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Local villagers setting out to catch fish in the coastal area of the Ayeyawady Region. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Coastal areas need to be saved

Vice President U Myint Swe is taking steps to reverse the degradation of the eco-system of Myanmar's coastal areas due to man-made errors, stressing the need for cooperation among international bodies in order to save the delicate eco-systems.

In his remarks at the second work coordination meeting of the State-level Central Committee on Management of Natural Resources in Coastal Areas held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, the Vice President also stressed the need to assess land use inland and their

impacts on sea and coastal areas before drawing up a plan to save the country's natural resources.

He said the coastal areas of Taninthayi, Ayeyawady and Rakhine are abundant with coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, mudflats, estuaries and sand dunes and that they all play an important role in the people's socio-economic development and environmental diversity. More specifically, they are vital for the development of the agricultural, forestry, fishery and tourism sectors, he

said. "Mangroves are an important asset in dealing with global climate change. They are being damaged by people clearing areas of mangrove forests for prawn breeding, using small-scale explosives for catching fish, mining, waste disposal and oil spills. Deforestation and chemicals from pesticides and herbicides also decrease the layers of alluvial soil along the coast," said U Myint Swe.

The Vice President also said that as areas of mangrove forests cleared for prawn breeding and rice plantation have

decreased production after a certain period, farmers and breeders move to new areas and cut down more mangroves, thus leaving behind barren areas of land.

The Vice President said the bio-diverse ecosystems in Taninthayi Region are being damaged as rainforests in the area are being cleared away.

He stressed the need to establish forest reserves in the country's coastal areas as they play an important role in controlling climate change. —MNA ■



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Deputy Minister for Agriculture answers land-use, public works questions at Pyithu Hluttaw

Kyaw Thu Htet
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw answered a series of questions posed by legislators about land-use regulations and various public works projects at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

The deputy minister explained that parties wishing to use vacant land are required to submit a series of documents to

the ministry for verification and approval. He also said that land surveys are done with site visits and with satellite photos. Land records are mainly on paper, but the government intends to digitize its record system in the future. Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw also described the process by which water resources will be surveyed and distributed among three villages in Shan State and the budgeting of a Ks202 million gravel road upgrade in Bago Region. ■



Pyithu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw member takes exception to international body's reference to "race which never existed in Rakhine"

Thura Zaw, Mei Mei Phyo
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

The Amyotha Hluttaw's Women and Child Rights Committee presented its report about the United Nations' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and a letter from the the Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union regarding Myanmar's human rights situation. Daw Htu May of constituency No 11, Rakhine State criticized the Inter-Parliamentary Union for including "an invented term of a national ethnic race which never existed in Rakhine State."

"That situation harmed the rights of actual national ethnic

women in Rakhine State, so I hereby urge the Amyotha Hluttaw Women and Child Rights Committee, for the respective authorities who are to attend the matter to emphatically discuss the matter," she said.

"In addition, the situation of women and children in conflict areas should also be included in future reports as a special issues."

Dr Mya Thaung of constituency 7, Bago Region presented a motion to approve the report of the committee and the Hluttaw approved it. Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo described a 27-acre residential project for airport staff at the New Pakokku Airport in



Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin. PHOTO: MNA

Magway Region. Another 20 acres at the airport will be used for a hospital and government



Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo. PHOTO: MNA

offices. Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin described a survey project between Paletwa

Town to Mizoram State India to determine various stakeholders and compensation claims for landowners along a new road.

The deputy minister said that Chin State officials and Hluttaw representatives would be consulted on the public works project. Rakhine State constituency No. 3 Hluttaw member U Khin Maung Latt made a motion to increase counterterrorism efforts in Maungtaw, Buthidaung and Yathedaung townships in Rakhine and to provide more assistance to displaced people.

The motion was seconded by Daw Htu May and tabled for a future session. The Amyotha Hluttaw will be in session again today. ■



Women's vocational training courses planned in Maungtaw

The Department of Education and Training of the Ministry of Border Affairs will conduct women's vocational courses at Women's Vocational Training School in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State. Daw Nilar Kyi, the principal of Maungtaw Township's Women's Vocational

Training School said that there are currently 50 women taking courses in tailoring, food processing and cooking. Maungtaw Township's Women's Vocational Training School was opened in 2000. The school offers 14-week courses on a trimester basis. — A One Soe/ Myo Thu Hein ■

INGOs in Rakhine to seek approval from state gov't

Rakhine State Cabinet issued the notification 1/2017 dated on 8th August describing a violent attacks happening in Maungtaw, Buthidaung and Yathedaung Townships in Rakhine State.

The statement described that atrocious killings over civilians in Kainggyi, Mro ethnic village, in Maungtaw Township (South) in Rakhine State who are working on farms. Other weapons were regarded to be terrorist attacks.

The statement also announces the opening of a new security outpost at Kainggyi village starting from 5 August and increased border guard.

Due to anxieties and fears over surprise armed attack towards security forc-

es in Auknanyar village in Yathedaung Township, people from various villages were displaced to Cedipyin village. Now, for displaced people to be able to return to their original locations, security outposts were deployed in strong positions, in the villages—Chook Pyin, Padaukmyaing, Pyin Shay and Pauk Pin Yin. So as to be free from fear of losing their residences and farming lands on account of intruders, Tatmadaw forces, border guard police and Myanmar police forces have been stationed more than ever. In case of peculiar news and information in these areas, public-combined security system must be operated by informing security forces promptly.

The cabinet statement also re-emphasizes rules requiring all international non-governmental organisations operating in Rakhine State to have a memorandum of understanding with respective Union ministries and approval from the Rakhine State Coordination Committee and the Rakhine State Cabinet. And, finally the operation permit will be granted under the supervision of Rakhine State Cabinet.

It has been mentioned in the notification of the Rakhine State Cabinet that the tasks of having certificates of scrutiny of citizens made in effective and prompt way, in accord with 1982 Citizenship Law, will be submitted to the Union Government. —Myanmar News Agency ■

State Counsellor receives Chairman of the APRC

State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received a delegation headed by Dr. Surakart Sathirathai, Chairman of the Asian Peace and Reconciliation Council (APRC) and former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at 10:00 am on 9 August 2017. During the meeting, they exchanged views on activities of the APRC and feasibility of cooperation between Myanmar and the APRC on the matters of ongoing peace process in Myanmar and resolving issues in Rakhine State.—Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with Chairman of the APRC in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends the meeting with Union ministers in Nay Pyi Taw over security situation in Rakhine State. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor, Union Ministers hold talks on security in Rakhine State

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held a meeting with Union Ministers in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday on the security situation in Rakhine State.

The meeting was attended by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Sein Win, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Thein Swe and Dr Win Myat Aye, National Security Advisor U Thauung Tun, Deputy Minis-

ter U Min Thu, Acting Police Chief Police Brig-Gen Aung Win Oo, Rakhine State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Phone Tint, Rakhine State Social Affairs Minister Dr Chan Thar and departmental heads.

The meeting focused on plans for security and controlling violent attacks in the state, challenges encountered in scrutinizing for citizenship verifica-

tion process and prospects for solving the issue, providing humanitarian aid to the people and challenges for socio-economic efforts in the state, cooperation with Bangladesh and cooperation with UN agencies and international communities. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.—Myanmar News Agency ■

UNESCO's Legal Advisor discusses cultural property

Thura U Aung Ko, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture, met Mr. Etienne Clement the International Legal Advisor of UNESCO in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, they dis-

cussed about the UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, which Myanmar signed in 2013 and the legal

efforts and public awareness needed to face those challenges.

They also discussed plans to make Bagan a UNESCO World Heritage site.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Forum on Myanmar's Democratic Transition on August 11-13

A three-day "Forum on Myanmar's Democratic Transition" in Nay Pyi Taw will bring together more than thirty speakers from the country and abroad on August 11-13, 2017 in an exercise to review the progress towards democracy in Myanmar, the challenges faced and the roadmap for the future.

Organised by the Ministry of Information with support from a host of global and local partners, the conference will be opened by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. After her inaugural speech, Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint will lay bare the context in which the "Forum" is being organized, its objectives and what it seeks to achieve. The

venue for the 'Forum' is the Myanmar International Convention Centre-2.

Several ministers and lawmakers, leaders of civil society groups, media practitioners, business leaders and veteran civil servants and representatives from Myanmar military will be joined by a number of international participants that includes Indonesian Lt General (ret'd) Agus Widjojo, former Vice Chairman of the Indonesia and Tentara Nasional Indonesia's (TNI) Chief of Territorial Affairs and, one of its leading intellectuals.

Ambassadors from India, Norway and Singapore and other diplomats, UN functionaries and leading academics specializing

on Myanmar will join the intense deliberations at the Forum.

Six plenary sessions bringing together more than thirty speakers will be followed by as many 'winding-up' interactive sessions that will seek out views from a cross section of more than 450 participants that would include special observers from foreign governments and global bodies who support Myanmar's transition to democracy.

The Forum is seen as both a stock taking exercise in Myanmar's transition to democracy as to identify the hurdles that confront the complex process and chart out a roadmap for the future.

"The Forum will be the

largest review exercise on Myanmar's democratic process so far," said U Myint Kyaw, deputy permanent secretary of the Ministry of Information, who is heading the organizational effort for the 'Forum'.

