

SUNDAY SPECIAL
 The Official News Paper of Myanmar
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 Pull-out supplement

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 9 September 2018

Viet Nam, Myanmar mark 1st Anniversary of Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership



Vietnamese artistes perform at the reception to commemorate the 73rd Anniversary of Viet Nam National Day and 1st Anniversary of Viet Nam-Myanmar Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

A CEREMONY to commemorate the 73rd Anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and 1st Anniversary of Viet Nam-Myanmar Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership was held

at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II (MICC-II) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

The ceremony was attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Union

Ministers Dr. Pe Myint, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Dr. Win Myat Aye, Nai Thet Lwin and their wives, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung and wife, members and spouses of Constitutional Tribunal and

Union Election Commission, Deputy Ministers, Vietnamese Ambassador, Laotian Ambassador and wife, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General, Deputy Permanent Secretaries, Viet Nam-Myanmar Friendship

Association Chairman, invited guests and officials.

The ceremony was opened by playing the national anthems of Myanmar and Viet Nam.

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Viet Nam, Myanmar mark 1st Anniversary of Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership

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Next, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko delivered an opening speech and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Ambassador to Myanmar Dr. Luan Thyu Duong delivered a welcome message.

Afterwards Myanmar-Viet Nam cultural dances performed in commemoration of the 1st Anniversary of Viet Nam-Myanmar Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership.

Following this, the Vietnamese Ambassador Dr. Luan Thyu Duong sang a Myanmar song and Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko presented her a flower bouquet.

Next the Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung and the Viet Nam Am-



Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Union Ministers and Ambassador Dr. Luan Thyu Duong pose for photo at the reception to mark 73rd Viet Nam National Day and 1st anniversary of Viet Nam-Myanmar Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership. **PHOTO: MNA**

bassador Dr. Luan Thyu Duong presented flower bouquets to

the Myanmar-Viet Nam cultural dance troupes and posed for

commemorative group photos together with the cultural

dance troupes and other guests. — MNA ■

NSSA presents national level skill certificates to over 660 trainees

NATIONAL Skills Standard Authority (NSSA) of Ministry for Labour, Immigration and Population presented national level skill certificates to over 660 workers in Yangon yesterday.

During the event held at the Central Training School (Thuwunna), Union Minister U Thein Swe and officials presented certificates to 639 skilled workers remaining among the skilled workers who have achieved skilled workers certificates for 14 skill types in Lower Myanmar Assessment Center under the 5,000 skilled workers assessment program, certificate of recognition as assessment center to six assessment centers and assessor certificate to 27

assessors.

From April to September 2018, 1,500 skilled workers were planned to be assessed for national skill level (1) and (2) for 19 skill types and up to August, 1,651 were assessed out of which 1,486 passed achieving a success rate of 90 per cent and assessing more than the 1,500 planned said Union Minister U Thein Swe in his address at the event.

In order to cooperate in regional skill and technical levels, NSSA sent skilled workers and youth experts to compete in the ASEAN Skills Competition held in Thailand from 27 August to 4 September and achieved Medallion for Excellent award in Restaurant Service of Hotel

related skill.

The Union Minister urged the skilled workers who had achieved skill level (1) to strive towards achieving skill level (2), (3) and (4).

“Through raising your skill level, you can work not only in the country but abroad as well with the certificates creating more job opportunities,” said the Union Minister.

Certified skilled workers are to use their skills in raising the productivity of the country and must strive toward achieving skill level (4), compete and achieve awards in regional skill competitions and raise the image of the country said the Union Minister. — MNA ■

Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association holds International Literacy Day 2018 ceremony

Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association held its annual conference and 2018 International Literacy Day ceremony yesterday in Yangon University Arts Hall.

U Myo Thant, chairman of Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association explained about the association's works.

Sayagyi Dr Than Oo, patron of the association and author Saya Aung Than Oo (Patheingyi) delivered speeches, and vice chairman U Aung Kyi Nyunt read the letter of honor.

Afterwards, Sayagyi Dr Than Oo, Pakokku U Ohn Pe Life-long Literary Award winner and patron of the association was presented with gift.

Officials then presented awards to the winners of essay competition under the title “The Light of Literature” and article competition under the title “Why everyone needs to read”. An award winner of the competition delivered words of thanks in return.

In the books donation session, books and cash were donated to the

flood-stricken regions. The ceremony was then concluded with a speech of thanks by Dr Khin May Su, secretary of the association.

Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association was established in 2014 by student volunteers from universities, colleges and schools who participated in the Myanmar literacy movement (3R) that was started in 1964.

Since its establishment in 2014 to August 2018, Myanmar Literacy & Regional Development Service Association conducted subject wise trainings to raise education level and increase passing rates in more than 60 wards and villages in 42 townships of 10 states and regions. The association members also provide free healthcare, donate medicines and medical equipment to clinics, books and stationary to libraries and schools and clothes to the poor.

They also conduct literary talk and talks on general knowledge, ethic and drug prevention as well as provide vocational trainings for the poor. — MNA ■



Skilled workers and technicians conduct training at the Construction Ministry's Central Training School (Thuwunna), Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister inspects silt/sand covered farmland in Swa, Bago Region

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu inspected dredging silt and sand covered on farmlands in Swa yesterday.

Recent flooding caused by collapse of the spillway of a local dam which left the deposit on the farmland.

He inspected the farmland along the Swa Creek and beside the Yangon-Mandalay expressway and discussed with officials on helping the farmers plant appropriate crops on the farmland. He urged the officials to bring about mutual benefits between the farmers and private businesses.

The farmlands were inundated when the Swa Creek overflow its banks after Swa Dam spillway collapsed releasing a huge amount of water. The water left the farmlands covered

with silts and sands, and heavy machineries from Irrigation and Water Utilisation Management Department and Agricultural Mechanisation Department were dredging the deposit from the farmlands.

Officials reported to the Union Minister on repairing the damaged farmlands, allocating back the farmlands to the owners properly and coordination made toward planting appropriate crops.

The Union Minister instructed the officials to allocate the farmland back to the proper owners correctly, to connect the farmers with private businesses to work on the land for mutual benefit and achieving income as before.

The Union Minister and party went on to Ingvinkon Village beside the old Yangon-Man-



Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu inspects farmlands along Swa Creek and beside the Yangon-Mandalay highway yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

dalay expressway in Yedashe Township and inspected the paddies planted by Agricultural Mechanisation Department's rice planting machine.

He also met with the local farmers.

From there, the Union Minister and party went to Swa Min Lan Village, Swa Town and inspected the repair works conducted at the base of Swa Min Lan village pagoda, Swa Town that was damaged by recent

flooding.

The Union Minister also met with technicians from Agricultural Mechanisation Department who repairing the farmland covered with silt and sand left by recent flooding. — MNA ■

Ministry of Education observes International Literacy Day

UNION MINISTER for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi attended and addressed a ceremony commemorating 2018 International Literacy Day held in Ministry of Education yesterday morning.

The ceremony was opened with a song title "our strength" sung by school children from Pynmana Basic Education High School. Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi addressed the event saying Myanmar has conducted people-based 3R movement and for successfully conducting this, was awarded UNESCO's Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Prize for Literacy in 1971.

As per Sustainable Development Goal-4 of ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, efforts were made toward implementing the aim of all who came of age (boys and girls) by 2030 to learn basic reading, writing and arithmetic, he said.

The theme of UNESCO 2018 International Literacy Day is "Literacy and Skills Development" and it is consistent with connecting Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to informal education indicated in the National Education Strategic Plan (NESP) (2016-2017). When it is actually implemented, it is to be coor-

ordinated and connected among relevant departments.

In the world, there are more than 260 million children who had never attended school and of the 617 million children six out of ten does not have the 3R skills. 750 million youths and people who have come of age did not have the 3R skills and out of these two-thirds are women. For illiterate persons the rapid development of technology is becoming a huge new challenge. Having only 3R skills are not enough to overcoming the challenges of surviving in a society, obtain work opportunity, create and achieve a good socio-economic situation.

"It is necessary to know and use the information, communication and new technologies to have innovative capability," said the Union Minister.

According to 2014 census, 10.5 percent of the population in Myanmar, about 5 million, had never attended or dropped out of school for various reasons and are illiterate. Due to this, Ministry of Education established Department of Alternative Education for out-of-school and lifelong education. Basic literacy course to increasing reading rate course, income increasing course, TVET course and lifelong education courses

in out-of-school primary education program for age group 10-14 years and out-of-school secondary education program for age group 15 years and above were planned to be conducted and expanded in cooperation with state/region governments. Through this, 42,176 were given 3R skills. 3R skills are essential and must-have in order to attend TVET courses and acquire technical and vocational skills. Quality education only can create life-

long education opportunities to acquire skills appropriate to the changing and developing technologies. The theme of this year International Literacy Day "Literacy and Skills Development" is to re-designate the literacy policy and for the government and private sector to cooperate toward establishing an education that is practical and innovative said the Union Minister.

Following his speech, a video clip on 2018 International

al Literacy Day was shown and Myanmar National Commission for UNESCO secretary general read the 2018 International Literacy Day message of UNESCO Director General.

The ceremony came to a close with a song titled "help toward literacy" by the school children.

Afterwards, the Union Minister and guests visited the displays in the International Literacy Day. — MNA ■



Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi addresses the ceremony to mark International Literacy Day 2018 at the Ministry of Education in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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One stop business registration system planned

By Nyein Nyein

DICA (Directorate of Investment and Company Administration) is planning to implement international level one stop business registration system, according to U Than Aung Kyaw, deputy director general of DICA.

"Currently, we are discussing to implement a business registration (system) that can be conducted at a single place. For example, we are going with online system. We are considering of how to coordinate this," he added.

Although companies are registering daily on Myanmar Companies Online (MyCO) electronic registry system, the companies still need to apply license at other departments

(in a different way). For example, Ministry of Commerce for work license and Yangon City Development Committee for sign boards license and then paying of related fees.

"Our directorate (DICA) is providing registration service (for company registration). But the company still needs to apply for business and other licenses in Ministry of Commerce where they have to pay license fees. In municipal (development committee), the company have to pay signboard tax. In these matters, I want the (applying) company to understand that they need to apply to registrars of related department to carry out those processes. It does not mean that the companies can start doing business after registering only in DICA," said

U Myo Min, director of DICA.

DICA plan to implement an international level one stop registration system in Myanmar to save time, said U Than Aung Kyaw, deputy director general of DICA.

"One stop services are being provided in many countries. We are considering implementation of this sort of service in Myanmar. Anyone can apply for everything in one place. Applying doesn't mean to imply that permission is granted at once. For example, instead of applying for registration and permits in three different places – DICA, Ministry of Commerce and Yangon City Development Committee – all can be done in one place saving the applicant time and money. They then can come back at an appointed day and

get all three. We are planning for this," said U Than Aung Kyaw.

At the moment, over a hundred new companies are registered daily through MyCo electronic registry system.

A total of 11,428 companies that include both new and old companies had registered or re-registered through MyCo system between 1 August and 7 September, according to DICA.

Moreover there are more than 60,000 registered companies according to DICA and all these companies are required to re-register electronically online through MyCo system not later than 31 January 2019. If any company fail to re-register within time frame, their registrations will be cancelled. ■

Over 400,000 visitors enter Myanmar through Tachilek checkpoint during the past five months

A TOTAL of 401,285 visitors entered Myanmar through Tachilek checkpoint from 1 April to 6 September including day-trippers, according to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Tachilek branch).

Between 31 August and 6 September this year, 17,737 holiday-makers visited Myanmar through Tachilek border point, including 17,558 day-trippers, 62 tourists who joined Mong-phyat-Kengtung trip and 117 visa holders visiting other destinations in the country.

Those travelers visited the town's most popular destinations, including Talaw market, Bayintnaung statue, Mahamyatmuni monastery, Myoma market in Wunkaung Ward, Koemyosin spirit house, the replica of Shwedagon Pagoda, township religious build-



Foreigners seen near the checkpoint of Tachilek at the side of Myanmar. **PHOTO: WAI YAN LIN (IPRD)**

ing, Padaung Village, Koehtet Waterfall, Chinese temples and some other Buddhist monas-

teries. They explore the natural scenic beauty along the mountain ranges, tradition and

customs of ethnic people and other famous destinations of the country.—Wai Yan Lin (IPRD) ■

Two men killed in shooting in Kyaukme Township

TWO men have been killed during a shooting happened on Saturday early morning on Mandalay-Muse Union Highway in Kyaukme Township, northern Shan State.

The incident occurred at around 7.30 a.m. on 8 September

near mile post No. 113/0 on the highway near Bukha Village in Ngakhaw Village-tract, where a 12-wheel truck carrying 25 buffalos being driven by Sai Louk Hsaing together with Hahsam were shot by unknown armed men hidden inside a corn plan-

tation that is located 20 feet from the left side of the road.

During the shooting, the two men in the vehicle died on the spot due to serious wounds. Moreover, three buffalos on-board were also killed in the incident.

According to investigations, Driver Sai Louk Hsaing is a resident of Area-1 in Lashio Township and Hahsam resides in Area-7 in the same town. The case is under investigation.—Thein Tun Aung (Kyaukme District IPRD) ■

Agro products Export down by \$186 million in five months

THE export of agricultural products has been declined within the past five months this year, according to the latest report of the commerce ministry.

The agro export of Myanmar reached US\$1.1 billion, decreasing by US\$186 million in comparison with that of the same period in the last year, when Myanmar fetched \$1.295 billion.

The country saw no exports of agro products from the public sector between 1 April and 31 August this year. During the period, only private companies could export the same to international countries

As an agriculture commodity-producing country, Myanmar internationally sells a wide variety of agro products, covering rice, beans and pulses, onion, garlic, ginger and other kitchen crops, melons, mangoes, avocados, cucumbers and other marketable fruits, rubber and other raw materials. During the five-month period, the country also exported \$142 million worth of animal products, \$241 million worth of marine products, \$79 million



Farmers work in the eggplants farm in Nay Pyi Taw.
PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

worth of forest products and \$808 million worth of minerals, \$3.8 billion worth of manufactured goods and \$875 million worth of

miscellaneous products.

Apart from agro products and forest-based products, this year saw an increase in export

of the rest groups of products by nearly \$1.4 billion. The government is making sustained efforts to boost the country's agro ex-

ports, finding the best solutions for farming-related problems, including high costs of input and production.—Shwe Khine ■

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Import shows increase of \$513 million in past five months

IMPORT of capital goods amounted to \$8 billion from 1 April to 31 August in the six-month interim period prior to next fiscal year 2018-2019, which is an increase of \$513 million compared to that in similar period of last FY 2017-2018, according to data of the Ministry of Commerce.

