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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 55, 12th Waning of Nayon 1380 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Sunday, 10 June 2018



in
Picture

School children in Singu vaccinated against Hepatitis-B

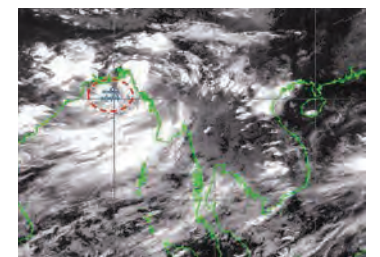
Children attending monastic education schools in Singu received vaccination against the Hepatitis B virus on 8 June 2018 by a foundation. The vaccination campaign will be carried out in June, July and December, according to the Pann Thee Foundation from Yangon. On 8 June, over 180 school children from Gandaryon Monastery in Singu were vaccinated. **PHOTO: WIN MAUNG (SINGU)**

Depression likely to intensify in next 24 hours

THE monsoon is set to get vigorous over the next two days, as the low pressure area over the North Bay of Bengal now lies over the Northeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Bangladesh coast. It is likely to further intensify into a depression in the next 36 hours. The monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, according to the Myanmar Daily Weather Report issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology at 4 p.m. yesterday.

The forecast for Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and neighboring areas for today is some rain or thundershowers and the degree of certainty is 100 per cent, whereas for Mandalay and the neighboring area, it is one or two rain or thundershowers and the degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar's coasts. The surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 m.p.h. The wave height will be some 10-14 feet off and along Myanmar's coasts. — GNLM ■



Anti-Corruption Commission holds press conference in Nay Pyi Taw

A PRESS conference by the Anti-Corruption Commission was held yesterday morning at the commission's office in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the press conference, commission chairman U Aung Kyi, commission secretary U

San Win and commission member U Soe Tint explained the policy of the commission, future work programmes, work experience and complaints.

Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi

Roughly, there are three

types of anti-corruption practices. The first is where anti-corruption laws are enacted but an independent enforcement and control entity is not formed. The second is where anti-corruption laws are enacted and many enforcement and control entities are also formed. The third is en-

acting a specific anti-corruption law and forming an independent enforcement and control entity.

The third is thought to be the most effective in Asian countries and is widely used. It is also being practiced in our country.

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Permanent Secretary U Myint Thu holds talks with Mr. Vijay Gokhale, Foreign Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs of India co-chaired the FOC in New Delhi on 7 June. **PHOTO: MNA**

MOFA delegation arrives back Yangon after attending 17th round of Myanmar-India Foreign Office Consultations

A MYANMAR delegation led by U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar attended the 17th round of Myanmar-India Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) held in New Delhi, India on 7 June 2018 and arrived back Yangon in the morning of 9 June 2018.

U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Vijay Gokhale, Foreign Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs of India co-chaired the

FOC, which was held at the meeting hall of the Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi at noon on 7 June 2018.

The Myanmar delegation comprising of U Myit Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U Moe Kyaw Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to India and responsible officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Myanmar Embassy in New Delhi attended the FOC while the Indian delegation was led by Mr. Vijay Gokhale, Foreign Secretary of the Ministry of

External Affairs.

At the Foreign Office Consultations, both sides extensively discussed wide range of matters pertaining to the promotion of the bilateral relations and multi-faceted cooperation including security and defence cooperation, boundary and border matters, development cooperation, promotion of trade and investment and consular and cultural cooperation as well as potential areas of future cooperation between the two countries.—Myanmar News Agency ■

SWRR Deputy Minister inspects Maungtaw resettlement works, provide assistance



Deputy Minister U Soe Aung provides aids to Hindus at the temporary camp in Maungtaw Township. **PHOTO: THET LWIN SOE (IPRD)**

DEPUTY Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (SWRR) U Soe Aung, Rakhine State minister for security and border affairs Col. Phone Tint, State minister for planning and finance U Kyaw Aye Thein and other officials inspected the housing construction project in Shwe Zar Village, Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State, conducted with the assistance of the government of India.

Hindustan Prefab Limited Deputy General Manager A. Shashikanta Sharma and other officials explained to the Deputy Minister and party the construction status of

148 houses. The deputy also assured the party of completing the construction work on time and using standard quality construction material.

Some 40 local people are being employed in the construction work, it is learnt.

Next, the Deputy Minister and party visited the temporary camp for Hindus in Maungtaw Township and encouraged the people there after providing 89 bags of rice, 107 viss of cooking oil, 428 viss of peas and some 22 viss of salt worth Ks2.8 million for 1,255 persons from 293 households.— Zin Oo, Naing Lin Kyi ■

Paper reading session on archival research method held to commemorate International Archives Day

PAPERS about the archival research method were held at the Nay Pyi Taw National Archives Department (NAD) yesterday morning to commemorate International Archives Day.

In his address at the event, Ministry of Planning and Finance permanent secretary U Tun Tun Naing said the International Council on Archives (ICA) was established in 9 June 1948 as a non-government organisation.

Its aim was to promote the management and use of records and archives, and the preservation of the archival heritage of humanity around the world through the sharing of experiences, research and ideas on professional archival and re-

cords management matters, and on the management and organisation of archival institutions.

The National Archives Department of Myanmar was established in 1972 and this is the first time such an event is being held. NAD is a member country of ICA, as well as a regional member of the Southeast Asia Regional Branch of International Council on Archives (SARBICA).

The department collects archived records, uses various technology and methods to maintain records, provides archived records to government departments, the public, students and research works according to the National Records and Archives Law.

The 70th anniversary of International Archives Day was commemorated by an exhibition at the Myanmar national archives for the public and a paper reading session through which the aim of the ICA and the role of the national archives were presented.

Government departments, related departments and entities are urged to help maintain and preserve the country's history and cultural records and heritage, said the permanent secretary.

Next, NAD director (retired) Daw Khin Khin Tun, University Library Chief Librarian (retired) Daw Tin Phone Nwe, Universities' Historical Research De-



Planning and Finance Permanent Secretary U Tun Tun Naing addresses paper reading session to mark International Archives Day in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

partment director (retired) Myanmar Historical Commission member U Mya Han and NAD assistant director Dr. Lat Lat Soe read four papers on archival methods.

The paper reading session was attended by Union Election Commission member U Myint Naing, Ministry of Information

permanent secretary U Myo Myint Maung, heads of departments, experts who will read the papers, and invited guests.

To commemorate International Archives Day, the national archives in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw are displaying national heritage records from 1 to 14 June.— Myanmar News Agency ■

This interview originally appeared in NHK. We re-publish it with the permission from NHK.—GNLM

Exclusive: Interview with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

MYANMAR'S LEADER Daw Aung San Suu Kyi sat down for her first one-on-one interview with NHK in 5 years. In the interview, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi told NHK World correspondent Orie Sugimoto that deep-rooted communal sentiment in Rakhine State cannot be resolved overnight.

Q: The Myanmar government has agreed to have UN Agencies assist with the repatriation process of the so-called Rohingya people in Rakhine State, and to set up an independent committee to investigate human rights violations. These actions have been long required by the refugees themselves and international communities as well. Why did Myanmar take these actions at this time at this point?

A: I don't think it's quite this time at this point. It's a process. Perhaps, people are unaware of the fact that we have been negotiating with UN Agencies, as sure kind of MoU we can agree to and this goes back to quite some time ago to the recommendations of Dr. Kofi Annan's commission. And, of course, with the regard to the national latest investigation team, this is something that was advised by our advisory board. And we take very seriously that advice because after all, we appointed them because we believe they will be able to give us a valuable perception of the situation.

Q: As we cannot see that, may I ask you why it took such a long time for Myanmar to come out with these actions? What's the difficulty in taking these actions?

A: Well, I don't think you can say that it took us a long time because if you remember the advisory board made their recommendations just a few months

back. So, I don't think you can say we have taken a long time over the national investigation team. With regard to the UNDP and the UNHCR MoU, we've been negotiating and to negotiate and come to an agreement on MoU, we need to look into all the implications, both sides. There are some things that we agreed to immediately and there are some things over which we had to trash out a few obstacles. So, if we want to have a MoU that is meaningful and also at the same time, truly implementable, I think it's worthwhile to take a bit of time.

Q: What was the difficult point for Myanmar to comply with?

A: I don't think there was one difficult point as such either for us or UN Agencies. I think it was a question of many points. But none of them really is inseparable, which is why we've come to an agreement now.

Q: Myanmar has been criticized for alleged violence against so-called Rohingya Muslims. I also heard the Myanmar government saying that this issue is very complicated, complex, sometimes it's not right for the international community to intervene in this issue. Could you explain why this issue is so complicated and difficult for Myanmar, and why sometimes it's not right for the international community to intervene in this issue?

A: First of all, of course, it's a long standing issue. People forget that it goes back a couple of centuries. It's not something that happened yesterday. You cannot resolve a problem that has been existing for such a long time in a few months. And our government took over the responsibility of that administration just 2 years ago. And you cannot resolve a problem like that overnight. And very few



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, right, interviewed by NHK World correspondent Orie Sugimoto. **PHOTO: MNA**

people outside of Myanmar and even very few people in Myanmar are aware of all the historical issues that are involved. So, it's not just for the world outside. It's also for our people inside the country to understand what's going on and why we take the steps that we take. It's most important that our people should understand. Because we are the one who must in the long run preserve the stability and security of our country.

Q: Is it too risky for Myanmar not to wait for or not to take enough time to explain to the people of Myanmar and to explain the international community how complex this issue is?

A: I think it's risky for anybody to go head long into a problem without considering all the various aspects involved.

Q: Can you please explain what the risk for Myanmar is in doing things more quickly?

A: You cannot hurry over everything. The things that require time have to be given time. You cannot force issues. You cannot say to people, for example, "Now forget about the problem and start a new page." You can't just order them. You have to create a situation which will enable them to understand why they have to find different ways of resolving all the problems.

Q: Can you talk more about

the independent committee to investigate the human rights violation in Rakhine State such as the members of the committee? Are you sure that it will be reliable and independent and will explain to the international community that the Myanmar government is trying to follow the rule of law?

A: We cannot at the moment tell you exactly who is going to be in the commission. But we will only appoint people in whose integrity and whose ability we have full confidence.

Q: Do you believe that having an investigation committee which is independent will improve the situation and gain the understanding of the international community as well?

A: The advisory board believes that this is something that should be done. And as for the full confidence, and in the goodwill as well as the wisdom of the advisory board, we think that this will be a positive move that will help the situation.

Q: Why did you choose this national initiative, rather than an international initiative such as the UN fact-finding mission?

A: We've explained repeatedly why we cannot accept the UN fact-finding mission with regard to this initiative as I've been explaining earlier. This is

something that is recommended by the advisory board and they have been in the situation to study what's happening in Rakhine. And since they recommended it very seriously, we take it very seriously as well.

Q: In Cox Bazaar, many refugees are hesitating to return to Myanmar because they are afraid of facing violence if they come back to Myanmar. This fact is making it even more difficult to start voluntary repatriation. So, how will Myanmar restore trust with the refugees and also with the international community?

A: Trust is a 2-way business. I don't think it's just up to just Myanmar to establish trust. I think the other side also has to take necessary steps in order to establish trust.

For example, we understand that the forms that are required to fill in accordance with the MoU agreed between Myanmar and Bangladesh have not been distributed widely to the refugees.

Unless these forms been distributed and unless the refugees know that there's a legal and safe way for them to return to Rakhine. Then we will not be able to make quick progress. So I think, it's a 2-way process. MoU is agreed to by 2 or more parties, and it's competent on all parties involved to implement their responsibilities.

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Q: I understand that all parties have a lot of work to do to restore and establish mutual trust. For the Myanmar side, what can you do?

A: We have carried out all our responsibilities in line with the MoU. If you study the MoU, if you look at what we've been doing, I think you'll find that we have carried out all our responsibilities. But trust is not something that you can create just by signing a piece of paper and it's the people who have to take a risk on whether or not the situation is trustworthy. If you're not prepared to try out a situation, you can never tell for sure whether it's acceptable or not.

Q: I understand that Myanmar has taken all possible actions to restore the trust. But from now on, what kind of actions do you plan to take?

A: Trust is not something that you establish within a limited amount of time. You cannot say, well, trust has been established to Degree A, and now. And the next 4 months we go to Degree B. It doesn't work like that. It's an ongoing process. And as I said, everybody concerned must be positive and committed to the process of reestablishing trust.

Q: Recent actions by the Myanmar government like the agreement with the UN, establishment of the independent committee to restore mutual trust and with other parties... can we understand it in that way?

A: Are you saying that did we undertake to sign the MoU with the UNDP and UNHCR and to form the investigation team in order to create trust?

Q: I don't mean to say it's the only purpose. But is it in line with Myanmar...?

A: I think I've explained several times now that it's in line with the recommendations that were made by Dr. Kofi Annan's commission and by our advisory board. The commission and the board both were formed at our initiative and obviously, we put people whose wisdom and goodwill we believe, so their recommendations have to be taken very seriously indeed.

Q: I know it's very difficult for you to clarify but can I ask when do you expect the

actual return of the refugees will start?

A: That depends much on us as but also on Bangladesh. It's a 2-way business. Until the refugees have been given the forms, until they've been informed fully of all the steps they need to take to come back to Rakhine, we will not be able to carry forward the process very quickly. As you know, some have come back but not through the official channels. And the ones who came back, said that they were not aware of the need to fill in forms and to follow a certain procedure.

Q: Inside Myanmar, among many Myanmar citizens, there is deep rooted discrimination or hatred against so-called Rohingya people or Rohingya Muslims or sometimes Bengali. As a leader of this country, and as a leader of democracy do you have messages for those people of this country?

A: We have been working on it ever since our government took over the administration. One of the first things we did after we came into the administration on the 1st of April was to form a committee for the rule of law and development in Rakhine. Because we realized that the animosity, the distrust and if you like, the fear and hate in Rakhine were rooted in the fact that it's a region where there's very little prosperity and very little security. Which is why we formed the committee for the rule of law and development. Since then, we were looking to the long term solution of the Rakhine problem, if you like. We'd like to see it as a challenge, rather than a problem. So as I said, it's ongoing. You cannot wipe out what has happened in history for more than a century within a few months, not even within a few years. It is something that you have to work on consistently. If you look at other countries, you'll find that, often, even long standing democracies have problems. Making sure that all the different communities are at peace, and I have learned to trust and like each other.

Q: Just recently, Japan Ambassador Mr. Maruyama was invited to Maungdaw and Sittwe to observe the situation. How do you evaluate the role of Japan in this issue?

A: Japan has been very pos-

itive and practical in its contribution of aid and assistance to the resolution of the situation in Rakhine. We appreciate it very much. It's also our policy to make sure that those countries that are providing aid and assistance in that part of our country can go there frequently to see how we are carrying out the projects of which we agreed.