"We are making detailed arrangements for three days of intense deliberations that would be conducted in a free and frank atmosphere."

At a time when the world is drifting towards intolerant right-wing sectarian regimes and even established democracies are showing signs of erosion of the spirit of democracy, Myanmar is struggling hard to emerge into a functional democracy, leaving behind more than five decades

of authoritarian rule. In the process, it faces many challenges like the one of establishing democratic federalism to ensure inclusive future for the nation's many ethnic minorities, many of whom have challenged the Union government with force of arms for decades. The Forum will inevitably focus on the ceasefires and the peace-making processes they seek to herald and two full sessions will be devoted to the issues involved. One session will focus on the transition from a command economy to a market economy, an important economic corollary to the political transition from authoritarian rule to democracy.—GNLM ■

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Calves delight visitors to Winga Baw Elephant Camp

A series of elephant calf births at Bago's Winga Baw Elephant Conservation Camp near the 39-mile post on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway have attracted a greater number of visitors recently, according to a report in the City News Daily yesterday.

The camp used to be part of the state-run Myanmar Timber Enterprise and elephants

were used to haul heavy logs out of the jungle. The current government suspended timber extraction at the camp and converted it into a resort.

Only eight elephants lived at the camp when it started. There are now 14 elephants.

Visitors to the camp learn about the animals and interact with them, riding and feeding them.— GNLM ■



Mahouts seen cleaning elephants at the Winga Baw Elephant Camp near Yangon-Mandalay Highway. **PHOTO: THWE THWE TUN**

Reforestation activities increase in Bago Yoma



Officials from the Forestry Department conducting the reforestation activities in the Bago Yoma. **PHOTO: KO LWIN**

THE Forestry Department is coupling a 10-year suspension of logging in the Bago Yoma forest with a reforestation for clear-cut areas, said U Kyaw Hsan Moe, a staff officer of the Forestry Department in Yedashe Township.

"Bago Yoma forest area is vast, therefore, we want people to cooperate with us in protection of the forest resources," he said.

"Our forestry department is conducting the reforestation activities in day time and is protecting the forest at night."

Currently, the Forestry Department has already cultivated 1,809 acres of teak in the Bago Yoma forest reserve, 300 acres in the Saiya forest reserve and 4,200 acres in the Kyaukmahsin forest reserve.— Ko Lwin (Hswar) ■

Over 5,000 villages to have access to electricity

WITH support in the form of a US\$310 million World Bank loan 5,080 new villages will be provided access to electricity in the first phase of an electrical grid expansion project underway this year, according to a recent announcement of the State Counsellor's Office.

As of June 2017, 4.19 million households had access to electricity, compared to 3.7 million households in 2016. There are 10.87 million households in Myanmar. As of May 2017, the Ministry of Electrical Power and Energy is supplying electricity to 31,804 villages out of 63,859 villages.

The first grid expansion

will target villages which are within two-miles of existing powerlines.

The second phase of the national grid extension project will upgrade existing powerlines and subpower stations in order to increase grid capacity enough for an additional 7.5 million households. The government also plans to distribute electricity to Taunggyi, Loilem and Langkho in Shan State (South) with German financial assistance. According to that plan, electricity will be provided to 1,484 villages across the nation in the financial year of 2017-2018.

— Min Thu ■

Correction

Please read "There is no discrimination, with the Insurance Business Regulatory Board to grant all types of insurance to the private sector in the future through stage-by-stage approach," in stead of "There is no discrimination, with the MI (Myanma Insurance) planning ..." in the story "Myanma Insurance, private companies allowed to sell four new policies" on Page -5 of the 1st August Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar daily.— Ed

Poached timber confiscated in Mon State

LAW enforcement officials confiscated eight tons of illegal lumber discovered aboard a 12-wheel truck near Mokpalin Village, Kyaikto Township, Mon State on 8 August.

Local police officers and Forestry Department officials stopped and searched the ve-

hicle as it was traveling from Mandalay to Mawlamyine.

Two men, driver Kyaw Nan Aung, 33, and passenger Thet Ko Ko, 19, were arrested. The police have filed a lawsuit against them under section 6 (1) of the Public Property Protection Act.—Ye Khaung Oo ■



Suspects Kyaw Nan Aung and Thet Ko Ko. **PHOTO: YE KHAUNG OO**



Traders evaluate jade stone at the 54th Myanmar Gems Emporium in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

54th Myanmar Gems Emporium continued for the eighth day

The eighth day of the Myanmar Gems Emporium was held in Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The jewelers from local and abroad submitted open tender after they observed jewelry and

jade logs displayed in the Jade Hall. At yesterday emporium, jade lot numbers 3,301 to 4,400 were sold and jade lot numbers 4,401 to 5,500 and 5,501 to 6,561 will be sold in the coming days of the emporium. Those who

won tenders for jade and jewelry lots on Tuesday were announced yesterday. Floor prices are set at euro 500 for a jewelry lot, above Euro4,000 for raw jade stone lots and Euro1,000 for a finished jade lot. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar seeks to make world-class dairy products

The Myanmar Dairy Products Manufacturers' Association and the Myanmar government are attempting to establish standards for milk products in order to promote its domestic dairy industry, according to a City News report, yesterday.

Currently, Myanmar imports milk products from Malaysia, Singapore, United Kingdom, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Netherlands, Australia, Ireland, Poland, Indonesia, Germany and Thailand.

From 16 to 22 July, about 409 tons of condensed milk and 70 tons of the milk powder were imported through sea routes, according to the Commerce Ministry. Dairy products are also flowing into the country via Thailand-Myanmar land ports of entry.

Systematic laboratory tests and microbiological

standards for raw materials used in manufacturing of milk are required for production of healthy dairy products to meet international standards. The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department is setting standard for milk.

Once the standards are announced, domestic producers will need to manufacture the dairy products in line with the criteria.

Those dairy products will be placed in the market only after obtaining approval from Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Myanmar Dairy Products Manufacturers' Association will send 20 members to Thailand to attend dairy production course this month and members of this association in the regions and states are already informed this course.—GNLM ■

Singapore and Myanmar negotiated trade and investment policies

May Thet Hnin

Singapore and Myanmar are negotiating terms for a trade deal, called the Promotion and Protection of Investment Agreement, that would govern investments and labour exchnages between the two nations, said U Aung Naing Oo, the director-general of Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration(DICA).

"This agreement aims to minimize investment barriers, facilitate the investment and create more opportunity for Singaporean expatriate workers in

Myanmar as well as Myanmar working in Singapore," said U Aung Naing Oo. "This also includes investment promotion. Another issue is protecting investors' in both countries from government-imposed work stoppages or confiscations. The main objective is to ensure smooth, free and safe investments."

The next meeting between the nations' trade representatives is scheduled in October.

The two nations intend to reach a deal by the end of the year. Singapore is Myanmar's largest source of investment

funds, with investments worth US\$1.05 billion this financial year.

"Eleven countries have entered into Promotion and Protection of Investment Agreements with Myanmar include China, India, Laos, Thailand, Viet Nam, Kuwait, Israel and Japan," said, U Aung Naing Oo. In addition, Myanmar is preparing similar agreements with Hong Kong and several European nations." "Myanmar has already held five meetings with European Union for this and inter-ministerial meetings are going on," he said. ■

Tamarind exports earn US\$130,900 in one week



Myanmar exported 440 tons of tamarind between 23 and 29 July, with an estimated value of US\$130,920. This includes 224 tons of tamarind were exported to Thailand, Pakistan, Bang-

ladesh and Viet Nam through sea routes. Export volume increased by 24 tons compared to previous week, according to the Commerce Ministry. —GNLM ■

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- Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)
- City Mart (Aung San Stadium)
- City Mart (47th street)
- City Mart (Yankin)
- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
- City Mart (FMI)
- City Mart (Junction Square)
- City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
- City Mart (Sule Square)
- City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
- City Mart (Waizayandar)
- City Mart (Hledan)
- City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
- Ocean North Point (9 mile)
- Ocean Shwegonedine

Ocean City City Mart SUPERCENTERS Supermarket



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the second work coordination meeting of the State-level Central Committee on Management of Natural Resources in Coastal Areas held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA (NEWS ON PAGE-1)**

Wood-based fuel makes up 81% of fuel consumption in Myanmar

MAJORITY of Myanmar people are using wood-based fuel including firewood, charcoal and fuel bars for cooking, according to a survey.

“The country’s wood-based fuel consumption for cooking has reached more than 81 per cent of the total fuel consumption of the country,” said the survey released yesterday.

The high consumption of wood-based fuel can effect the

environmental conservation and pollution and cause health hazards to the people due to poor ventilation at homes, said the survey based on the 2017 census taken the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population.

The survey also disclosed that most of the families own their dwelling abodes, acquiring sources of clean drinking water and building latrines free from flies.

Acquisition of clean drinking water is 69.5% with building fly-free-latrines reaching 74.3%, it was learnt. But, in assessing in respective regions, construction materials used in building are found to have a great difference between districts, Regions and States.