In the similar period during last FY, \$7.6 billion worth of import was seen. Import values were registered at \$2.16 billion for consumer goods, \$3.16 billion for

intermediate goods and \$2.78 million for capital goods respectively.

Consumer products such as pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and palm oil are imported. The private sector showed an income increase of \$347 million against last FY, whereas the public sector saw a decrease of \$56 million.

Intermediate goods make up most of the imports, with petroleum products and plastic raw materials being the main import items. Both private and public

sectors increased import against last FY. The import value of raw materials is up by \$195 million against last FY.

Additionally, capital goods such as auto parts, vehicles, machines, steel and airplane parts are also flowing into the market, showing an increase of \$28 million against last FY. In capital goods import, private sector shows increase of \$134 million while public sector is registered at decrease of 106 million.—Ko Htet ■

Consumer goods import rises by \$195 million

MYANAMR'S import of consumer goods exceeded US\$2 billion in the past five months this year, increasing by \$290 million from this time in the last year, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

From 1 April through 31 August this year, the private importers bought consumer goods valued at \$2.151 billion, increasing by \$347 million compared with the same period in the last year. However, the public sector's imports of the same during the period was \$17 billion, which

showed a decrease by \$56.7 million against the last year.

At this time last fiscal year, the country's imports of consumer products were almost \$1.9 billion, consisting of \$74 million by public sector and \$1.8 billion by the private sector. In the past five months of this FY, the country also imported capital goods worth \$2.8 billion and semi-finished goods worth \$3.2 billion.

Myanmar predominately imports luxury products, person-

al goods, construction materials, chemicals, clothing and accessories, agricultural machinery, raw materials, household goods, food items and electronic devices from neighbouring countries.

The imports of consumer goods were registered at \$1.245 billion in the 2011-12 FY, \$1.4 billion in the 2012-13 FY, \$2.3 billion in the 2013-14 FY, \$2.9 billion in the 2014-15 FY, \$3.5 billion in the 2015-16 FY, over \$4 billion in the 2016-17 FY and \$4.403 billion in the 2017-2018 FY.—Swe Nyein ■

Union Solidarity and Development Party presents its policy, stance and work program



U Pike Htway.

U PIKE HTWAY, Secretary of Central Executive Committee of Union Solidarity and Development Party, made a presentation on the party's policy, stance, work programs and other issues on radio and TV broadcasting on 8 September. Following is a translation of the text:

Esteemed voters,

National interest is at the top of the agenda of our Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) and the party also promotes democratic rights and civil rights with seriousness and in a systematic manner. We are the ones who preserve human rights, maintain equality, uphold justice, work for the rule of law and uplift national prestige and integrity. We will compete in the 2018 by-election with the aim of serving more the interests of the nation and its people, and we, with clean hearts, are ready to accept the decisions made by voters.

Esteemed voters,

Base on experience gained in the past, we are serving the people's interest by implementing nation building tasks through right policies that are relevant with the objective conditions. We uphold perpetuation of the nation, consolidation of sovereignty and national unity as our national duty. We are ready to fulfill the wishes of our people to ensure that our nation is standing tall as a peaceful, prosperous State fully enjoying democracy.

All the people have witnessed that when we were in office, we have put all our utmost energies to achieve political, economic and

social objectives and our focus was on peace, the rule of law, perpetuation of sovereignty and people enjoying a democracy.

Esteemed voters,

Now is the time to promote and consolidate the transition to democracy, make more progresses in building peace and to double the efforts to boost the socio-economic life of people without losing sight on it. These

Based on this true patriotism, we desire to emphasize on awakening of union spirit, promoting national interest of all the citizens and ensuring good fortune of them. The choice is up to the voters for ensuring perpetuation of the country.

are the tasks for which we have laid foundations when we were at the office. Moreover, for the time being, with true patriotic spirit, to repulse the intervention of foreign countries which will harm the nation's sovereignty.

Based on this true patriotism, we desire to emphasize on awakening of union spirit, promoting national interests of all the citizens and ensuring good fortune of them. The choice is up to the voters for ensuring perpetuation of the country.

Esteemed voters,

Throughout Myanmar's political history, people chose those

who could serve their interests, and who could uphold national interest as people representatives. In doing so, it is important to keep in mind that placing the right man at the right place and choosing the people with virtues and great dignity for fulfilling the desire of the people and people can take pride in choosing such persons. It is also important for the voters to make sure that their chosen representatives are of the persons with good characters who can serve the interests of their constituencies.

Therefore, it is needed to make assessment the qualifications of the candidates and the policy of the party. It is needed to compare the activities at present and in the past for better future of the nation. All have witnessed who from which organization have really served the interests of own regions. Comparing the changes and transitions made by one organization and the others, and without sticking to own desire, anger, anxiety and ignorance, voters are to chose the right men who can serve at the

our citizens. They are demanding to revoke the unfair economic sanctions for the sake of people's economic life. They are trying to root out the terrorist acts for the sake of people's security. At the same time, our party points out the facts which are aiming to serve at the best for interests of the people by issuing statements on the stance of the party.

Now, people come to understand our performances and in this way, new members with absolute trust in the party have been joining the party in the respective regions and the states. We do believe we can convey this trust into the coming elections. **We are ready to cooperate with any political parties, organizations or individuals for the sake of the interests of the nation and its citizens.** We are keeping in our minds that there is no enemy but friends in serving the interests of the nation. In a systematic way, we are carrying out our daily routines with the competitive spirits in labouring, patriotism, and loyalty to the people.

Esteemed voters,

Winners and losers of the elections are normal. Whatever results we are going to face, we thank the voters in advance who will put all their trust in USDP. As USDP has survived thanks to the support and trust of people, we will aim at creating a better future of the nation and its citizens. As we are upholding national affairs, we guarantee as follows:

Myanmar will exist as long as the world exists,

USDP will exist as long as Myanmar exists,

National integrity shall not be harmed, Myanmar's boundaries shall not be changed and Myanmar shall not be bullied by aliens as long as USDP exists.

Let me take this opportunity to request you to cooperate with

us of goodwill, hard working and loyalty and great experience.

Esteemed voters,

Political parties running in the elections usually inform their policies, goal and performances as election manifesto to the people in advance and seek the decisions to be made by people. The following is our commitments to which we can fulfill:

- We will prioritize to ensure progress and consolidation of national interests
- We will make sure that all the people to enjoy the rights of race, religion and cultural traditions in accord with the provisions enshrined in the Constitution
- We will continue peace making process which is born when we were at the office
- We will put our energies into building a union with a federal system
- We will take responsibilities to make sure that not to let for any square inch of our territory be moved for any reasons
- We will promote socio-economic life of people with their economic, health and education status to be better than the current situation
- We will review the current tax policies
- We will uplift Myanmar's national integrity which all the national people born of the Union possess
- We will ensure all the citizens to enjoy basic rights of the citizens enshrined in the Constitution
- We will put all our efforts into ensuring security of the people, the rule of law and regional stability.

Here, I would like to exhort all the voters to hold hands with USDP for better future of the people.

Thank you.

Translated by Wallace



Party logo.

Fingerlings distributed to flood-hit farmers

AUTHORITIES distributed fingerlings to fish farmers who faced floods in Ngupalot Ward, Dimawhso Township, Kayah State, yesterday.

The Kayah State Fishery Department of Ministry of Agricultural, Livestock and Irrigation handed over fingerlings to three farmers who lost fishes from their ponds in recent flooding downstream of Ngupalot dam.

The heavy rain hit Dimawhso in mid-June flooding their fish ponds on 17 June. The department provided a total of

20,000 Rohu fish fingerlings to the three fish farmers.

According to the fishery department, the nine fish breeding ponds are 6.48 acre in total.

The fishermen received the aid in the presence of State Minister for Agricultural, Livestock and Irrigation U Boss Ko, State Hluttaw MP U Ceral Thein Aung, State Fishery Department head Dr. Nyunt Wai and staff, Township Administrators U Nyan Hlaing, departmental officials and local fish breeders. — Yiral (Dimawhso) ■



Kayah State Fishery Department provides fingerlings to the three farmers in Ngupalot Ward, Dimawhso Township as their fish ponds are submerged by the floods in mid-June. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vocational training benefits people in Chaungzon Township

MON State authorities has conducted vocational trainings for residents on producing natural bathroom products as part of efforts to help them earn daily income under the government's import substitution strategy.

The trainees will receive skills for producing cosmetics on a manageable scale.

As part of its plan to boost production of consumer goods, Mon State Small-Scale Industries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation recently conducted the consumer goods production training in Chaungzon Township and 24 residents completed the course.

During the training course, the two trainers from the department shared production techniques of cosmetics, including kitchen soaps, laundry soaps, cleaning soaps, beauty soaps and shampoos based on natural fruits and leaves.

The Mon State government has funded the vocational trainings in the state.

"The training programme is aimed at improving socio-economy of local people by assisting their production business operating on a manageable scale and it would boost their income," said Daw Hnin Hnin Yu, assistant director of the Small-Scale Industries Department. — Maung Shwe Win (Pyay) ■

Stimulant tablets, weapons, bullets seized in Nay Pyi Taw

POLICE discovered stimulant tablets, weapons, cartridges and bullets in a car parked in front of the Phyto Thiri teashop, Yone Thaw Village, Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw on 7 September.

Acting on a tip off, authorities inspected the Corolla car and found seven WY brand stimulant tablets, two 0.22 caliber cartridges, three empty cartridge cases, three bullets, four short knives, one long knife, appliances to use stimulant drugs, driver license under the name of Thet Naing and a gold color label with the letter KNU/KNLA PC.

Police had opened a file under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Police tried to arrest Thet

Naing who was found with an air gun and a long sword when he took a motorcycle taxi driven by Chit Thu @ Aung San Oo at Phyto Thiri teashop.

While the taxi driver was talking on the phone, the sus-



Thet Naing. **PHOTO: MNA**

pect drove the motorcycle away. He dumped the air gun in a bush beside the V-4 Street and the motorcycle near Thawuti Satyonesu Ward on the old Yangon-Mandalay road. The suspect then hired a taxi and left for Mandalay, said the police.

Myanmar Police Force distributed information about Thet Naing and continued the investigation and apprehended Thet Naing near the entrance of Arnanda Pagoda, Nyaung U Town with 21 stimulant tables, Ks 335,000 and a 5 Singapore Dollar note.

Police Force had filed charges against the suspect under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—MNA ■



Officials from the Forest Department inspect seized illegal timbers in Pinlebu Township, Katha District, Sagaing. **PHOTO: MYO LWIN**

Over one ton of illegal timber seized in Pinlebu Township

POLICE seized over one ton of hardwood timber in Pinlebu Township, Katha District, Sagaing Region, on 8 September, according to a police report.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team comprising those from the township forest department, village administrative body and members of the police force inspected

the suspected forest area one mile from the north of Kwantaung Village in Taikmong Village-tract.

During the search, the police found 87 pieces of various sizes of Tanmalan hardwood timbers weighing 1.2 tons.

However, no man was found near the area.

The confiscated timbers

are temporarily being kept in Kwantaung Village, with the authorities planning to move those timbers to the compound of the township forest department very soon.

Ongoing investigation has been made by the local police in an attempt to arrest those in connection with the case. — Myo Lwin (Pinlebu) ■

Technical assistance from WHO needed to intensify efforts to control dengue, eliminate malaria

THE WHO countries in South-East Asia resolved to accelerate efforts to control dengue which threatens nearly 1.3 billion people with frequent and large scale outbreaks, and control malaria, that continues to be endemic in the Region.

The 11-Member countries of the Region which accounts for one-fourth of the global population, 58% of the global burden of Plasmodium vivax malaria, and is at increasing risk of dengue and other vector borne diseases in view of the increasing urbanization and climate change, adopted a resolution to prioritize dengue control and malaria elimination.

To intensify efforts to control dengue and to eliminate malaria, Myanmar, as a member of the WHO, would like to urge the world body to carry out internal review and to upgrade the works of the technical assessment teams and to provide more technical assistance to its members.

Myanmar has included the processes for providing the people with access to essential medical products in the country's national health strategy.

More than 70 per cent of medicines required by the hospitals are provided free of charge by the Union Government.

Besides, efforts are underway to establish the Supply Change Management System as part of efforts for minimizing wastages for medicines in storage and distribution processes.

Myanmar has hoped that it would buy quality medicines from its neighboring countries at a reasonable price with the technical assistance of the World Health Organization.

“ Myanmar has included the processes for providing the people with access to essential medical products in the country's national health strategy.

In 2017, malaria outbreak in Myanmar dropped by 82 per cent compared to that in 2012, and the malaria mortality rate declined by 92 per cent.

Of the over 31,000 patients with dengue fever, 192 died, including 27 adolescents and adults, last year. During this year, a total of 11,750 cases of dengue fever were recorded from 1 January to 4 August across the country, killing 59 people, according to a survey by the Public Health Department, under the Ministry of Health and Sports.

Reviewing the progress, challenges, capacities and opportunities for strengthening health workforce at the recent meeting of WHO South-East Asia, the countries including Myanmar agreed to continue to focus on frontline workers, improve rural retention and transformative education, and increase coordination between health and other ministries.

We welcome Regional Director WHO South-East Asia Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh's proposal to intensify multi-sectoral approach at the national as well as the grassroots level to reach the most vulnerable and marginalized communities, strengthen surveillance, operationalize cross-border collaboration and most importantly promote vector control.

At the same time, we would like to urge the WHO to carry out reforms decisively in some areas as part of efforts for effectively helping the management and works of the body.

Myanmar Traditional the month of

By Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dh

Myanmar's geography and history are the two main factors in the shaping of its culture both tangible and intangible. A land of medium size favoured by bountiful nature, Myanmar is blessed with a good strategic location and natural resources above ground, underground and under water. With natural accesses to land, sea and sparse population, Myanmar, like other South East Asia countries has always been an attractive "new" green pasture" for the population overflows of the two immediate neighbours _ India and China, since time immemorial.

While receiving all the benefits of contact and relations with two giant neighbours, Myanmar has to meet with the challenges of them. Hence Myanmar's defense is always dual _ terrestrial and aquatic or land and water. Thanks to the terrestrial land, aquatic life of all Myanmar ethnic races, Myanmar has no difficulty in the building of its defense system.

The rulers of Myanmar in the days of Monarchy had two forces _ land forces (Kyi Tat Monarchy ကျည်းတပ် or ကျည်းအား) and water forces [Yey Tat or ရေတပ် ရေအား] whether for ceremonial royal program or march to battle to fight, land and water forces always accompanied. Hence there is always an expression ရေအား ကျည်းအားနှင့် ချီတော်မူသည် "His Majesty marches with water and land forces."