Q: Do you feel that the Japanese stance is a bit different from other countries?

A: Each country's stance is different. Of course, some countries tend to stick together and some countries act individually. But I think, basically, there are no 2 countries which have taken exactly the same stand. There are always nuances.

We'd like to see it as a challenge, rather than a problem. So as I said, it's ongoing. You cannot wipe out what has happened in history for more than a century within a few months, not even within a few years.

Q: What do you believe is the specialty of the Myanmar-Japan relationship?

A: I would not like to put it as a specialty on Japan-Myanmar relations. Because then, it will imply that we don't have good relations with other countries. But, I think we can say that we have always valued the deep friendship between Japan and Myanmar, which is based on the friendship and understanding between our peoples. I always say that it all comes down to that. There's nothing that can replace friendship and understanding between people. Government comes and government goes. People go on forever. I think part of our special relationship as you call it with Japan is very much rooted in the fact that there's a deep friendship between our people.

Q: Moving on to the democracy and development of Myanmar. Two years after the establishment of the new government, can you please describe achievements in per-

centages and numbers?

A: Absolutely impossible to explain in percentage and number. Actually, I've never thought of it that way. I have to go back to the work "process." The development of a country is a process. It never comes to an end. And even the very-well developed democracies have challenges that they have to overcome time and again. And new challenges arrive as the world changes. So, we cannot fix the kind of ideal, you said, for democracy. It has to change all the time. But, basically for us, we think that the most important thing is for our people to be aware of their part of the responsibility for establishing democracy in the country. It's not just the responsibility of the government. I think in fact, that's

to which we have democracy. I think our people are a lot less frightened than they used to be before the election. I think you'll notice that there is much more open criticisms of their government and those connected to the government than they ever used to be in the past. That's an indication of the fact that democratic freedom has progressed. But we all have to be aware of the fact that the freedom brings with it the responsibility. And we have yet to know for sure how much the responsible part of this process has increased.

Q: As you mentioned, democracy is people-based. Do you feel the mindset of the people has changed compared to 2 years ago?

A: I said earlier that they are less frightened. That means their mindset is changing and we make it a point of repeating again and again, reiterating the fact that they have responsibility as well. Our government uses the word "responsibility" a lot. And I think it's important.

Q: As you mentioned, Myanmar is not fully democratic because you still have that influence of the military in politics as well. Is this fact making it more difficult to combat the challenging issues such as the Rakhine issue or reconciliation of ethnic minorities?

A: Let's say that it is an added dimension to the challenges that we have to face. And that's quite normal. Because as you said, and as I have explained, we are not a wholly democratic society yet because our constitution is not wholly democratic.

Q: We haven't seen physical progress in the amendment of the constitution. Do you have any roadmap to achieve that goal of amendment of the constitution?

A: We do have a roadmap, which is not going to be made public. But, at the same time, I think you will understand that in 2014, when we had a debate in the legislature with regard to the amendment of the constitution, we made it quite clear we want to bring about the amendment through peaceful negotiation and within the framework of the law, because we want to establish sound and healthy principles for the democratic machinery in our country.

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Q: Do you sometimes find difficulty in balancing the actual situation of Rakhine State or regarding national reconciliation and the power of the military? Are you finding such a dilemma?

A: I don't quite know what you mean. Because I don't think that is the strength of the military that has any direct effect on what's happening in Rakhine. I know that, and I'm sure you know that according to the constitution, elected government cannot direct military operations. So of course, we do not have the kind of overall control that will be exercised by a wholly democratic government.

Q: Recently, 2 Reuters journalists were arrested when covering the Rakhine issue. Myanmar is criticized for limiting the freedom of speech and being undemo-

cratic. The journalists were arrested when they are covering human rights issue in Rakhine state. How do you respond to these criticisms? Is democracy in Myanmar different from that in which the international community believes?

A: They weren't arrested for covering the Rakhine issue. They were arrested because they broke the Official Secret Act. And I think you are aware of the fact that everybody has free access to the court proceedings. Now, all of this is in accordance with due process. I'm sure the NHK correspondent attends the court proceedings regularly. What is important is that we should be working in accordance with due process and rule of law. They were arrested because they broke the Official Secret Act. We cannot say now whether they were guilty or not. That will be up to judiciary. It is for

the judiciary to decide. They were not arrested for covering the Rakhine issue.

Q: They were not arrested for covering the issue. But, while they were covering the issue...

A: And other issues. I think if you've been following the court proceedings, you will understand that there were other issues involved in breaking of the Official Secret Act.

Q: Many parties from the international community are demanding that Myanmar free those 2 journalists immediately. How do you see those voices from international community?

A: As I said, we follow the due process and everybody is free to follow the court proceedings to find out whether or not they are fair, whether or not they are in accordance with the rule of law.

Q: Regarding Myanmar-Japan relations, what kind of role do you expect Japan to play for democratization and the development of Myanmar as a whole, and for economic relations?

A: We expect Japan to play the role of understanding and a longstanding friend.

Q: Many Japanese companies are really willing to come to Myanmar, and to join the Myanmar economy. But they are concerned about the infrastructure, especially the electricity. Can we expect a better environment for those companies?

A: They should study what we have done in the way of infrastructure over the last couple of years. I think they will see that we've made considerable progress. Mind you, over the last 2 years, we have concentrated more on political needs than

our economic needs. Meaning to say, that we have given priority to the construction of roads and provision of electricity for regions for political necessity rather than for reasons where it is economically profitable. But, we can now concentrate more on economically profitable areas because we can handle the first priority quite adequately so far.

Q: Do you believe the economic relations of Myanmar and Japan will contribute to the future of Myanmar?

A: I hope it will contribute to the future of Japan as well.

Q: But what about Myanmar?

A: Of course, it will contribute to the future of both countries, if it's carried out in the right way. As I said, we should be fair. We have to look to each other's needs and each other's benefits. Not just our side. ■

13th Thuta Swesone literary awards presented to winners

THE Swesone Media Group presented the 13th Thuta Swesone literary awards to the winners yesterday at Sule Shangri-La Hotel in Yangon.

At the ceremony, U Tin Kha (Saya Tekkatho Tin Kha) received the Thuta Swesone Lifetime Achievement Literary Award, which was presented by Sithu Dr. Thaw Kaung, who won five Lifetime Achievement Literary Awards including a Thuta Swesone Lifetime Achievement Literary Award. Hein Latt received the Translation Award presented by writer Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt. Dr. Yi Yi Hla (Yuwady Khin Oo) presented Saya Sein Win Sein with an International Affairs Award. Saya Kyaw Htet Tun received the Biography Award presented by Sithu U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit), patron of Myanmar Writers' Association. Yangon Region minister for Rakhine ethnic affairs U Zaw Aye Maung presented Saya Myint Thein Hlaing with the Belle-letters (beautiful or fine writing) Award. Saya Than Win Hlaing received the Reference Literature Award and Dr. Khin Maung Nyo received the Science Literature Award, which were presented by Swesone Media Group chairman Dr.



Sithu Dr. Thaw Kaung presents Thuta Swesone Lifetime Achievement Literary Award to U Tin Kha (Saya Tekkatho Tin Kha) in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: HLA MOE**

Tin Tun Oo. Prof. Thein, and Dr. Su received the Applied Science Literature Award presented by Swesone Media Group Managing Director Dr. Khin Moe Moe.

The Thuta Swesone literary awards for this year were selected from among the books published in 2016. The lifetime achievement award winner received Ks2 million, and literary award winners in each category received Ks1 million each.

During the ceremony, Swesone Media Group also donated and presented a total of Ks5.8 million to the 2018 Sarsodaw Day homage ceremony to el-

derly literary experts and journalists, 14th homage ceremony to elders aged over 100 and two Thuta Swesone libraries in Hinthada Township.

Later, Chairman Dr. Tin Tun Oo and Managing Director Dr. Khin Moe Moe of Swesone Media Group presented gifts to Chairman Sithu Dr. Thaw Kaung and the members of Thuta Swesone Literary Award Selection Committee, following which Saya Hein Latt, Dr. Khin Maung Nyo and U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha) delivered the note of thanks. —Nanda Win, Mi Mi Phyoo ■

UCSB Chairperson visits Civil Service Organisations, Institutes in Ireland, Estonia

ON the invitation of the representative office of the European Union (EU) in Yangon, a delegation led by Union Civil Service Board (UCSB) Chairman Dr Win Thein visited the Institute of Public Administration in Ireland and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia from 27 May to 9 June.

During their visit, they met with Director-General of Institute of Public Administration Dr. Marian O'Sullivan and former Director-General Dr. Brian Cawley.

At the meeting, they discussed the role of civil servants, strategy formation and administration processes. They also focused on the quality framework of the civil servants, techniques in conducting courses, transforming public sector budgeting, the plan for human resources development, along with the leadership skills of senior officials.

Later, the delegation visited Estonia, where they met with Minister of Public Administration Mr. Janek Maggi and discussed transformational processes of public administration and civil servants. Afterwards, the delegation also met with Ambassador Mr. Mart Tarmak from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia

and discussed the implementation of e-Governance.

The delegation also met with Head of Top Civil Service Excellency centre Ms. Eve Limbach-Pirn at the State Chancellery and discussed the appointment and capacity assessment of civil servants, launching human resources development courses for civil servants and setting a framework for appointing high-ranking officials. The delegation also met with Mayors of Tallinn City Government and Parnu and ICT-based e-Services, where civil servants' appointments, conducting better training courses and regional administration transformation services were discussed. They also met with Professor Dr. Tilna Randma from Tallinn Technical University and discussed the conducting of training courses for civil servants in each sector.

Next, the delegation met with officials from the Estonian Academy of Security Sciences and discussed police officer appointments, training and providing e-Services. The Union Civil Service Board Chairman and party arrived in Yangon yesterday afternoon.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Returnees feel better in Rakhine

Following is the second part of the interview with the returnees from Bangladesh conducted by our news team.

Mahmat Eunoss
Formerly from Nga Khu Ya, South village
Presently at his home in Nga Khu Ya

I was charged (and imprisoned) for going (illegally) to Bangladesh. I went there two or three times in the past. I returned after going there. I didn't go there with my family; they are in Nga Khu Ya. Now, my family and I have NVCs. We took (applied for) it, as the NVC is required to go to Maungdaw.

At present, there isn't much work. In the past, I was dealing in trade by buying products in Maungdaw and selling them here. When I was released under an amnesty, the government provided me with pots, pans, blankets and a mosquito net. Food for the family was also provided.

Abdusaleem
Formerly from Nga Khu Ya, South village
Presently at his home in Nga Khu Ya

I'm the only one who got an NVC. My family still didn't get it. Although I have an NVC, permission has not yet been granted to go to the shrimp ponds and to fish in the creeks; so, we face some difficulties in making a living.

Nurusaleem
Formerly from Nga Khu Ya, South village
Presently at his home in Nga Khu Ya

If possible, I want to call my relatives in Bangladesh to Myanmar right now. As I live in Myanmar, I abide by the law here. When families from the other side return, I'll explain to them how to abide by the law. Myanmar is better. I now have an NVC. My wife also has an NVC. I don't know in detail about the NVC. I also didn't hear about the other side telling people they can go back. In the past, I used to fish with a net. Now, I have no income because fishing works are not permitted.

Idris
Formerly from Nga Khu Ya, South village
Presently at his home in Nga Khu Ya

My siblings are in Bangladesh. I don't know what I can do if I have an NVC. But one needs



Mahmat Eunoss.



Abdusaleem.



Nurusaleem.



Idris.



Dill Mahmat.



Nuralem.



Atwal Hussan.



Suna Bibi.



Jamail Along.

If possible, I want to call my relatives in Bangladesh to Myanmar right now. As I live in Myanmar, I abide by the law here. When families from the other side return, I'll explain to them how to abide by the law.

to have some sort of identity if he/she is staying in any country. Both my wife and I have NVCs.

Dill Mahmat
Formerly from Nga Khu Ya, South village
Presently at his home in Nga Khu Ya

My family was with me when the incident occurred. After I was detained, they fled to Bangladesh. If possible, I want to call my family back.

Hamid Tusong
Formerly from Nga Khu Ya, South village
Presently at his home in

Nga Khu Ya

My eldest son and four family members fled to Bangladesh. They fled with others when the terrorist incident occurred. I want them to come back.

Until now, I don't know much about the NVC. I think I'll find out later. However, I have an NVC because I wanted it. There was no intimidation or harassment due to religion or race. But I didn't explain to others about getting an NVC. I personally think Myanmar is a better place to live. I want to see the people on the other side being called back. Many of them are facing difficulties.



Hamid Tusong.

Formerly from Nga Khu Ya, South village
Presently at his home in Nga Khu Ya

Both my wife and I have NVCs. I never heard of anyone urging people to return from Bangladesh to Myanmar.

Atwal Hussan
Formerly from Doetan village tract, Sintaung village
Presently at a relative's home in Nga Khu Ya

I was detained when I crossed back into Myanmar from Bangladesh. I went to Bangladesh after the incident occurred in 2016. I didn't hear anyone urging people or see notices being put up in relief camps in Bangladesh to return to Myanmar. It is better to stay here. I'm the only one who had an NVC. My family is still in Bangladesh. I want to bring them back. Staying in Nga Khu Ya is better than staying in Bangladesh. No identity was given in the Bangladesh relief camps. Everyone could freely enter and leave. I stayed at the Balukhali camp while in Bangladesh.

Suna Bibi
Formerly from Kyetyopyin village tract, Kyetyopyin Ywama
Presently in Kyetyopyin Village

I was going to Ooshaykya (village) from Kyetyopyin, when I was detained. I have family in the village (Kyetyopyin). Some of my sons and daughters went to Bangladesh. I want them to come back. Only one of my family members had an NVC. There was no difficulty in obtaining it and I'm thankful for this. Pots, pans and clothing have also been supplied. For now, I'm doing odd jobs, and I also farm a bit.

Jamail Along
Formerly from Kyetyopyin village tract, Kyetyopyin Ywama
Presently in Kyetyopyin Village

I came back from Bangladesh four to five months ago. I did odd jobs in Bangladesh. If food was provided, it was convenient, but when it was not provided, there were some difficulties in the Bangladesh camp. I stayed in Kutupalong camp in Bangladesh. We were living on the aid provided. I stayed there for a full month.

As I wanted to live in my own village, I came back in a small boat. I have no other intention. I didn't hear anyone saying anything about returning to Myanmar. I came back here alone. My family stayed behind in Bangladesh. They also want to come back. It was not easy to enter or leave the camp I was in. I had to sneak out. In the past, I operated a power tiller and repaired motorcycles. For now, I'm working as a mechanic for motorcycles for a living.—News Team ■

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Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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Gov't ready to compensate squatters in Hanthawaddy Int'l Airport project area

THE Bago Region government is ready to pay compensation to squatters in the Hanthawaddy project area, one of the region's cabinet members said at a coordination meeting held on Friday.

Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein said at the meeting that efforts have been made since 2016 to conduct a population survey to determine the number of squatters in the area, in order to provide

compensation to them. Now, the process has reached its final stage and the government has completely prepared the compensation according to the law.

Efforts are being made to implement the Hanthawaddy International Airport project with Japan's long-term loans as quickly as possible.

According to its plan, the government is going to pay compensation for both squat-

ters and crops in the airport project area. The government granted Ks495.7 million in the 2016-2017 financial year (FY) to pay moving expenses and compensation for squatters and Ks500 million in the 2017-2018 FY, totalling Ks995.7 million.

The details of the programme were discussed at the coordination meeting held on 8 June at the office of the Bago Region government.

The Hanthawaddy Inter-

national Airport project is the largest of the three airport projects being undertaken to accommodate the increasing number of international travellers to Myanmar. Located in the Bago Region, some 48 miles north east of Yangon, the international airport is projected to handle up to 12 million passengers a year. It takes some 90 minutes by car from Bago to Yangon. —Hein Htet (IPRD) ■

Magway Region needs more garbage collection equipment, staff

THE Magway Region Development Affairs Committee said it can collect only 60 per cent of garbage every day due to insufficient equipment and staff shortage, committee head U Htin Aung said.

Currently, garbage collection is being carried out with the use of 15 garbage collection vehicles—14 owned by the development affairs committee and one donated by the Magway Region government.

"The development affairs committee is not in a position to collect all the garbage due to the lack of sufficient vehicles and staff members. We carry out daily

garbage collection in markets and restaurants which generate more garbage and we collect garbage on alternate days in wards which generate less garbage," U Htin Aung added.

"The committee needs to buy five additional waste collection vehicles and appoint more staff. It will buy the vehicles and appoint more staff in the respective fiscal years. The committee will hit its goal in the next three years," he said.

The committee regularly disposes of waste into a ravine some two miles from Magway.—Zaw Zaw (Myothit) ■



Collected garbage on a truck. PHOTO: ZAW ZAW (MYOTHIT)

Myanmar National Airlines flight UB001 stalled in icing incident

MYANMAR National Airlines (MNA) flight UB001, which departed from Yangon International Airport for Singapore's Changi International Airport at 7:18 a.m. on 7 June, encountered icing conditions that caused the plane to decelerate rapidly, according to an announcement made by the airline.

The announcement said severe icing occurred within 50

minutes after the flight took off from Yangon International Airport, when the plane was some 30 miles west of Myeik. Due to the severe icing conditions, the air speed declined rapidly, triggering an alarm from the plane's computer system. The auto pilot was switched off at an altitude of 37,000 feet, and the plane descended to an altitude of 25,000 feet to regain control.

The air traffic control was

informed about the emergency action taken to assure the passengers' safety, and the plane continued on its journey, landing in Singapore at 11:40 a.m. local standard time. When the incident occurred, the pilot reported to the air traffic control authorities, and took safety and precautionary measures without causing any material or personnel damage.—Shin Min ■

One killed on motorbike, 10 injured in traffic accident

ONE person was killed and 10 others were injured in a multi-vehicle collision on Friday morning in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region.

The accident occurred at about 8.35 a.m. on 8 June, when a speeding minibus from the YBS-9 bus line hit two vehicles and four motorbikes at the junction of Nawarat along Ayeyawon road. A motorbike rider died on the spot, while a light truck driver and nine passengers sustained minor injuries. The YBS driver, Zaw Lwin, 30, fled the scene. The Thakayta Township police have filed a case against the hit-and-run driver, based upon his violating the Penal Code.

The police are still seeking the bus driver.—Ko Gyi Soe (Seikkan) ■

Tainted food burned in Yinmarbin District

THE Consumer Dispute Resolution Committee in cooperation with Market Monitoring Organization torched foods that are unfit to consume at the Consumer Affairs Department in Yinmarbin yesterday.

The foods that are unfit to consume were taken off shelf by the Department of Food and Drug Administration.

In-charge of the District Consumer Affairs Department Daw Khaing Moh Moh explained the seizure of ex-

pired food items and foods that are unfit to consume by the department in line with the decision of its organization before torching them for public safety.—Myint Naing Soe (Hti Hlaing Myay)/Myanmar Digital News ■

Utilize land effectively to promote economy

TODAY, with the practice of contract farming and the relaxation of rules in the investment sector, a ray of hope is shining for the development of the socio-economic status of farmers.

The government is committed to helping farmers shift from conventional and traditional methods to mechanized farming techniques.

The farmers need not only grow crops for domestic food sufficiency, but also marketable crops for a growing export market.

By doing so, farmers will not need to sell their land for money, but can maintain their fields for generations to come.

Today is the time to promote businesses including the agriculture, livestock and mining sectors, making the best use of the land.

The government has also stepped up its efforts to solve the confiscated farmland issue nationwide and has returned more than 4,900 acres of confiscated farmlands to the original owners in Sagaing Region last month, showing that justice has been served.

We believe that returning confiscated farmlands to farmers, who make up 70 per cent of the country's rural population, would develop the agricultural sector and improve their socio-economic status.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Irrigation announced on 9 June that it would revoke over 8,200 acres of farmland nationwide, in accordance with Section 22 of the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Land Management Law-2012, as they have not been utilized since they were permitted four years ago.

The decision comes after the ministry's warning two years ago that it would make inquiries into permitted farmland that has not yet been utilized and will revoke the permit in accordance with the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Land Management Law-2012 if it was found that rules and regulations had been violated.

Two years ago, the ministry urged those who own vacant and virgin lands to register them at their respective state or regional Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Committee.

If their lands are registered, when agricultural production becomes stable, their lands could be converted into farmlands, according to the Farmland Law.

After the announcement two years ago, the ministry formed the Region/State farmland management committees in accordance with the law.

The Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Land Management Law says, "A person who is granted the right to use the vacant, fallow and virgin lands shall comply with the following conditions: The enterprise shall carry out to be completed within four years from the date of grant according to the purpose granted. The prescribed period may be revised by the Central Committee for losing time due to natural disasters and unstable security conditions."

Today is the time to promote businesses including the agriculture, livestock and mining sectors, making the best use of the land. Hence, all citizens are obliged to abide by the law as the authorities on their part are committed to managing the land effectively for the country's economy. ■

Protection and Preservation of Cultural Heritage in Myanmar

By Ye Myat Aung

SINCE humans have been existed on earth, they have built their own cultures based on their background and environment. Every nation has its own culture which distinguishes from other nations. These cultural heritages transmitted from generation to generation, are constantly recreated by communities and groups, in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, thereby provide them with a sense of identity and continuity which can promote respect for cultural diversity and human creativity. Thus it is imperative to safeguard such these long-standing traditions and cultural heritages for the next generations.

Intangible Cultural Heritage

Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, and skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated there with – those communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage. The ICH can be referred to traditions or living expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.

Convention for Safeguarding of Intangible Culture Heritage (2013)

The Convention is a UNESCO treaty adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) General Conference in 2003. The Convention concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage – the 2003 Convention is aimed at better understanding



Photo: Thwe Thwe Tun

the intangible culture around the world, and safeguarding the uses, representations, expressions, knowledge and techniques those communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals, recognize as an integral part of their cultural heritage.

Purposes of the Convention

This convention has been launched, with the aim of safeguarding the intangible heritage; ensuring respect for the intangible cultural heritage of the communities, groups and individuals concerned; and raising awareness at the local, national and international levels of the importance of the intangible cultural heritage; providing for international cooperation and assistance.

Around the world, 175 countries have signed the Convention for Safeguarding of Intangible Culture Heritage (2013) and they agreed to adopt a general policy aiming to highlight the function of intangible cultural heritage in society.

Five Domains of ICH

According to the definition of the General Conference of

UNESCO in 2003, the "intangible cultural heritage", as defined in the following five domains:

(a) oral traditions and expres-

sions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage; (b) performing arts; (c) social practices, rituals and festive events; (d) knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe; (e) traditional craftsmanship.

Efforts should be made to ensure the viability of the intangible cultural heritage, including the identification, documentation, research, preservation, protection, promotion, enhancement, transmission, particularly through formal and non-formal education, as well as the revitalization of the various aspects of such heritages in the country.

Preservation Process

Myanmar is ethnically diverse country with over 100 ethnic races in the world, and they also have their own traditions and customs. Myanmar has signed the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention of 2003, and the Government has taken steps to do research and adopt policies which can make a law

for preservation of the country's intangible cultural heritages. It is very crucial for the authority concerned to preserve the ethnic culture and traditions, and to formulate effective policy which can draw rules and regulations for research works to be carried out in line with the needs of the local people.

In doing so, cooperation is needed to make a list of intangible cultural heritage. With the cooperation of the enthusiasts and responsible officials from NGOs, ethnic literature and culture groups should be provided with better protection of the elements and traditions in Myanmar.

The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture has tried to preserve the heritages and rediscovering the legends, languages, performing arts, social customs, traditions, knowledge on the nature and the universe, and traditional handicrafts in all regions across the country. Moreover the authority concerned has formed many committees with the participation of experts in order to take the suggestion from relevant bodies aiming to protect and preserve ancient artifacts and edifices.

The Ministry has supported to conduct research work and preserve the performing arts, musical instruments and artifacts of the ethnic races, and cooperation is of crucial importance to enhance the public awareness of the cultural protection tasks.

With the aim of safeguarding the cultural heritage, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture has worked hard in cooperation with related ministries, region or state governments for the protection and preservation of ancient cultural zones, and cooperation is of vital importance to strengthen the management capacity for cultural heritage sites in Myanmar. ■

Translated by
Win Ko Ko Aung

Financing Skills Training of Workers

IT is generally accepted that occupational competency based skills training of workers is likely to better meet employers needs for skilled workers. Such training should enable the worker to attain competency in the chosen occupation to the extent that their performance will meet required outcomes.

It is up to the employers to provide such training to workers whether On-the-Job in the workplace or in Training Centres operated by Training Providers. However providing such training will incur expense to the employer.

Investment in training of workers by employers will of course yield benefits to the employers in that the productivity of the workers will increase and so will the quality of their work. The trained skilled worker is more likely to attain the specific standards of performance required as well as lessen the cost of wastage and rework.

As the training of workers will benefit the employer, it is logical that the employer should bear the cost as well. However many employers are reluctant to invest in having their workers systematically trained and certified as they are afraid that the certified worker will leave their employment for better pay offered by other employers.

It is true that systematic training and certification improves the "worth" of the worker; and so the competitors are willing to pay more for the trained worker. If that is so the current employers may lose their trained workers.

Such "job-hopping" of course is linked to the availability of the skilled workers in the labour market. It also depends on the "Employee Retention Strategy" of the current employers. That is, how willing the employers are to invest in hiring, employing, retaining and developing the skills of workers in their employment.

This is particularly true of highly skilled workers who, when they leave, would incur much cost to the employer concerned in retraining new workers.

The solution that many countries have adopted, is for the employers to collectively share the cost of training of the skilled workers.

This is done through imposing a system of "levies" on the employers through enacting legislation by the parliament, and setting up a "Skills Development Fund" or the like of it. In fact several countries in ASEAN, and many countries beyond are currently practicing the system.

The "levy" imposed on the employer may vary from 0.5% to 2% (depending on the Type and Size of the Enterprise) of the monthly wage bill of the skilled workers employed. The levy is deposited in to the "Skills Development Fund" Account, usually held in a Government or Private Bank, to be administered by the responsible Ministry or Agency.

In some countries the Governments initially contributes the "Seed Money" to the fund. This of course has to be through appropriate budget allocation.

The employers pay in the "levy" into the fund monthly, depending on the wage bill of the skilled workers. The legislation may authorize donations to the fund by Corporate Bodies and Organizations, local and foreign, as well as by individuals.

The employers who conduct systematic training of workers either at the workplace or sends the workers to Training Schools or Centres operated by accredited Training Providers recognized by the Skills Development Fund Authority, may reclaim in accordance with the terms and conditions of reimbursement, the cost of such training from the "Skills Development Fund". ■

Lokethar



PHOTO: THIHA TUN



Workers rolling rubber into sheets of raw rubber to dry in the sun. **PHOTO: KHON (WIN PA)**

Rubber production to decline next year due to the low price of rubber this year

RUBBER production is expected to decline next year because of an unexpected rubber market this year. The manageable-scale rubber farm owners near Thuwannawaddy town, Thaton Township, Mon State have expressed a lack of interest in rubber cultivation because the price of rubber has declined in the market this year, compared with last year.

"We don't want to cultivate rubber again. We can hire only two workers for 10 acres of rubber farming. There is a scarcity of rubber-tapping workers. Therefore, we have to pay them higher salaries. At the same time, the price of

rubber has declined, while the rubber latex production has also declined. Also, we can produce only lower-quality rubber even when we use fertilizers. Our rubber farming has shut down now because of the rains. We will be at a loss if the price of rubber declines again next year," said a local rubber farm owner.

The price of rubber was Ks755 per pound as of May. Now, the price of rubber has declined to Ks720 per pound. The price of rubber is unstable everyday. Last year this time, the price of rubber was Ks840 per pound, said a local rubber trader from Thein Seik ward

from Thaton Township.

Last year, the authorities discussed the construction of rubber refinery factories to produce high quality rubber, to provide technical assistance and loans to rubber cultivators and to set up a stable rubber price in Mon State. However, the authorities could not implement the projects until now and the manageable-scale cultivators are facing difficulties in continuing with their rubber plantations. The rubber plantation is the main plantation in Mon state. There are more than 150,000 acres of rubber plantation in Mon State.—Khon (Win Pa)■

Myanmar-Bangladesh cross-border trade exceeds US\$4 million in current FY

THE value of bilateral border trade between Myanmar and Bangladesh amounted to more than US\$4 million in the current transitional fiscal year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The total value of border trade between the two countries increased by \$1.775 million as against the same period last year when bilateral border trade was \$2.337 million.

The two countries conduct border trade mainly through the Sittway and Maungdaw cross-border points of entry.

Myanmar's exports to Bangladesh are always greater than its imports.

Between 1 April and 1 June this year, Myanmar sold its domestically produced products valued at \$4.095 million to Bangladesh and it bought commodities worth \$0.017 million from the neighbouring country.

During the period, Myanmar exported commodities worth \$2.026 million to the South Asian country from the Sittway border trade camp, and goods worth \$2.069 million through the Maungdaw

border gate. This year saw an increase in the value of Myanmar-Bangladesh trade from both borders.