Most of the houses need maintenance as they were built of bamboo and thatches.—GNLM ■



Majority of Myanmar people use wood-base fuel for cooking. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

Poached lumber seized in Madaya Township

LAW enforcement officials seized 5.1 tons of illegal lumber near Ayeyawady River in Mat-

daya Township, Pyin Oo Lwin District in Mandalay Region yesterday. An investigation is

ongoing to arrest the owner of the seized timber.—Soe Kyaw Thu Htwe (Madaya) ■

Myanmar Gazette Head of service organisation appointed

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Dr Thein Kyaw, Director (Treatment) Department of Traditional Medicine under the Ministry of Health and Sports as Rector of University of Traditional Medicine, Mandalay, on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Nearly 20 million methamphetamine pills seized in Tachilek

LOCAL anti-drug squad have seized more than 19 million methamphetamine tablets, 9.1 kilos heroin, more than 600,000 ecstasy pills and others drugs, arresting four suspects believed to be involved in the drug trafficking.

The combined team comprising members of the Tatmadaw and local anti-drug squad, acting on a tip-off, raided a house in Kyase Village in Tachilek on 8th August and discovered 16.466 millions of methamphetamine pills, 615,000 ecstasy pills and other drugs, precursors used in producing drugs and one point 22 arm.

The team also raided another

house in the same village and seized 1.55 millions of methamphetamine pills, 3.5 kilos of ice crystals, 1.5 kilo of raw opium, materials used in producing the drug, one vehicle, one arm and its 60 bullets, about 1.373 kilos of gold, 1.8 million of Thai baht and 10,000 Chinese yun.

The team also seized 1.054 millions of methamphetamine pills, 199 kilos of ice crystals, 9.1 kilos of heroin blocks, 0.5 kilo of Ketamine white powder, equipment used for producing methamphetamine pills and two vehicles.

The total seized drugs are worth more than 64 billion kyats.—GNLM ■

Dried beef seized on Mandalay-Muse highway

THE Yaypu Joint Investigation Force confiscated two vehicle-loads of dried beef in Shan State on 8 August after they determined the drivers lacked appropriate legal documents for the goods.

The vehicles were transporting approximately about Ks20 million worth of meat.

On 8 August, law enforce-

ment officials discovered five additional illegal transport cases moving suspected contraband worth approximately Ks35 million.

Yaypu and Mayanchaung investigation stations were reopened on 1 March, 2017 to interdict illegal goods along the Yangon-Myawady and Mandalay-Muse Pyidaungsu roads.—GNLM ■

Tourists visit Popa region even during monsoon

TOURISTS are visiting the Popa region in Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay Region as usual even as monsoon rains sweep across the nation, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

The Popa region is associated the festival of Aba Aung Min Khaung in September, which commemorates the namesake Buddhist saint. The Mount Popa Nat Spirit Festi-

val is also celebrated there in June, when pilgrims traditionally climb the 777 stairs along the mountainside to the peak. About 3,000 people are traveling to the Popa region on a monthly basis by car or with a pilgrim transport service during the rainy season. Last year, around 100,000 people visited the Popa region, according to the Popa mountain board of trustees.—GNLM ■

Japan on alert after report of N Korea's nuke-tipped missile threat

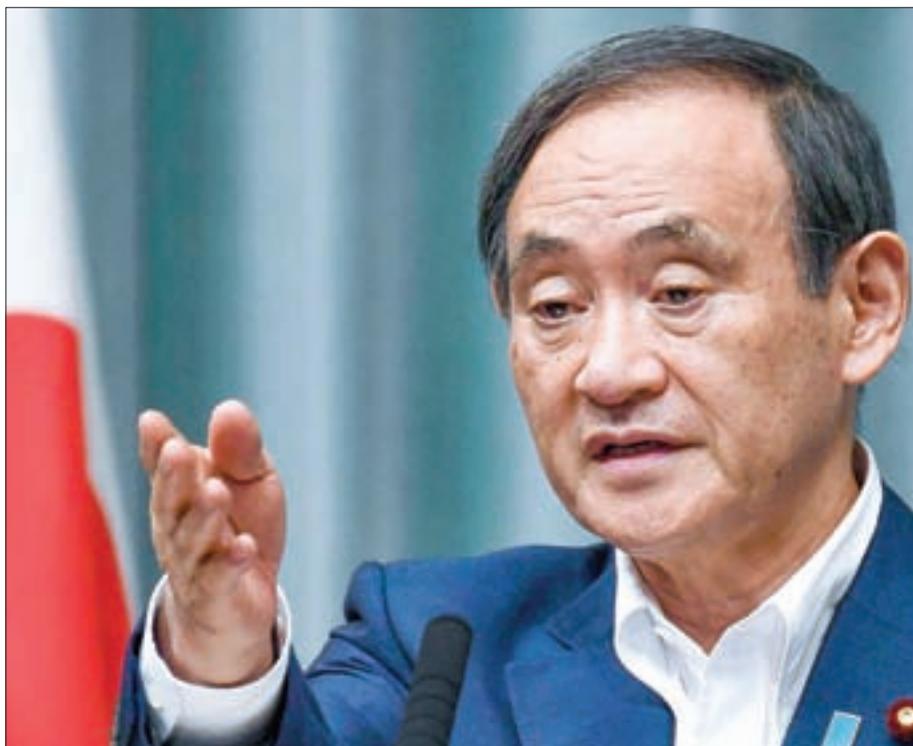
TOKYO—The Japanese government was on high alert on Wednesday after an overnight news report that North Korea can now arm its missiles with miniaturized nuclear warheads.

Threats posed by North Korea "have reached the level at which we have to remain vigilant about and properly monitor whether it already possesses (such a warhead) or will soon do so," Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera told reporters.

Japan's newest white paper on defence, published Tuesday, referred to the possibility that North Korea has already succeeded in miniaturizing a nuclear warhead given that the country has already conducted five nuclear tests.

"Just as the white paper says, there is no question (North Korea's nuclear and missile programs) have presented a new threat," the new minister also said.

The Washington Post reported Tuesday that Pyongyang has successfully produced a miniaturized nuclear warhead that can be deployed via



Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga takes questions during a press briefing in Tokyo on 9 August, 2017. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

a missile, citing a confidential US assessment. The report follows North Korea's launches of two intercontinental ballistic missiles last month. At a news conference on Wednesday, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said Tokyo continues to gather and analyze information "with grave concerns." In response to the Washington Post article, US President Donald Trump said he will coun-

ter Pyongyang with "fire and fury" if the country further endangers the United States. Suga, Japan's top government spokesman, reiterated Tokyo's appreciation for the Trump administration's assertion that all options, including military action, are "on the table" in tackling North Korea.

He said Japan will seek to strengthen bilateral security arrangements with the United

States. Within hours of Trump's countenance, North Korea said it is examining a plan to attack areas around the US Pacific territory of Guam with a ballistic missile.

Onodera declined to comment, other than saying that North Korea may have responded to the deterrent role played by a US air base on Guam where strategic bombers are deployed. —Kyodo News ■

US continues to fly Ospreys despite Japan's request for halt

TOKYO—The US Marine Corps is continuing to fly Osprey aircraft in Japan despite Tokyo's request for a halt following a fatal crash off Australia last week, Japanese Defence Ministry sources said on Wednesday.

Two Ospreys left US Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Okinawa on Tuesday and returned there later in the day, according to the sources.

The US military flew the tilt-rotor aircraft for a second straight day, ignoring Tokyo's request made amid growing safety concerns. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga on Wednesday corrected his earlier explanation regarding the government's request to the United States over the Osprey flights.

The top government spokesman had said Tuesday that Japan made the demand with the proviso of "excluding (Osprey flights) required in terms of (the US military's) operations." But in fact, the government did not set any conditions and wants a total suspension of Osprey operations in the

country, Suga said.

An MV-22 Osprey crashed off Australia on Saturday, leaving three US Marines dead. The crashed plane was one of the Ospreys deployed at the Futenma base in Japan's southernmost island prefecture of Okinawa, which hosts the bulk of US forces in the country.

In addition to the central government's request made by Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera, the Okinawa prefectural government on Tuesday lodged a protest with the US forces over continued flights of the aircraft.

But Lt Gen Lawrence Nicholson, the top commander, saw no need to suspend their operation, saying, "Ospreys are flying around the world," according to Okinawa Deputy Governor Moritake Tomikawa.

On Tuesday, Governor Takeshi Onaga also called for a withdrawal of Ospreys stationed in the prefecture during his meeting with Tetsuma Esaki, newly appointed minister in charge of issues related to Okinawa. —Kyodo News ■

Thousands of protesters disrupt traffic in India's financial capital

MUMBAI — More than 200,000 protesters poured into India's financial capital on Wednesday, disrupting traffic and straining the railway network, to press their demands for reserved quotas in government jobs and college places for students.

Rising unemployment and falling farm incomes are driving farming communities across India, from the state of Haryana in the north to Gujarat in the west, to redouble calls

for reservations in jobs and education.

"Farming is no longer profitable and jobs are not available," said one protester, Pradip Munde, a farmer from Osmanabad, a town more than 400 km (250 miles) southeast of Mumbai. "Reservation can ensure us better education and jobs."

Two-thirds of India's population of 1.3 billion depend on farming for their livelihood, but the sector makes up just 14 per cent of gross domes-

tic product, reflecting a growing divide between the countryside and increasingly well-off cities.

Young people and senior citizens of western India's Maratha community waved saffron flags in a protest police said was free of incidents of violence, with more than 10,000 policemen on guard amid an estimated turnout of 200,000 demonstrators.

Traffic came to a halt in many parts of the business district, while protesters jammed sub-

urban trains.