So for the upkeep of the above two forces water and land constant recruitment maintenance and training are necessary. The Regatta festival with boat races traditionally held in the month of Tawthalin (September) is the proof of Myanmar water forces for defense or flotillas of war ships and boats of different sizes well recruited, trained and

maintained by the State.

In Myanmar language Regatta Festival is called "Yey Khin Taw" "ရေခင်းတော်" literally translated "Display of Royal Navy". It is not Yey Kin Taw ရေခင်းတော် Khin ခင်း means "to display". Kin ကင်း means "to petrol" Myanmar Palace City နန်းမြို့ is defended not only by city brick walls on four sides but also by moats surrounded around it. Bridges over the moat lead to Palace city gates 3 on each side, totaling 12 gates.

In the moat, day and night water patrol on boat keeps watch so that any one crossing the moat illegally is caught. Special music is being played to keep the patrols alert and awake.

Yey Khin Taw is the display of Royal Regatta on the River or any large aquatic bodies in land or on the sea coast. Their Majesties in State made public appearance and displayed the strength and grandeur of Royal Flotillas Yey Ar ရေအား water Forces or Navy.

A replica of Sihasana hall was built on 2 large barge on two big boats, with 7 tier gold gilt roof

on top. The barge is called Pyi Kyi Mon Phaung Taw. On this Barge their Majesties were seated on the throne attended by all ministers, civil and military dignitaries. Performers gave all kinds of entertainments. Court poets and writers presented to the King "Eh" "Un" and "Luta" အဲ၊ အန်၊ လူးတား Verse extolling the occasion. Two big and long boats on either side of the Royal Barge pulled the Barge, majestically in tune with the Yey Khin Taw music and song. On either side of the Barge rowers in uniform row their oars, displaying 37 different styles of rowing in tune with 37 different musical compositions.

The rowers wore uniform-red nether garment မဆိုးနီ၊ silvery coat, head gear, sparkling ornaments on the body, looking smart, handsome but manly performed their duties. They were well trained for their duty.

It was a fantastic royal pageant on water. Boats, rafts, barges and ships preceding, accompanying and following were specially made and decorated accordingly to the old records of literature and illustrations.

For such a hand display, good weather and large space are absolutely necessary. Therefore the month Tawthalin (September) is chosen for this Regatta Festival. တော်သလင်းမြစ်တွင်းသင်ဖြူးခင်း. In the month Tawthalin, water surface in the river is like a mat spread out. Because the monsoon has receded leaving all aquatic bodies brimful fitting for water activities.

Myanmar culture is deeply impacted by Hindu-Brahman-



al Aquatic Festival in of Tawthalin

aja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt



ic and Buddhist traditions. According to Hindu Brahmanic belief, Sakka Deva or Thunder god (သိကြားမင်း Thagya Min) performed Regatta festival in his Tavatimsa kingdom in the Sacred River Mandakini. Myanmar Kings were descendants of Solar [Sun] Dynasty. So they had the right to perform Regatta Festival as Sakka Deva does yearly.

Till the reign of the last Myanmar King, King Thibaw [1878-1885] the Regatta Festival and boat races were held without fail. Every year King's Hluttaw issued royal order to hold Regatta and boat races, special bud-jet was sanctioned and preparations were made some months ahead. Rowers underwent repeated training for their performance. They must be young, handsome and brave men. The barges, boats, rafts and ships all water crafts were renovated and desecrated for the occasion. Royal poet laureate composed verses for the occasion.

Special Ministers took charge of boat races. Royal archives and royal libraries kept records of ceremonial water crafts and racing boats, their sizes styles, decors, name and its.

Regatta and boat races were held to show glory and greatness of Myanmar Kings in the reception and welcome of foreign envoys. One outstanding record of such is Truk Than Yauk Mawgun (တရုတ်သံရောက် မော်ကွန်း) authored by a poet laureate Nawade II. When a Chinese diplomatic mission led by an envoy Extraordinary and plenipotentiary, in the

reign of King Bagyidaw arrived not only a full-fledged military parade was staged but also regatta and boat races were held to show Myanmar military and naval strengths (ကျဉ်းအား ရေအား).

Stanzas No. 16 to No. 28 of the said Mawkun detailed the regalia and boat races which honoured Chinese guests who witnessed with are and admiration. In these 13 stanzas, great poet Mawade II authentically recorded the names, the designs, the sizes and the funcations of (1). Ceremonial Barges, Boats, Rafts and Canoes (2). War boats of different sizes and (3). Racing boats.

The author Nawade II was not only an authentic historian, he was also a court bard of high caliber with his command of Pali and Myanmar languages and his mastery of poetic composition, the perusal of his Truk Than Yauk Mawkun gives the reader the effect of the TV Live show of the Regatta of his time as well as the patriotic pride of Myanmar's historic heydays.

To quote just a few other records of royal regattas of our glorious past, the writer begs the readers' to pay attention to the King Tharawaddy's Bell at the north-east corner on the platform of the Shwedagon Pagoda, Yangon. In the 100 lines of inscriptions on this great bell is given a full account of the King's march from his Capital to Yangon with land and water forces to worship the Scared Pagoda but with the secret plan to retrieve Lower Myanmar from the

British who annexed it to their British Indian Empire when they won victory in the first Anglo-Myanmar War 1824-5. The British were alarmed at the size of land and water forces King Thawawaddt brought with, More so, when the king built a new town named "Aung Myey Yan Hnin and a new palace in it and fortresses around the Shwedagon Pagoda Hill. "Lokabyuha" or Inyone Sadan by the minister Thiri Uzana of Inwa Period faithfully recorded the regatta and boat races of his time proving that Myanmar Kings were always a wake for the up keep of water and land forces for national defense. The chronicle [history] of Late Kongbaung Period [Konbaung set Maha Yazawun taw Kyi] has the detailed description of regatta Boat race and recruitment of new blood for Myanmar war flotillas [Navy].

Not necessarily rivers, large in land aquatic bodies in Myanmar such as Inlay Lake, Indaw Gyi Lake, Taung Tha Man, Meiktila Lake etc... were and still are the venues of regatta and boat races. Bird envoys who arrived at the Capital Amarapura in 18th and early 19th centuries noted down in their reports or books their eye witness account of regatta, boat races and naval exercises in the Lake Taung Tha Man with drawings.

In the pre-war days one of the song composers of national fame Myo Ma Nyein wrote a hit song on regatta Festival "Yey Khin Taw" song by Pyi Ba Shin and recorded by A.1. Film Co. The composer not only based his song on tradition, history and culture of Myanmar but also gives chorus of patriotism as:

ဘုန်းတော်ရှေ့၊ ဝင်းပါလို့၊ (စံကင်းပျော်လို့ ပျော်လို့)၊
တောတော် စတံမူးလို့လေ၊ ထူးပါလှတယ်
(ဟောလား၊ ယောကံ့များ၊ ဘာသာလေးလေ)၊
ရိုးလေးလေ ရိုးလေးလေ၊ ရိုးလေးလေ
ရိုးလေးလေ"
The glory of His Majesty Shines like thousand Suns.

His might and greatness brighten far and wide
Happily he rules and reigns
He is like Sakka Deva of Travatimsa.
Ye manly muscular rowers! Ye manly mascula rowers)
Row on Row on Row on together!!!



Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons



Myanmar Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day

13th September

The entire public needs to participate,
Trafficking in persons to eliminate...

2018 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day's Objectives

- ❖ To mobilize the participation of all citizens in combating human trafficking as a national duty;
- ❖ To have the public instilled with awareness about and knowledge of trafficking in persons;
- ❖ To protect and care trafficked victims with empathy; and
- ❖ To strengthen cooperation and coordination among all counter trafficking stakeholders – government agencies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and general public.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 4:00 pm Saturday 8th September, 2018)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is weak to moderate over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 9th September, 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Naypyitaw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kayah State, scattered in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, (Northern and Southern) Shan State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Eastern Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3 - 7) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9th September, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9th September, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9th September, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 14:00 hrs M.S.T on 8-9-2018)

Flood conditions of Sittoung River

According to the (13:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Sittoung River has exceeded by about (1) foot at Taungoo above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level during the next (2) days.

According to the (13:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Sittoung River has exceeded by about (3½) feet at Madauk above its danger level. It may fall about (½) foot from the present water level during the next (1) day and may remain above its danger level.

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Iraq vows crackdown after protesters torch Iran consulate



Iraqi protesters gather outside the burning headquarters of the Iranian consulate in the southern city of Basra on 7 September, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

BASRA (Iraq) — Iraqi protesters on Friday torched the Iranian consulate in the southern city of Basra in fresh demonstrations over poor public services after parliament called for an emergency session on the unrest.

Unidentified attackers also fired shells into Baghdad's fortified Green Zone in a rare attack

on an area that houses parliament, government offices and the US embassy. There were no casualties.

Basra has seen a surge in protests since Tuesday, with demonstrators torching government buildings as well as political party and militia offices, as anger boils over after the hospitalisa-

tion of 30,000 people who had drunk polluted water.

At least nine demonstrators have been killed since then in clashes with security forces, Mehdi al-Tamimi, head of Basra's human rights council, has said.

In a bid to quell the violence, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said late Friday that he had

instructed security forces to "act decisively against the acts of vandalism that accompanied the demonstrations".

Iraq's Joint Operations Command, which includes the army and police, said in a statement there would be a "severe" response with "exceptional security measures", including banning protests and group travel.

'Sick and abandoned'

The wave of protests first broke out in July in oil-rich Basra province before spreading to other parts of the country, with demonstrators also condemning corruption among Iraqi officials and demanding jobs.

"We're thirsty, we're hungry, we are sick and abandoned," protester Ali Hussein told AFP on Friday after another night of violence.

"Demonstrating is a sacred duty and all honest people ought to join."

Thousands of demonstrators rallied outside the Iranian consulate on Friday while hundreds stormed the building and set it on fire, an AFP photographer said.

A spokesman for the consu-

late said that all diplomats and employees were evacuated from the building before the protesters attacked, and that none of them were hurt.

Iraq's foreign ministry called the attack against the consulate "an unacceptable act undermining the interests of Iraq and its international relations".

Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Bahram Ghassemi denounced the incident as a "savagely attack", according to Iranian news agency Fars.

Iran is a key power broker in Iraq and many of the militias and political parties whose offices were torched Thursday are known to be close to the Islamic republic.

Parliament said that lawmakers and ministers, including Abadi, will meet on Saturday to discuss the water contamination crisis, the latest breakdown in public services to infuriate residents. The meeting was demanded by populist Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr, whose political bloc won the largest number of seats in May elections although a new government has yet to be formed. —AFP ■

Jewish restaurant attacked amid German protests

BERLIN (Germany) — Masked assailants hurled rocks and bottles at a Jewish restaurant, injuring the owner, in an apparently anti-semitic attack on the sidelines of a wave of neo-Nazi protest in an east German city, authorities and reports said on Saturday.

A spokesman for the regional interior ministry said "a politically-motivated act with an anti-semitic background was the most plausible" explanation for the attack in Chemnitz, late last month.

The city has been convulsed by violent far-right, anti-immigration demonstrations since the killing of a German man, allegedly by asylum-seekers, on the last weekend of August.

Police in Saxony confirmed to the newspaper Die Welt that they had received a complaint of the attack on the "Schalom" restaurant on the sidelines of the demonstrations.

A mob of around a dozen people, wearing black with their faces covered hurled rocks, bottles and a metal pipe at the restaurant on 27 August, according to reports in Die Welt and the Freie Presse newspaper.

Owner Uwe Dziuballa suffered an injury to the shoulder during the attack, the reports said.

The restaurant, which was opened in 2000, has been attacked several times before.

The Chemnitz knife attack is the latest in a series of violent crimes by refugees that have garnered massive media attention and stoked anger at German Chancellor Angela Merkel's decision to allow in more than one million migrants and refugees since 2015.

Far-right groups and thousands of local citizens have taken to the streets since the stabbing, with some seen flashing the illegal Nazi salute. —AFP ■

Yemen govt delegation to leave Geneva as talks falter

GENEVA (Switzerland) — Yemeni government representatives who had flown to Geneva to take part in long-awaited UN-sponsored peace talks will return home on Saturday after rebels failed to show up, a delegate

said.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the government representative said the delegation had decided to return home after the talks were put on hold for three days.

The Huthi rebel delegation had declined to attend until the United Nations met several demands including providing guarantees it would be able to return to the Yemeni capital Sanaa afterwards. —AFP ■

Rouhani evokes Iran-Iraq war in call to defy US pressure

TEHRAN (Iran) — Iran's President Hassan Rouhani evoked memories of the devastating Iran-Iraq war on Saturday to call for unity in the face of economic hardships and US pressure.

"Today, the government is on the frontlines. This is an economic, psychological and propaganda war," Rouhani said on state television.

"We had sweet days and we had hard days during the sacred defence," he said, using the official name for the war with Iraq which claimed up to two million lives between 1980 and 1988.

"But our nation never backed down. Now, too, our nation will not

bow before the pressure of a new group in the White House."

Iran's economy has been battered in recent months, in part due to Washington's withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear deal, which had lifted sanctions in return for curbs to its atomic programme.

Prices are rising and shortages are widespread, while Iran's currency has lost around 70 per cent of its value against the dollar compared with a year ago.

Rouhani said that the United States is pressuring Iran and at the same time calling for negotiations "every day".

"Which one should we believe? Your messages, or your

brutal acts? If you want the best for the Iranian people why are you pressuring them?"

Rouhani called for unity after weeks of pressure from both reformist and hardline factions over his handling of the economic crisis.

"We cannot fight America, the left and the right at the same time. We cannot fight on three fronts," he said. The president also acknowledged the mounting economic pressure. "(Yet) we cannot back down from our goals because of temporary difficulties. Remember those (war) days, our heartaches brought us to eventual victories." —AFP ■

Ex-Trump campaign aide jailed in Russia probe

WASHINGTON (United States) — A former advisor to US President Donald Trump whose contacts with Russians set off the investigation into possible collusion with Moscow was jailed Friday for lying to the FBI.

US District Judge Randolph Moss sentenced foreign policy aide George Papadopoulos to 14 days, noting that he “lied in an investigation that was important to national security.”

“In January 2017, I made a terrible mistake for which I paid dearly, I am ashamed,” Papadopoulos had told the court in Washington. “I was young and ambitious.”

The federal judge said he took into consideration Papadopoulos’s “genuine remorse” in issuing the light sentence, which included a \$9,500 fine, a year on parole and community service.

By lying to investigators, Papadopoulos had made “a calculated exercise of self-interest over the national interest,” said Moss.

