, children and adolescents lose interest in citizenship and see only the mismatch between what adults say and what they do, between knowledge and action, a mismatch which they usually call 'hypocrisy'.

Schools should therefore set up 'governing boards' with representatives of pupils and staff, and other bodies in which pupils express their views and in which decisions are taken in consultation with everyone, both young people and adults. The representation of pupils in these various bodies can and should be achieved by an open election system which has the same qualities of transparency as in any democracy worthy of the name.

If we are to develop a credible civics education, respect for others – pupils and teachers, administrators and minor employees – and non-violence in attitudes and behaviour must be the rule in schools.

Respect for others, and their dignity, in the same way as the self-respect of a free autonomous individual, springs from each individual's personal ethic, the will to 'live together, with and for others in just institutions'.

These qualities, whether described as 'moral' or 'ethical', are required of all human beings and all citizens. They form part of both civic 'virtues' and individual 'virtues'. They enable each individual to live as a 'good' citizen.

In other words, in citizenship education, respect for the 'Other', regarded as one's equal, with his or her individual differences and distinctive physical, intellectual and cultural features, is to be explained and above all experienced in daily life in all schools. Based on these principles of equal dignity and respect for others, citizenship education has the task of combating all forms of negative discrimination and racism, sexism and religious fanaticism.

Thus citizenship education can be regarded as an ethical (or moral) education as well as education in citizenship.

A NEW WAY OF TEACHING CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

The introduction and continuance in schools of a democratic culture forbid dogmatism in any kind of civics education. The methods and approaches chosen are those based on discussion among pupils and between pupils and teachers, and make provision for children and young people to speak and express themselves. Modes of expression may be varied: in addition to oral exchanges, drawings, songs, poems, different kinds of written material are excellent instruments for reflection on citizenship, democracy, justice, freedom and peace.

In a democracy, citizenship education seeks to educate citizens who will be free to make their own judgements and hold their own convictions. Compliance with existing laws should not prevent citizens from seeking and planning better and ever more just laws. Respect for law, which is one of the objectives of civics education, calls not for blind submission to rules and laws already passed but the ability to participate in drawing them up.

One of the practical tasks of citizenship education is therefore to look at the rules governing a school, improve them and reformulate them.

The values transmitted by citizenship education are not dogmatic principles laid down once and for all. A living culture calls for the creation of new values, although they should all be judged by the criterion of respect for others and for human dignity.

Thus, with regard to the laws and values accepted by an entire social group, citizenship education can in no way be a catalogue of set questions and answers. Citizenship education should be the forum which gives rise to and nurtures a genuine culture of discussion. Whatever the problem posed, such as the ongoing development of humanity or the stability of the rule of law, an exchange of ideas, notions, judgements and individual opinions is necessary. Even among young children, dialogue of this kind is possible.

Citizenship education needs also to be taught in ways that bring out the ever-constant link between knowledge and practice. The interaction between concepts and action gradually produces the ability to think in terms of values and to refer to them. Values are universal when they concern human rights: for example, the values of liberty, dignity, solidarity and tolerance. As they are firmly anchored and promoted in different cultures they can also concern a region of the world or even a special country, nation or religion. All should be made the subject of discussion and reflection and be studied in each course of citizenship education.

In other words, citizenship education is based on knowledge, practice and values that constantly interact. To be precise, let us say that awareness of the necessary reference to values gradually gives rise to practices and action which are themselves related to knowledge and skills about human rights and the institutions that regulate life in society. Pupils benefiting in this way from citizenship education learn step by step that citizenship unfolds and develops in a society imbued with values and in the human community as a whole.

CONCLUSION

The problem posed by citizenship education is how to blend together the particular and the universal, the national and the international, the individual and society. The difficulty can be solved by integrating human rights education in this new subject, civics education.

This approach opens up new paths for education for peace, human rights and democracy.

Thus, citizenship education addresses both the individual and the citizen and provides an avenue for each individual citizen to acquire an understanding of the issues of peace in the world, and the challenges of the globalisation of economic, environmental and cultural problems.

Since sustainable development of human beings and the world they live in is linked to the quality of education, the time has come to regard citizenship education as a vital part of any education system and any teaching programme.