It was the concluding protest of a series of 57 marches last year across the surrounding western state of Maharashtra, organised by the state's Maratha community to press its demands.

The city's famed dabbawalas, who deliver packed lunches to hundreds working in offices across Mumbai, suspended operations for the day, as did schools in the affected area. —Reuters ■

Transferring Distributor for Registered Pesticides

Distribution of pesticide Opera, registered by Shandong Weifang Rainbow Chemical Co., Ltd is transferring from Close Friends Co., Ltd to Rainbow Agrosiences Co. Ltd. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within 7 days.

Rainbow Agrosiences Co. Ltd.
Ph: 09-456060160

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV ANAN BHUM VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANAN BHUM VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.8.2017 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES
Phone No: 2301185

Emergence of Human Resources

Khin Maung Oo

SKILLS, intellect and technology are of vital importance in building up a nation. Especially, we need more and more skilled technicians and professionals in building up our nation into a modern and developed country. Currently, we are still relying upon other countries regarding industrial products due to lack of sufficient technology and knowledge about building factories and running them. Though the country is rich in minerals and natural resources, inability to turn those raw materials into value-added products is actually because of scarcity of technological know-how and dearth of capital. Capital to be invested for industries can be acquired

through loans from various funding sources, but it will be in vain without the mastery of technical knowledge and know-how. Accordingly, every country has to exert concerted efforts to develop technical know-how and scientific knowledge.

Once in the past, Myanmar can be said to have produced qualified technicians and technological experts. Technical knowledge was taught systematically at the technical high schools (THSs). Among them, Bahan (Natmawk) and Insein THSs were known to be in the elite category. Technical high schools were opened in other townships as well. Those who passed the basic education middle school exams with science combination were eligible to join THS, being

conferred with government-acknowledged diplomas. As for students who passed BEHS exams but did not get the required marks to join the Institutes of Technology, they could attend THSs. Successful candidates who passed THS exams with excellent marks were eligible to proceed to learn at Institutes of Technology in respective disciplines.

Diploma and degree holders who completed their learning at THSs and Institutes of Technology were ready to be employed at work-sites. Just after completion of their studies, they managed to serve as petty engineering officers across the nation. They can be said to have been well qualified in their respective occupations. Yet, with changing times, the said schools became

less-qualified in teaching, producing less and less qualified technicians. Now we can see the current government reforming these dilapidated schools, performing national development and social progress for all citizens as a priority. The seminar on technology and vocational training held in Nay Pyi Taw last month paved the way for national development. The State Counsellor stressed the importance of vocational training, giving instructions to study the vocational training systems of the advanced countries of the world and to use the systems which were suitable for the country. Now is the time for us to exert our concerted efforts for successful implementation of the State Counsellor's instructions! ■

Present Situation of Foreign Direct Investment entering Myanmar and its future potential

By Khin Zar Li

MYANMAR is strategically located on the trading route between developing Asian countries and two economic super powers. Moreover Myanmar also is the center point to bring about the better and more convenient transportation of goods in Asia. The presence of sufficient amount of working-age human resources and abundant natural resources in Myanmar are the advantages for investors who want to invest in Myanmar.

The economic sectors in which international investors have mostly invested are oil and gas, electricity supply, information and communication, manufacturing and real estate sectors, all of which are supposed to be potential field for gaining more market shares. Apart from the above-mentioned economic sectors there remain many other potential sectors in Myanmar.

The sound relationship between FDI and economic development leads

to securing the long-enduring development in economy. Since the government understands that the important driving force for the development of the country is responsible investment, the firm determinations are laid to encourage the investments which are supposed to be constructive to the economic development of the country and its people.

In promoting the trade and investment the peace and tranquility of the country is sine que non. To acquire the long-lasting peace, the political dialogues were made and furthermore basing on the result of political dialogue peace talks are held between government, military, political parties and armed ethnic groups with the target to found a democratic federal union.

2nd Union Peace Conference 21st Century Panglong was held on 29 May 2017 and the conference could agree on the 37 points out of the discussed points. The government and all the stake holders have to implement together the

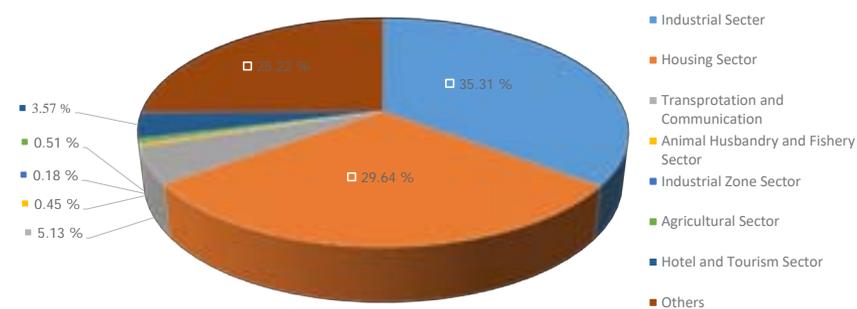
peace and stability and economic development of the country.

The State has created the convenient opportunities for the investors and enacted the Myanmar Investment Law in October 2016. The prominent section in the law is the provision of the right of the investors to complain if there is any breach of the provisions that protect the investors. Basing on the type of investment and locations, the rules and regulations were ratified on 31 March 2017.

Policy changes regarding the taxation to promote the trade, relaxation of the trade barriers, facilitating the trading and educative campaign for trade were made. The last financial year of the previous government 2015-16 FDI amounting to US\$9.48 billion entered the country, however in 2016-17 only US\$ 6.4 billion entered. 1st four months of 2017-18 FY sees the US\$ 3.1 billion that is 50% of the total FDI of last FY.

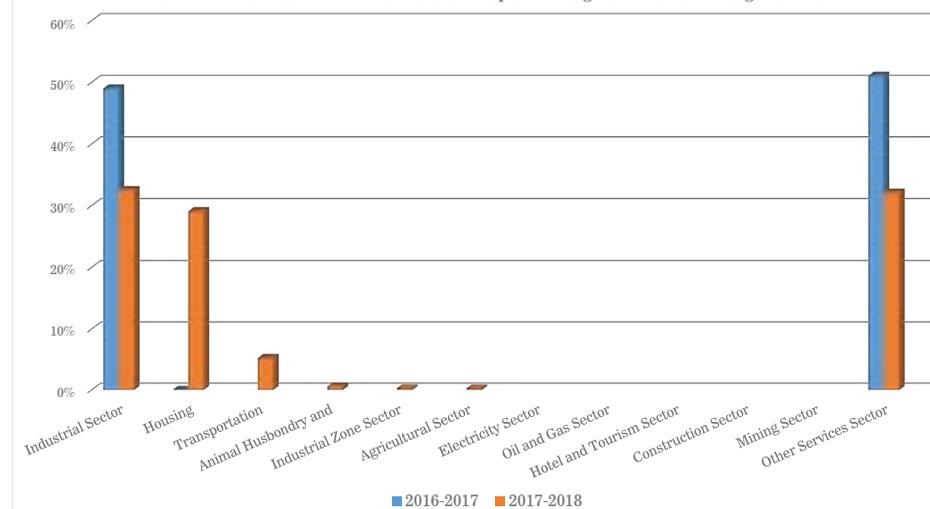
SEE PAGE 9

Diagram showing Permitted FDI works as of July 21, 2017-2018 FY



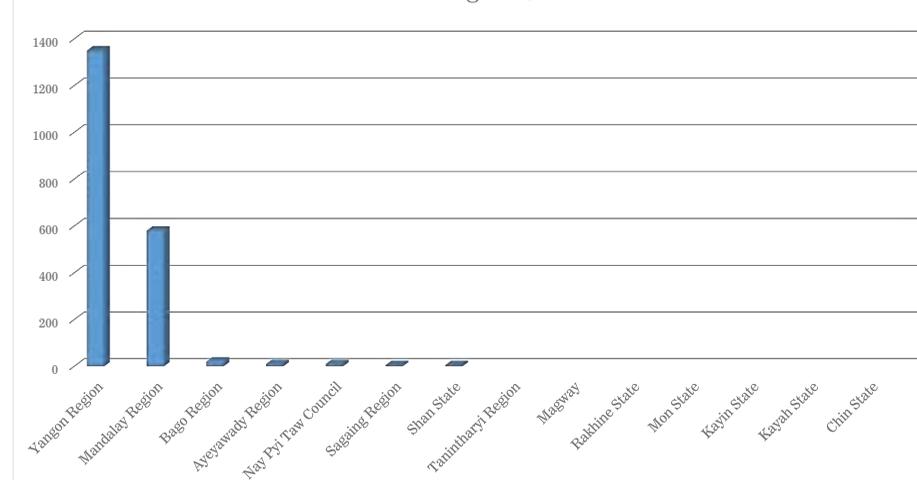
Pie Diagram shows the amount of investment in the Myanmar's regions and states.

2016-2017 FY (June) and 2017-2018 FY (June) Comparison diagram of FDI according to FDI Law



Bar Graph 1 compares the amount of investment in the different sectors in Myanmar from June (2016-2017 fiscal year) to June (2017-2018) financial year).

FDI in Regional/State



Bar Graph 2 shows the amount of investment in the different sectors in Myanmar as of 21 July (2017-2018 financial year).