Papadopoulos has cooperated for more than a year with Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s probe into Russian interference in the US presidential election and possible collusion with the Trump campaign.

He has testified that senior campaign members encouraged him during 2016 to build ties with Russia, including after he told them that Moscow possessed — and could be willing to share — dirt on Trump’s election rival Hillary Clinton.

Those issues are now at the heart of Mueller’s sprawling investigation, which increasingly threatens Trump’s inner circle and the president himself.

Out of the 35 people and entities so far charged, Papadopoulos is one of five who have pleaded guilty and the second to be sentenced.

Trump hindering probe

Trump has regularly lashed out against the sprawling probe he dubs a “witch hunt” driven by his Democratic foes.

Papadopoulos’s lawyer Tom Breen said “the president of the United States hindered this investigation more than George Papadopoulos ever did.”

The 31-year-old Chicago native was a little-experienced petroleum analyst based in London when he joined the Trump campaign in March 2016 as one of a handful of members of the

Republican candidate’s national security and foreign policy advisory board.

Within weeks, he made contact with a mysterious professor, Joseph Mifsud, who touted links to the Kremlin and introduced him to others who ostensibly had connections to Russian President Vladimir Putin — including a woman who claimed to be Putin’s niece. At the end of March 2016, Papadopoulos told Trump, then-senator and now Attorney General Jeff Sessions, and members of the national security team at their first meeting in Washington that he had connections in London that could set up a Trump-Putin meeting ahead of the November election.

“While some in the room rebuffed George’s offer, Mr Trump nodded with approval and deferred to Mr Sessions, who appeared to like the idea and stated that the campaign should look into it,” Papadopoulos claimed in a pre-sentencing statement last week. Sessions has claimed he opposed the idea.

In subsequent campaign communications, Papadopoulos was encouraged to pursue a Putin-Trump meeting. In late April, he told them that Mifsud said the Russians had information that could harm Clinton, in the form of thousands of emails.

Weeks later, stolen Clinton emails were leaked over the internet by what US intelligence chiefs now say were Russian intelligence actors. Papadopoulos says he had nothing to do with the leak.

‘Misguided loyalty’ to Trump

US investigators were only alerted to Papadopoulos’s activities in mid-2016 after he told Australia’s ambassador to London, Alexander Downer, about his talks with Mifsud during a late-night drinking session in a London pub.

After the Clinton emails were leaked, the Australians told US intelligence counterparts what Downer had heard, spurring the FBI to begin investigating possible collusion between the Trump campaign and Moscow. In his pre-sentencing statement, Papadopoulos admitted lying to FBI investigators in January 2017 but said it had been out of a desire to protect his career and a naive loyalty to the Trump administration. The lies did not impede the investigation, he argued. —AFP■

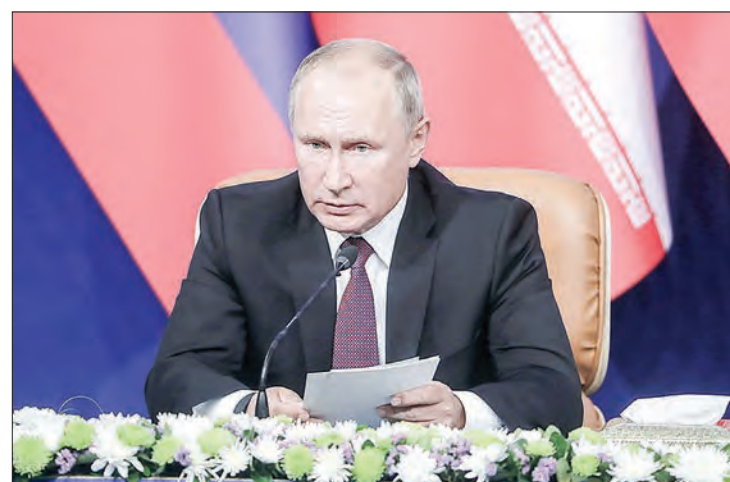
Putin: Russia has proof that militants prepare provocations with chemical weapons in Syria

TEHRAN — Russia has conclusive proof that militants are preparing provocations involving chemical weapons in Syria, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a press conference after a trilateral summit between Russia, Turkey and Iran.

“We consider as unacceptable the wish to move terrorists away from the blow at the pretext of protecting civilian population, as well as to inflict damage to the Syrian government forces,” he said. “Apparently, attempts to stage the use of poisonous agents by the Syrian authorities have this goal.”

“We have conclusive evidence that militants are preparing such operations and provocations,” the Russian leader noted.

Putin reported that in light of this he informed his colleagues about the work carried out by Russia in the UN Security Council and the Organization for the Prohibition



Russian President Vladimir Putin. PHOTO: TASS

of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). “I’d like to note here that Syrian armed opposition groups are also joining the anti-terrorist efforts, which I consider to be extremely important,” he noted, specifying that this fact helps improve confidence between the Syrian sides.

The Russian state leader noted that during the summit the state leaders also studied the implementation of the decisions made by the Congress of the Syrian National

Dialogue in Sochi. “Special attention was paid to the tasks of launching the constitutional committee, and agreement was reached to support the UN work to form its composition out of representatives for the Syrian government, the opposition and civil society,” he concluded, noting it will be necessary to coordinate such aspects of Syria’s future organization that will provide peaceful life for its citizens. —Tass ■

Wounded Brazil presidential hopeful moved to Sao Paulo hospital



Brazilian right-wing presidential candidate Jair Bolsonaro gestures after being stabbed in the stomach during a campaign rally in southern Brazil. PHOTO: AFP

JUIZ DE FORA (Brazil) — Brazil’s right-wing presidential frontrunner Jair Bolsonaro was transferred Friday to a hospital in Sao Paulo, a day after being stabbed while campaigning, a hospital official said.

“Patient Jair Messias Bolsonaro recently left... and went to the Albert Einstein hospital,” a spokeswoman for the Santa Casa de Juiz de Fora hospital

said.

Bolsonaro underwent surgery on Thursday for multiple wounds to his mid-section and was listed in stable condition after the attack in the southeastern city of Juiz de Fora.

The attack was the latest bizarre twist in a presidential race in which the most popular candidate, former president and leftist hero Luiz Inacio Lula da

Silva, is trying to run from prison.

The Supreme Court disqualified Lula on Thursday. First round voting is scheduled for 7 October.

Images shared on social media and Brazilian television showed Bolsonaro being carried on the shoulders of a throng of supporters, before a man lunges at his stomach.

A witness told police the attacker held a knife wrapped up in a shirt and attacked Bolsonaro as the group hoisting him walked by.

The attacker was arrested immediately and identified as Adelio Bispo de Oliveira, 40 — said to have been a member of the left-leaning PSOL party.

After his arrest, Bispo de Oliveira said he was “carrying out a divine mission, a mission from God,” said Luis Boundens, head of a union of federal police officers.

Authorities are investigating the suspect’s mental health, he added. —AFP ■

Alibaba co-founder Jack Ma announces retirement

SAN FRANCISCO (United States)—Alibaba co-founder and chief Jack Ma announced he will leave from the Chinese e-commerce giant on Monday to devote his time to philanthropy focused on education.

Ma was an English teacher before starting Alibaba in 1999 and built it into a multibillion-dollar internet colossus.

His own worth has soared along with that of the company, which was valued at \$420.8 billion based on its share price at the close of trading on Friday.

Ma told *The New York*

Times that he plans to step down from the company, referring to his retirement as “the beginning of an era” rather than an end.

After being knocked back by US venture capitalists in 1999, cash-strapped Chinese entrepreneur Ma persuaded friends to give him \$60,000 to start an e-commerce firm called Alibaba.

As he prepares to leave the company, Ma is among China’s super rich. His net worth was estimated at \$36.6 billion by Forbes.

Ma will turn 54 years old on Monday, the day he is retiring.—AFP ■



Jack Ma, chairman of Alibaba group, has told the New York Times he plans to retire on Monday. PHOTO: AFP

Indian trains to go all vegetarian on Gandhi Jayanti

NEW DELHI—The state-owned Indian Railways will for the first time go all vegetarian on 2 October to mark the 150th birth anniversary of pre-independence icon Mahatma Gandhi.

“Instructions have been given in all zonal railways to serve vegetarian meals on the trains. The vegetarian meals will be served on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti,” spokesperson for Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Siddharth Singh told the media.

A senior official said on Saturday that this is for the first the Indian Railways has decided to serve vegetarian meals on all its outstation trains on 2 October. “The one-day gesture will be a kind of tribute to the Father of the Nation,” he said.

The Indian Railways is one of the world’s largest train networks, criss-crossing the country from north to south. It operates some 9,000 passenger trains and carries nearly 23 million passengers every day.—Xinhua ■

Yunnan quake injures 4, damages homes

KUNMING—Four people suffered minor injuries in an earthquake that hit Mojiang Hani Autonomous County, southwest China’s Yunnan Province at 10:31 am on Saturday, local authorities said. According to the county government, the 5.9-magnitude quake had damaged 21 homes as of Saturday afternoon. Traffic, telecommunications, and power supply are normal in most parts of Tongguan, a town nearest to the epicenter.—Xinhua ■

6.3-magnitude earthquake strikes southern Philippines

MANILA—A 6.3-magnitude earthquake shook Davao Oriental province in the southern Philippines on Saturday, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said. Phivolcs said the quake, which struck at 3:16 pm local time, hit at a depth of 28 kilometre, about 14 km northeast of Manay, a town. Phivolcs said the tremor, which was tectonic in origin, is not expected to cause damage. However, it said that aftershocks could rattle the province.—Xinhua ■

Aero India will not be shifted out of Bengaluru: Govt

NEW DELHI—Ending speculations, the defence ministry Saturday said the next edition of Aero India — considered Asia’s largest aerospace exhibition — will be held in its traditional venue of Bengaluru from February 20 to 24 next year.

Last month, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister

Yogi Adityanath had made a request to Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to select Lucknow as the venue for Aero India, triggering angry reactions from various political parties in Karnataka.

There were speculations that the venue for the mega event may be shifted after the defence

ministry indicated that it was examining requests from a number of states including Gujarat, Rajasthan, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh to host the 12th edition of Aero India.

“The government has decided to hold Aero India 2019 in Bengaluru from 20-24 February, 2019,” the

ministry said.

Since its inception in 1996, Bengaluru has been hosting the event.

The ministry said a number of global defence majors and big investors in the aerospace industry will participate in the five-day event besides leading think-tanks from across the world.—PTI ■

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (008 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (008 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-9-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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 INTER ASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ENTERPRISE Invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI) – Consulting Services

Date	: 7th September 2018
Project No.	: 50020-002
Project Title	: Myanmar: Power Network Development Project
Title of Assignment	: Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) (Distribution Component)
Deadline for Submission of EOI	: [27th September 2018 , 14:00 hr]

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has applied for financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Power Network Development Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments for the Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) – Distribution Component (“the Assignment”).
2. Electricity Supply Enterprise (ESE) of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (“the Client”) invites firms from eligible source countries of ADB to submit EOIs through ADB’s Consultant Management System (CMS) (<https://cms.adb.org>).
3. The PIC for distribution component of the project is required to assist ESE and MOEE throughout the implementation of the Power Network Development Project. The main tasks are: (i) conduct procurement of project packages from contract packaging, bidding, evaluation and award of contract; (ii) update and implement resettlement and ethnic group development plan (REGDP); (iii) construction supervision and supervision supply and construction contracts; (iv) preparation of environmental management plan (EMP) and environmental supervision and monitoring; (v) overall project administration; (vi) reporting; (vii) financial management, and (viii) public communication and consultation. The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found on CMS. The location of the Assignment is in Myanmar, and the duration is six years.
4. Quality-Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) process will be used in accordance with the *Guidelines on the Use of Consultants for Asian Development Bank and Its Borrowers*. A Full Technical Proposal (FTP) will be required from shortlisted firms. For further information, please visit <https://cms.adb.org>.
5. EOIs must be submitted through CMS (<https://cms.adb.org>) on or before [27th September 2018 , 14:00 hr]. Firms that are not yet registered with CMS are required to register.
6. ESE will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by firms in connection with the preparation or submission of EOIs.

Name and Designation of Client’s Representative:

Mr. Thuya Aung Bo
Deputy Chief Engineer
Electricity Supply Enterprise
Office address, email and telephone no.:
Office No.27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Naypyitaw, Myanmar
thuyaungbo.es@gmail.com
+95 9 5089858

Global protests as key UN climate talks stumble



The tall ship Southern Swan sails in Sydney Harbour in front of the Opera House with environmentalists on board on September 8, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

BANGKOK (Thailand) — Thai fishermen and labourers whose livelihoods are threatened by rising sea levels kicked off an international day of protests in Bangkok on Saturday, where key UN talks are attempting to breathe life into the Paris Agreement on climate change.

As global warming races ahead of efforts to contain it, the discussions are deadlocked over a number of contentious issues, with activists demanding immediate action to prevent irreparable damage to the planet.

The “Rise for Climate” protest movement

— which has organised events in dozens of countries on Saturday — wants governments to end their reliance on fossil fuels and transition fully into renewable energy.

Beginning in Australia, a tall ship moved through Sydney Harbour in front of the Opera House as activists on board held up protest signs.

Its billowing sails featured banners that read “Rise for Climate; Action with 350” — referring to environment advocacy group 350 which spearheaded the global protest.

Blair Palese, CEO of 350 Australia, said that

the country — heavily reliant on coal mining for its economy — has long suffered the effects of climate change.

“We are fighting bushfires in winter, suffering a crippling drought, and scientists fear back-to-back of bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef this summer.”

Hundreds more protesters gathered outside the electorate office of Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, calling on him to “kick coal out of politics”.

In the Thai capital, some 200 protesters assembled in front of the UN regional headquarters,

where delegates were discussing how to implement measures agreed by world powers under the 2015 Paris Accord on climate change.

The talks aim to create a draft legal framework for limiting global temperature rises that can be presented to ministers and heads of state at a final round of discussions in Poland in December.

The delegates have been meeting since Tuesday, but have made little progress, according to multiple sources close to the negotiations.

“The negotiators are not taking any action,” Ruchi Tripathi, head of climate justice at charity ActionAid, told AFP.

In particular, the issue of how the fight against climate change will be funded — and how that funding is made available to developing nations — remains a key sticking point.

Dozens of labourers and fishermen from the Gulf of Thailand, whose livelihoods are threatened by rising sea levels and coastal erosion caused by climate change, joined Saturday’s protest.

Many brought examples of their produce, including crabs and shrimp, and held banners demanding that

delegates take action.

“I came here today to ask the government to put coastal erosion on the national agenda,” 58-year-old fisherwoman Aree Kongklad told AFP.