Source: Adapted from UNESCO (1998) Citizenship Education for the 21st Century.

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

A trip to the Land of Chin Brethren

By Maung Tha (Archaeology)

Photo: Tin Win

Photo: Phoe Khwar

To Hakha town

Hakha town is 36 miles long from the east to the west and 45 miles from the south to the north with a total acre of 1608 square miles; it borders Gangaw town in the east, Thantlang town in the west, Matupi town in the south and Falam town in the north.

There are several mountains in the town which are higher than 6400 feet; water resources come from raging torrents which flow from the north to the south and among them Zahol, New and Daung creeks are popular and the water channeled into the town for the use of drinking water.

The weather in the Hakha town is extremely cold with highest temperature of 29.4C and the lowest -4 Celsius. There were 131 rainy days during 2016-2017 calendar year with a rainfall of 86.1". The town is covered with evergreen forests where many different kinds of trees are naturally grown including pine trees, oak trees, cherry trees, gooseberries, fig trees, tree rhododendrons and bamboo forests. Although the Hakha town is the capital of Chin State, its economy has lagged behind the rest of other States and Regions due to poor transport and little local produce. Local people mostly cultivate paddy and corn, raise cattle , goats and pigs and keep poultry farming.

For the sake of education for local students there are several educational institutions including the Hakha College, four high schools, six affiliated high schools, middle and monastic schools. For the health purposes of the people , the Hakha General Hospital, Administrative hospitals, four rural health departments and 18 health branches.

To Falam town

The Town is situated on the mountainsides and the roads are very narrow for vehicles and passers-by. The origin of the town has started from the old village of Tashoon. Because of the security reasons during the war, it was moved to the eastside of the town in 1889 where Manipur river flows and settled down in huts and shabby houses in a village which was later named Fa Hlam. Fa means siblings and Hlam is meant as sheltering huts; thus Falam means shelterins for the people of the villagers.

Falam became the capital of Chin State on 27 March, 1967 and the township was composed of one town, six wards and 86 village tracts (179 villages) in 1973. Falam town borders the Kalay town in the east, Thantlang town and Mizoram, India in the west, Hakha town in the south and Tedim town in the north. Falam township is 40 miles long from the east to the west and 25 miles from the south to the north with a total area of 988.90 square miles. The Manipur river winds its way to the east to flow into the Myitha river. As the Falam town is in a tropical region, the temperature runs between 32c and 2c. There were 96 rainy days in the year 2016 with a total rainfall of 64.72".

Pine trees, tree rhododendrons, kanyin trees, sal trees, cherry-trees are naturally grown in the town and wild animals such as boars, mountain goats, and bears are found grazing on the lush grass in the field. The 19.11% of the town is covered with evergreen forests of which 86552 acres of forest reserve and 29485 acres of nature reserve are separated. The 52848 people of the entire population of 53179 in the town are Chin nationals who are of the Christian faith. The Rih Lake, a heart-shaped and world-famous, attracts both domestic and foreign tourists.

To Thantlang town

The Thantlang town was included in Hakha District at the time of British rule and was administered by a Sawbwa; after the independence, it was ruled by a Circle Headman. In 1972, 38 village tracts from the western part of Hakha township were integrated into Thantlang township, thereby comprising three wards and 37 village tracts(87 villages) in 2008. Thantlang town is situated at the northwest of Myanmar and is 48 miles from the west of Hakha town, 46 miles from the north of Matupi town, and 28 miles from the south of Falam town. Situated above 4962 feet above sea level, its highest mountain is 8973 feet.

In the east, the town borders Hakha town and in the west Mizoram State, India in the south, Matupi town and the north Falam town. As one of the towns in Chin State, Thantlang town has a range of mountains with a dense forest of pine trees in 59187 acres of nature reserve. Borders between Myanmar and India have been demarcated by Bwenu and Tee-o rivers in the town. The town is relatively cold with temperature highs of 37c and lows of 3c. There were 144 rainy days in the past, but during 2016-2017 year, there were 113 rainy days with a rainfall of 58.85". Majority of the people are Chin nationals with few Bamars; 51782 out of a population of 51857 are of the Christian faith. Paddy, peanut, chilli, and sesame are cultivated; cattle ,pigs and goats are raised and poultry farming are kept by the villagers.