At the Myanmar-Bangladesh border gates, ginger, peanuts, mung beans, dried plums, garlic, rice, saltwater prawns and fish, bamboos, blankets, candy, plum jams, footwear, frozen foods, chemicals, leather, jute products, knitwear, beverages, tobacco, plastics, wood and products made from human hair are the marketable items.—Shwe Khine ■

Myanmar, Norway conduct negotiation meeting to promote trade and investment

By Nyein Nyein

NORWEGIAN Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Tone Tinnes and Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) chairman U Zaw Min Win conducted a negotiation meeting to promote trade and investment at the UMFCCI office on Friday.

At the meeting, Myanmar invited Norway's advanced technology companies to invest in Myanmar. They also discussed receiving assistance from Norway to solve the challenge of a lack of expert workers and weaknesses in the country's infrastructure, according to the UMFCCI.

Some Norway companies, including Telenor, which is one of the telecommunications companies that has already invested in Myanmar; electricity and energy companies; industrial manufacturing companies and insurance companies from Norway are preparing to invest in Myanmar, said

Ms. Tone Tinnes.

Moreover, Myanmar needs to take some measure to ensure the ease of doing business. If Myanmar can do this within a short period, there will be more foreign direct investment here, she added.

A Norway-Myanmar economic council is being conducted to promote the Norway-Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry Association. Recently, UMFCCI and Norway agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding to promote a bilateral economic relationship, said U Zaw Min Win.

UMFCCI always has a regular meeting, which is conducted every four months with the International Chambers of Commerce Associations, present within the country. At the regular meeting, they usually discuss difficulties in their business operations. UMFCCI always cooperates with the government to solve those difficulties. ■

Consumer goods imports by public sector decrease this FY

THE public sector's imports of consumer goods over the first 62 days of this financial year (FY) reached US\$12.042 million, a decrease in value by \$7.432 million against that of last year, the commerce ministry reported.

This time last year, the public sector imported a wide range of consumer products amounting to \$19.474 million.

Despite a decrease in the import of capital goods by the public sector, the private sector imports of the same products showed an increase in value by \$7.755 million.

From 1 April through 1 June this year, the country's total imports of consumer products were \$741.547 million, a slight increase in value of \$0.323 million in com-

parison with the same period last year.

Myanmar carries out overseas trade with neighbouring China, India, Thailand and Bangladesh, Southeast Asian countries, some European countries and Asian countries. It largely imports three major groups of products, comprising intermediate products, capital goods and consumer goods from international countries. Roughly 80% of the total external trade is conducted through shipping.

During the period, Myanmar also imported capital goods worth \$1.309 billion and intermediate goods worth \$1.426 billion, increasing more than \$446 million compared with the same period last FY.—Khine Khant ■

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Anti-Corruption Commission holds press conference in Nay Pyi Taw

FROM PAGE-1

The commission is an independent entity formed and assigned a specific duty by the government and it can freely conduct its works according to the law. As per the 2012 Jakarta Statement on Principles for Anti-Corruption Agencies, commissions like ours have political freedom, freedom of investigation and freedom to stand independently.

Freedom from bias is the highest norm maintained by the commission in conducting its duties and responsibilities. Investigations are conducted free from political influences. We took special care of this. We specifically say we don't tolerate any influence in our work. As the commission is an independent entity that can stand on its own on the subject (anti-corruption) matter, we have our norms in making decisions. These are being fair, creating good characteristics, freedom from bias and mutual respect. The commission investigates complaints in accordance with the law.

As the commission observes only the Anti-Corruption Law, it does not have the responsibility or power to file legal proceedings. The findings and outcomes of its investigation are to be handled in the following three ways: rejecting the complaint according to section 28 (a) (1); informing the head of department to take action according to the public servant rules as prescribed in section 30 (b); and assigning that a case be opened according to section 28 (a) (2).

A "bribe" is an important word in the enacted law. Bribes do not involve only money, material and gifts, but also accepting services and entertainment without paying for them appropriately. Those who have the power and authority should be aware of this. Furthermore, bribery includes accepting and giving, so businesspersons are asked to be aware of this as well.

If firm evidence of corruption is found after the law came into being on 17 September 2013, the commission will take action according to the law. Affected parties or witnesses are to file a complaint with firm evidence and proof. It is to be noted that action can be taken according to section 59 if a person has made an unsubstantiated and unau-



Anti-Corruption Commission held press conference at the commission's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

thenticated accusation.

The commission has three aims with regard to reducing corruption: these are to reduce public fund losses through corruption by being transparent, dutiful and taking responsibility; remove and eliminate widespread, entrenched and systematic corruption in public-related organisations; to make a significant improvement in the World Bank corruption index published once every two years.

Success depends on the enthusiastic support and assistance of government departments and organisations, news media personnel, civil society organisations and the public. As such, all are urged to work together to eliminate corruption, said the commission chairman.

Commission Secretary U San Win

During the six-month period, a total of 3,898 complaints were received from the public. Assessments were made in three steps. First, an investigation is continued or a preliminary investigation is conducted, where the complaint is according to the law and has sufficient supporting evidence.

Next, the findings of the investigation are transferred to the relevant union ministry and state/region governments if action can be taken according to section 30 (b) of the law. Thirdly and finally, if the complaint is not related to the anti-corruption law, the commission cannot take any action.

Assessments made on the complaints are submitted to the chairman and with the chairman's approval, they are

submitted to the commission meeting. The complaint work committee provides its comments to the meeting and a decision is made with the consensus of all the commission members. If a consensus is not reached, a decision is taken by voting. As two thirds of votes of the 12-member commission are required for the decision, the commission is doing its work

should not be taken according to the anti-corruption law and should be taken only through public servant regulations, the matter is transferred to the relevant head of ministry according to section 30(b).

While conducting the transfer, a request is made to the ministry to report back on the action taken within 60 days.

Of the 3,898 complaints re-

Complaints were made on 8 matters out of which 3 were personal matters that are not related to anti-corruption law. Out of the remaining, two were related to money laundering and transfer of Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank to Ministry of Planning and Finance.

properly.

A report of the investigation is submitted to the commission chairman according to section 27. As per section 27 (b), the commission chairman needs to call a commission meeting to discuss and decide on the report within 30 days of the receipt of the report. Decisions are made to reject the complaint according to section 28 (a) if there is not enough evidence. If the commission decides that the person accused did commit an offence according to the law, the investigation group is instructed to file a case in court.

If the commission unanimously decides that action

ceived, decisions were made on 3,045 complaints. Of this, 2,057 complaints or 67.6 per cent were not related to the anti-corruption law. The remaining 32.4 per cent were transferred to states/regions, ministerial departments and other departments according to section 30 (b).

Commission member U Soe Tint on complaint against Union Minister U Kyaw Win

Complaint against Union Minister U Kyaw Win was received on 3 May 2018. After it was assessed according to procedure, it was discussed in the commission meeting 17/2018 held on 7 May 2018. Commission

members agree to investigate the complaint and I (commission member U Soe Tint) was assigned as leader of the investigation team.

Investigations were conducted simultaneously in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw from 7 to 22 May 2018. Complainer, complainant and witnesses totaling 22 persons were investigated. The investigated persons include high ranking officials, public servants and business owners.

Complaints were made on 8 matters out of which 3 were personal matters that are not related to anti-corruption law. Out of the remaining, two were related to money laundering and transfer of Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank to Ministry of Planning and Finance.

Further investigation with relevant ministries and departments found that the money laundering matter was found to be a matter that happens before Union Minister U Kyaw Win took up his duty.

The matter of transferring Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank was started during the time of the previous government but was not completed so it was conducted during the incumbent government term. However, the matter was handled according to procedure by a team led by Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance.

As such, the complaint on this matter is considered as accusation against a person (the Union Minister) that is not involved in the matter.

Of the remaining three matters, two were also found to be considered wrongful accusation that is not true. The final one was a golf tournament arranged by a business person on behalf of Ministry of Planning and Finance. There was no firm evidence of the business person receiving any favor or giving any bribe under the anti-corruption law.

The findings of the investigation was submitted and discussed at the commission meeting 21/2018 held on 24 May where the 12 commission members unanimously decided that the complaint is a complaint without firm evidence.

Questions raised by press conference attendees were then replied by Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi and Commission Secretary U San Win. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Israel government donates water purifiers, technology to UEHRD CITF

A CEREMONY was held in Sky Star Hotel, Yangon yesterday evening where Israel Government donated water purifiers and technology to Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) Construction and Infrastructure Task Force (CITF).

At the ceremony, UEHRD chief coordinator Dr. Aung Tun Thet delivered an opening speech and Israel Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Daniel

Zonshine explained about the donation.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung also delivered a speech. Speeches of appreciation were then delivered by Rakhine state minister for Chin ethnic affairs U Pon Bway on behalf of Rakhine State government and CITF leader U Kyaw Win.

Afterwards, the four water purifiers were presented by Israel Ambassador to Myanmar

and received by UEHRD chief coordinator Dr. Aung Tun Thet. UEHRD chief coordinator then transferred the water purifiers to CITF.

The water purifiers with a capacity of purifying 500 liters per hour will be used in Rakhine State it is learnt.

The ceremony was attended by officials from Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, officials from UEHRD and invited guests.—Myanmar News Agency ■



UEHRD Chief Coordinator Dr Aung Tun Thet accepts four water purifiers from Israel Ambassador Mr. Daniel Zonshine. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vaccination drive to counter anthrax planned in Meiktila Township

THE Mandalay Region Livestock Breeding & Veterinary Department will conduct a vaccination drive to counter anthrax in Meiktila Township.

In the first week of May, five people were infected with anthrax after they butchered an anthrax-infected cow in Zayakgon village, Meiktila Township in Mandalay region. Currently, they have been hospitalised.

“The prevention activities to control anthrax are being conducted from 4 May. We

provided free vaccinations to animals and medical treatment to the animals, which are not feeling well in the village. We have separated into four groups, led by the district officer. Each group will provide vaccinations and health education to the villagers. We are aiming to cover the entire township,” said Dr. Maung Maung, director of Mandalay Region Livestock Breeding & Veterinary Department.

Anthrax among animals is very common in Myanmar.

Anthrax is also known by other names depending on the region. Anthrax mostly occurs during the rainy season. The animals die of this disease when they devour the green grass in which pupa is hidden.

The Mandalay Region Livestock Breeding & Veterinary Department provided vaccinations to 18,373 animals of 5,715 owners in 121 villages of Meiktila Township from the first week May until the first week of June 2018.—Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay) ■

Transfer ceremony of Mandalay weather radar station held

A WEATHER radar station, built on Paleik-Saga Inn road, Kyaynikan Village, Mandalay city, was transferred during a ceremony on Friday morning.

The transfer ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, Japan's Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Ichiro Maruyama and Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mr. Masayuki Karasawa.

“The Mandalay weather radar station can measure inland rainfall and wind speed. With the help of radar, the weather situation can be inves-

tigated more accurately. The image of the clouds can be taken from the ground. Also, images can be obtained from the satellite. Combining these two will enable timely weather forecasting and announcements,” said Director-General U Kyaw Moe Oo of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH).

In the past, weather reports were made once a day, but now five reports are made daily between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., in addition to sea reports at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

“The advantage of the weather radar is the ability to see in 3-D (three dimension) an approaching storm, allowing a more accurate investigation.

In the past, accurate analysis and forecast could not be made using only satellite images,” said DMH (upper Myanmar) Director U Kyaw Lwin Oo.

The Mandalay weather radar station is the third weather radar station constructed with the assistance of JICA. The work was started in the end of 2015 on the 50 metre (12-storey) high weather station.

The Kyaukphyu weather radar station was opened on 9 October 2015, while the Yangon weather radar station was opened on 24 October 2016.

The three weather radar stations were built with the assistance of JICA, at a cost of more than \$38 million.—Khaing Sat Wai ■

No illegal import of vehicles, no incidence of vehicle confiscation: MoI

MOI's PS refutes Myanmar Times' allegation on illegal car import

MINISTRY of Information refuted allegations that the ministry's vehicle import was not allowed by the Ministry of Commerce published by the Myanmar Times in its 7th June issue.

The Myanmar Times published the corrected version of the story in its 9th June issue, saying that there was no incidence of vehicle import nor confiscation of the Ministry of Information. In the wrong story, the reported expressed a quote from an official of the Ministry of Commerce.

“We contacted departments concerned of the Ministry of Commerce. They said no official of the Ministry of Commerce did not give comment to journalists,” said U Myo Myint Maung, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information yesterday. “Some donors offered to donate vehicles for mobile libraries. We are working to-

gether with the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation and SVA foundation for the mobile libraries. In fact, a donor offered SVA to donate vehicles for the mobile libraries. We negotiated for every donor on the request of foundation for smooth of donation including import of vehicles,” he added.

He also quoted the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Commerce saying that a private company applied to import vehicles for mobile libraries, not the Information Ministry's libraries in the application.

“As the mobile libraries are related with Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Commerce told that they did not allow import of vehicles for mobile libraries of the Ministry of Information,” he added. Ministry of Information also complained the Myanmar Times for not covering the correction on the same page where the wrong story appeared.—Ma Honey ■

Gusty winds slam into Hainggyigyun Township

POWERFUL winds hit Pyinkhayine village in Hainggyigyun in Patheingyi District in Ayeyawady Region on 8 June. Three houses were destroyed in strong winds, and all the flattened houses are under urgent repair to alleviate the plight of storm victims. No casualties were reported dur-

ing the disaster. Governmental officials and local police rushed to the scene to carry out relief operations. Hainggyigyun and its environs are prone to natural disasters like storms in monsoon period, it is learnt.—Kyaw Thu Hein (Haingyi Kyun)/Myanmar Digital News ■

Tightly-controlled Singapore rolls out tough summit security

SINGAPORE — Singapore's reputation for rigid law and order was seen as a major factor for being chosen to host Tuesday's US-North Korea summit — and the tiny city-state is determined not to disappoint.

Police, including elite units of Nepalese Gurkhas, will flood the streets and enforce a virtual lockdown of key sections of the city, blocking off roads to facilitate the historic face-to-face between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

And in order to preempt any disruptive protests, a blanket ban has been imposed on bringing flares, banners or loudhailers anywhere near the key summit venues.

Concrete barricades will spring up at key sites and mechanical metal barriers that rise from the ground at the touch of a button are likely to appear on some roads.

The police deployment for the hotly anticipated meeting is expected to be the biggest since 2006 when some 23,000 officers were mobilised for an IMF-World Bank meeting in the

city-state.

Singaporeans are used to, and largely accept, tough security measures and the sight of uniformed officers patrolling the metro and armed soldiers at airports is normal.

The government has long hammered into its citizens that heavy security is necessary as the wealthy financial hub is a prime target for a terror attack.

But the extreme measures are likely to be rare even by Singaporean standards, and could disrupt the largely orderly daily life of the city's 5.6 million residents.

Music teacher Janice Tan, 28, said the security arrangements were "terribly inconvenient", particularly due to expected road closures downtown.