She said that the mangrove forests near

her coastal home had been destroyed, jeopardising the supply of crabs which are her livelihood.

“Rain and storms have become ferocious. I have already had to move my house inland three times,” she said. —AFP■

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY DEPARTMENT OF POWER TRANSMISSION AND SYSTEM CONTROL Invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI) - Consulting Services

Date	: 7th September 2018
Project No.	: 50020-002
Project Title	: Myanmar Power Network Development Project
Title of Assignment	: Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) - Transmission Component
Deadline for Submission of EOI	: 27th September 2018, 14:00 hr

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has applied for financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Power Network Development Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments for the Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) - Transmission Component (“the Assignment”).
2. The Department of Power Transmission and System Control (DPTSC) of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE) (“the Client”) invites firms from eligible source countries of ADB to submit EOI through ADB’s Consultant Management System (CMS) (<https://cms.adb.org>).
3. The PIC for the transmission component of the project is required to assist DPTSC and MOEE throughout the implementation of the Power Network Development Project. The main tasks are: (i) conduct procurement of project packages from contract packaging, bidding, evaluation and award of contract; (ii) update and implement resettlement and ethnic group development plan (REGDP); (iii) supervision of EPC/turnkey contracts; (iv) preparation of environmental management plan (EMP) and environmental supervision and monitoring; (v) overall project administration; (vi) reporting; (vii) financial management, and (viii) public communication and consultation. The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found on CMS. The place of assignment is Nay Pyi Taw and project sites, Myanmar, and the duration of the assignment is six years.
4. Quality-Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) process will be used in accordance with the *Guidelines on the Use of Consultants for Asian Development Bank and Its Borrowers*. Shortlisted firms will be required to submit a Full Technical Proposal (FTP). For further information, please visit <https://cms.adb.org>.
5. EOIs must be submitted through ADB’s CMS (<https://cms.adb.org>) on or before 27th September 2018, 14:00 hr. Firms that are not yet registered with CMS are required to register.
6. DPTSC will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by firms in connection with the preparation or submission of EOIs.

Director General
Department of Power Transmission and System Control (DPTSC),
Building No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Telephone: 95 67 8104286
Email: sedesignptp.mepe@gmail.com,
Website: <http://www.moee.gov.mm>

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V CHERRY VESTA VOY. NO. (001N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CHERRY VESTA VOY. NO. (001N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-9-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SILKAGO LOGISTICS
PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. (1012W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. (1012W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-9-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Michael Moore's new film a call to action for democracy

TORONTO (Canada) — Filmmaker Michael Moore calls on Americans to take back their democracy in his new documentary "Fahrenheit 11/9" exploring Donald Trump's ascension to the most powerful job in the world.

The title references 9 November, 2016, the date that Trump's win in the presidential election was announced, heralding a seismic shift in US politics.

It's also an unofficial sequel to his "Fahrenheit 9/11" that took aim at another Republican president, George W Bush, and was the highest grossing documentary of all time. On the red carpet late Thursday for its premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, Moore said: "Hope right now is the death of us, hope is passive, hope is wishful.

"We don't need wishful right now, we need action. We are in a war to get our country back."

The 64-year-old Michigan native urged fellow Americans to spend every weekend between now and the 6 November US mid-term elections to get involved in swing state campaigns in a bid to defeat Republican majorities

in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

"If we can do that, it will be a huge blow to Trump and it will buy us some time," he said.

At the film's screening, he told the audience: "We have to act like we're in the French Resistance. The sense of urgency, what we want to do with this film is profound." The documentary opens with the high expectations fueled by pollsters and pundits that Democrat Hillary Clinton would become America's first woman president.

But soon, those hopes are dashed. The movie, said Moore, "explores the question of how the hell we got in this mess and how we get out of it.

"The film is also very much about who we are as Americans because (Trump) didn't fall out of the sky, he's been around for a long time and we've behaved a certain way for a long time that when you look back now you see how the road was paved for him," he said.

Trump 'circus'

Moore goes on to blame Rus-

sia, former FBI director James Comey and Gwen Stefani — the filmmaker mischievously suggesting Trump decided to run when he realized the singer-songwriter commanded a higher fee for appearing on reality show "The Voice" than he did for headlining "The Apprentice."

He also blasts the media for relishing the Trump "circus," unchecked campaign funding, and America's electoral college system that has come to give Republican candidates an advantage over Democrats.

Both Trump and George W Bush in his first term won the presidency despite losing the popular vote. Moore and Trump have feuded in the past.

Last year the president celebrated the closure of Moore's solo Broadway show decrying Trump.

"While not at all presidential I must point out that the Sloppy Michael Moore Show on Broadway was a TOTAL BOMB and was forced to close. Sad!" Trump wrote in a Twitter message. In fact it reportedly closed on schedule after a limited run, and Moore responded: "You



Michael Moore returns to the guerilla filmmaking tactics he helped popularize in his first documentary taking on GM chief executive Roger Smith in "Roger and Me," hosing down Snyder's lawn with tainted Flint water. **PHOTO: AFP**

must have my smash hit of a Broadway show confused with your presidency — which IS a total bomb and WILL indeed close early. NOT SAD."

This time around, though, Moore spends little time on Trump himself and instead focuses his lens on socio-economic issues and voter apathy, warning that democracy can cede to despotism. The film mixes humor and sorrow, splicing images grabbed from television breaking news with interviews including

Bernie Sanders, teen survivors of the Parkland school massacre, teachers across America protesting low wages.

One particularly moving scene features the last surviving Nuremberg prosecutor, who was cheered by Toronto audiences when he said taking children from their parents — a reference to the separation policy enacted by the Trump administration on undocumented families crossing the Mexico border — was a "crime against humanity." —AFP ■

Eminem claims UK album chart record in 'Kamikaze' strike



Eminem overtook ABBA and Led Zeppelin on Friday to claim the record for the most consecutive chart-topping albums in Britain, with the release of "Kamikaze". **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON — Eminem overtook ABBA and Led Zeppelin on Friday to claim the record for the most consecutive chart-topping albums in Britain, with the release of "Kamikaze".

It is the US rapper's ninth straight album release to hit number one, said the UK Official Charts Company.

"Does this mean I get to call myself Sir Eminem?" asked the 45-year-old, real name Marshall Mathers III.

Alas, the Detroit rapper

would have to receive a knighthood — and become one of Queen Elizabeth II's subjects — to get the honorific sir prefix.

He shared the previous UK record of eight straight number one albums with Swedish pop quartet ABBA and Led Zeppelin.

The British rockers achieved the landmark in 1979, ABBA equalled the feat in 1982 and Eminem joined them in December last year. His last album was panned by critics and snubbed by some fans, though it

topped the British charts nonetheless.

Eminem caught the entertainment world off guard with the surprise release of "Kamikaze", his 10th solo album, produced less than nine months after his last effort.

In it, he lashes out at his favourite targets: the critics, rappers who have shunned him and US President Donald Trump.

Eminem is the international act with the most number one albums in Britain this century. British singer Robbie Williams is the only artist to have more, with 10. Martin Talbot, the Official Charts Company's chief executive, paid tribute to Eminem's run.

"To release nine successful albums is an achievement in itself, but to reach the UK's official albums chart summit with each of them, consecutively, without a break, across 18 years, is quite remarkable." "Kamikaze" dethroned the movie cast recording of "Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again" from the album chart top spot. —AFP ■

Rapper Mac Miller dead at 26 after long substance struggle

LOS ANGELES — Rapper Mac Miller, who found fame early with his raucous, retro hip-hop but struggled with substance abuse and a painfully public breakup with pop star Ariana Grande, died on Friday, officials said. He was 26.

The artist, who just a month ago released his fifth album whose new maturity and introspection won him once-elusive critical acclaim, was found unresponsive at his Los Angeles

home by emergency personnel who pronounced him dead, the coroner's office said.

His family confirmed his death in a statement, calling the rapper born as Malcolm McCormick "a bright light in this world for his family, friends and fans."

Neither side revealed his cause of death, but the celebrity news site TMZ, which first reported the death, cited unnamed sources as saying he had overdosed on drugs. —AFP ■



The late rapper Mac Miller, who struggled with substance abuse, released his fifth album in August to once-elusive critical acclaim. **PHOTO: AFP**

Roscosmos, NASA to enter into talks on future of ISS

MOSCOW—The future of the International Space Station (ISS) will begin to be discussed by the joint commission of the consultative expert council of Roscosmos and NASA's Advisory Council next week, the press-service of TsNIIMash said on Friday.

According to current plans, the ISS is to stay in use till 2024, but the possibility is being explored of prolonging its lifecycle till 2028.

"Within the framework of the joint commission's activities concerning the ISS the experts of

national space agencies will conduct a number of meetings to assess the technical condition of the Russian and US segments, analyze the operations being carried out on board and in outer space, discuss crew safety matters and the outlook for using the unique international space laboratory for outer space exploration further on," the statement says.

Among other things the commission will consider various life support aspects, such as the ISS readiness to accommodate more expeditions, the availability



According to current plans, the ISS is to stay in use till 2024. **PHOTO: TASS**

of food, water and fuel, as well as the results of scientific experiments to be staged in the

near future, and the schedule of launches of manned and cargo spacecraft.

The commission's meetings will begin at TsNIIMash starting from 10 September. —TASS ■

First known "vegetarian" shark discovered

NEW YORK—Scientists have identified the world's first known omnivorous shark species, which can make seagrass as much as 60 percent of their diet.

Experts from the University of California in Irvine and Florida International University in Miami decided to investigate the bonnethead sharks' dietary habits after

reading reports of them munching on seagrass.

"It has been assumed by most that this consumption was incidental and that it provided no nutritional value," said Samantha Leigh, the study's lead author.

"I wanted to see how much of this seagrass diet the sharks could digest, because what an an-

imal consumes is not necessarily the same as what it digests and retains nutrients from," she said.

The bonnetheads, one of the smallest member of the hammerhead family, are abundant in the shallow waters of the Americas, where they usually feed on crab, shrimp, snails and bony fish.

In the study, five bonnethead

sharks were fed on a three-week diet of seagrass and squid. A series of tests indicated that the fish successfully digested the seagrass with enzymes that broke down components of the plants, such as starch and cellulose.

All of the sharks put on weight over the course of the study.—Xinhua ■

Big wind, solar farms could boost rain in Sahara: study

ANNAPOLIS, (Maryland)—Installing massive wind and solar farms in the Saharan desert could slow global warming, and also give a small but beneficial boost to rain in the dry African region, researchers said on Thursday.

The study in the journal *Science* used computer modeling to simulate the effect of covering 20 percent of the largest desert on the planet in solar panels and installing three million wind turbines there.

A solar and wind farm of that size—more than 3.5 million square miles (nine million square kilometers)—would be "at a scale large enough to power the entire world," said the report.

Overall, researchers found that any changes in the African desert climate resulting from wind and solar power installations would be positive, because more plants would grow near where the farms are placed.

Together, according to model simulations, the wind and solar farm effect boosted average rain across the entire Sahara from 0.24 millimeters per day to 0.59

mm per day.

The effect was not uniform across the vast desert, with the most substantial rain increase occurring in the Sahel, a semi-ar-

id region extending from Senegal to Sudan, where residents could see 200 to 500 mm more rain per year, or about 1.12 mm per day near the wind farms. —AFP ■



Previous studies have found that wind and solar farms, such as this one in Brazil can introduce significant changes in climate at the continental scale by creating rougher, darker land surfaces. **PHOTO: AFP**

Israel develops robot navigating as bats

JERUSALEM—Israeli researchers have developed an autonomous robot, the first of its kind in the world, that navigates as bats, only by hearing, as published on Friday by the Hebrew-language scientific website "Hayadan." Bats navigate their way by producing sounds and listening to the different echoes that return to them. This easily solves one of the most complex problems in robotics.

Researchers at Tel Aviv University, in the center of the state, with the support of the Israeli Ministry of Science and Technology, have developed a robot called "Robat," that uses the biology of bats to navigate its way and map the environment by locating only echo. This technology, which mimics the biology of the bat, has great potential in robotics.

The robot, whose construction lasted about two years, is equipped with an ultrasonic speaker that mimics the bat's mouth and produces sounds in the frequencies typical of bat broadcasts.

The robot also has two "ears," which are actually two microphones that receive ultrasonic frequencies. It can move in unfamiliar environments in the open air, navigating its way in real time only through the sounds.

The Robat draws the boundaries of objects in space, classifies them using a computer and thus produces an accurate map of its surroundings while avoiding obstacles. —AFP ■

Djokovic aims to cut 'gentle giant' Del Potro down to size



Novak Djokovic celebrates his victory over Kei Nishikori in the semi-final. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEW YORK—Novak Djokovic hailed Juan Martin del Potro as a “gentle giant” but he’ll have no hesitation in attempting to cut his close friend down to size in Sunday’s US Open final.

Djokovic, the 2011 and 2015 champion, will be looking to complete the Wimbledon-US Open double for a third time when he tackles the 2009 winner in New York with a 14th major within touching distance.

And he will start the heavy favourite, boasting a 14-4 record

over the Argentine who will be playing in just his second final at the Slams.

Djokovic will be in his 23rd championship match at the majors and eighth in New York.

But whatever the outcome on Sunday, Djokovic insists their personal bond will remain strong.

“He’s a gentle giant,” the 31-year-old Serb said of the 6ft 6in (1.98m) Del Potro affectionately dubbed the “Tower of Tandil” after his home town.

“He really is. He’s very tall,

has a big game, but at the same time he nurtures the right values in life. He cares about his family. He cares about his friends. He respects everyone.

“He fights every match from the first to the last point. I think people can relate to that and appreciate what he brings to the tennis. He treats others the way he wants others to treat him. I think that’s why people love him.”

While Djokovic can pull level with Pete Sampras on 14 majors—and move to within three of Rafael Nadal and six back from Roger Federer—Del Potro’s career at the Slams has been torpedoed by a series of wrist injuries.

A number of surgeries pushed him to the brink of retirement in 2015 when his world ranking slumped to 581 in the world. Now he goes into Sunday’s final at a career-high three.

“We all felt for his struggles with injuries that kept him away from the tour for two, three years.

“But he was always a top five player in the eyes I think of everyone.” — AFP ■



Serena Williams acknowledges the crowd after her US Open semi-final victory over Anastasija Sevastova. **PHOTO: AFP**

Husband Ohanian celebrates Serena’s run to US Open final

NEW YORK—Serena Williams’s husband Alexis Ohanian celebrated her return to the US Open final with a touching Twitter tribute interspersing video of her on-court exploits and the first days of their daughter Olympia a year ago.