In the education sector, four high schools, ten affiliated schools, 9 middle schools, 21 affiliated middle schools, post primary and primary schools have been opened for students in the town. In the health sector, Thantlang People's Hospital, other administrative hospitals and rural health centres have been opened for local populace.

To Tiddim town

The Tiddim town is situated in the Falam District, 45 miles away from Falam town and 57 miles away from Kalay town, the Sagaing Region. The town was named after the Lake in Myoma Ward which has been reflecting day and night from a distance. Under the colonial period, the Tiddim town was divided into three administrative units: Kamhouk, Soake and Ciyam administrative ones. On 17 September, 1973 the town was reorganized with inclusion of four wards and 55 village tracts(130 villages). The town is 42 miles from the east to the west, 31 miles from the south to the north, with a total area of 949.69 square miles.

Situated 5667 feet above the sea level and its tallest mountain is 8871 feet high. In the east, it borders the Kalay and Tamu townships in the Sagaing Region; in the west, Mizoram State, India and in the south Falam township and in the north Tonzang township.

There are mountain ranges with a height of 3000-8000 feet and steep valleys and without plains. Rivers and creeks among the hills flow from the north to the south with Manipur river of significance. The Tiddim town is located among the hilly regions and the climate is wet and cold with an average temperature between 25.5 c and 14.1c. There were 119 rainy days with a rainfall of 54.10" in 2016. Teak, ironwood kanyin, tree rhododendrons and pine trees are naturally grown in the town. Parasite plants such as orchids and other medicinal plants are also found. Wild animals such as rhinos,bisons,tigers, leopards, bears and mountain goats are found roaming in the thick forests.

The 43.48% of Tiddim township are covered with 52321 acres of forest reserve and 34827 acres of nature reserve. Chin nationals are majority of the population of 15244 with few nationals of Bamar, Kachin, Rakhine, Karen and Shan. Most of the people are of the Buddhist or Christian faith.

As the town is situated on the Kalay-Tonzang-Chika road, it has served as an economic hub by means of smooth transportation. Apple, orange and tea leaves are local produce and they are sent to the Kalay town.

To Tonzang town

The town in Falam District is situated at the northern edge of Chin State with Chikha town at the northernmost part of the State. Situated on the Chikha-Tiddim road, the town with an area of 1360.35 square miles is 4740 feet above the sea level. The Town started with a population of 30 person in 1870; in 1920, the town was named as Tonzang; Ton means living together and zang means a place of sheltering place.

The Office of Tonzang Township Officer was opened on 20 December, 1965 and it was reorganized as a township with two wards and 31 village tracts(91 villages). The town is covered with mountain ranges with plots of plains. Tonzang borders Kalay and Tamu townships in the east, Mizoram State , India in the west , Tiddim township in the south and Manipur State, India in the north.

Manipur river is five miles apart from Tonzang town and flows from the north to the south. The average temperature is between 32.22c and 5.88c with 102 rainy days in 2016 in a total rainfall of 49.52".

Teak, ironwood trees, In, Kanyin, Ingyin and oak trees, rhododendrons and cherry-trees are naturally grown in the township. Wild animals such as samburs, mountain goats, deer, boars, tigers, leopards, bears, wild dogs and cats and monkeys are found are found roaming and grazing on the lush grass in the town. The 37.32% area of the town is covered with thick forests: 2609 acres of forest reserve and 229324 acres of nature reserve. Majority of the population in the town are Chin nationals who are of the Christian faith. Few Bamars live in the town.

Most people are employed in agriculture and some earn their living in raising cattle, goats, sheep and pigs on a self-help basis; little economic developments are witnessed in the town. Broadening of roads by means of industrial machinery between towns and villages in Chin State has been seen these days. With little natural resource and economic growth in Chin State. There are no toll gates on the roads or bridges during our trip. But reckless throwing of garbage has been found on busy roads and rhododendrons are banned from picking; still few people abide by these restrictions.