"I care about world peace but I would prefer if they took their meeting elsewhere," she told AFP.

Flares, loudhailers banned

The decision to ban flares, banners and loudhailers at some summit venues is perhaps driven by concerns that even in a city where protests are rare and require a police

permit, some may still be tempted to come out onto the streets.

Sites covered by these restrictions include Sentosa, the resort island where the leaders will meet Tuesday, and a leafy diplomatic district that takes in the Shangri-La hotel where Trump is expected to stay.

Authorities have also restricted the use of airspace, apparently to allow Kim, Trump and their entourage to get in and out of the city-state smoothly.

But that could spell problems for travellers using Singapore's Changi Airport — one of the world's busiest international hubs — with aviation authorities warning of delays.

There have already been signs that authorities are nervous ahead of the meeting.

An Australian former terror suspect, who was refused entry into Singapore this week and deported home, said he believed it was because of the looming summit.

A Kim Jong Un look-alike — who said he had been to Singapore before without any problems — was grilled by immigra-

tion officials for two hours when he arrived on Friday and warned not to visit sites linked to the meeting.

Some of the heaviest security will be around Sentosa, which observers believe was picked because it is relatively far from population centres, and the island's Capella Hotel where the leaders will hold their historic talks.

An AFP photographer said hotel staff were seen turning away those without business in the area, while plainclothes security officials — both American and Singaporean — were spotted around a bar overlooking the Singapore Strait.

While the security may be extreme, analysts think it is needed given the unprecedented nature of the summit.

"By and large Singaporeans are used to seeing men in uniform," Graham Ong-Webb, a research fellow at the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, told AFP.

"This time round, they might balk slightly at the number of security assets on the ground — but it is necessary."—AFP ■

Sadness at Viet Nam noodle shop where Bourdain dined with Obama

HANOI — The restaurant in Hanoi's leafy Old Quarter soared to fame after a 2016 sit-down between Obama and Bourdain for his CNN show.

The owner of a Hanoi noodle shop where Anthony Bourdain slurped down 'bun cha' with former US president Barack Obama expressed her shock and sorrow on Saturday over the death of the globetrot-

ting American celebrity chef. Bun Cha Huong Lien restaurant in the Vietnamese capital's leafy Old Quarter soared to fame after the 2016 sit-down between Obama and Bourdain for his CNN show. The pair shared a simple meal of pork noodles and fried spring rolls — each dish worth around \$3 — and photos of the casual dinner quickly went viral.—AFP ■

Myanma Port Authority "Notice of High Tide"

Exceptionally high spring from 20.20 feet to 20.90 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of June 13th to June 17th, 2018. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to publish the notice of high tide to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC AHAKA VOY.NO. (1809-1810)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC AHAKA VOY.NO. (1809-1810) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-6-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY.NO. (005N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY.NO. (005N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-6-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.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 INTERA ASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185



Sites covered by extra restrictions include Sentosa, the resort island where the leaders will meet on Tuesday, and a leafy diplomatic district that takes in the Shangri-La hotel where Trump is expected to stay. PHOTO: AFP

Lost John Coltrane album set for release

LOS ANGELES — Missing for more than 50 years, recordings by jazz legend John Coltrane leading the quartet behind his masterpiece “A Love Supreme” are coming out as a posthumous album.

Impulse! Records announced Friday that it will release “Both Directions at Once: The Lost Album,” recorded in 1963 and never heard before publicly on 29 June.

The new album is “like finding a new room in the Great Pyramid,” 87-year-old Sonny Rollins, Coltrane’s friend and the last in his generation of iconic jazz saxophonists, said in a statement.

Coltrane recorded the seven tracks with his classic quartet — Jimmy Garrison on bass, Elvin Jones on drums and McCoy Tyner on piano — at the New Jersey studio of jazz enthusiast Rudy Van Gelder, an initially makeshift space in a living room that became a go-to spot for artists.

The quartet would return to the Van Gelder studio in late 1964 to record “A Love Supreme,” Coltrane’s exploration of his spiritual quest toward happiness that is often described as the greatest jazz album of all time.

The lost tapes were discovered by the family of Coltrane’s first wife, Juanita Naima Coltrane, who had preserved them at the family home in Queens.

Two songs on the upcoming album have never been heard in any form and feature Coltrane performing on soprano saxophone, not the tenor for which he was better known. The recordings also include an alternative version of “Impressions,” one of Coltrane’s better-known compositions without the usual piano.

Coltrane, who died in 1967 from cancer, was at the forefront of the free jazz movement, which broke away from the conventional confines of the music to encourage flowing experimentation.

Coltrane took jazz in a further fresh direction by turning toward India, incorporating the raga form and the Hindu spiritual tradition into his music and lifestyle.

The jazz legend found an artistic home in Impulse! Records, joining the fledgling label with his big band-style 1961 album “Africa/Brass” before his recordings with the quartet that also included “Coltrane” and “Crescent.” — AFP ■



John Coltrane, seen performing in Paris in an undated photo, died from cancer in 1967. **PHOTO: AFP**

Queen honours Emma Thompson, Kenny Dalglish

LONDON — Actress Emma Thompson and football legend Kenny Dalglish were on Friday named in Queen Elizabeth II’s honours list, but survivors and emergency responders to the Grenfell Tower disaster were notably absent as the first anniversary of the fire approaches.

Oscar-winner Thompson, famed for her roles in “Harry Potter” and “The Remains of the Day”, has been granted the title of Dame in the annual roll call of the great and the good of British society.

The 59-year-old — described in the official citation of the honours committee as one of the UK’s most versatile and celebrated actresses — is joined by actors Tom Hardy and Keira Knightley, who received the Order of the British Empire “for services to drama”.

Meanwhile, 67-year-old Dalglish, who won three European Cups as a Liverpool player and managed the club during the 1989 Hillsborough disaster when 96 fans were killed in a stadium crush, was awarded a knighthood. The Scot becomes Sir Kenny.

It is in recognition of “services to football, charity and the city of Liverpool” after his decades-long battle for justice for the victims of the tragedy, and for his work with his wife Marina’s charity which has raised more than £10 million (\$13.4 million, 11.4 million euros) for breast cancer sufferers.

“I am hugely grateful,” Dalglish said.

“The enjoyment that I have derived from being involved in football for as long as I have is outstripped only by the sense that I’ve been hugely fortunate to have the right people around me at all times.”

Absence of Grenfell names

The government has been forced to defend its decision to leave those involved in the



Actress Emma Thompson has been made a Dame in Queen Elizabeth II’s honours list this year. **PHOTO: AFP**

London tower block fire which claimed 71 lives on June 14 off the list. As well as prominent figures in the arts and sciences, honours are frequently bestowed on members of the emergency services and campaigners.

In December, an editorial on The Independent website said the failure to note the “heroes” of Grenfell in the New Year’s honours list “beggars belief”.

A government spokeswoman insisted that those involved in the blaze, rescue efforts and its aftermath would be honoured “at the earliest opportunity”.

“We have consulted with community groups and the emergency services to agree the right approach to recognising those involved, considering inquests and investigations where appropriate,” she said. “Our approach will be community driven, time appropriate and sensitive to the ongoing local recovery.”

An inquiry into the fire is currently underway, probing allegations that unsafe building materials fuelled the inferno, but is not expected to submit its findings until at least 2019.

Police also said on Thursday they were investigating London’s

fire service over their order for residents to “stay put” during the inferno. The honours list is the third not to name key Grenfell Tower figures, although the monarch’s 2017 birthday list was announced just two days after the fire.

However, former assistant commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Mark Rowley, who led the response to the wave of deadly terror attacks which swept Britain last year, was honoured in the 2018 list with a knighthood “for services to policing”.

Queen Elizabeth — who turned 92 in April but celebrates the occasion on Saturday — honoured remarkable women on the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage, making them 49 per cent of the honorees.

War correspondent Kate Adie, Sister Imelda Poole, president of European anti-trafficking network Renate, and former World War II nurse Rosemary Powell, who at 103 is the oldest on the list, are among the women to be honoured. Twenty-year-old alpine skier Menna Fitzpatrick, Britain’s most successful winter Paralympian, is the youngest on this year’s list. — AFP ■

Amanda Seyfried to star in ‘You Should Have Left’

LOS ANGELES — “Mamma Mia” star Amanda Seyfried has joined the cast of thriller “You Should Have Left”.

The film, written and to be directed by David Koepp, also features actor Kevin Bacon and will be produced by Blumhouse Productions. Koepp, an industry

veteran, is best known for writing films such as “Mission: Impossible”, “Jurassic Park”, “Spider-Man”, “War of the Worlds” and others. The film, which is expected to start shooting later this year, follows the “unsettling story of a wealthy man with a younger wife and a 6-year-old child. Mis-

trust and suspicion characterize their marriage while they are in a remote location that may or may not be obeying all the physical laws of the universe.”

Bacon will portray the wealthy man, while Seyfried will play his wife, an actress with a secret, reported Variety. — PTI ■

Trophy hunting: World Cup replicas selling fast in Viet Nam

HANOI—In a dusty workshop on the outskirts of Hanoi, workers busily mould, set and spray hundreds of replica World Cup trophies as orders flood in ahead of next week's tournament.

Demand in football-mad Viet Nam is soaring for the hand made plaster models of the real 18-carat gold trophy that will go to the winners of the month-long World Cup hosted by Russia that starts on Thursday.

Craftsman Vuong Hong Nhat has been making the foot-tall replicas since the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, perfecting his hand-carved design over several months to give as gifts.

"Initially I didn't want to sell the trophies, I was just trying to feed my passion for football and give them to friends and family,"

said the 57-year-old Manchester United fan. But they proved so popular he now sells them and expects to receive 3,000 orders this year — triple the number he made in 2014.

With just three assistants in his small workshop he's struggling to keep up with demand.

"I work all day to fill the orders, but it's not enough. I have to work until midnight," said Nhat, exhausted, as workers pour plaster nearby.

His spray-painted gold versions of the coveted trophy sell for just \$3.50 — a steal compared to the estimated \$150,000 price tag on the real number designed by the late Italian sculptor Silvio Gazzaniga.

That version, the FIFA World Cup Trophy, has been in play



With just three assistants in his small workshop, Nhat is struggling to keep up with demand for his trophy replicas. **PHOTO: AFP**

since 1974 when it replaced the original Jules Rimet Trophy given to Brazil in 1970 after it clinched its third World Cup win.

The original Jules Rimet Trophy was stolen in Brazil when the back wall of its case was removed by thieves in 1983 and has never

been recovered.

For Nhat's customers, the replicas add a sprinkling of glory before the World Cup.

"Holding the trophy I feel like Zidane (when he) won the World Cup in 1998", France national team supporter Dang Viet Duy

said. It's a small consolation for football fans like Nhat who have little hope of seeing Viet Nam — a lowly 102nd in FIFA's official rankings — compete in the World Cup any time soon. "If they do, I'll give my trophies away for free," said Nhat.—AFP ■

Tokyo looks to entice foreign tourists to spend, enjoy nightlife

TOKYO—Businesses in Tokyo are looking to get foreign visitors spending their time and cash on the city's wide-ranging nightlife options.

Travel agencies are arranging special events for foreign tourists such as Japanese taiko drum performances, while hotels are extending their business hours to allow guests to socialize into the early hours.

But while efforts are being made to boost the after-dark economy, the lack of late-night public transport remains a major obstacle to tourists getting a taste of what Tokyo has to offer — especially when the only option after 1 am is waiting for the first train four hours later, or taking an expensive taxi to their hotel.

Since last year, travel agency JTB Corp has joined with "Drum Tao," a world-famous Japanese taiko percussion and dance troupe, to entertain foreign visitors.

Performances of the traditional Japanese drumming were held in September and October 2017. Due to their popularity, the shows are being held from May through November this year, a fourfold increase in the number of performances from the year before. According to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, foreign tourists visiting Japan last year spent about

150,000 yen (\$1,370) per person. This is well below the 200,000 yen amount required to hit the 8 trillion yen the government wants to be injected into the economy by tourists. Designating tourism as a key growth area, the Japanese government aims to attract 40 million overseas visitors annually to the country by 2020, and 60 million by 2030. In January, the Tokyo metropolitan government said it planned to survey foreign tourists on what they enjoy about

the city's nightlife, including restaurants, theaters and sporting events, to better cater to their interests while encouraging them to part with their cash.

The central government is joining Tokyo's efforts to increase spending by tourists at night. Despite the rapid increase in tourism, the average amount spent per traveler has declined in recent years. "The night is a big opportunity for consumption," said JTB President Hiroyuki

Takahashi, while stressing the need to improve Tokyo's entertainment options after dark.

The Shinagawa Prince Hotel's 39th-story restaurant was refurbished in December, and the business hours extended for the bar area two hours until 4 am. Customers now can look at spectacular night views of Tokyo Bay and famous landmarks while listening to music from a DJ.

"We keep in mind that we want visitors to Japan to enjoy

themselves during the nighttime," said the hotel's public relations department. The number of customers using the bar area since renovations started until the end of March has risen 30 per cent compared with the same period last year. Since April last year, the Tokyo National Museum in Ueno has extended its opening times by one hour on Fridays and Saturdays, to 9 pm. It is not only trying to accommodate people who finish work earlier as part of Japan's labour reforms but is also attempting to draw more foreign tourists. But the problem of a lack of public transport remains, as well as concerns about noise and security issues in some districts.

Unlike places such as New York City, which has a 24-hour subway service, Japan's transport network shuts down for the night to allow for maintenance and equipment checks.

In December, a group of Liberal Democratic Party lawmakers proposed an experiment that would have allowed trains and buses to operate past midnight and into the early hours of the morning as a way of making life for late-night revelers more convenient. But the Tokyo metropolitan government-run subway operator pushed back, saying it would be difficult to operate subways around the clock.—Kyodo News ■



Supplied photo taken in September 2017 shows performers of Japanese taiko percussion and dance troupe Drum Tao rehearsing for an event it co-organized with major travel agency JTB Corp. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

GFA draw with Sagaing in Week 15 MNL

IN Week 15 of the MPT Myanmar National League 2018, GFA FC played to a 2-2 draw with Sagaing United yesterday at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

Sagaing United's line-up included keeper A Sin Hmue, Thet Naung Htwe, Aung Hlaing Win, Ye Myo Myat, That Zin Win, Khaung Zaw Htwe, Akanmidue Barnabas Friday, Myo Thu Win, Thiha Zaw, Captain Mandjombe and Bamba Gaoussou.

GFA's line up included Goalie Nyein Min Oo, Captain Atanga Effa, Mg Lio, Pyone Cho, Zaw Lin, Shwe Win Tun, Soe Min Tun, Philip Tun, Tin Aung Kyaw, Jordan Nya Ko and Osun Omololu Emmanuel.