Williams suffered life threatening complications after the birth on 1 September of last year, requiring four surgeries to deal with blood clots. “She fought for her life, for our child, for recognition, for equal pay, for women’s rights. She never gives up,” Ohanian tweeted, urging fans to share the accompanying video.

“I had this made for @serenawilliams last night after her match with some home videos

from 1 year ago this week,” he said. “Help me make sure she sees it! #iloveyouserena”

The video contrasts shots of Williams taking the court at Flushing Meadows this week with those of her in a hospital bed, cuddling her baby daughter.

The audio is Serena’s emotional on-court interview after her semi-final win over Anastasija Sevastova, when Williams called her run to a second Grand Slam final of the year “incredible”.

“A year ago I was fighting for my life in the hospital after I had the baby,” Williams said. “Every time I step out on this court I’m so grateful that I have the opportunity to play this sport.” — AFP ■

Myanmar face Iran in AFC U-19 Women’s Championship qualifiers

Myanmar Women’s national football team is placed in the Group F of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) U-19 Women’s Championship 2019 Qualifiers together with a world-class team Iran, Palestine and Laos. All the qualification matches will be held at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon, Myanmar. Myanmar will play against Laos on 24 October, Palestine on 26 October and Iran on 28 October.

Myanmar will likely to struggle in the group to qualify for the 2019 AFC U-19 Women’s Championship that will host in Thailand in October 2019. The 2019 AFC U-19 Women’s Championship qualification is a women’s under-19 football competition which decides the participating teams of the 2019 AFC U-19 Women’s Championship. A total of eight teams qualify to play in the final tournament held in Thailand, four of which are decided by qualification. —Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

Jorginho grabs point for Italy in Nations League opener

BOLOGNA (Italy)—Roberto Mancini’s first competitive game as Italy coach ended in a 1-1 Nations League draw with Poland, midfielder Jorginho saving Azzurri blushes with a second-half penalty to level Piotr Zielinski’s first-half opener in Bologna on Friday.

Mancini, 58, was appointed after the four-time winners’ shock failure to qualify for the 2018 World Cup for the first time since 1958. And the former Manchester City boss admitted there was work to do. “It’s the first important game, so a few errors can happen, but overall the boys did well,” said Mancini. “I knew it was going to be difficult. They are a team that, at this moment, have more assurance than us.

“But in the second half we made less technical mistakes and I’m happy with those 45 minutes. Before we made many mistakes, too many.” Italy struggled in all areas, Zielinski opening for Poland five minutes before the break to angry whistles from the crowd at the Stadio Renato Dall’Ara. Federico Chiesa came off the bench in the 71st minute to replace Lorenzo Insigne, and when he was brought down in the box minutes later Brazilian-born Jorginho stepped up to beat Lukasz Fabianski. Striker Mario Balotelli played for an hour before being substituted by Mancini along with Insigne who spearheaded the early Azzurri attack along with Federico Bernardeschi.

Zielinski and Robert Lewandowski were in the front line for the Poles. Mancini handed 26-year-old Fiorentina left-back Cristiano Biraghi his first cap. But Poland piled on the pressure with two early scoring opportunities. Gianluigi Donnarumma—between the posts after the retirement of Italy icon Gianluigi Buffon—blocked a point blank Zielinski shot on six minutes.

And the 19-year-old AC Milan goalkeeper dived to clear off Bayern Munich’s Lewandowski after 27 minutes. — AFP ■



Italy’s midfielder Jorginho (l) fights for the ball with Poland’s midfielder Piotr Zielinski during the UEFA Nations League football match between Italy and Poland at Renato Dall’Ara Stadium in Bologna on 7 September, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

9 SEPTEMBER 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Let's collect ripe rose-apples



By Laura Htet
UDE English

IN the Myanmar calendar months of Waso and Wagaung, there are an abundance of water everywhere in the country. It is a time when low-lying areas cannot help but associate with water. It is also a time during which we can see waters wherever we look. Rain rarely stops. In such times, it is natural that rural folks seek happiness as soon as the rain stops and the weather is fine again. As they do not possess as many enjoyable things as the ones who live in urban areas, it is also natural that they will create their happiness themselves by various means. At those moments, it will be a happy time for rural children to go out and collect ripe rose-apples.

Rose-apple is a tiny fruit of reddish brown colour and has a slightly sour taste. It is enjoyable to collect those which are ripe and have already fallen to the ground from the tree. They would also be seen floating about on the surface of the water. Not only children but also the young and even the adults enjoy to do so. Some happen to eat those fruits while collecting them. After they have collected a lot of rose-apples, they happily come back to the village. Some rose-apples are distributed to neighbours and some are cooked for the family. Rose-apples together with salt-fish is a distinctive dish, a traditional meal. A dish of squeezed or a bit pounded rose-apples mixed with salt-fish is a tasteful and palatable meal for a family that loves Myanmar tradition. For rural folks, a mixture of salt-fish and rose-apples is consumed as their main dish.

We can see the steadfast association of Myanmar rural folks and rose-apples in a classic poem composed by Sayargyi Min Thu Wun. The pleasurable breath of Myanmar rural scene can be felt in this poem. We can also vividly visualize the natural and seasonal beauty. Although rose-apples can be obtained free of charge, we can hear a word of threat that is gently and beautifully composed in the poem, lest others come along and collect the fruits. It is such a classic poem that it is prescribed in the curriculum of primary level students. Therefore, everyone who has already gone through the curriculum will surely remember this poem very well. In order to feel an alternative predilection, the poem is translated into English as follows. May everyone have a pleasant sense of taste by reading it.

Let's collect ripe rose-apples

These days of Waso and Wagaung
Floods come about
Water surges into low-lying areas,
Let's collect the ripe rose-apples.
From the nearby prickly bush,
a huge black leech
would likely suck on you!
Is that black leech with horns?
Even if it's a dragon,
You're not afraid of it
neither are we;
Let's come along with you
and I'd leave my palm-cow toy.
Let's go...let's go...



(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

Answers to the Verb Forms

1. He seldom drinks tea in the evening.
These fields are covered with water in the rainy season.
2. They are making preparations for the festival now.
Listen! The results are being announced over the radio.
3. She has not spoken to me since October.
This film has been shown in Yangon 11 times.
4. He has been looking for a job since 1980.
They have been doing this experiment for five weeks.
5. Ko Ko will visit Ngapali next month.
A new hospital will be built in our town next year.
6. I received your letter yesterday.
She did not study her lessons last night.
Did he join the army in 1965?
Millions of people were killed in the Second World War.
Was he punished yesterday?
7. She tore the letter after she had read it twice.
When I arrived at the bookshop, every copy of the Guardian had been sold out already.
He had got his degree when he joined the army in 1969.
She said that my shirts had already been ironed.
8. He was knocked down by a car while he was crossing the road.
He waited while her car was being repaired.
We were having dinner when the lights went out.
The tea was still being made when I went into the dining room this morning.
9. (a) He comes to me whenever he needs money.
(b) She will come to me when she hears the news.
(c) She will come here when she has finished the work.
(d) He ran away when he saw the policeman.
10. He has been doing business with us for over 15 years.
They have moved away to that house since June.
11. Ko Ko let his sons play football.
She made all her pupils copy the exercises.
12. He saw the man fall off the bus.
He saw the soldier standing in front of the building.

Conditionals and Unreal Past Tense စည်းကမ်းချက်သတ်မှတ်ခြင်းနှင့်အစစ်မဟုတ်သောအတိတ်ကာလ (စိတ်ကူးယဉ်)

- (1) စည်းကမ်းချက်သတ်မှတ်ခြင်းဆိုရာ၌ တစ်ခုလုပ်လျှင် အခြားတစ်ခုဖြစ်မည်ကို ပြဆိုသည်။ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာတွင် စာကြောင်းနှစ်ကြောင်းကို **If** နှင့်ဆက်ရသည်။
 - (2) **If** နှင့်ဆက်ထားသော စာကြောင်းနှစ်ကြောင်းစလုံးသည် အနာဂတ်ကာလကို ရည်ညွှန်းသည်။
- (A)
1. He will look.
သူကြည့်လိမ့်မည်။
He will see.
သူမြင်လိမ့်မည်။
If he will look, he will see.
သို့ရာတွင် အင်္ဂလိပ်စာတွင် စာကြောင်းတစ်ကြောင်းတည်း၌ စာလုံးတူနှစ်လုံး ထည့်သုံးလေ့မရှိ။
ထို့ကြောင့် **if** နောက်ကပ်လျက်စာကြောင်းမှ **will** ကို ဖြုတ်ပစ်ကာရိုးရိုး

- ပစ္စုပ္ပန်ကာလ (Simple Present Tense) ကို သုံးရသည်။
If he looks, he will see.
သူကြည့်လျှင် မြင်လိမ့်မည်။
- (3) ထို့ကြောင့် ပုံစံ **A** တွင် **if** နောက်ကပ်လိုက်သော စာကြောင်းတွင် ရိုးရိုးပစ္စုပ္ပန်ကာလ (Simple Present Tense) ကို သုံး၍ကျန်စာကြောင်းတွင် ရိုးရိုးအနာဂတ်ကာလ (Simple Future Tense) သုံးရသည်။

- ဆက်လက်လေ့လာပါ။
2. If she listens, she will hear.
သူမ နားထောင်လျှင် ကြားလိမ့်မည်။
 3. If they work hard, they will pass.
သူတို့ကြိုးစားလျှင် အောင်လိမ့်မည်။
 4. If he is late, he will be punished.
သူနောက်ကျလျှင် အပြစ်ပေးခံရလိမ့်မည်။
He will be punished if he is late.
 5. She will leave school if she fails.
သူမ ကျန်းလျှင် ကျောင်းထွက်လိမ့်မည်။
 6. If they come early, we shall start early.
သူတို့စောစောလာလျှင် ငါတို့စောစော စတင်ကြမည်။

- (B)
- (1) ပုံစံ (B) တွင် **If** နောက်ကပ်လိုက်သော စာကြောင်းတွင် Simple Past Tense ကို သုံး၍ ကျန်စာကြောင်းတွင် Past Future Tense (would) ကိုသုံးရသည်။
 - (2) ဖြစ်ရန် အလွန်ခဲယဉ်းသော အကြောင်းအရာများနှင့် စိတ်ကူးယဉ်သက်သက်ကို ဤပုံစံဖြင့် ဖော်ပြရသည်။
 - (3) အတိတ်ကာလကို သုံးထားသော်လည်း အတိတ်ကို ရည်ညွှန်းခြင်းမဟုတ်၊ ထို့ကြောင့် Unreal Past Tense အစစ်မဟုတ်သော အတိတ်ကာလဟု ခေါ်ခြင်းဖြစ်သည်။

- နမူနာများကိုလေ့လာပါ
1. If he won the first prize in the State Lottery, he would buy a car.
သူသာ နိုင်ငံတော် ထိပ်ထမဆုပေါက်လျှင် ကားတစ်စီးဝယ်လိမ့်မည်။
(ဖြစ်ရန်ခဲယဉ်း)
 2. If every family in Yangon had a car, there would be more accidents.
ရန်ကုန်ရှိ မိသားစုတိုင်းတွင်သာ ကားတစ်စီးစီရှိလျှင် မတော်တဆဖြစ်ပွားမှုပိုများပြားလာလိမ့်မည်။
(ဖြစ်ရန်ခဲယဉ်း)
 3. If she failed, she would leave school.
သူမသာ ကျမ်းကျလျှင် ကျောင်းထွက်လိမ့်မည်။ (စာတော်သည်၊ မကျနိုင်)
 4. If he had wings, he would fly away to his native village.
သူမှာ အတောင်များ ရှိများရှိလျှင် သူ့ဇာတိရွာသို့ ပျံသန်းသွားလိမ့်မည်။
 5. Life would be very inconvenient if there were no paper.
စက္ကူသာမရှိများမရှိလျှင် လူ့ဘဝသည် အလွန်အဆင်မပြေဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။
 6. If you were my husband, I would give you poisoned coffee.
ရှင်သာ ကျွန်မယောက်ျားဆိုလျှင် ရှင်ကို ကျွန်မ အဆိပ်ခတ်ထားတဲ့ ကော်ဖီ တိုက်လိုက်မှာပဲ။
I would drink it if you were my wife.
မင်းသာ ငါ့ဇနီးဆိုလျှင် ငါကလည်း သောက်ပစ်လိုက်မှာပဲ။
 7. If I were you, I would marry her.
ငါသာ မင်းဆိုလျှင် သူကို လက်ထပ်ယူမှာပဲ။
 8. What would you do if you could do anything in the world?
ကမ္ဘာပေါ်မှာ သင်ဘာမဆို လုပ်နိုင်လျှင် သင်ဘာလုပ်မလဲ။
မှတ်ချက်။ လုံးဝမဖြစ်နိုင်သော အကြောင်းအရာများ (စိတ်ကူးယဉ်သက်သက်)ကို ဖော်ပြလိုလျှင် **was** အစား **were** ကိုသုံးရသည်ကို သတိပြုပါ။

- (C)
- (1) ပုံစံ (C) တွင် **If** နောက်ကပ်လျက်စာကြောင်းတွင် Past Perfect Tense (အတိတ်မတိုင်မီအတိတ်ကာလ) သုံးရသည်။ ကျန်စာကြောင်းတွင် (would + have + V3) ပုံစံဖြစ်သော Past Future Perfect Tense သုံးရသည်။
 - (2) ဖြစ်ခဲ့ပြီးသည်တို့ကို မဖြစ်ရသေးသကဲ့သို့ လည်းကောင်း၊ မဖြစ်ရသေးသည်တို့ကို ဖြစ်ပြီးသကဲ့သို့လည်းကောင်း၊ ဖော်ပြလိုလျှင် ဤပုံစံကိုသုံးရသည်။ စိတ်ကူးယဉ်သက်သက်ဖြစ်သည်။
1. If he had taken the examination, he would have passed.
သူသာ စာမေးပွဲဖြေခဲ့ပြီးဖြစ်လျှင် အောင်ခဲ့ပြီးသားဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။
(မဖြေခဲ့၊ မအောင်ခဲ့)
 2. If she had failed, she would have left school.
သူမသာ ကျန်းခဲ့ပြီးဖြစ်လျှင်၊ ကျောင်းထွက်ခဲ့ပြီးသားလည်းဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။
 3. If he had joined the university then, he would have got a degree by now.
သူသာ ထိုစဉ်က တက္ကသိုလ်သို့ ဝင်ရောက်ခဲ့လျှင် သူ့ဘွဲ့တစ်ခုရခဲ့ပြီးသားဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။
 4. He would have sold the car if he had needed money.
သူသာ ငွေလိုခဲ့ပြီးဖြစ်လျှင်၊ ကားကိုရောင်းခဲ့ပြီးသား ဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။ (မရောင်းခဲ့)
 5. If he had fallen, he would have died.
သူသာ လိမ့်ကျခဲ့ပြီးဖြစ်လျှင် သူသေပြီးသားဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။
 6. If she had wanted it, she would have bought it.
သူမသာ ထိုဟာကို လိုချင်ခဲ့လျှင် ဝယ်ခဲ့ပြီးသားဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။
 7. He would have been punished if he had come late.
သူသာ နောက်ကျလာခဲ့ပြီးဖြစ်လျှင် အပြစ်ပေးခံခဲ့ရပြီးဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။
 8. If Cleopatra's nose had been a little shorter or longer, world history would have been different.
ကလီယိုပါတရား၏နှာခေါင်းသာအနည်းငယ်ပို၍တိုခဲ့လျှင်သို့မဟုတ်ရှည်ခဲ့လျှင် ကမ္ဘာ့သမိုင်းသည် ယခုဖြစ်ပျက်နေသည်နှင့် များစွာခြားနားခဲ့ပြီးဖြစ်လိမ့်မည်။

လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းလုပ်ကြည့်ပါ။
Exercises:

- ပုံစံ (A) ပေးထားသည်။ (B) ပုံစံနှင့် (C) ပုံစံ စာကြောင်းများရေးပါ။
1. If he goes out, she will come in.
 2. If she tells the truth, she will not be punished.
 3. If you play well, you will be selected.
 4. If she needs money, she will sell the car.
 5. She will not speak to you if she is angry.