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin attends 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting and Related Ministerial Meetings

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin headed the Myanmar Delegation to attend the 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) and Related Ministerial Meetings held in Manila, Philippines from 4 to 8 August 2017.

While in the Philippines, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended the Meeting of the South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ) Commission and Interface Meeting with the Representatives of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) on 4 August 2017.

On 5 August 2017, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs participated the Plenary and Retreat Sessions of 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) and gave an opening address at the Launching Ceremony of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) Publication: "Symposium on Principles, Mechanisms and Practices of Peace and Reconciliation Processes".

On 6 August, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended a series of ASEAN Post Ministerial Conferences (PMC) with Canada, Republic of Korea, Australia, Russia, China, New Zealand, India, United States,

Japan and European Union. He also attended the Gala Dinner hosted by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines.

At ASEAN-Australia Ministerial Meeting, the Minister of State co-chaired with the Honourable Ms. Julie Bishop, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia. Myanmar is currently serving as the country coordinator for ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations from 2015 to 2018.

On 7 August, the Minister of State attended the 18th ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the 7th East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the Retreat and Plenary Sessions of 24th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the Launching Ceremony of the ARF Annual Security Outlook 2017.

On 8 August, the Minister of State attended the Grand Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN and Closing Ceremony of the 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The Minister of State also paid a joint courtesy call on H.E. Mr Rodrigo Roa Duterte, President of the Republic of the Philippines together with the ASEAN Foreign Ministers.

On the sideline of the 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers'



Minister of State for Foreign Affairs meets with H.E. Ms. Julie Bishop, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia on 6 August 2017. PHOTO: MNA

Meetings and related meetings, the Minister of State also attended the 10th Lower Mekong Initiatives (LMI) Ministerial Meeting and the 10th Mekong-Japan Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The Minister of State chaired the 10th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) Ministerial Meeting.

While in Manila, the Minister of State had the bilateral meetings with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Australia, Sri Lanka, Turkey and United States and discussed on the promotion of bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and

international issues including the recent development in the Korean Peninsula.

The 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting and related Ministerial Meetings deliberated on the promotion of dialogue relations with Dialogue Partners and discussed substantively on the recent developments in the Korean Peninsula and the South China Sea, as well as the fight against terrorism and extremism in the region.

The Joint Communiqué of the 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting was issued at the

end of the meetings. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers also urged the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to immediately comply with its obligations under all relevant U.N. Security Resolutions and expressed their readiness to play a constructive role in contribution to peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula.

The ASEAN Member States and the People's Republic of China adopted the framework of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea to start negotiations with China, it is learnt.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Present Situation of Foreign Direct Investment Entering Myanmar and its future potential

FROM PAGE 8

The USD 3.1 billion was from investments by 95 businesses from 20 countries and has created job opportunities for over 30,000 local residents.

The five countries committing the most investment in Myanmar in the current financial year are Singapore, China, Netherlands, South Korea and Hong Kong.

The sectors they are mainly investing in are industry, construction, transportation and communication. In-

vestments from China makes up 26 per cent of the total investment in Myanmar followed by Singapore and 1,312 businesses from 49 countries have entered Myanmar.

Yangon Region is currently receiving the most foreign investment followed by Mandalay, and Bago regions. The regions and states with no current foreign investment are Taninthayi, Magway, Rakhine, Mon, Kayin, Kachin, Kayah and Chin.

Sub-committees for investment have been formed on 7 July in regions

and states with low foreign investment flowing in. The regions and states with working sub-committees for investment are Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyawady, Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Magway, Shan, Kayah, Mon, Kayin and Kachin. Chin and Rakhine states will form sub-committees later this year.

The sub-committees have the authority to approve capital investments up to USD 5 million (KS 600 million) as well as approve tax exemptions and usage of

land. Regional chief ministers are currently negotiating directly with government departments and foreign investors to construct new industrial zones in their regions.

The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) follows the World Bank Guidelines on the Treatment of Foreign Direct Investment to ensure a smooth process for domestic and foreign investors. The new Myanmar Investment Law gives equal rights to foreign and domestic investors and MIC

accepts the necessary forms for investment on behalf of concerned ministries and departments and provides support for losses.

For economic development in Myanmar, the government is working on building a new market model to connect with the global market. Foreign investment and technological support is urgently needed for this endeavor. The government hopes that with the combined efforts of all its organisations more foreign investment will flow in the near future. ■

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the Global New Light of Myanmar at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Real name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

Russia, Indonesia to boost anti-terrorist cooperation



Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov shakes hands with Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi. **PHOTO: TASS**

JAKARTA — Moscow and Jakarta have agreed to increase contacts between their special service in the fight against the Islamic State terror group (IS, outlawed in Russia), Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said following his talks with Indonesian top diplomat Retno Marsudi on Wednesday.

“We confirmed that our countries have similar or close positions on the majority of global and regional issues,” Lavrov said. “Like Indonesia, we believe that any conflicts and crises should be resolved in accordance with international law and the United Nations’ principles, through political dialogue, negotiations and the search for compromises, while foreign interference is unacceptable,” the Russian foreign minister pointed out.

“In this regard, we are concerned over the situation

in the Middle East and North Africa, despite certain progress in the Syrian settlement process and the fight against terrorism,” Lavrov went on to say. “The threat that the ISIL [the former name of the IS - TASS] is, has not vanished. Its members have been spreading all over the world, including the areas close to the Russian and Indonesian borders,” Lavrov said.

“We have agreed that our special services will pay particular attention to increasing coordination in our joint efforts to fight this scourge,” he stressed. “We will boost cooperation in this sphere both on bilateral level and on the Russia-ASEAN platform,” he added.

“We have confirmed the goal set by that our leaders, which is to increase the volume of trade to five billion

dollars,” the Russian foreign minister said. “The current volume of our trade is nearing three billion dollars and I am sure that we will rapidly move forward,” Lavrov added.

According to him, during the talks it was also confirmed that Russia “will provide favourable conditions for Indonesia’s exports, particularly as far as fish and other foods are concerned.” “We have also agreed that we will continue to ensure favourable conditions for each other’s companies,” the Russian top diplomat pointed out. “All these issues will be thoroughly discussed at the 12th meeting of the inter-governmental commission on trade and economic cooperation, which we have agreed to hold in Moscow in October,” he added.

Lavrov said that at the

meeting, the parties had discussed “military and technical issues of mutual interest.” “We are interested in supporting Indonesia’s ability to counter any threats, today, we have talked a lot about the threat of terrorism, which we all have been facing,” the Russian foreign minister added.

Lavrov pointed out that there was a joint Russian-Indonesian commission on military cooperation. “It’s meeting took place in Jakarta at the end of last year, and we see that the issues that were touched upon at the meeting have been under active consideration,” he added.

Indonesian Ambassador to Russia Wahid Supriyadi earlier told TASS that the two countries were close to reaching contract concerning the delivery of the Sukhoi Su-35 aircraft to Indonesia.—Tass ■

WORLD BRIEFS

US congresswoman confident Guam protected from N Korea threat

GUAM — The Congresswoman for the US Pacific territory of Guam on Wednesday said she was confident US forces could protect it from the “deeply troubling” North Korean nuclear threat.

Madeleine Z Bordallo called on President Donald Trump to show “steady leadership” and work with the international community to de-escalate tensions and stop North Korea advancing its weapons programme.

“Guam remains safe, and I am confident in the ability of US defences to protect our island and allies in the region,” Bordallo said in a statement.—Reuters ■

Japan agrees to assist “skytrain” project in Cambodia’s capital

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia said Wednesday that Japan has agreed to conduct a feasibility study on a project for a light railway connection between Phnom Penh International Airport and the city centre, with a view to easing traffic congestion and improving services for foreign tourists.

The Foreign Ministry, in a statement, said Prime Minister Hun Sen discussed the project during his meeting with Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe on Monday in Tokyo.—Kyodo News ■

North Korea releases imprisoned Canadian pastor — KCNA

BEIJING — North Korea has released a Canadian pastor serving a life sentence there on humanitarian grounds, the country’s official KCNA news agency said on Wednesday.

“Rim Hyon Su, a Canadian civilian, was released on sick bail according to the decision of the Central Court of the DPRK on 9 August, 2017, from the humanitarian viewpoint,” it said, using the country’s official name, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Also known as Hyeon Soo Lim, who served at one of the largest churches in Canada, he was sentenced to hard labour for life in December 2015 for what North Korea says was an attempt to overthrow the regime.—Reuters ■

Tillerson: Trump's tough talk aims to send message to North Korea

WASHINGTON — US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson played down President Donald Trump's incendiary warning to North Korea on Wednesday, saying he was just trying to send a strong message in language its leader would understand.

Tillerson, speaking to reporters before landing in Guam, a US-held Pacific island that Pyongyang threatened to strike, said he does not believe there is an imminent threat from North Korea.

"I think Americans should sleep well at night, have no concerns about this particular rhetoric of the last few days," he said.

Trump on Tuesday warned North Korea it would face "fire and fury" if it threatens the

United States, prompting the nuclear-armed nation to say it was considering firing missiles at Guam.

"I think what the president was just reaffirming is that the United States has the capability to fully defend itself from any attack, and our allies, and we will do so," Tillerson said.

The international community had a "pretty good week" with respect to North Korea, he said, citing new UN sanctions and strong statements coming out of a meeting of world leaders in Asia.