There were many near goal chances from both teams throughout the first half, but neither team could convert these to goals and the result was 0-0 till the end of the first half.

Sagaing changed some tactics in the second half and played much better than they did in the first half.

At the 59-minute mark, Sagaing gained a starting goal scored by Friday with his strong upward kick that was acquired by a big mistake made by the



Sagaing United player poised to kick the ball in yesterday's MNL match against GFA at Thuwunna Stadium. **PHOTO: KYI SOE (MFF)**

GFA goalkeeper.

But the result didn't last for too long. GFA equalised at 63 minutes and the goal was scored by the team's star Mung Theih Pau with his low and accurate kick.

Again at the 76th minute,

Sagaing got another goal, scored by their expatriate player Friday along with the continuous support of his teammates.

Two minutes later, GFA equalised the goal with a strong kick from Mung Theih Pau.

The final whistle blew and

the match ended with a 2-2 draw, which was a real good one with forward and backward plays.

After 15 matches, GFA stands at 11th place with 11 points and Sagaing stands at 10th place with 12 points. —Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Shan United confident about playing Yadanarbon today

DEFENDING Champions Shan United will play against Yadanarbon United at Mandalaythiri stadium in Mandalay today.

Shan United is confident and will give it their best, as they are the defending champions, according to Shan United FC.

Its head coach Marjan Sekulovski revealed his feelings ahead of the match against Yadanarbon on the Shan United FC page. "In my view, there is no differentiation between foreigners and local players. For me, there are only good players and not good enough players. Nationality and names are not important for me. Although Yadanarbon have no foreign players, most of the players are national players and youngsters. We have been working to give our best performance and a good result on the pitch," he said. "I'm never totally satisfied with any performance because I believe we can play much better as a team. But I'm satisfied with the results. We have to show the same performance that we did in the match against Ayeyarwady United and in the first-half of the match against Sagaing United," he added. He also said that the biggest problem of the team was the physical condition of two very important players, Hein Thiha Zaw and Zin Min Tun, who have been sidelined for some time due to their injuries.

"Their recovery is taking place very slowly and we can't use our best line-up. But I'm confident that the players who will play will show their best performance and try to grab a good result in the coming match," he remarked. —Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Japan facing tough World Cup task in tight Group H

TOKYO — Japan will have to navigate a competitive group featuring three opponents widely tipped to have their measure if they are to again reach the World Cup's round of 16 in Russia.

Not only will an aging Samurai Blue squad have to overcome the self-inflicted instability caused by changing manager just two months ahead of the global soccer showpiece, they will also have to deal with a trio of formidable foes.

Group H features a Polish team dripping with quality, a Colombian squad looking to further cement their place among South America's elite and a Senegal side that boasts one of the world's premier attacking talents.

Japan's fans are right to envision a path into the knockout stage for their boys and hope for a first-ever quarterfinal appearance. If the team can take points from early tests against Colombia and Senegal, they may meet

a Poland team that has already booked a place in the round of 16, but rarely do such fairytales play out.

In their first match against Colombia on 19 June in Saransk, Japan face a team that scraped into their continent's last automatic qualification place, needing a final day draw with Peru to reach their second straight World Cup finals.

Against Columbia Japan has a two-loss, one-draw all-time re-

cord, the last meeting coming at the 2014 World Cup when a Jackson Martinez second-half double set up by the irrepressible James Rodriguez helped the South Americans embarrass Japan 4-1. After reaching the quarterfinals in 2014, the country's best World Cup finish, world No 16 Columbia will lean on its high-octane attacking duo of Rodriguez and Radamel Falcao in looking to advance further in Russia. —Kyodo News ■

Hozumi-Ninomiya reach women's doubles final at French Open

PARIS — Eri Hozumi and Makoto Ninomiya on Friday became the first all-Japanese pair to advance to the women's doubles final at a Grand Slam tournament with a straight-sets win over Chan Hao-ching of Taiwan and Yang Zhaoxuan of China in the French Open semifinals.

The unseeded Japanese

duo took 1 hour, 3 minutes to complete the 6-2, 6-2 victory over the eighth-seeded pair on the Suzanne Lenglen Court at Roland Garros.

"I can't express how happy I am. I like playing with a Japanese because I find it easier to communicate and think," Hozumi said. "I'm so glad that I was able to come this far with

Ninomiya."

The 24-year-olds will face Czech No 6 seeds Barbora Krejickova and Katerina Sinikova on Sunday in a bid to become the first Japanese pair to win a Grand Slam title since 1955. Kosei Kamo and Atsushi Miyagi accomplished the feat when they won the men's doubles crown at the 1955 US

National Championships, now the US Open.

"I'm really happy but we haven't won the tournament yet," Ninomiya said. "I want to win one more."

Hozumi and Ninomiya dominated the semi from the outset. They took five straight games en route to claiming the first set, and broke a 2-2

tie in the second as they closed out the match by winning four games in a row.

Hozumi last year reached the Australian Open women's doubles semifinals alongside compatriot Miyu Kato, while Ninomiya and partner Renata Voracova of the Czech Republic made it to the semis at Wimbledon. —Kyodo News ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

10 JUNE 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

The Breath of June's Early Rain



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

MAY has waved goodbye to us. The smell of May's wind is slowly fading. Fading away. As it fades away, the pure serene steps in immediately. Again, it is telling in the chilly breezes of early June. Rain is here with us now. To make the nature green and to paint the classy scene. We will get lost in the story of this year's rain once again. So, let us get ready for it.

There are people who feel the rain while the others just get wet. Although most of the people do not like getting soaked, they still cannot ignore the tune of the rain. Honestly, the sound of the rain needs no translation. When the rain comes, we hardly ever see blue skies with pink clouds. Because the achromic skies are the season's best supporters. And we can always tell the

weather by its signs in the endless sky above us. When we see rolls of huge clouds in the sky, it is certain that the showers are near. It is the huge clouds which bring us the cool vibes but warm feelings to our hearts. The wind blows first making the leaves on the trees dance beautifully. Some just dance steadily on the brownish branches while the others fly swiftly in the blowing wind till they fall to the earth. The loud noises from the surroundings suddenly start to go silent. Otherwise, the silence breaks in. Then the sky pours down silver drops. The banging sounds of windows replace the silence later on. And people rushing here and there for shelter and the scenes of water rushing down the drain pipes make the portrait of a rainy day

complete. The colours from the umbrellas play the supporting role in this season as well. Once it showers, the countless rain drops water the dry dust off the old streets of Yangon city. How pleasant!

It is true that the rain makes the sights of our city into a dim-lighted-room. However, yet there are lots and lots of heavenly sceneries after rain has poured to describe. Such as, seven-coloured rainbows, green grasses and new green leaves on large shady trees, some flowers blooming stunningly as they drink the tasty drops of rain and some pewter skies before evenings. How appealing they are! The nature paints our environment into such a charming one. Close your eyes and let the rain drops wash your

worries away from your mind. Let them lead you to the truths of your life. Those clear drops are as pretty as the confetti, which, in this case, are falling down to earth from the sky. Allow the rain to fill your eyes with great countless memories you had in your unchangeable past and sing you a sweet lullaby on your rooftop at night. Let the wind blow on your face washing all your sweat.

Rain means a lot more than the rain to me. I used to spend my childhood staring the two drops of rain on the glass window rolling down and imagining it was a real race. Tucking up in bed during heavy rains makes me feel safe and secure. I love the sound of it knocking on the window.

SEE PAGE S-7

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



CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK

5. သူတို့ကား မမောင်းတတ်ကြပါ။
They do not know how to drive.
သူ အင်္ဂလိပ်စကားပြောတတ်သည်။
He knows how to speak English.
6. သူမ ဝါသနာမှာ သီချင်းဆိုခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။
Her hobby is singing.
သီချင်းဆိုခြင်းသည် သူမ၏ ဝါသနာဖြစ်သည်။
Singing is her hobby.
7. ကျွန်တော် ခရီးသွားခြင်းကို နှစ်သက်သည်။
I love travelling.
သူ ရေကူးခြင်းကို နှစ်သက်သည်။
He likes swimming.
ကျွန်တော်တို့ ဘတ်(စ်)ကား စောင့်ရခြင်းကိုမုန်းသည်။
We hate waiting for buses.
8. သူမ စာကြိုးစားသည်။
She works hard her lessons.
9. သူ မြန်မာစာတော်သည်။
He is good at Myanmar.
10. ကျွန်တော် စာမေးပွဲကို ဂုဏ်ထူးများဖြင့် အောင်ချင်သည်။
I want to pass the examination with flying colours. (with distinctions)

ထို့အပြင် အောက်တွင် နမူနာ စာစီစာကုံး တစ်ခုပေးထားပါသည်။
နှစ်ခေါက် သုံးခေါက်ဖတ်ပါ။ မြန်မာကျောင်းသားများ မှားတတ်သော အင်္ဂလိပ်အသုံးအနှုန်းများပါသည်။

ရှေးယခင်ကကဲ့သို့ ပေးထားသောခေါင်းစဉ်နှင့်ပတ်သက်၍ ယေဘုယျအကြောင်းအရာများ အကြောင်း ရေး၍ နိဒါန်းမပါပေ။ တော့ဘဲ ကျောင်းပိတ်၍ အိမ်ပြန်ပုံကို နိဒါန်းအပိုဒ်တွင် ရေးထားသည်။ စာကိုယ်တွင် တစ်နေ့လုံး လုပ်ခဲ့ပုံကို ၄-၅ ကြောင်းမျှဖြင့် ဖော်ပြ၍ နွေရာသီအတွင်း အရေးအကြီးဆုံးအဖြစ်အပျက်ဖြစ်သော သင်္ကြန်ရှင်းကို အသေးစိတ်မူန်းထားသည်။

နိဂုံးတွင် ရန်ကုန်အပြန် မိဘများ ဘူတာရုံလိုက်ပို့ပုံ ဝမ်းနည်းပုံကို ဖော်ပြထားသည်။

How I spent My Summer Vacation

Our examination was over on March 20 and I went home on March 22. My home is in Shwebo. It is a town in Upper Myanmar. I left Yangon early in the morning and reached my native town the next morning. My parent were waiting at the station to meet me. They were very glad to see me and I was very pleased to see them. We took a pony-cart and went home.

I spend most of my time reading. I ate a lot, slept a lot and read a lot of books. My old friends came to me almost everyday. Sometimes we went swimming. Sometimes we went to the cinema. Sometimes we played games, and sometimes we sat and talked this and that. The most exciting thing which happened during the vacation was the Water Festival. It is also called the Thingyan Festival. It falls in April. Last year it lasted four days. Everyday during those days my friends and I went round the town in a jeep.

We threw water at everyone we saw. My friend Aye Maung put a lump of ice in his bucket which made the water very cold. When he saw Maung Kyi's sister coming along the street, he threw the water over her and she screamed because it was very cold. At first she pretended to be very angry and then she laughed. She waited till her brother was not looking, picked up a bucket and emptied it over Aye Maung. We were very happy.

The schools re-opened and I had to go back to Yangon. My parents came to the station to see me off. They were very sad when I said goodbye to them. I took the 8 o'clock train and reached Yangon the next evening. My vacation was over.

Glossary

spent	ကုန်ဆုံးစေသည်
vacation	အားလပ်ရက်
was over	ပြီးဆုံးသည်
pony-cart	မြင်းလှည်း
almost everyday	နေ့တိုင်းလိုလို
exciting	စိတ်လှုပ်ရှားဖွယ်ကောင်းသော
happened	ဖြစ်ပျက်ခဲ့သည်
last (adj)	နောက်ဆုံး
lasted (v)	ကြာခဲ့သည်
a lump of ice	ရေခဲတုံးတစ်တုံး
bucket	ရေပုံး
threw water	ရေပက်သည်
screamed	ကြောက်၍ သို့မဟုတ် နာကျင်၍အော်သည်
pretended	ဟန်ဆောင်သည်
laughed	ရယ်သည်
emptied	လောင်းချသည် (ဗလာကျင်းသည်)
re-opened	ပြန်ဖွင့်သည်
every day during those days	ထိုရက်များအတွင်း နေ့တိုင်းနေ့တိုင်း

အောက်ပါတို့ကို မှန်မှန်ကန်ကန်သုံးတတ်ရန် လေ့လာပါ။

went home	အိမ်ပြန်သည်
went to the cinema	ရုပ်ရှင်ကြည့်သည်
went round the town	မြို့ထဲလျှောက်လည်သည်
went swimming	ရေကူးသွားသည်
meet me at the station	ဘူတာရုံမှာ လာကြိုသည်
see me off	လိုက်ပို့သည်
take a pony-cart	မြင်းလှည်းငှားစီးသည်
took the 8 o'clock train	ရှစ်နာရီရထားစီးခဲ့သည်။

I spent most of my time reading.

ကျွန်တော်သည် အချိန်အများစုကို စာဖတ်ခြင်းဖြင့် ကုန်ဆုံးစေသည်။

My friends and I

ကျွန်တော်မိတ်ဆွေများနှင့် ကျွန်တော် (I and my friends) ဟု မိမိကိုယ်ကိုရှေ့ကထား မရေးရ။

She waited till her brother was not looking.

အစ်ကို ကြည့်မနေသည့်တိုင်အောင် စောင့်ခဲ့သည်။

I left Yangon.