- Supply the correct verb form:
1. If he does not help me, I (not help) him.
 2. If she is careless, she (fail) the examination.
 3. If they (win) the game, they will hold a dinner for us.
 4. If she were a man, she (join) the army.
 5. If he went out, he (kill).
 6. If I (be) a bird, I would fly over the walls.
 7. If he had sold the car, I (buy) it.
 8. If she had heard the news, she (tell) me.
 9. If I had fallen in love with her, I (marry) her.
- Answers
1. If he went out, she would come in.
If he had gone out, she would have come in.
 2. If she told the truth, she would not be punished.
If she had told the truth, she would not have been punished.
 3. If you played well, you would be selected.
If you had played well, you would have been selected.
 4. If she needed money, she would sell the car.
If she had needed money, she would have sold the car.
 5. She would not speak to you if she was angry.
She would not have spoken to you if she had been angry.

- Answers
1. If he does not help me, I shall not help him.
 2. If she is careless, she will fail the examination.
 3. If they win the game, they will hold a dinner for us.
 4. If she were a man, she would join the army.
 5. If he went out, he would be killed.
 6. If I were a bird, I would fly over the walls.
 7. If he had sold the car, I would have bought it.
 8. If she had heard the news, she would have told me.
 9. If I had fallen in love with her, I would have married her.
- TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

Is it an unsafe WORLD?



By Tommy Pauk

WE are aware that our world seems unsafe for us to live and travel around, due to uncompassionate acts, terrorism, reckless shootings, armed and racial conflicts, communal violence, transnational crimes, etc. In fact, these acts are caused by negative human minds, animosity, poverty and injustice. No matter whether it's a rich country or a poor country, people around the world frequently encounter such miserable and horrified incidents. Even though resolute actions are being taken against those perpetrators or criminals, miserable incidents keep occurring in the world. Each and every country has its laws, law enforcement, army and security guards to prevent and protect its citizens, visitors, legal immigrants, international tourists and diplomats as well.

A question that can be raised is whether or not people or citizens are well protected in a certain country. No country can prevent from sudden attacks on innocent people or destruction of private or public properties made by unidentified suicide bombers or terrorists. Therefore, almost all over the world, people are very cautious about acts of terror wherever they travel, at home and abroad. Extreme religious believers as well as extreme practitioners of ideologies are the ones who disrupt world peace and tranquility.

Indeed, lack of compassion

and justice can lead to these evil consequences in human societies. The anger and animosity are the consequences of injustice. In order to eradicate such miserable situations in the world, we humans ought not to bully, discriminate or dominate each other.

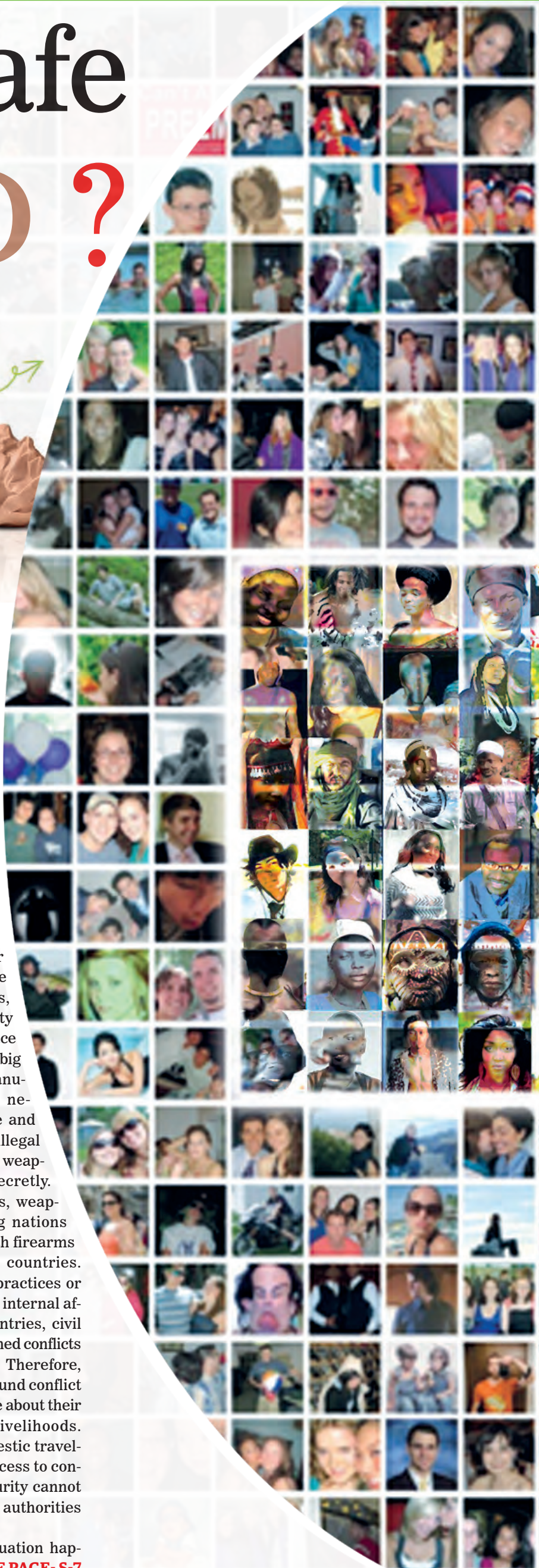
If we really want our world to be safer, we must all spread compassion among nations, regardless of diverse races, religions, culture or political ideologies. Furthermore, we are obliged to respect different cultural values and religions, so that there will be no misunderstanding or conflict among different societies. According to Lord Buddha's teaching, if we radiate or show compassion towards all fellow human beings, we can all be safe enough to live, to stay or to travel in the world. This is the very basic practice for humanity. However, nowadays, it seems like this practice is being ignored by humans, due to the domination of pride, narcissism, extreme ego and delusion. Instead, the practice of tit-for-tat is prevalent among humans in the world. As a result, conflicts, violence, civil wars, massacres and acts of terror occur sporadically in various parts of the world.

Despite the existence of the United Nations, some member countries or non-member countries do not comply with the UN charter, the main purpose of which is to maintain peace and security in

the world and to prevent a global war. Bomb blast, riots, bloodshed, killings and suicide attacks are heard from all forms of media every day. People around the world feel insecure about the unsafe situations in different countries, regardless of being rich or poor. People desire perfect happiness, security and safety the most in any place in the world. Some big nations which manufacture weapons neglect world peace and security because illegal armed groups buy weapons from them secretly. In addition to this, weapon-manufacturing nations support rebels with firearms from some other countries. Due to these malpractices or instigations in the internal affairs of small countries, civil wars as well as armed conflicts are still going on. Therefore, those who live around conflict zones feel insecure about their lives and their livelihoods. Tourists and domestic travelers do not have access to conflict zones as security cannot be guaranteed by authorities concerned.

The worst situation hap-

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THE traditions and honesty of the Salon tribe represent an invaluable symbol for Myeik Archipelago. Salons are nomadic and roam the sea in small hand-crafted boats called kabang for their livelihoods. They swim like a fish, dive underwater and go across the river; they are known as sea gypsies or men of the sea.

Historically, they were believed to have inhabited Malay Peninsula and were attacked by marauders, forcing them to flee the Peninsula and migrate to Myeik Archipelago, a collection of more than 800 islands. They are usually found near Myeik and Kawthoung districts where Myeik, Kawthoung, Kyunsu, Pulaw and Taninthayi townships are included.

In the book 'Siamese White' by Mau-

rice Collis and Travelogue by Vongray in 1675, these facts were mentioned: their appearances were somewhat like those of Myanmar or Malay. In the essay 'Tribes in Myanmar' by author Louis, the Salons are not included in the three big groups of Tibet-Myanmar, Mon-Khmer and Thai-Chinese, but are related to Malays.

The Salon and Mon-Khmer were believed to have dealt with each other in ancient times. That opinion led us to believe the Salon were once connected with Jargon tribes who were thought to be primitive Malays. Jargon tribes were branched into Orang Bukit (highlanders) and Orang

Laut (sea gypsies), in which the Salon tribe were included. Their dialect is closely connected with Malay one. The Salon have used four kinds of dialects; the main one is

Dun, according to the book 'Sea Gypsies of Malaya', written by Walter White.

No literature of their own

In 1846, Dr Braken compiled the Salon primer referring to Mr. Steven's notes, which were published at the ABM press. But Salons were not interested in learning the primer. Again in 1900, Christian missionaries Dr. Daisy, Naw Sebe and Naw Pho Hla coined the Salon language with English and Poh Karen alphabets, and an American missionary invented 'A Primer of the Salon Language' by using Roman alphabets. But they still don't have a language of their own.

A study on their birth

According to findings in 1964, the Salon people cut the umbilical cord of a

The Salon: a tribe on the verge of extinction

By Manthit Nyein
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PHOTO: SALON WORK SHOP

PHOTO: KYAW SOE
(KAWTHOUNG)

baby at the moment of its birth and bathe the baby in the waters for three times. The idea is to let the baby become adept at swimming and not to get frightened. These mistaken beliefs sometimes cause their babies to die at birth. They no longer practice that false habit now. Normally, Salon midwives are responsible for their births and send pregnant women to a nurse in a nearby clinic, if they find difficulties during birth.

In studying their livelihoods, one finds that they roam the waters by kabang, a hand-crafted boat with dhani thatch roof. They bring along their family aboard a kabang during the fine weather. During the rainy season, they take shelter in a hut built on stilts at the edge of an island. The Salons are adept at swimming and



PHOTO: SALON WORK SHOP

the nat that possessed him leaves, he would become tired and unconscious. This is how the Salon people worship the nats.

An old custom of the Salons

They usually practice monogamy. The young Salon boy and girl would be courting for several years before they get married. When they are in love, they let their parents know about their love affair. Accepting betel leaf from the bridegroom's side by the parents of the bride means they agree to the love affair. Here again, a nat-mentor is present at the wedding ceremony to legalize the marriage, according to the belief of the Salon people. Then the bride will follow the bridegroom to where he lives. The bridegroom builds a hand-crafted boat for his new household to live.

If a male baby is born, the family tends to live apart from others. Adultery is unacceptable in the Salon community. If a person commits adultery, they will be expelled from their community for good. As they love to live in groups, they are very much afraid of expulsion from their community.

The Salons rely on a nat-mentor for all issues. If a person falls ill, they are believed to have been possessed by nats. They consult with nat-mentors and usually worship the nats. But now some Salons visit a clinic for medical



PHOTO: KYAW SOE (KAWTHOUNG)



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diving. They now wear swimming goggles when they work underwater for fishing, pearl-cutting and looking for ambergris. In the past, they rarely used fishing nets; but now they have started to catch fishes by using various kinds of fishing nets.

While taking shelter from the rain near the beaches or on the islands, they usually work in tin mines and take the barks off *Heritiera fomes* (a species of mangrove tree) as their livelihoods.

They are not engaged in agriculture, but are employed in collective work. They usually bring a boat out into the sea in unison; the boat would be carved out of a single tree, usually the Yinkan tree, and by using various forms of cane without a single tack.

Articles of clothing

In the past, school-age children, including infants, did not put on clothes; now they have begun to wear clothes of different colours and sizes. Women get dressed fully covered from head to toe, but some still tend to bare their upper parts of the body, once they get married. But nowadays, girls and women are fully covered. Salon men put on longyis or shorts, and used to leaving their upper bodies bare. In fact, they are sturdily built and do not easily fall into illness. Now, they have begun to wear shirts or jackets. Their skin is brownish in colour as they roam about on the waters of the sea. As they try to keep up with times, they are now seen wearing shirts, shorts, pants and jackets of various colours.

Salons not only consume seafood but

also eat land animals. They are in the habit of using less cooking oil for vegetables, such as radish, mustard and water convolvulus (from the bindweed family). They do not mingle with other races as they keep their way of living strictly private.

Their religious faith is nat (spirit) worshipping. Dutar-nat is a noble one to them and the spirits of the islands are regarded as bringing bad luck. Participants in nat-pwes have to sit in a row, one after another, and shout a rallying cry. When they reach the edge of the sea, they shout at the top of their voice to expel the evil spirits. In the Salon festival honoring nats, the nat-mentor trembles and shakes when possessed by a nat. He would drink alcohol and eat meat and fish avariciously. Then he and his attendants would worship the nats. When

treatment. Some keep worshipping nats after consulting with nat-mentors. Most Salons suffer from malaria and malnutrition.

Salon people traditionally dock their carved boats and motor boats once a year for regular repairs. Old resins are taken off from the outer part of the boats and replaced with new ones. It takes five days to get a boat repaired by the collective efforts of a community.

In the past, they never buried the corpses in the ground, but abandon them on a watch-tower on a faraway island. Then they would stay away from the island for some time. If a boat owner dies, his boat would be cut into halves to cover his dead body before being abandoned. That old custom has gradually disappeared, and now they are burying their dead in the ground.