"In response to that, North Korea's rhetoric is just ratcheted up, louder and louder and more threatening," Tillerson told reporters. "So I think the

president, what the president is doing is sending a strong message to North Korea in language that Kim Jong Un would understand, because he doesn't seem to understand diplomatic language."

The United States wanted to make clear it has the ability to defend itself and its allies, he said, and "avoid any miscalculation" by Pyongyang.

Just moments after Tillerson's remarks were reported, Trump hammered home his tough talk in a Twitter post about US nuclear weapons in what looked like another warning to North Korea. "My first order as President was to renovate and modernize our nuclear arsenal. It is now far stronger and more



US State Secretary Rex Tillerson. PHOTO: REUTERS

powerful than ever before," he said.

North Korea has made no secret of plans to develop a nuclear-tipped missile able to strike the United States and has ignored international calls to halt its nuclear and missile programmes.

Tillerson said he hoped international pressure, including engagement of China and Russia, can persuade North Korea to reconsider its nuclear ambitions and begin diplomatic dialogue.

He said he never considered dropping his stop in Guam. —Reuters ■

Stop EU exit "catastrophe", says UK Brexit minister's ex-chief of staff

LONDON — Britain's exit from the European Union will be the country's biggest calamity since World War Two, the former chief of staff to Brexit minister David Davis said on Wednesday, calling for a new political movement to oppose the divorce.

The criticism from someone who, until May, had a ring-side seat for Britain's exit preparations comes at a time when Prime Minister Theresa May's Brexit strategy is the subject of open political debate after an ill-judged snap election in June badly weakened her position.

"It's the biggest calamity for our country since WW2, I'm afraid," said James Chapman, who ran chief negotiator Davis's

office for nearly a year after the June 2016 EU referendum. He has since moved to work for a public relations firm.

Late on Tuesday he tweeted: "Past time for sensible MPs (Members of Parliament) in all parties to admit Brexit is a catastrophe, come together in new party if need be, and reverse it."

Chapman previously worked as an aide to then-finance minister George Osborne and worked on his campaign for 'Remain' in the run up to the referendum.

Before working for Osborne, he was political editor for the Daily Mail, an influential right-leaning newspaper which supported Brexit. — Reuters ■

Tajikistan accuses Iran of involvement in 1990s civil war-TV documentary

DUSHANBE — Tajikistan on Wednesday accused Iran of sending assassins and saboteurs into the former Soviet republic in the 1990s, when it was embroiled in a civil war against an Islamist-led rebel force.

In a documentary aired by state television, three Tajiks confessed to a series of killings of politicians and other prominent figures inside Tajikistan and attacks on a Russian military base there, all between 1994 and 2000.

The confessions mark the first time Iran has been publicly accused of involvement in Tajikistan's 1992-97 civil war.

The broadcaster, which serves as a mouthpiece for the government, aired footage of them in handcuffs saying they had received training in and fi-

nancial support from Iran.

Ties between the two nations, both Persian-speaking and predominantly Muslim, have been strained since a leader of a banned Tajik Islamist party openly attended a conference in Tehran in December 2015, which angered Dushanbe.

Officials from the Iranian embassy in Dushanbe declined to comment on the documentary, which a Tajik interior ministry spokesman said the ministry had taken part in filming.

Repeated attempts by Reuters to contact spokesmen for the Iranian foreign ministry and the Revolutionary Guard were not successful.

Tajikistan has in the past staged show trials, and only one of the three Tajiks has been sen-

tenced. He is serving 18 years for murder, sabotage and illegal arms possession, the documentary said. It identified all three as supporters of Abdukhalim Nazarzoda, a former deputy defence minister and rebel general.

Nazarzoda was killed by security forces in September 2015 after a failed coup in which gunmen loyal to him clashed with government forces in battles that killed dozens of people.

It is unclear whether the trio — one of whom is serving 18 years for murder, sabotage and illegal arms possession while the two others have yet to be sentenced — were involved in Nazarzoda's failed coup. Tajikistan, an impoverished nation of 9 million people, is separated from Iran by Afghanistan. — Reuters ■

Four Pakistani army personnel killed in suicide attack

ISLAMABAD — A suicide bomber killed four Pakistani military personnel in the troubled northwest, near the border with Afghanistan, the army said on Wednesday.

Pakistan began a military offensive against Islamic State-affiliated fighters along the northern part of the border last month, say-

ing the region was fast becoming a safe haven for multiple terrorist organizations.

An army patrol was conducting a search operation in Upper Dir on Tuesday night, near the Malakand region where the Pakistani Taliban had controlled large swaths of territory until a military operation in 2009. "The military

officials received information about the presence of terrorists in the area," the military said in a statement. They were conducting a search operation "when one of the terrorists blew himself up".

An officer and three soldiers were killed in the attack, which drew immediate condemnation from new Prime Minister Shahid

Khaqan Abbasi. "Each drop of blood of our heroes is a testament to the fact that we all are united as a nation to cleanse our beloved motherland from terrorist elements," the prime minister's office said in a statement. Abbasi took office after previous prime minister Nawaz Sharif was disqualified by the Supreme Court

over undeclared assets, a ruling Sharif has decried as politically motivated but opposition leaders say is a victory for the rule of law.

A security official who asked not to be identified told Reuters that security forces were drawn into a gun battle with two militants when one of the men blew himself up. — Reuters ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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N Korea says seriously considering plan to strike Guam — KCNA

SEOUL — North Korea said on Wednesday it is “carefully examining” plans for a missile strike on the US Pacific territory of Guam, just hours after US President Donald Trump told the North that any threat to the United States would be met with “fire and fury”.

North Korea has made no secret of plans to develop a nuclear-tipped missile able to strike the United States and has ignored international calls to halt its nuclear and missile programmes.

The strike plan would be put into practice at any moment once leader Kim Jong Un makes a decision, a spokesman for the Korean People’s Army (KPA) said in a statement carried by the North’s state-run KCNA news agency.

“The KPA Strategic Force is now carefully examining the operational plan for making an enveloping fire at the areas around Guam with medium-to-long-range strategic ballistic rocket Hwasong-12 in order to contain the US



A passerby walks past a street monitor showing news of North Korea's fresh threat in Tokyo, Japan on 9 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

major military bases on Guam including the Anderson Air Force Base,” the spokesman said.

The plan would be reported to the North’s Supreme Command soon, the spokesman said, without citing a date. On Monday, two US B-1 bombers flew from Guam over the Korean Peninsula as a part of its “continuous bomber presence,” a US official said, in a sign of the strategic importance Guam holds.

In another statement citing a different military spokesman, North Korea also accused the United States of devising a “preventive war” and said any plans to execute this would be met with an “all-out war wiping out all the strongholds of enemies, including the US mainland.”

The United States should stop its “reckless military provocation” against North Korea to avoid any military action,

the army spokesman said.

The UN Security Council unanimously imposed new sanctions on North Korea on Saturday over its continued missile tests. Trump ratcheted up the rhetoric against North Korea on Tuesday, saying Pyongyang should not make any more threats against the United States in a meeting with reporters at the Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster, New Jersey.—Reuters ■

Cambodia says Southeast Asian nations unhappy over N Korea’s missile tests

PHNOM PENH — Southeast Asian countries are “not happy” with North Korea’s missile tests, Cambodia’s foreign minister said on Wednesday, calling them a threat to regional security.

The comments come as tension grows between Washington and Pyongyang.

US President Donald

Trump warned on Tuesday that North Korea would face “fire and fury” if it threatened the United States, provoking a riposte that the North was examining a plan to fire missiles at the US-held Pacific island of Guam. Trump’s warning comes as US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson visits countries in Asia, where he attended a regional meet-

ing in Manila at the weekend and urged Southeast Asia to cut back on ties with North Korea.

In Phnom Penh, Cambodian Foreign Minister Prak Sokhonn said he called on the North to soften its stance during a meeting with its foreign minister, Ri Yong Ho, in Manila. “We sent a message to them that all ASE-

AN countries are not happy with the actions of North Korea that still continue to violate the United Nations resolution,” he told reporters, referring to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

“It’s an insult to the international community as a whole, and it’s a threat to peace and stability of the region.”—Reuters ■

Heat wave grips Tokyo, other eastern Japan areas

TOKYO — Temperatures soared along the Pacific coast in eastern and western Japan on Wednesday with the mercury topping 37 C in Tokyo and other cities in the Kanto region as Typhoon Noru’s passage

was followed by a warm air mass.

The Japan Meteorological Agency alerted broad areas, including central Japan and the Okinawa and Amami area in southwestern Japan, to

be prepared for high temperatures.

In the Kanto region as of 1 pm, the mercury shot up to 38.5 C in Tatebayashi, Gunma Prefecture, 37.4 C in Koshigaya, Saitama Prefecture, and 37.1 C in

central Tokyo.