ကျွန်တော် ရန်ကုန်မှ ထွက်ခွာခဲ့သည်။

Verb Form တွင် ကြိယာ (Verbs) များကို ပုံစံအမျိုးမျိုး သုံးရမည်ဖြစ်သဖြင့် လေ့လာရန်ကြိယာများ အောက်တွင် ပေးထားပါသည်။

Verb တစ်ခုတွင် Present Tense, Past Tense နှင့် Past Participle ဟူ၍ သုံးမျိုးရှိပါသည်။

(A) အောက်ပါတို့မှာ သုံးလုံးစလုံး တစ်လုံးနှင့် တစ်လုံး မတူသည့် ကြိယာများဖြစ်ပါသည်။

Present Tense	Past Tense	Past Participle
go	went	gone
သွားသည်။	သွားခဲ့သည်။	သွားပြီးပြီ။
see	saw	seen
မြင်သည်။	မြင်ခဲ့သည်။	မြင်သည်။
take	took	taken
ယူသည်။	ယူခဲ့သည်။	ယူသည်။
shake	shook	shaken
လှုပ်သည်။	လှုပ်ခဲ့သည်။	လှုပ်သည်။
break	broke	broken
ချိုးသည်။	ချိုးခဲ့သည်။	ချိုးသည်။
write	wrote	written
ရေးသည်။	ရေးခဲ့သည်။	ရေးသည်။
ride	rode	ridden
စီးသည်။	စီးခဲ့သည်။	စီးသည်။
hide	hid	hidden
ပုန်းသည်။	ပုန်းခဲ့သည်။	ပုန်းသည်။
bite	bit	bitten
ကိုက်သည်။	ကိုက်ခဲ့သည်။	ကိုက်သည်။
wear	wore	worn
ဝတ်ဆင်သည်။	ဝတ်ဆင်ခဲ့သည်။	ဝတ်ဆင်သည်။
bear	bore	born
မွေးဖွားသည်။	မွေးဖွားခဲ့သည်။	မွေးဖွားသည်။
bear	bore	borne
သယ်ဆောင်သည်။	သယ်ဆောင်ခဲ့သည်။	သယ်ဆောင်သည်။
tear	tore	torn
ဆုတ်ဖြသည်။	ဆုတ်ဖြခဲ့သည်။	ဆုတ်ဖြသည်။
swear	swore	sworn
ကျိန်ပြောသည်။	ကျိန်ပြောခဲ့သည်။	ကျိန်ပြောသည်။
speak	spoke	spoken
စကားပြောသည်။	စကားပြောခဲ့သည်။	စကားပြောသည်။
sing	sang	sung
သီချင်းဆိုသည်။	သီချင်းဆိုခဲ့သည်။	သီချင်းဆိုသည်။
ring	rang	rung
တီးသည်။	တီးခဲ့သည်။	တီးသည်။
spring	sprang	sprung
ခုန်ထွက်သည်။	ခုန်ထွက်ခဲ့သည်။	ခုန်ထွက်သည်။
draw	drew	drawn
ဆွဲသည်။	ဆွဲခဲ့သည်။	ဆွဲသည်။
grow	grew	grown
စိုက်သည်။	စိုက်ခဲ့သည်။	စိုက်သည်။
blow	blew	blown
တိုက်ခတ်သည်။	တိုက်ခတ်ခဲ့သည်။	တိုက်ခတ်သည်။
throw	threw	thrown
ပစ်သည်။	ပစ်ခဲ့သည်။	ပစ်သည်။
swim	swam	swum
ရေကူးသည်။	ရေကူးခဲ့သည်။	ရေကူးသည်။
begin	began	begun
စတင်သည်။	စတင်ခဲ့သည်။	စတင်သည်။
drink	drank	drunk
သောက်သည်။	သောက်ခဲ့သည်။	သောက်သည်။
sink	sank	sunk
နစ်မြုပ်သည်။	နစ်မြုပ်ခဲ့သည်။	နစ်မြုပ်သည်။
drive	drove	driven
မောင်းသည်။	မောင်းခဲ့သည်။	မောင်းသည်။
lie	lay	lain
လဲလျောင်းသည်။	လဲလျောင်းခဲ့သည်။	လဲလျောင်းသည်။
eat	ate	eaten
စားသည်။	စားခဲ့သည်။	စားသည်။
show	showed	shown
ပြသည်။	ပြခဲ့သည်။	ပြသည်။
fly	flew	flown
ပျံသန်းသည်။	ပျံသန်းခဲ့သည်။	ပျံသန်းသည်။
fall	fell	fallen
လဲသည်။	လဲခဲ့သည်။	လဲသည်။
rise	rose	risen
တက်သည်။	တက်ခဲ့သည်။	တက်သည်။
do	did	done
လုပ်ဆောင်သည်။	လုပ်ဆောင်ခဲ့သည်။	လုပ်ဆောင်သည်။
choose	chose	chosen
ရွေးချယ်သည်။	ရွေးချယ်ခဲ့သည်။	ရွေးချယ်သည်။
bid	bade	bidden
နှုတ်ဆက်သည်။	နှုတ်ဆက်ခဲ့သည်။	နှုတ်ဆက်သည်။
arise	arose	arisen
ပေါ်ပေါက်လာသည်။	ပေါ်ပေါက်လာခဲ့သည်။	ပေါ်ပေါက်လာသည်။
wake	woke	waken
နှိုးသည်။	နှိုးခဲ့သည်။	နှိုးသည်။
forget	forgot	forgotten
မေ့သည်။	မေ့ခဲ့သည်။	မေ့သည်။
forgive	forgave	forgiven
ခွင့်လွှတ်သည်။	ခွင့်လွှတ်ခဲ့သည်။	ခွင့်လွှတ်သည်။
forsake	forsook	forsaken
စွန့်လွှတ်သည်။	စွန့်လွှတ်ခဲ့သည်။	စွန့်လွှတ်သည်။
shrink	shrank	shrunk
ရှုံ့သည်။	ရှုံ့ခဲ့သည်။	ရှုံ့သည်။

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

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

Let's Make Our Children Love Our Environment

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

DURING these years, the time we have heard and experienced different kinds of Natural Disasters as Storms, Floods, Earthquakes, Land-Slides and so on, all of us come to know the real causes of all these disasters, especially the shortage and disappearing of different trees and plants as well as some species of creatures.

Most of the Natural Disasters were caused by these erosions and disappearing of different species, especially our different kinds of woods which can, not only save and defend us from these Natural Disasters, but also offer us with different kinds of foods and other things useful for our daily lives and also even natural medical plants. So to maintain all these different natural environment is very important nowadays.

Not only planting again new trees and forests, but also we need to defend our forests

a joint-procedure with Yangon University of Education. After they received permission to join Public Schools, they together started their project in ...

- (a) Two Ba Ka (Monastic Education) Schools,
- (b) Two Private Schools and
- (c) Two Public Schools.

Together we (members of JWRC + members of YUOE) went to these schools and then let the primary children to go out on field trips (just for an hour or so) in their school compound or to the nearby parks, let the children get some

they feel to these insects and flowers.

After all, each had to come to the front of the class and tell whatever they know about their treasures. It was so interesting that how these children name their treasures, such

asked children which part of the insects or plants, what kind of insects these are and so on. Children can argue whatever they think and after all they came to know the correct answers.



and plants and trees and different creatures from disappearing from our world. For the long-term plan, it is important to teach children and youth to value our trees, plants and creatures so that they would not do any destructions as today's men have been wrong.

Therefore, to train children and youth to have love and value on these trees, plants and creatures, to let them know their values and useful traits through environmental science, is more and more important during these days.

Luckily enough for our children, here in our country, a friendly group named JWRC (Japan Wildlife Research Centre) have an idea to do so in some schools to our primary children. They tried to start their plan since 2016, came to visit some schools they get permission to join and started their plan to teach environmental science to our children through happy and enjoyable practical teaching and learning. First they started their plan with some Monastic Education Schools, International Schools and Private Schools.

Then in 2017, they got their chance to get permission to start a Project with

insects and flowers and plants with the help of their Japanese experts, all of them Ph.D. degree holders and senior or junior researchers from JWRC together with the help of our experts from YUOE, all of them Ph.D. degree holders professors and lecturers from the Biology Department and Methodology Department who have done their research work on Science Education. Among them, we have different specializations, such as Botanists, Zoologists, Experts in Fishes, experts in Reptiles, experts in Insects and so on. In some schools, we let the parents join together happily in these practical field trips with their children so that they can give advice and protect their children from any harm. Teachers from these schools also joined together with us. (Me, as the National Consultant for this Project.)

When the children caught some insects, they let these put systematically in the plastic bags or boxes, so that the insects may go on alive and all children may not get any harm. So also with the plants and flowers they collected.

Then all came into the classrooms again, and let the treasures they have got put on the table under small microscopes and let the children draw what they saw with colour pencils and crayons. Then each child had to name whichever name

as At-hawka Dragon-fly, Maung Nyo (to a snail), Wut Hmone Shwe Yi (to a beautiful yellow butterfly), Nay Toe (to a small insect) and so on. Some gave even their own names to these what they have brought.

They could say how many legs these have, how they fly, what they were doing when they were caught and so on. Every child felt so proud of his or her own collections.

After their individual presentations, the Japanese experts show some parts of some insects and plants and flowers under the microscope onto the screen and

It was the way they carried out their First Phase of their Project. During this year in 2018, the second phase of their project will be carried out here again and then in 2019, in their third phase, they are intending to try to spread their methods to all over the country through Teacher Educators and Teachers.

It is really a Great Hope to let our children learn to love our environment, so that they won't do anything destructing, instead they will protect and defend to face any Natural Disasters.

Dr. Nu Nu Win, Retired Professor and Head of Department, Department of Educational Psychology, Sagaing University of Education.

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Yinkyar ethnic people celebrate traditional religious festival of new year in Nansam, Loilem District, Shan State. PHOTO: SAI ZAW LATT

Hill tribe and artisan skills of ethnic people in Shan State

By Sai Zaw Latt



Tourists are enchanted by the sights of handmade textiles from Shan State on display at the art exhibition in Yangon.

ETHNIC nationals in Myanmar lived in the hill, plain, delta and coastal areas. Due to the different geographical location, the language, literature and culture of ethnic nationals were different but all are human beings. As human beings, ethnic nationals cherish and value themselves while considering other ethnic nationals as their siblings and lived in unity with mutual respect, peace and democracy federal union that everyone yearn for will come into being.

Myanmar is an ethnically diverse nation of various ethnic races; therefore, we are duty-bound to preserve our own language, literature, culture and customs.

There is a wide range of ethnic groups in Shan State, such as Tai Lue (Shan Gyi), Gon Shan, Tai Khamti, Tai Sa (aka) Mai Tar, Tai Leng (Shan), Tai Neua (Shan), Wa, Pa-O, Danu, Inn Thar, T'ang (Palaung), Kokang, Kachin, Kayan, Yin Net, Yin Kyar, Taung Yoe, Hta Naw, Lisu, Akha, Lahu and Enn.

Among them, with a population of 4,000, Yinkyar ethnic people are living in Namlit and villages in Namsang Township of Loilem District in southern Shan State.

They make a living from crops cultivation, growing paddy, pineapple, maize, pigeon and ginger on a commercial scale.

They have their own language but

they speak the Shan language fluently as they are living among Shan national. But, they have no own literature.

Most of them can speak Shan, Pa-O and Myanmar languages as they are trading goods at the markets in urban areas.

They belief in Buddhism, hold the same festivals like Buddhists in other regions and states on respective months of the Myanmar lunar calendar.

The Shan have probably the most fascinating history of any of Burma's indigenous peoples. They have lived in the area that is today the Shan State of Burma for over a thousand years

Artisan skills of ethnic people in Shan State

Most of the ethnic people in Shan are skilled artisans. Their crafts range from making fans out of bamboo to making jewelry out of the metals and the precious and semi-precious gemstones that are mined in many parts of Myanmar. They have produced their handicrafts for many generations and will continue to be a part of their livelihood for many generations to come.

The tradition paper or the Shan paper as it is called is the basic material in creating many folk craft including lantern, fans and umbrellas.

Shan paper making is a home industry mostly found in some towns of Shan State. Renowned all over Myanmar, Shan paper is made from a kind

of jute naturally grows in many parts of Shan mountains.

The process includes drying, washing, pounding, mixing, molding and other stages.

Padomma Lotus is the main raw material lotus robe looming industry. This lotus species can in Inlay Lake of the Shan State where it grows naturally.

Lotus fiber is used in Myanmar not only for making lotus robe but for human appliances such as wrap, bracelet and key chain made from lotus fiber.

Exhibition and demonstration for the production of lotus fiber in the booths of the All-Round Youth Development Festival were popular sites for the youths.

Wonderful textiles made from lotus

Handmade crafts, especially textiles made from lotus are made in Intha tribe in Inle Lake in Shan State.

Lotus textiles, especially lotus robes are rarer and more expensive than silk ones.

The Inle lake area is well-known for its weaving industry, especially its silk-weaving, which produces high-quality, hand-woven silk fabrics of distinctive design called Inle longyi. Moreover, Inle Lake is the only place in the country that produces lotus robes. The local residents rely on eco-tourism, floating island agriculture and fisheries.



The tradition paper or the Shan paper making is one of the well known folk art in Shan State.