A place for study tours

As the Salon tribe has been struggling for their survival, they are also being threatened of extinction. The ministry concerned and the regional government have been taking action in preserving their traditions, clothing and lifestyles. Educational talks need to be held to preserve their traditions and natural resources. Study tours should be conducted to meet their needs of preserving their culture, customs and traditions. As the Salon tribe struggles for its survival, areas where these people live should be turned into places of attraction and study tours for both domestic and foreign visitors.

Translated by Arakan Sein

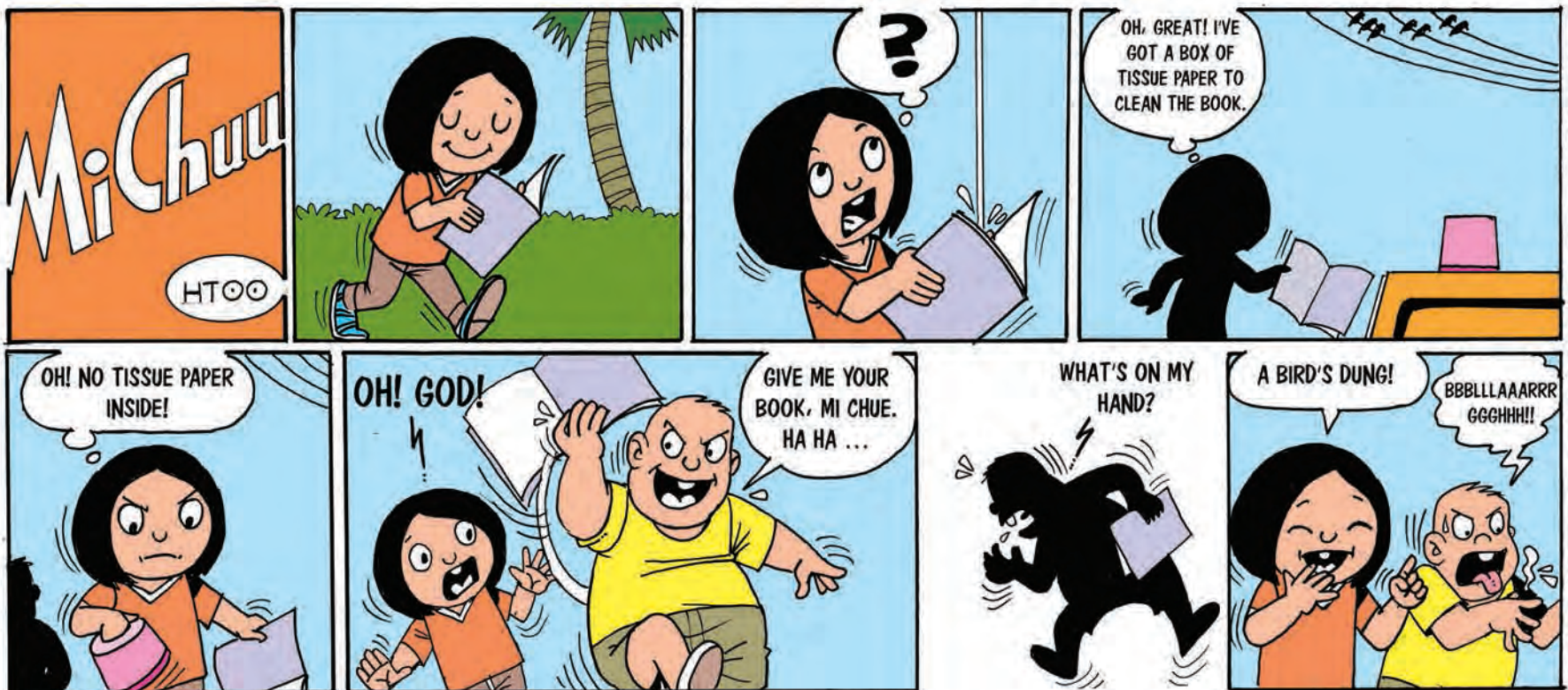


PHOTO: KYAW SOE (KAWTHOUNG)



PHOTO: SALON WORK SHOP

SUNDAY COMICS



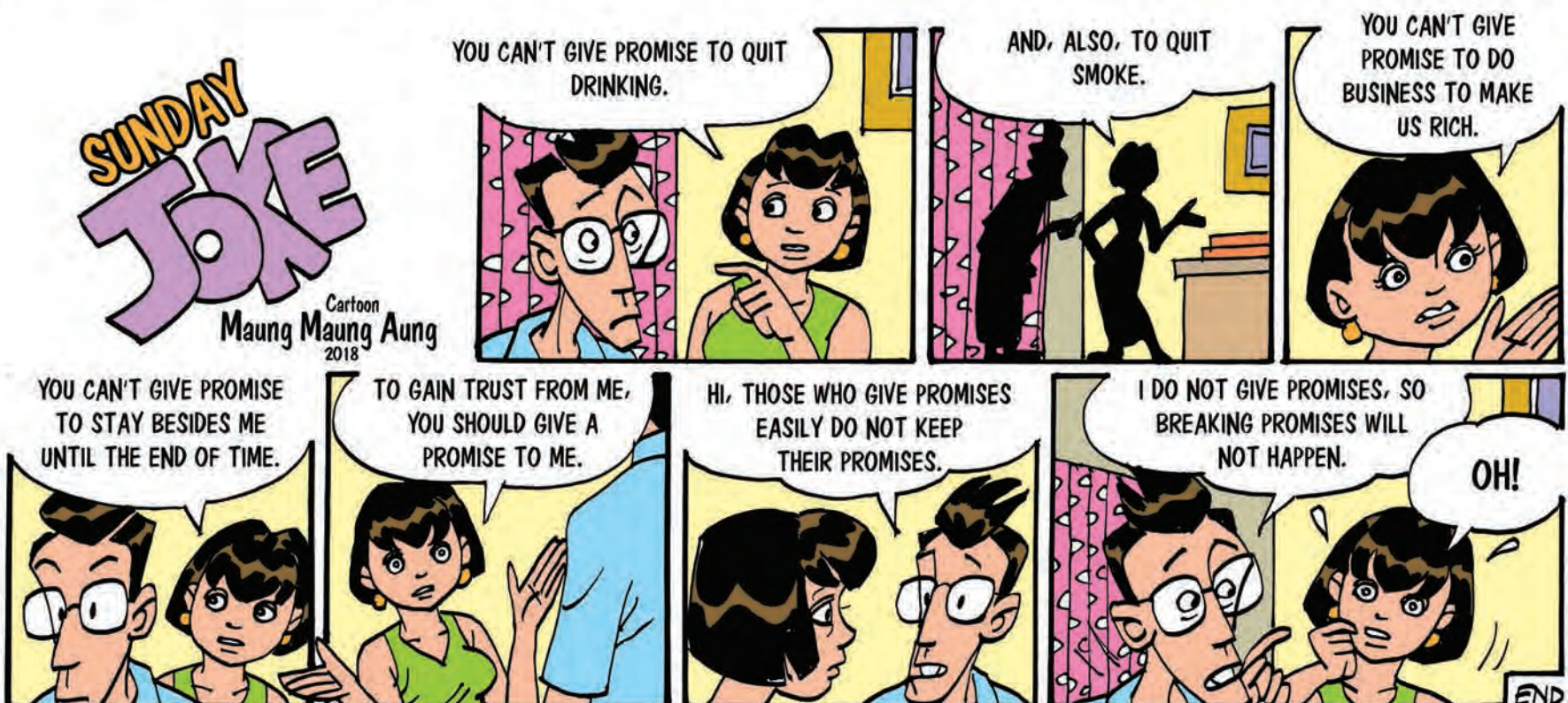
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2018





Mingalar Par Sayarma



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PHOTOS: PHOE KHWAR

As soon as the Ma Mya Khin rang the bell, all students rushed as it was raining. Then, she sat into the armchair and sighed all her might and started to make a question form for the monthly test for the students. Ma Mya Khin, she was graduated from The Yangon University Of Education and she was transferred to a Primary school in Hlaw Gar village for it had no enough of teachers. As it was a poor village, people in the village had no appetite of learning and they intended to be only earners, not learners because they thought, it was just wasting of time to send their children to school while others are earning money by doing all businesses they could do. And it was a big challenge for Ma Mya Khin when she had first arrived at the village.

Actually, she just wanted to be transferred to good high school where she could go easily from her home. But unfortunately, that was not going as she wish and she had no choice for it. As it was too far from where she lived, she had to live in the village all weekdays and could only go to home when it was Saturday and Sunday, and sometimes, she could not especially when there had to hold the monthly tests because she was the only teacher who was the youngest one and the one who could take responsibilities of all businesses related to the school. There was only two teachers in the school, Daw Tin Hla and she, Ma Mya Khin. But after two months when she was transferred to, Daw Tin Hla retired from teaching and now, she was the one who taught the children, the one who made questions for monthly test, the one who had responsibility for the students. It was very hard for her because there were fifty students. What that made her depressed was that parents were not willing to send children to school because of their living standard. At once, she went to Phoe Kwar's house due to his absence to school.

"Is there anyone? Phoe Kwar is here?" she shouted. And a woman came out and said, "He is not here. He is in the field, and doing his own business. And who are you?"

Then, "I'm the teacher of Phoe Kwar, I came here because he is absent today." "Oh! I see, Miss Teacher. But I have to say that we can

not send him to school anymore because we have to for our survival first. And no one wants to give us free foods for no reason. You may understand Miss Teacher!"

Those are some of conversations she had about her pupils. And sometimes, when she saw Daw Aye Kyin who was selling fish going round the village and the mother of Thidar who was her pupil, "Oh! Daw Aye Kyin, Why didn't Thidar come to school yesterday? Is she sick?" "No, Miss Teacher, she is also selling fish in another village. And by the way, she's not going to school anymore because she have to work instead of wasting her time." But then, Daw Aye Kyin went hawking around the village saying, "There's Fish. It's cheap and very fresh." Ma Mya Khin was sick and tired of them but what made her

alive was her pupils because she loved her pupils who were willing to learn, willing to play as all children did. Their innocent faces, smiles and words are so flawless. And it gave her new strength to live.

She had hoped that one day, she could raise more children to be educated people from this school. She wanted to make her pupils great people who could contribute to the country. And she felt that her dream was about to come true hearing what they said, "Mingalar Par Sayarma."

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opening around the world is the unexpected brutal attacks by extreme terrorists at public or targeted areas. Many innocent people around the world have been slaughtered by extreme terrorists. Normally, it is hard to punish them for their crimes, because terrorists are usually

suicide bombers or suicide attackers. Due to extreme religious or political indoctrination, terrorists recklessly kill innocent people and kill themselves for the sake of the wrong beliefs.

Religious leaders are the most responsible and accountable for keeping peace among humans and to prevent any con-

flicts or acts of terror related to certain religious beliefs. Since all religious teachings are based on compassion and humanity, believers or followers of these faiths must obey and comply with them.

There may be different political ideologies in the world, but we ought to exercise them

in peaceful ways so as not to disrupt other societies or create violence. Actually, all political issues can be solved through discussions and not by gun-fighting.

All of us have to participate in finding solutions to various problems which threaten global peace and human safety. We should know that these issues

arise not only in poor countries but also in rich countries. At present, the world is unsafe, not because of natural disasters but because of man-made disasters. If we want to maintain happiness, we are obliged to maintain peace with compassion in every human society around the world.



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WHEN we were young, we all loved watching cartoons. And when we become older, still we are loving them. So, why is this? Why do we all love watching them? Truly simple. Because they can give us a cool pleasure as they contain wholesome entertainment, they all are clean and suitable for all ages. Kids and adults. Every cartoon film has something special for its viewers. Especially a lesson or a message. That's one of the inclusions that both parents and children enjoy watching them.

To consider all about cartoon files, we shouldn't forget Mr. Walt Disney, one of the greatest pioneers of cartoon films. He was a cartoonist who opened the door to a new world, full of everyone's favourite characters such as Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Goofy, Pluto, Dumbo and little girls' princesses; Snow White, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty and many else. Each of these films makes a childhood life complete for every kid on this planet. Besides these long-ago cartoons, this company is now making astonishingly wonderful live-action films, fantasies and as well new cartoon films these days. Similarly, they again gain million loves from film lovers around this globe.

Zootopia, Sing, Despicable Me, The Incredibles, The Minions, Hotel Transylvania are at the top of the list of the favourites that today people are fond of. Since they provide us messages like goodness, truthfulness and honesty always prevail, parents are keen to take their youngs to the cinemas where these great cartoons are showing and let them enjoy happily. For example, in "The Incredibles" and "Despicable Me", there is one good single message and it is that "The good always win the bad" and teach the viewers to emulate good characters and habits and to abhor the bad ones. It is a nice scenery to see people applauding the hero and booing the bad guys and villains.

Next, in the cartoon, "Up", the message given is not to sit down drying. We have to wake up, stand up and chase our dreams in real life just like the old man did in the film. His house flying in the endless blue sky with countless numbers of colourful balloons is the scene which makes us see that only our rainbow-coloured dreams can make us feel young, free and get precious experiences by facing new challenges in our life. The saying, "You only fail when you stop trying", is highlighted in the cartoon, "Sing", which was one of the box office hits of 2016. If we really do, our dreams will come true and what we only have to do is try, try, try.

My all-time favourite cartoon film is Pixar and Disney's "CoCo". It gets me always even if I hear a word of it. As soon as my ears hear the two words, "CoCo", the shadows of this cartoon film fills my eyes and the colours in it develop like dramatic clouds in my black eyes then it's masterpiece songs start whispering in both of ears at the same time. At the first time I saw it, I fell so much in love with it. I have never fallen too deeply for a cartoon but "CoCo" is completely my zing. A father's courage and love, love of a daughter for her father, spirit of music and the traditions of Mexicans are introduced in this film and make the viewers vividly see that even after death, a parent's love his loves to child never dies away. I believe that the others who have seen this as well enjoy it like I do. If you haven't, I want to recommend to watch it and feel the taste of its song, "Remember Me". The story is a very touching one. The animation has nothing to talk about.

On the other hand, there are also educational cartoons like, "Sesame Street" and "Cookie Monster Show" for under six-year-olds. "Pink Panther" and "Tom and Jerry" never leave cartoon lovers' hearts. Nowadays, the majority of films produced are sometimes unsuitable for youngsters as they are too violent, and contain killings, eerie horrors, rated scenes and some annoying emotional contents. To keep our little ones away from these is to make them live cartoon films before they become extremely addicted to other genre which can wreck their irreplaceable childhood happiness.

Well, all in all, there are also pointless cartoons but they only a percent in one hundred. To sum up, cartoons are the most suitable things to watch on TV during free time that all family members can enjoy together. As all children love cartoon characters, who else would be in better position in teaching them their important life lessons?