The agency forecast the high temperatures will continue during the night, with some urban areas expected to remain above 30 C until around 9 pm.—Kyodo News ■

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT Invitation for Bids

Date: 8th August, 2017
SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE
IDA Credit No. : 5727-MM

Contract Title: Insulators and Related Fittings for National Electrification Project
Reference No. : C1-G5

- The Ministry of Electricity and Energy has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the National Electrification Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Insulators and Related Fittings for National Electrification Project.
- The Ministry of Electricity and Energy now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of Insulators and Related Fittings to be delivered in 2018 to multiple destinations in all Regions and States of Myanmar. Domestic preference with the margin of 15% will apply. The goods have been grouped into 4 lots and bidders may submit bid for any one or more lots.
- For quick reference, some of the key qualification requirements include :
 - The minimum average annual turnover (or annual sales volume) of the last three years shall be as follows:

Lot no. and description	Amount in USD (million)
Lot 1 - Insulator and Related Fitting package for Bago (W), Kachin, Chin, Sagaing.	3.0
Lot 2 - Insulator and Related Fitting package for Rakhine, Magway, Nay Pyi Taw, Bago (E)	3.0
Lot 3 - Insulator and Related Fitting package for Ayeyarwaddy, Mandalay	2.0
Lot 4 - Insulator and Related Fitting package for Shan (N) , Kayah, Shan(S), Shan(E), Kayin, Mon, Yangon.	1.6

- The bidder should have past experience of having satisfactorily completed during the last 5 years at least **two contracts** for supply of similar goods, with the value of each such contract should be greater than the minimum amount shown in the table below.

Lot no. and description	Amount in USD (million)
Lot 1 - Insulator and Related Fitting package for Bago (W), Kachin, Chin, Sagaing.	2.6
Lot 2 - Insulator and Related Fitting package for Rakhine, Magway, Nay Pyi Taw, Bago(E)	2.3
Lot 3 - Insulator and Related Fitting package for Ayeyarwaddy, Mandalay	1.7
Lot 4 - Insulator and Related Fitting package for Shan (N) , Kayah, Shan(S), Shan(E), Kayin, Mon, Yangon.	1.3

Other requirements are stated in Section III of the bidding documents.

- Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank’s [Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers](#) [edition of January 2011 revised in July 2014] (“Procurement Guidelines”), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to the paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting for the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Project Manager, Project Management Office, Office No.(27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, nep.pmo.moep@gmail.com and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 10:00 to 16:00 hours Myanmar time at the address given below.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English may be obtained free of charge by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below. The bidding documents will be issued through email only.
In case of any difficulty in obtaining the bidding documents, interested parties may contact in writing:
Director General, Department of Electric Power Planning
Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Office No.(27)
City: Nay Pyi Taw
Country: The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Email: nep.pmoep@gmail.com
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **September 22, 2017, 10:00 hours (10:00 am) Myanmar time**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders’ designated representatives at the address below on **September 22, 2017, 10:00 hours (10:00 am) Myanmar time**.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as stated in ITB 19.1.
- The address referred to above is :
Attention : Director General Office, Department of Electric Power Planning
Office No(27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Telephone : +95 67 410203
Facsimile : +95 67 410077
E-mail : nep.pmoep@gmail.com
Web site : <http://www.moep.gov.mm>

David Letterman returns to television with 2018 Netflix series

LOS ANGELES — More than two years after signing off from “The Late Show,” David Letterman is returning to television with a six-episode talk show on Netflix, and said that Pope Francis and US President Donald Trump would be top of his wish-list.

Letterman, 70, will host the yet-to-be-titled series, which will feature interviews with “extraordinary people” and segments from the field “expressing his curiosity and humor,” Netflix (NFLX.O), said in a statement. The show will premiere next year.

“Here’s what I have learned, if you retire to spend more time with your family, check with your family first. Thanks for watching, drive safely,” Letterman joked in a

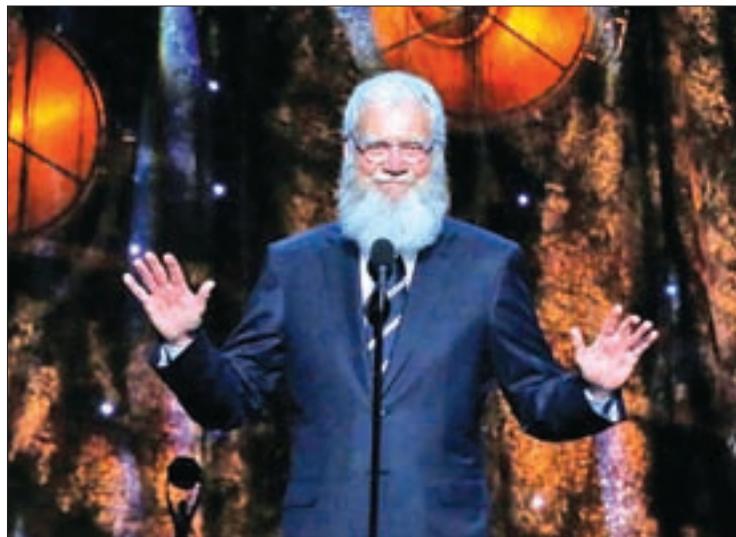
statement. Known for his quick wit, sarcasm, offbeat humour and silly stunts, Letterman interviewed top stars and political figures on more than 6,000 episodes over 33 years in late-night television.

He told Hollywood trade paper Variety on Tuesday that he has one interview already booked for the first Netflix show but would not reveal the name.

“It’s somebody who means a great deal to me,” he said. “The upbringing of this person is so multi-faceted it makes your head spin.”

Letterman said he was looking forward to doing weightier material and longer interviews than his “Late Show” format allowed.

“I’d like to talk to President Trump. I’ve known the guy for



David Letterman on stage during the 32nd Annual Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Show in New York City, US on 7 April, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

25-30 years,” he told Variety. “I’d like to go back to New York where he was a kid and start there. I’d like to just ask him

about the change in him as a man, where did it come from, how did it begin and where is it going.” He said he would also

like to interview Pope Francis.

Letterman, who has grown a large white beard since leaving “The Late Show” in May 2015, was succeeded on the CBS (CBS.N) show by Stephen Colbert.

Letterman is just the latest in a long line of big names to join the roster of Netflix’s growing original content slate, which includes Chelsea Handler’s weekly talk show “Chelsea.”

The Letterman news comes a day after Netflix made its first acquisition, purchasing comics publisher Millarworld and bringing on board a host of character franchises it can mine for TV shows and movies.

Netflix last month reported second-quarter revenue of \$2.79 billion and net income of \$65.6 million.—Reuters ■



Emmy Award-winning actor Jeffrey Tambor. PHOTO: REUTERS

Jeffrey Tambor calls ‘Transparent’ role ‘responsibility of a lifetime’

LOS ANGELES — Emmy Award-winning actor Jeffrey Tambor solidified his place in Hollywood history on Tuesday when he became the latest celebrity to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Tambor, 73, thanked his family and fellow cast members from the hit television series “Transparent,” where the actor plays Maura Pfefferman, a divorced, retired transgender professor.

Tambor called the role “an

opportunity of a lifetime, and the responsibility of a lifetime. I can’t think of a more important time to do our show than right now.”

Last month, US President Donald Trump announced that he intends to ban transgender people from serving in the military. Tambor has a long list of television and movie credits to his name, including roles on comedies “Arrested Development” and “The Larry Sanders Show.” —Reuters ■

Denver DJ accused of groping Taylor Swift faces further cross-examination

DENVER — Taylor Swift’s legal team planned on Wednesday to resume cross-examining the Colorado radio personality accused of groping the recording star during a photo shoot four years ago, an allegation the former DJ vehemently denied under oath. David Mueller, who lost his job at Denver radio station KYGO-FM over his encounter with Swift, testified on Tuesday that he made incidental physical contact with the singer as the two posed for pictures together, perhaps brushing her arm or torso. But he insisted he was innocent of any inappropriate behavior and a victim of false accusations that “cost me my career, my passion, my income.”

“I want to clear my name,” Mueller, 55, said on the witness stand in the first day of testimony for the trial stemming from Swift’s allegations. “It’s a humiliating experience to be accused of something so despicable.”

Swift’s attorney, J Douglas Baldrige, sought to cast Mueller on Tuesday as an opportunist who assaulted his client and was now seeking “to make the victim pay the price.”

In his cross-examination of the disc jockey, Baldrige noted Mueller did not sue the radio station or its management over his termination and had hired

an expert who calculated Mueller stands to lose as much as \$3 million in future earnings.

“Is that enough to clear your name?” he asked Mueller rhetorically. Mueller initiated the litigation, claiming Swift fabricated the groping story and pressured the radio station to fire him. Swift countersued for assault and battery. The eight-member US District Court jury is now weighing both claims in a single trial. According to the Grammy-winning artist, Mueller slipped his hand under her dress and grabbed her bare buttocks as the two posed, along with Mueller’s girlfriend, during a meet-and-greet session before a June 2013

concert in Denver.

“It was not an accident, it was completely intentional, and I have never been so sure of anything in my life,” Swift, 27, said in a deposition. She is expected to take the witness stand later in the trial.

Asked by his own lawyer on Tuesday whether he had grabbed Swift’s backside, Mueller said flatly, “No, I did not.” Mueller testified he had no inkling anything was amiss until approached that evening by a member of Swift’s security team who related her allegation to him, threatened to call police and told Mueller he was banned from all future Swift concerts. —Reuters ■



Taylor Swift. PHOTO: REUTERS

Venus and Adonis exhibited in Moscow attributed as Titian's earliest work

MOSCOW — A Venus and Adonis version exhibited at Moscow's Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts has been attributed to Titian. Moreover, it has been found to be the earliest version of the painting, the museum's director, Marina Loshak, said on Monday.