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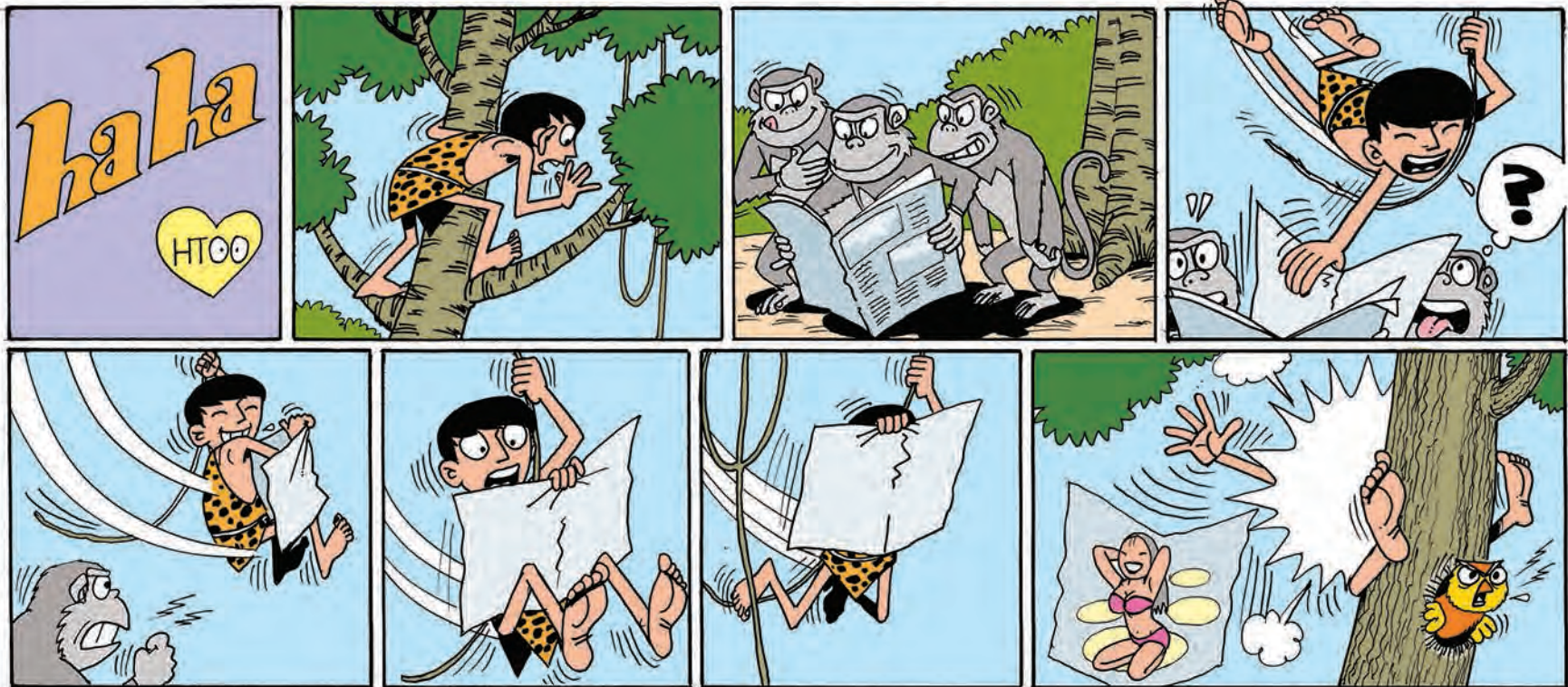
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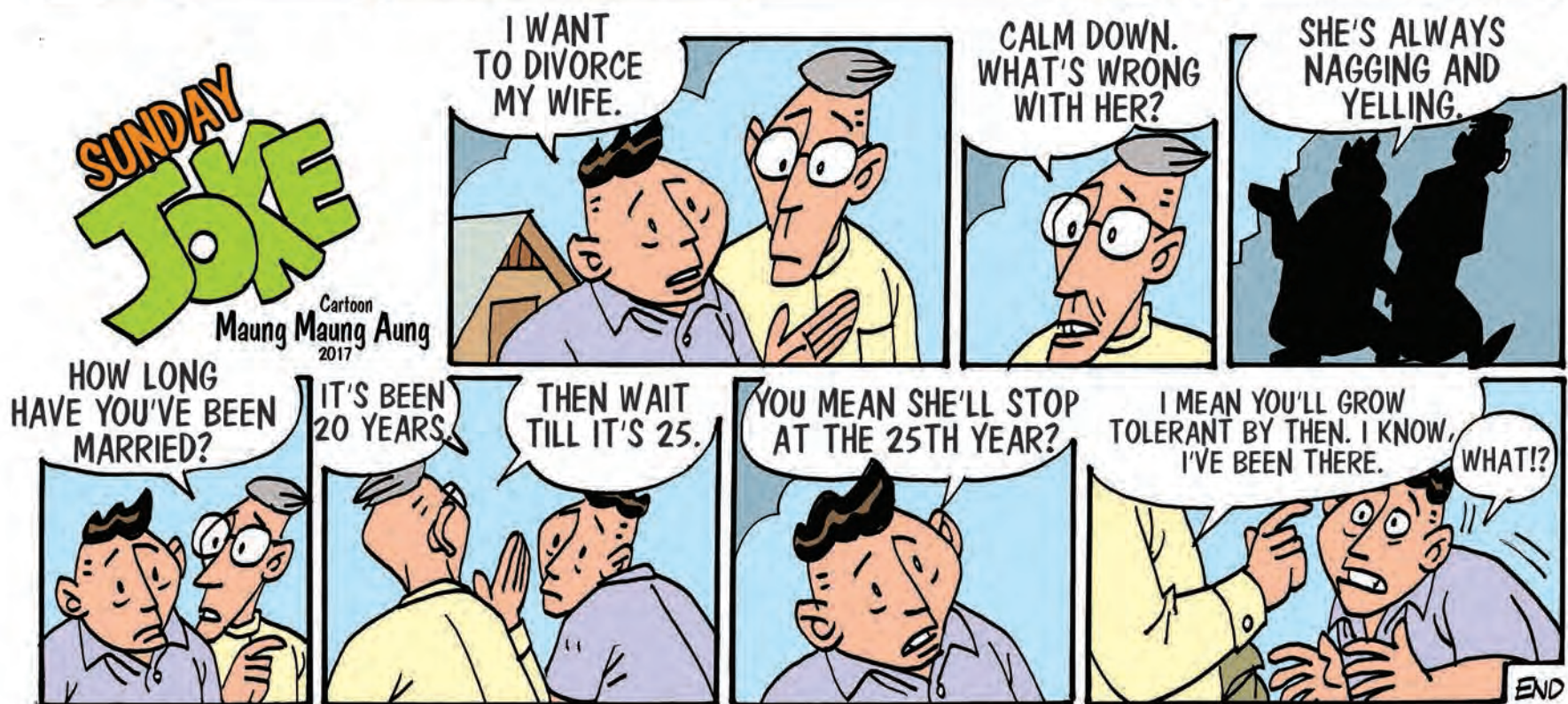
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2017



AS a one who graduated from the university five years ago, sincerely if I confess, know closely nothing about my specialized major. Most of my friends are also like me, they said. They studied their various specialized majors in the university and now they are working at the different professions. Only a few of them are working at the professions related to their specialized subjects that they actually studied at the university.

What are the problems to us? I tried to ask myself this question several times. Every time I asked, many different forms of answers appeared. Here I want to point out you is not the answers that I have gotten by myself. It is the answer of Alvin Toffler, whom I knew last month after reading his famous quotes, “the illiterates of 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn”.

Alvin Toffler is an American writer, scientist and businessman. He was known for his works discussing modern technologies, including the digital revolution and the communication revolution and for his books, Future Shock, The Third Wave and Powershift.

He told the above quote 25 years ago before entering 21st century. I think it is true now because only learning and learning is not enough to succeed in that day.

Unless we make upgraded learn-

ing, we will not be smart and literate of 21st century. As we all know nothing is always updated. When another updated comes, we have to unlearn the old one, and relearn the new coming things. That is the rhythm as well as cycle of developing world. If we want to catch the development, we must learn often in different forms.

Unlearning and relearning don't

mean that one should forget the things he/she had learnt and learn it again at some point of time in his life. Unlearning happens when we are open to new perspectives to the things we already know.

Relearning happens when we accept a new perspective and appreciate that knowledge and then overcome our misconception and misunderstanding

from that perspective and from the time we learnt something new.

When we learn something for the first time, we will be focusing to get a bigger and abstracted view of it and must ignore small and important features. After learning something, a small discussion with friends or teaching someone or trying to summarize our learning will make us more realize the minute details that we have missed when we learnt it.

As a saying of Lao Tzu goes, “To attain knowledge, add things every day. To attain wisdom, remove things every day.”

Martin H. Fisher also said on unlearning that it is not hard to learn more. What is hard is to unlearn when we discover ourselves wrong.

The best way to change our society is to invest in education. We, young or old, can change today the ways of our learning. What we learnt in the past is no problem but what we learn now can become problems for our future. Therefore, I would like to urge you is that don't wait for another time, start make your change on learning now. I wish you be the best learner in all time. Thanks you very much.

Learn, Unlearn and Relearn: the literacy of 21st century

Gyaw Orwell

The Breath of June's Early Rain

FROM PAGE S-1

The atmosphere during rain cannot be compared to the other ones as it's somehow mild and pleasant. The petrichor, smell of wet soil, plays an important role for this season. Listening to the rhythm of the rain is one of those things that I do to kill my time when the rain is pouring outside. A mug of warm coffee is also necessary for such a chilling season like this.

Myanmar, my country mostly gets fair share of rain as we desperately need it. Our country is an agricultural country and our farmers need rain even though too much of it can destroy the crops. It is not wrong to say that too much rain can make some traffic jams by mackling the cars' front mirrors. Enough is enough that too much is not good. The quote-

'Everybody wants happiness, nobody wants pain. But you can't have a rainbow, without a little rain', highlights the colourful rainbows after rain.'

Rhythm of the Rain' by 'The Cascades' is glorious among songs which are composed with the loving hearts of poets and singers.

Lastly, the breath of air is whispering that the rain is here bringing happiness, coldness, freshness and cleanness to our city and country. Not only us, the humans, but also the animals and the trees and plants are looking forward for it. All of us are really thirsty to take the first sip of rain from the sky above of us. Birds that are flying in the sky are telling us the exact time of the arrival of June's early rain. So, we all have to welcome it warmly afterwards.



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ONCE upon a time, Brahmadatta, the king of Varanasi had a son, Brahmadatta Kumara, whose fame and glory outshone his prestige. The king was troubled by the thought that his son might seize the throne. The king thus banished his son from his kingdom.

The Prince went to a thick forest and built for himself a hut near the bank of the Yamuna River and he went every day out into the wood in search of roots and fruits.

One day, he met a female Naga near his hut. The female Naga changed herself into a very beautiful woman. The Prince fell in love with the Naga woman and they were soon married. In course of time, the Naga woman gave birth to a son whom they called Samudaja.

The ministers from the palace came one day to the Prince with the news of the death of his father and begged him to accept the throne. The Prince asked the Naga woman and his children to prepare for the journey. But the Naga woman refused to follow the Prince saying that Nagas were dangerous to human beings. Having made obeisance to the Prince and fondly embraced her children, she went back to the Naga world.

As suggested by the Naga woman, the Prince took his children to Varanasi in a boat filled with water. The new King ordered that a lake be made on the outskirts of the city.

One day, when His children were playing in the lake, they saw a turtle and was greatly frightened. The King ordered that the turtle be thrown into the whirlpool in the Yamuna River and the current carried him to the land of the Nagas. The Naga king Dhataratha and his sons were bathing and swimming in the river. And they were frightened by the turtle. The Naga soldiers were about to kill the turtle. But the turtle thought of a ruse to save himself. He told the Nagas that he was a messenger sent by king of Varansi to the Naga kingdom. And the human king wished to offer his daughter in marriage to the king of the Nagas.

The turtle was successful in making the Naga King believe his lies. The Naga king in return sent messengers together with the turtle to Varanasi to arrange the details of the wedding. The turtle escaped on the way.

When the Naga messengers asked the hand of Samudaja for their king, the human king Brahmadatta Kumara was furious and refused to accept the Naga king

as his son in law.

Dhataratha invaded the kingdom of Varanasi with thousands of Naga warriors. King Bragmadatta Kumara had to yield eventually to the demand of the Naga king and Samudaja became the queen of Dhataratha. In course of time, she gave birth to four sons, namely Sudasana, Datta, Subhaga and Ariththa. Datta was the Bodhisattva or the future Buddha.



BURIDAT

(Based on the Sixth of the Ten Great Jatakas)

By Ye Dway

The four princes grew up, acquiring all the knowledge befitting their position. Their father gave each of them a glorious and prosperous kingdom and they dwelt in their respective palaces with their consorts.

Datta was of a thoughtful temperament and his learning was known even by the Thagyamin, the Celestial King who in recognition of his wisdom bestowed on him the title of Buridatta meaning 'wisdom as broad as earth'.

He passed his time mostly in meditation and to get away from the Naga maidens. He meditated and observed fasts under a banyan tree at the bank of the Yamuna River.

One day, there came two Brahmins; father and son, and they saw Brahmadatta meditating in the princely attire. When questioned by the Brahmins, the Prince told them the truth about his Naga birth. Brahmadatta took them to the Naga Kingdom where they enjoyed luxuries and prosperities of a prince.

After living in Brahmadatta's palace for a year, the Brah-

mins were seized with a longing to return to the world of the mortals. Brahmadatta offered a wealth-fulfilling jewel to them but they refused to accept it. Accordingly, they were sent back to their home where the wife of the old Brahmin anxiously waited for their return. The Brahmin was scolded, abused and beaten by his wife for refusing the jewel given by the Naga king. In order to pacify her, the old Brahmin

miraculous jewel and gems that Buridatta had once offered to his guests in the Naga kingdom. The sudden appearance of the snake charmer frightened the maiden and they vanished leaving the jewel behind. The snake charmers were quick to get hold of it.

Meanwhile, the Brahmin who spent a year in the Naga kingdom and his son, in search of gems, came face to face with the snake charmers and he rec-

rich within a short period. But he wished to be wealthier and he wanted to perform before the kings and emperors.

At the time Buridatta was seized by the snake charmer, Samudaja had an evil dream. In her dream, she saw a black man with flaming red eyes cutting off one of her arms and carrying it away. Samudaja told her son Sudasana about her terrible dream. Sudasana asked Subhaga to go towards the Himalayas and told Ariththa to go to the celestial kingdom in search of Buridatta. Sudasana decided to the world of the mortals disguised as a hermit to look for his brother. By the permission of Sudasana, Issamukhi the step sister of Buridatta, changed herself into a little frog and, hidden in his locks of hair, followed him unseen to Kashi. They reached the city when the snake charmer was about to give a show.

As the kin Sagara Buridatta was watching the show, the snake charmer opened the lid of the basket and out came the Naga.

Sudasana picked up a quarrel with the snake charmer accusing him of being the pretender without the knowledge of any spells but exercised cruelty and torture to subdue the Naga.

The snake charmer was extremely angry and dared the seeming hermit to challenge him.

Sudasana challenged the snake charmer to fight to death for the little frog of the former and the Naga of the latter. At Sudasana's command, Issamukhi as a frog vomited three balls of poison onto his palm. He ordered that three holes be dug in the ground and dropped the balls in the holes. The snake charmer was standing near the holes at that time. Suddenly, flames sprang up from the holes and poisoned smoke enveloped his body and turned him into a leper. The snake charmer was very much frightened, shouting that the Naga was now free, ran away. Then Buridatta assumed the form of a deva (celestial being) with all the splendor of the Thagyamin himself.

King Sagara, Buridatta, Sudasana and Issamukhi as close relatives, were united. Sudasana, Buridatta and Issamukhi bade farewell to the king of Varanasi and returned to the Naga world. Ariththa came back from the celestial kingdom and Subhaga came back from the Himalayas and reached the Naga kingdom almost simultaneously.

(Excerpts from Stories from the Myanmar Classical Theatre by Ye Dway)

and his son went to the forest to hunt again.

One day, a mighty Garuda, seizing a Naga by the head, flew in the sky. The Naga caught hold of the branch of a big tree and entwined his body around it. The Garuda continued to fly with great strength so much so that the tree was dislodged from its root and lifted up. Having consumed the Naga, the Garuda descended on earth and discovered that under the tree which he uprooted, an old hermit had been practicing austerities. Feeling guilty and as a gesture of asking forgiveness, the Garuda offered the hermit a spell which bestowed upon the possessor absolute power over snakes and Naga which the hold man unwillingly accepted it as the monstrous bird was persistent. The next day, the hermit was visited by a poor Brahmin and he thought the spell to him out of pity. The Brahmin decided to earn his living as a snake charmer.

As he was returning home, he came upon the place where Brahmadatta dwelt and where the Naga maidens waited upon him. They had with them the

ognized the jewel in his hand. The Brahmin felt an uncontrollable desire to own the jewel. The Brahmin asked the snake charmer on what condition he would part with gem. The snake charmer replied that he would give the jewel to anyone to help him capture the Naga who once owned it. His motive was to enslave the Naga and train him to perform before the king and commoners alike. The Brahmin asked the snake charmer to follow him to meet the Naga. His son Somadat protested to his father's evil plan. But as his father did not give in helping his pleas, he went away to the Himalayas and became an ascetic.

Buridatta, while fasting, saw the Brahmin bringing the snake charmer to him and resolved to obey the stranger's bidding without sorrow or anger and exercising the highest resolution, he remained perfectly calm. The snake charmer knew that the Naga was in his power. He made a basket and threw the Naga into it. People showed on him gold and silver coins, costly garments and jewelries. He became extremely