But under cold climate, Chin houses on mountainsides, animal skulls and skeletons, elderly women with tattooed faces, rhododendrons , spurs and ranges high in the sky and steep valleys tend to represent outstanding symbols of Chin mountain ranges.

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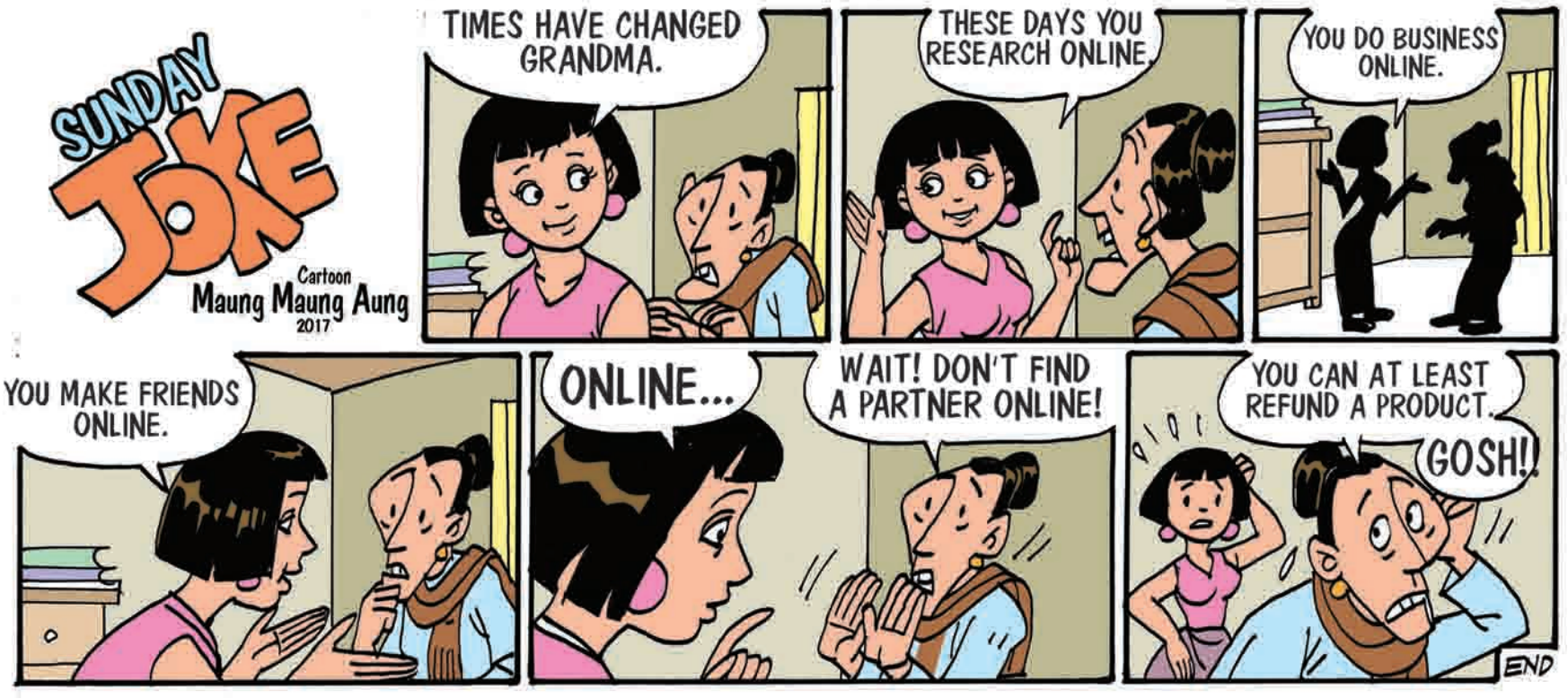
Translated by Arakan Sein

SUNDAY COMICS



To Fair Orchid

- Unlike the flourishing, golden Gumkino blossoms that defy the blazing summer heat, and come into bloom amid the green foliage.
- You Fair Orchid! Your spider legged roots clutch and grow on the barks of the Gumkino, and suck her green blood for your dependent survival.
- Yet your tender violet flowers, much valued as the Royal Flowers, adorn the world, high and low, and for this reason alone I give you credit.

Dr Zaw Tun

The bazaar where I go to shop and pass through to go to work

Gyaw Orwell

THE Kyaik Wine bazaar is located at Maynagone Township near the Kyaik Wine Pagoda. The bazaar is thought to be naming after the Kyaik Wine Pagoda. I live near the bazaar where I moved ten months ago. The bazaar is where I go to shop and pass through daily when I go to my work and classes.

The surrounding area of the bazaar is very developed as people near the place are working hard. The bazaar plays an important role for the dwellers around it.

The bazaar is a very busy place where people go to buy their needed articles. It is a major attraction for both buyers and sellers. There is no other place in the area having so much brisk business as the bazaar.

The bazaar is near to the Thiriminggalar Market, one of the big vegetable and meat market in Yangon.Therefore, vegetables and meats selling at Kyaik Wine bazaar are cheaper than the other bazaars in Yangon. Then, the Kyaik Wine bazaar is not far from Thamine junction as well as 8th Miles junction.

The bazaar building which has a lot of shops inside is next to Kyaik Wine Pagoda. At the streets near the bazaar and pagoda are also filled with many vendors who selling their products beside the streets. The main shopkeepers are the people who living in that area.

The scene of our Kyaik Wine bazaar is very interesting. I always find a big crowd there. The market is usually crowded with trishaws, motorbikes,bicycles, cars and shoppers.

As the prices of most items are not fixed, the shoppers as well as the buyers do bargain. I watch these people who feel greatly satisfied after buying anarticle at a lowest price from the shopkeepers and vendors.

Our Kyaik Wine bazaar is a very noisy place in the morning and evening when the bazaar is busy. All sorts of people come there to buy and sell. I also find the hawkers shouting loudly to sell their goods at the bazaar. There is joy and laughter on all sides. Some people discuss politics in the light of their selling. Sellers are shouting to advertise their goods, and many buyers curiously head toward them. Buyers pay more interest to the louder sellers.

Our market presents a lively glimpse and fill us with a feeling of delight. It is a really very pleasant to go to the market, particularly in the morning.

I always welcome those moments when I visit the market for this purpose or that. It is a place where one can see the lives in so many colours as well as one can get valuable experiences by visiting bazaar and buying various goods.

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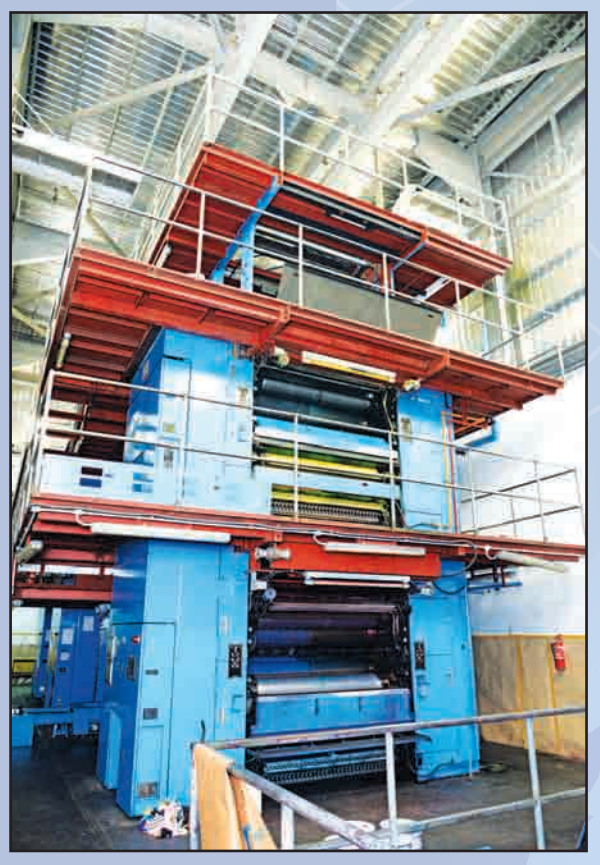

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