The attribution was done by the museum's principal researcher Victoria Markova, Doctor of Fine Arts.

The painting is displayed in Russia for the first time, at the exhibition Renaissance Venice. Titian, Tintoretto, Veronese. From Italian and Russian

Collections that opened at the museum on 9 June.

"Until now, the Venus and Adonis version of Madrid's Museo del Prado has been generally agreed to be the earliest of the surviving versions. Victoria Markova has not merely made a sensational attribution of the earlier unknown version, she believed from the very beginning that this painting was the original or prime version that was copied by Titian later on," Loshak said.

Markova said she had first seen the painting back in 2005 when a Russian art collector had asked con-

sultancy after buying this painting at that Saint-Germain-en-Laye Auctions as a composition by an unknown Venetian artist.

"Just a glance at the painting was enough for me to see it was a Titian," Markova said, adding that after the restoration of the painting that had been carried out in Venice the picture's attribution to Titian was backed by a number of acclaimed researchers.

"So, the painting has found a new life. We would like this Venus and Adonis to be part of our museum. So far, we can only promise that after the Renaissance Venice exhibition is



Venus and Adonis by Titian. PHOTO: TASS

over, the painting will stay as part of the museum's permanent collection for a year," the museum's director pledged.

The project Renais-

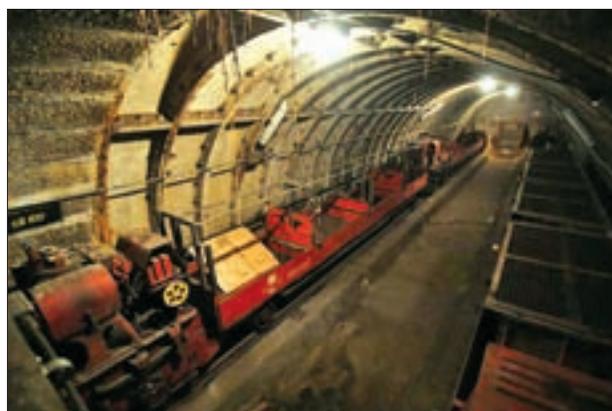
sance Venice. Titian, Tintoretto, Veronese. From Italian and Russian Collections gives an opportunity to see 23 masterpieces by the three greatest artists

in one place. The paintings belong to the collections of Russian and Italian museums, with some of them being never displayed outside Italy.—Tass ■

History unearthed as London's mail rail line opens to public

LONDON — Deep below London's bustling streets, a piece of once-vital communications technology will soon be roaring back into life after years of disuse - a train.

The train operates on the "mail rail" line — a 6.4-mile underground train track that once transported letters and parcels 70 feet below ground to and from sorting offices on the east and west sides of the city 22 hours each day.



Disused rail cars sit in the 'train graveyard' in tunnels near the Mount Pleasant Sorting Office underground station in London, Britain on 7 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

The line, construction of which began in 1915, ceased operations in 2003. It will be opened to the public next month as a tourist attraction, part of the new Postal Museum in the city's Clerkenwell district.

"Mail rail originally came about because mail was being delayed in London due to congestion in the streets above us," Adrian Steel, director of the Postal Museum and mail rail told Reuters.

Visitors can now ride a section of the old track in specially built trains, and explore an engineering depot turned exhibition space.

"One of the biggest jobs we've had is finding a way of taking people through these narrow tunnels that were never meant for people to pass through in a way that's not completely uncomfortable or dangerous," Steel said. Apart from their role in delivering mail, the tunnels played a useful role

during the World War One and World War Two.

Construction of the line was halted when war broke out and the space was instead used to store valuable artefacts, and was relied on heavily to avoid mail disruption during the blitz of World War Two. Aside from its unique history, another aspect of the mail rail line sets it apart from other London underground train lines — an absence of rats. —Reuters ■

Myanmar International
Programme Schedule

(10-8-2017 07:00am -11-8-2017 07:00am) MST					
07:03	Am	News	10:26	Am	Aesthetic Chinlone
07:26	Am	Atuladhipati Mahamunisacca Koe Htat Kyeeg Pagoda	10:52	Am	Yangon Markets: Nyaung Pin Lay Market
07:42	Am	Enchanting Rakhine Land	(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Wednesday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
08:03	Am	News	(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
08:25	Am	Continuation In Rural Tradition	Prime Time		
08:56	Am	Dances of Myanmar: Rvwang Azulam Dance	07:03	Pm	News
09:03	Am	News	07:27	Pm	Cruising To Precious Islands(Part-2)
09:27	Am	"Myanmar's Traditions and Culture" Myanmar Pottery	07:48	Pm	Betel Nut Farmer
09:50	Am	Trishaw Man	08:03	Pm	News
09:56	Am	Goldsmith	08:25	Pm	Myanmar Sculpture-work of Art
10:03	Am	News	08:40	Pm	Now In Yangon
			08:46	Pm	Myanmar Masterclass: Artist Khin Zaw Latt
			(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
			(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Wednesday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
			(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
			(For Detailed Schedule - www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)		

Spain's Balearic Islands to fine illegal tourist rentals

BARCELONA, (Spain) — Spain's Balearic Islands will from Tuesday penalize landlords for illegally renting apartments to tourists with fines of up to 40,000 euros (\$47,228) amid a backlash against the effects of mass tourism across the country.

The move is an escalation in efforts to crack down on home-sharing sites such as Airbnb by city councils or local authorities in Spain, as concern mounts over the side-effects of their increas-

ing popularity.

Airbnb, much like ride-hailing firm Uber, is facing a crackdown from legislators worldwide triggered in part by lobbying from the hotel industry which sees the rental service as unfair competition.

In the Balearic Islands, which drew more foreign visitors than any other region in Spain this June, rental costs have jumped and there are fears of a housing shortage for residents.—Reuters ■

Myanmar national football team to test Malaysia and local clubs

KyawZin Lin

IN preparation for the 2019 Asian Football Confederation Asian Cup qualification, Myanmar's national football team will play Ayeyarwady FC, Zwegapin FC and one international friendly match with Malaysia.

Officials from the Myanmar Football Federation have negotiated agreements with Ayeyarwady FC and Zwegapin FC but is still pursuing a deal with Hanthawaddy FC.

The match with Malaysia's national team will take place on 29 August at Thuwanna Stadium.

As for now, all selected Myanmar players along with Head Coach Gerd Friedrich are only focusing on the 29th SEA Games that will host in Malaysia hence the remaining players are under training for the Asian Cup qualification with assistant Coaches in Yangon. Myanmar lost to India 0-1 and beat Macau 4-0 at the last AFC qualification matches. Myanmar is scheduled to play Kyrgyzstan on 5 September. ■



Myanmar attacker Aung Thu (Right) vies for the ball during a match against Malaysia in 2016 AFF Suzuki Cup. PHOTO AFF

Myanmar national U-12 football team steps up semi-final

MYANMAR U-12 stepping up to the semi final of the 2017 China-ASEAN Youth Soccer Tournament although Myanmar lost 0-1 to Thailand at the tourney.

Myanmar won Indonesia 2-0, host China 1-0, Cambodia 16-0 and lost to Thailand 0-1 at

the competition.

Myanmar will face Laos U-12 team and host China will also play against Thailand as the semifinal on August 10.

Myanmar U-12 team comprises of youth players from Myanmar football academy of Mandalay.—Phoe Thaw Zin ■

Myanmar selects shooting players for 29th SEA Games

MYANMAR Shooting team has selected six favorite shooting athletes; 3 men and 3 women for the 2017 SEA Games said an official from the Myanmar Shooting Federation.

In men events, Kyaw Swar Win and Ye Htung Naung will compete in 10m Air Pistol Individual and 50m Pistol Individual and Kaung Htike in 50m Prone

Position Shooting Individual.

In women events, May Poe Wha will compete in 10m Air Pistol Individual and 25m Pistol Individual, Aye Myat Yadanar Oo in 10m Rifle shooting and Thu Thu Kyaw in 50m Prone Position Shooting Individual.

All the shooting events will be held at the National Shoot-

ing Range Centre in Lapang Sasar Menembak Kebangsaan in Malaysia.

Shooting is a competitive sport involving tests of proficiency in both accuracy and speed using variety types of guns, such as firearms and air guns mainly categorized by target and distance at which the targets are shot.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Real Madrid see off United to win European Super Cup

SKOPJE, (Macedonia) — Real Madrid beat Manchester United 2-1 to lift the European Super Cup for the fourth time on Tuesday as they became the first team to retain the trophy since AC Milan in 1990.

Brazilian midfielder Casemiro struck the opening goal with a left-foot strike midway through the first half while

Spain international Isco consolidated Real's advantage with a slick piece of skill and finish in the 52nd minute.

United's 75 million pounds (\$97.40 million) striker Romelu Lukaku got his first competitive goal for his new club to reduce the deficit in the 62nd with a simple finish on the rebound after earlier wasting a similar

opportunity.

That sparked a brief period of pressure from Jose Mourinho's side and they could have drawn level when Marcus Rashford burst through but he was denied by a save from Keylor Navas, ensuring Real won their fifth international trophy under Zinedine Zidane.—Reuters ■



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo and teammates celebrate winning the super cup final with the trophy in Skopje, Macedonia on 8 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS